

FARM BILL

Find out what's ahead for rural America.

BUSINESS, C6

DISABLED CHAMPIONSHIPS

Titles were up for grabs at Soldier Mountain.

OUTDOORS, D1

AUSSIE ALL-AMERICAN

CSI post Maddy Plunkett fitting in nicely.

SPORTS, C1

Good Morning

High: 48 Low: 32

Cooler, mixed showers possible. Details: C5

Times-News

FRIDAY

March 14, 2008

75 cents

Local sales tax fractures transit coalition

By John Miller Associated Press Writer

BOISE — A move to impose steep hurdles for new local option sales taxes in Idaho has fractured a coalition pushing for such taxes to finance mass transit and road work to ease congestion, slash air pollution and fix the state's battered highways.



More online

For more about the Idaho Legislature, a blog by political reporter Janet S. Hopkins and more, go to Magvalley.com and hit the Legislature 2008 button.

Inside

U.S. Senate, Senate endorse budget that would allow tax increases.

See page A5

nesses and local governments hoping to pass local option sales taxes to pay for transportation needs, is divided on the measure.

Should the proposal survive the Legislature, including another committee hearing today, voters would have the final say in November. House Majority Leader Mike Moyle, R-Star, said constitutional sideboards are needed to shield taxpayers from legislatures that might seek to lower the two-thirds majority.

"When we raise taxes, it ought to be as difficult as possible," Moyle said. "It ought to be hard, and you ought to have to sell what you're doing."

Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter supported the plan in a letter to the committee.

Please see TAXES, Page A3

Homegrown terrorists now largely powerless

By Richard A. Serrano Los Angeles Times

RENO, Nev. — Three years after foreign terrorists killed nearly 3,000 Americans in the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, Steve Holten left the San Francisco Bay Area, drove east through the Tahoe National Forest, skirted the Truckee River and settled himself in Reno. Here he proclaimed himself a lieutenant colonel of the local chapter of Aryan Nations. He sent an e-mail to area newspapers declaring war on the federal government, the media and the Jews.

But no war came, Holten's career as a domestic terrorist was short and uneventful. FBI agents promptly arrested him, and a federal grand jury indicted him for transmitting a threatening e-mail. He pleaded guilty and served four months in prison. After getting out he contracted the AIDS virus, and he was

Please see HOMETOWN, Page A4

CUTS NOW, GROWTH LATER

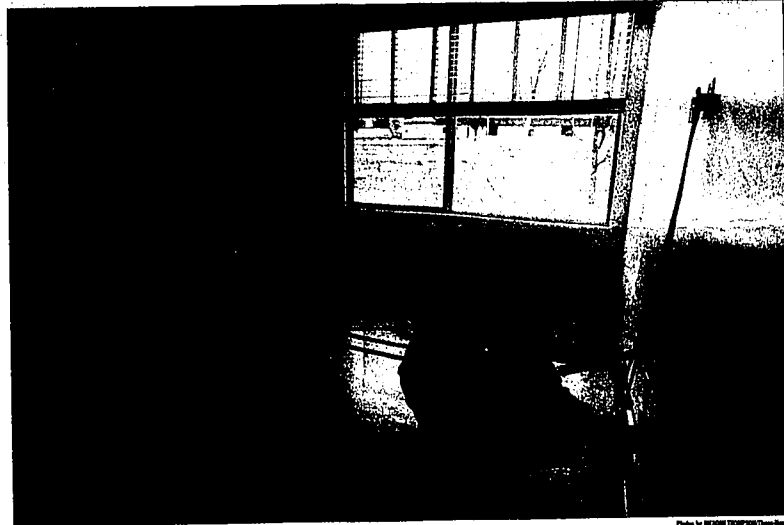


Photo by MICHAEL HANSEN/STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Salvador Talingdan, maintenance man at the former Gooding Rehabilitation and Living Center, now Helping Hands of Gooding, works in one of the home's many rooms that are under renovation. After the facility is remodeled, administrators will seek to license the facility under its new owner, Helping Hands Sanctuary of Idaho.

New Gooding nursing home owner works to revitalize facility

By Nate Poppino Times-News writer

GOODING — From the outside, it's the same building, red brick and green trim. But inside, things are changing at the Gooding Rehabilitation and Living Center.

Take the name: Helping Hands of Gooding, a change made Feb. 16 reflecting new ownership by the non-profit Helping Hands Sanctuary of Idaho. And the sounds of construction filled the building Thursday morning, part of an extensive remodel in preparation for a new licensing survey.

"We're going to be as good as anything in the state of Idaho," said Roy Prescott, a past Jerome County commissioner and now chairman of the Helping Hands Sanctuary board.

All but two of the home's residents are gone now, along with many of the 130 employees. The remaining 24 workers are preparing the home for a visit by Health and Welfare. The two current residents, Prescott said, will be able to speak to inspectors about their care and perceptions of the facility.

He said he hopes to have a new license in six to eight weeks. After that, the home will gradually refill its rooms. All of the departed residents found

"We're going to be as good as anything in the state of Idaho."

— Roy Prescott, chairman of the Helping Hands Sanctuary board

other homes, he said — some in nearby facilities in Shoshone and Plover, others in Nevada or other locations accepting mentally ill patients.

All employees must reapply for their old jobs, with more being hired as the home gets on its feet, he said.

The transfer of ownership means Northwest Bee-Corp of Chubbuck will be out of the picture after a transition period, Prescott said. Helping Hands Sanctuary was formed in 1999 to provide formal instruction and training to health care professionals, and has worked with Northwest before. The brother of Northwest CEO Dan Adamson is on its board, and it operates a geriatric psychiatric hospital on the grounds of a Northwest home in Kimberly.

During a tour of the 82-bed Gooding facility, Prescott said his organization

Please see GOODING, Page A3



Michelle Sebastian, the former activities coordinator for what is now Helping Hands of Gooding, shows off her therapy dog Brutus on Thursday morning on a visit to the facility. Sebastian says she looks forward to what the new facility will bring.

Homegrown attackers

In the 1990s, domestic terrorists stepped into the spotlight during a decade of spectacular mayhem. Some of the anti-government figures met their fates:

**TIMOTHY MCVEIGH**  
Killed 168 in the 1995 bombing of Oklahoma City federal building. Executed in 2001 by the U.S. government.

**GEORGE KACZYNSKI**  
Unsubstantiated killing three and wounded 23 in mail bombings and other blasts. Sentenced in 1998 to life in prison.

**ERIC RUDOLPH**  
Killed two and wounded more than 100 in bombings of 1994 Olympic village and night club "and the Olympic Games" in 1996. Sentenced in 2005 to life in prison.

Declo teen charged with murdering dad

Boise man died from gunshot wound at home

By Cassidy Friedman Times-News writer

A tall wall covered in photos inside Dennis Lewis' Boise home tells a story about the man's dedication to his 17-year-old son, Derek.

After divorcing his wife almost 10 years ago Dennis followed her from Declo to Boise so he could be closer to the boy.

As years passed, the boy's mother, along with other family members living in Declo, were unable to help Derek shake a string of troubled behavior. There were problems in school, seven major surgeries, a stint on juvenile probation, a few fist fights and even some runaway attempts.

It was at that point, just two weeks ago, that Dennis took his son in.

But Saturday evening, the relationship took a fatal turn. According to Boise police, Derek shot his dad, 45, in the head with a low-caliber .38-caliber in the father's north Boise home, then fled to Oregon.

After spending away from Lane County Sheriff's deputies along the Oregon coast in his father's pickup on Monday, Derek Lewis



Dennis Lewis

Please see TEEN, Page A3



At Your Service directory . . . E9  
Bridge . . . A2  
Business . . . C8  
Calendar . . . A2  
Classifieds . . . E3-32  
Comics . . . E10-11  
Crossword . . . E7  
Dear Abby . . . E11  
Horoscope . . . E10  
Jumble . . . E2  
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Movies . . . B3-4  
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Opinion . . . A6  
Outdoor . . . D1  
Sports . . . C1  
Sudoku . . . E5  
Sujoku . . . E8  
Wend . . . D4

TODAY'S FORECAST

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

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Intervals of rain or snow. Highs low to middle 40s.
Tonight: Chance of nighttime snow. Lows under 20s.
Tomorrow: Cool with rain or light snow. Highs low to middle 40s.

Complete weather report: See page C8

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

48STRAIGHT, winter's largest sports, music and entertainment event spanning both on-snow and off-snow activities...
Titanic: A New Musical...
A Year with Frog and Toad...

BAZARS AND FESTIVALS

Twin Falls 4th annual Spring Country Bazaar with hand-made gifts by local artists...
Community Grange, Highway 74, 2475 E. 3600 N., 543-6702.

CHURCH

"Christ In the Passover," presented by Susan Mendelson with Jews for Jesus...
Centering Prayer workshop, beginning of two-day event...
Twin Falls, 535 at the door, 734-9499.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

The South Central Community Action Partnership (SCCAP) Board of Directors Housing Committee meeting...
Toastermaster Club meeting, an ongoing club sponsored by Magic Valley Toastmasters...

EXHIBITS

"Photography" by Sholey Brulotte and Russ Hepworth, alternative photography exhibit presented by Magic Valley Arts Council...
Historic Downtown Twin Falls, no cost, 734-2787.

FAMILY

Traditional Storytime, stories and songs for preschoolers, 10:30 a.m., StormyE Kiva...
Youth Options, activities for young people ages 13-19 only, 7 to 10 p.m., The Salvation Army...

GOVERNMENT

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

HEALTH AND RECOVERY

College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit programs, 9 to 10 a.m. at several Magic Valley Locations...
Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Al-Anon/Alateen family groups, to help friends and families of alcoholics...

MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium "My Worlds/Saving the Night/Live Sky Tour" at 7 p.m. and "Lod Zepplin: Maximum Volume 1" at 8:15 p.m.
End of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens...

To have an event listed, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number to Suzanne Browne by e-mail at sbrowne@magvalley.com...

CORRECTION

Article on school levy gave wrong impression
An article about the Buhl School District levy election that appeared in Thursday's edition incorrectly paraphrased comments by Trustee Ken McDonald.

MORNING BRIEFING



Simplot's footprints in Declo fading away

Jack Simplot hasn't lived in the house at 650 E. 86 S. in Declo since 1923, but the boyhood home of the world's oldest living billionaire is about the only symbol remaining of his hardscrabble beginnings in Cassia County...

Part of the house burned early Tuesday, 85 years after the potato mogul-to-be fired of his stern father and moved into the Encycart Hotel, a boarding house in Declo...
The Simplots had moved from Iowa to Idaho in 1910, settling first in Burley and later in Declo...

The Simplots had moved from Iowa to Idaho in 1910, settling first in Burley and later in Declo...
Simplot's father, Dick, put Jack to work on the family farm when he was 6...
The Simplots had moved from Iowa to Idaho in 1910, settling first in Burley and later in Declo...

winning the Times-News Cabin Fever contest recently...
"Black with red trim around the top, those boots were just the ticket for keeping young feet dry...
After days of admiring them from afar, the first-grader entered the store and bought the boots on time...

WHERE'S THE LOGIC?
Filer Middle School principal and Twin Falls City Councilman Greg Lanting poses and interesting conundrum: Why does Kimberly Road lead to Kimberly but Filer Avenue does not lead to Filer...
Having been in the Filer schools for 32 years, you

Wishing you could see the...
Steve Crump

Tell me about it

If it's quirky, funny, sad, poignant or weird and it happens in South-Central Idaho, I want to hear about it.
Call me at 735-3223, or write to me at scrump@magvalley.com

cannot imagine the number of out-of-town salesmen, guest speakers, etc., that have tried to get to Filer using Filer Avenue and ended up lost instead," he said...
Lanting also mentioned a story that I've heard from other sources before: "When the financier Frank Buhl was first brought to the Buhl townsite, his first words were, 'You messed this town up just like Ferris did Twin Falls'..."

Can anybody tell us if that story is true?
Steve Crump is the Times-News opinion editor.

AROUND THE NATION

IDAHO
Ada, Canyon counties face challenge with new ozone limits

BOISE — New air pollution standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency confirm what many residents in southwest Idaho already know — they breathe the dirtiest air for much of the year...
The federal agency announced Wednesday it was reducing the maximum acceptable amount of ozone, a key ingredient in smog.

The new standard is 75 parts per billion, down from 80. The new standard is below the three-year average of 78 parts per billion recorded in Ada and Canyon counties by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality...
Most health experts say the lower standard is needed to significantly reduce heart and asthma attacks from breathing smoggy air...

Environmental groups slam state roadless plan
BOISE — More than 50 environmental organizations have attacked Idaho's proposed roadless plan, saying that if it is adopted by the Bush administration it could set a bad precedent for roadless areas in other states...

It's going to be a huge challenge, but it is possible to exceed the standards," Leonard Lehr, DEQ air quality regional manager, told the Idaho Statesman...
The work was published this week by the journal PLoS One. Perego is on the Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation in Salt Lake City and the University of Pavia in Italy.

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff

"But mount to paradise By the stairway of surprise."
All the deals this week come from the St. Louis Spring Nationals of 2007. Today's comes from the last event of the championships, a two-day Swiss Team event...
It is always particularly satisfying to a member of the general public when he can outplay a top expert sitting in the same position at the other table...

Bridge hand diagram showing cards in North, South, West, and East hands.

By contrast, Leong won the diamond hand and played the ace to East's ace, a good start. He took the shift of the club king, ruffed out the diamonds, and eliminated the hearts. He new led the spade king from hand...
ANSWER: This is absolutely the weakest hand that I would consider balancing with, but I must admit that I would indeed bid one spade, without being at all proud of myself...

KANSAS
Sheriff wants to charge boyfriend of woman who became stuck to toilet

NESS CITY — A man should be charged for allowing his girlfriend to sit on her toilet so long that her body became stuck to the seat, the sheriff said Thursday...
Ness County Sheriff Bryan Whipple was among authorities who discovered the woman last month living in the bathroom of a mobile home she shared with her boyfriend, Kory McFarren...

NEW YORK
Study: Most Native Americans can trace some DNA to six women

NEW YORK — Nearly all of today's Native Americans in North, Central and South America can trace part of their ancestry to six women whose descendants immigrated around 20,000 years ago, a DNA study suggests...
Those women left a particular DNA legacy that persists to today in about 95 percent of Native Americans, researchers said.

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nowpac levels SEASONAL PERCENTAGE table with columns for fish species, % of anglers, and peak percentages.

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Times-News masthead and subscription information including contact details for advertising and circulation.

# Gooding

Continued from page A1

offered to step in because the court wants the parents to stay open. With their license revoked by the state in December, Northwest officials and Gooding administrators fought for two months to keep the home from being closed by the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare.

Health and Welfare officials said they were unaware of the change on Thursday. A spokeswoman for the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services said the new application Prescott will submit essentially restarts the process. The facility, Prescott said, helps make Gooding a vital "hub for health care" north of the Snake River Canyon.

"I think that our board really sees our role in this — that there's a need, an absolute need, to help out

here," he said.

With the help come changes, including repurposing wings previously used for behavioral health patients. Helping Hands may again accept Alzheimer's patients, Prescott said. But odds are against the facility accepting severely mentally ill residents.

Those around the home and in Gooding seemed excited about the changes.

"In the long run, it's going to be so much better," said Michelle Sebastian, a former activities coordinator.

Gooding Mayor Duke Morton said the City Council is "delighted" that someone's keeping the home open, and commended the companies on finding a new home for everyone who needed one.

"I think there's no one that was in need of service that's no longer getting it," said

Morton, also behavioral health program manager for Health and Welfare's southern region. "That's the key."

Prescott said the City Council and other groups have asked about ties between his nonprofit and Northwest.

Northwest CEO Dan Adamson was once listed as the nonprofit's bookkeeper on tax records and board member William McNabb is the son of John McNabb, a Northwest vice president. Morton said he's not concerned about the relationship.

"They are doing some good things," Morton said of Helping Hands. "I think it's all going to be fine."

*Note: Poppino can be reached at 735-3237 or upoppino@magicvalley.com.*

# Teen

Continued from page A1

was arrested after a foot chase into a coastal town, according to Boise police. The teenager was declared missing earlier Monday when a co-worker, concerned that he had missed work, came to check on Dennis and found the father dead inside the home. On Tuesday, the Ada County prosecutor charged Derek with first-degree murder. He remains in an Oregon jail pending extradition.

Since his parents' divorce one decade ago, Derek Lewis had gone from being a troubled kid to a problem-riddled teen who was losing control, said his uncle Dee Lewis. He chewed tobacco. He was on juvenile probation after getting into a fight at an alternative school in Burley. Several other times he mouthed off at classmates and then lost the fights.

He showed other signs of frustration, such as punching or kicking a hole in a wall of his dad's previous apartment home. He was frustrated for missing two years of school due to a chronic colon problem. Last year, his grades were dropping drastically. It seemed that the longer he stayed with other family members in Declo, the more frustrated he became.

But there were also signs of improvement. He had caught up in credits to a sophomore grade level at the alternative school in spring, transferred to Declo in fall, and last week when his dad took him in, he planned to obtain his GED in Boise.

Although he antagonized kids at school, he never directed any violence toward his family.

He had enrolled in an anger management program, which the family hoped might help him resolve his frustration.

For Dennis, family members recalled his stature — at 6 feet 4 inches, and about 350 pounds — as initially intimidating. But his demeanor was nonviolent, said Dee, who does not believe Dennis was physically provoked his son. Physically, everything is everything. The family's hopes were tied to the teenager's recovery. Now, at least for Dee, those hopes are dead with his brother.

"The truth is we've lost two family members," Dee said. "One is still going to be around that we won't want to talk to and the other we won't be able to."

Derek's mother Molly, with whom Derek lived in Boise for the majority of the post-divorce years, has already tried to contact her son in Lane County.

Molly, who has remarried and still lives in Boise, told Dee the juvenile center blocked her attempts to reach her son, citing policy.

*Cassidy Friedman can be reached at cfriedman@magicvalley.com.*

# Taxes

Continued from page A1

It will ensure that local units of government are unambiguously accountable to a clear and convincing segment of citizens and that use of taxpayer dollars is pursued with the highest degree of frugality and efficiency," Otter wrote.

The Idaho Association of Counties has said it could live with the plan, but the Association of Idaho Cities has found it unacceptable.

A temporary local-option sales tax now available for Idaho resort towns requires 60 percent voter approval. Moylt's proposal, which would affect all future local option sales taxes, would mean places such as Ketchum would be required to meet a higher standard to replace existing taxes once they expire. Ketchum's resort tax expires in 2013. Though the town has never struggled to win support for the measure, interim city administrator Jim Jaquet said the proposed constitutional amendment would be an unreasonable burden.

"If you do a constitutional

amendment, it's in there forever," Jaquet said. "We think it's important that local residents be able to vote to have the local sales tax. If local governments use sales tax revenue unwisely, voters aren't going to approve it, but I don't think it should have to be a supermajority of 66 2/3 percent."

Ken Burgess, a lobbyist for Community Planning Association of Southwest Idaho, said his group failed to reach consensus on the proposed amendment.

Burgess hopes a separate proposal from Moving Idaho Forward will get a hearing, but chances are growing slim as the session approaches its end, likely late this month.

Transportation is a regional issue, not limited to individual counties, lobbyist Roy Elguren said.

"We have embraced the regional approach," Elguren said. "It's the only logical and rational way to go about funding large and very costly transportation projects."

Democratic lawmakers on the House tax panel also criticized the plan.

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# Homegrown

**Continued from page A1**  
 rearested, this time for soliciting a man for sex in a nearby city park.

With shaved head and Nazi lightning-bolt tattoos on his neck, Hoften is emblematic of how far the anti-government terrorism movement has sunk in the years since the attacks on the Pentagon and World Trade Center.

Richard Butler was a lion of the movement. He built the Church of Jesus Christ Christian/Aryan Nations from a barbed-wire-encircled compound in Hayden, Idaho, into a hate empire. But when he died in September 2004, at age 66, he left a depleted organization with two factions feuding over the detritus.

John Trochmann, once an omnipresent face of hatred for the government, still has the iron-gray beard and fiery eyes from the days when he helped found the Militia of Montana. Today he drives a 13-year-old black Suburban to gun shows in the Pacific Northwest to hawk anti-government pamphlets or sell log cabins to get by. He doesn't believe, but at 64, he doesn't act.

view at his home near Montana's Bitterroot Mountains. "Boy, did it ever change things."

Though violent extremist groups have been around in America for decades, they surged in the 1990s, a decade of spectacular domestic terrorism — at a cabin in Ruby Ridge, Idaho, on a compound outside Waco, Texas, in downtown Oklahoma City. Their heroes were men like Timothy McVeigh, Theodore Kaczynski and Eric Rudolph.

Today the groups are shadows of themselves, with many of their leaders dead, imprisoned, disillusioned or just inept.

Many observers attribute that to Sept. 11, for diverting the rage of disaffected Americans away from the U.S. government and toward foreign enemies, and for fueling the subsequent Patriot Act-driven crackdown. Others say the movement began to crumble earlier, when the Y2K disaster, a favorite prediction of conspiracy theorists, failed to materialize.

And part of the collapse might have been human nature. "Many of the people had such huge egos that they didn't know how to work

together and keep the movement going," said Chip Butler, analyst at the liberal Political Research Associates think tank who specializes in the study of right-wing networks.

In contrast to the 1990s, this decade has seen only a smattering of arrests of isolated plotters, caught before they could act. Syracuse University

tracked domestic terrorism prosecutions over the past five years and found them down by 47 percent. California and Oregon were the leading states for prosecutions in 2006, with eight each.

The Department of Justice recently compiled a summary on foreign and domestic terrorism for 2002 through 2005.

They found that 23 of the 24 attacks committed by domestic groups were perpetrated by "special-interest extremists active in the animal-rights

and environmental movements;" the other was a white supremacist's firebombing of a synagogue in Oklahoma City.

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# Former billionaire pushes trend of giving while living'

By Margot Roosevelt  
 Los Angeles Times

NEW YORK — One by one, speakers rose to toast the elderly gent with baggy pants and a shy, gaptoothed smile.

"Of course, he didn't wear a tie tonight," teased one. Another called attention to the honoree's cheap watch and the plastic bag that serves as his briefcase.

The joshing at a Manhattan gathering would have been nothing out of the ordinary except that the man pulling a worn blue blazer over his head in mock modesty was none other than the onetime billionaire, Chuck Feeney.

Never heard of him? No surprise there. Over the years, the frugal 76-year-old has made a fetish out of anonymity. He declined to name his foundation.

Philanthropies, after himself, registering the \$8 billion behemoth in Bermuda to avoid U.S. disclosure laws. He lavishes hundreds of millions of dollars on universities and hospitals but won't allow even a small plaque identifying him as a donor.

"We just didn't want to be blowing our horn," he explains in a rare interview at his daughter's Upper East Side apartment.

The party was to celebrate a biography of the elusive tycoon by Irish journalist Conor O'Clery, titled "The Billionaire Who Wasn't: How Chuck Feeney Secretly Made and Gave Away a Fortune," published last fall.

Feeney said he cooperated with the book and submitted to an interview because he is driven by a new public mission, judging hedge fund heavies and silicon scions into "giving while living."

It is the latest trend in philanthropy and one that he, more than anyone, jump-started several years before billionaires such as Bill Gates and Warren E. Buffett followed suit.

Feeney, a founder of the conglomerate Duty Free Shoppers, said he wants to "set an example" to address "that layer up there of people," the ones, as he puts it, who have "a billion dollars...."

Most foundations, set up after the donor's death, dribble out barely more than 5 percent of their assets each year, the legal minimum. But Feeney, raised in a blue-collar Irish Catholic family in New Jersey, quietly transferred the bulk of his fortune to his foundation when he was 53. Then, eight years ago, he instructed his board to pay out every last dollar by 2016. So far, \$4 billion down, \$4 billion to go.

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# House, Senate endorse budget that would allow tax increases

By Andrew Taylor  
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The Senate on Thursday rejected the idea of renewing many of President Bush's tax cuts as all three major presidential candidates interrupted their campaigns to cast their votes. The House approved a budget blueprint that would raise taxes by \$683 billion over the next five years.

Bush reductions aimed at low-income workers, married couples and people with children.

The House budget plan would provide generous increases to domestic federal programs but still is designed to bring the government's budget back into the black by letting all of Bush's tax cuts expire at the end of 2010. That plan passed the House on a 212-207 vote with Republicans unanimously

opposing it. The Senate voted 99-1 to extend the cuts for some workers as well as couples and parents. Senators voted 52-47 to reject a move to extend tax cuts for middle- and higher-income taxpayers, investors and people inheriting businesses and big estates.

The votes were mostly symbolic, but they put senators in both parties on the record for when the tax cuts actually expire in three years.

Arizona GOP Sen. John McCain, Republican presidential nominee-in-waiting, voted for the full roster of Bush tax cuts. Rivals Hillary Clinton, D-N.Y., and Barack Obama, D-Ill., both voted against them.

The Senate was debating and voting into the night on a \$3 trillion Democratic budget blueprint for 2009. The non-binding plan envisions a balanced budget in four years and promises generous

increases for many domestic programs, but achieves those goals only by assuming major tax increases when Bush's tax cuts expire.

Opponents of "pork barrel" projects expected to lose a late-night vote to ban such earmarks for a year, despite the endorsement of all three presidential candidates.

Across the Capitol, the House measure anticipates larger surpluses while allowing \$683 billion worth of tax

increases over five years with the expiration of Bush's tax cuts.

A Republican alternative that largely mirrored a plan by McCain to permanently extend Bush's tax cuts and eliminate the alternative minimum tax failed. It would have made room for the cuts by making big reductions in popular programs like Medicare, housing, community development and the Medicaid health care program.

## Michigan, candidates discuss do-over primary

By Kathy Barks Hoffman  
Associated Press writer

LANSING, Mich. — Michigan Democrats are close to an agreement with presidential candidates Sens. Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama to hold a do-over primary.

Party officials and the campaigns negotiated on Thursday, and state Democratic leaders were hopeful that an agreement could be reached today, said Democratic officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity of the talks. To go forward, any plan would require the approval of the two campaigns.

Democratic National Committee, state party leaders and Gov. Jennifer Granholm, who is backing Clinton.

Michigan Democrats need to act quickly because the politically divided legislature will have to sign off on the deal and approve how to spend the privately raised funds for a new election. Members of the Democratic-controlled state House and Republican-controlled state Senate leave at the end of the month on their two-week spring break.

The contest must be held by June 10 for the results to count under DNC rules. Michigan currently has an election set for May 6 for voters to decide on education issues. The date that contest could be changed to accommodate a new presidential primary.

The Clinton campaign made it clear that it strongly prefers a state-run primary to mail-in voting during the meeting, according to a campaign official speaking anonymously about the private talks. People involved in the private meeting said the Clinton advisers favor the state-run primary because there would be less likelihood of problems such as fraud and ballot counting than with a mail-in vote.

The national party punished Michigan and Florida for moving up their primaries before Feb. 5, stripping them of all their delegates. The two states have been struggling to come up with alternative plans to convince their delegates are seated at the national convention this summer in Denver.

Michigan held its primary Jan. 15 and Florida voted Jan. 29. Clinton won both, although she was the only major candidate on the Michigan ballot.

On Thursday, Florida Democrats proposed a vote-by-mail presidential primary while acknowledging the plan's chances are slim.

Karen Thurman, spokeswoman of the Florida Democratic Party, offered a mail-in/in person proposal for voting and urged state leaders, the national party and the presidential candidates to sign on.

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EDITORIAL

## Want more than 4 cats? Move to the country

**H**ow many cats are too many cats? Three? Four? A dozen? Some Twin Falls residents may be about to find out. The City Council Monday approved an ordinance aimed at curbing collectors — or folks who feed every cat in the neighborhood.

The new rules limit households to four cats and four dogs. Any more, and they have to buy a kennel license.

How big an issue is cat hoarding within city limits? The woman who should know says it's significant.

"It's a tough issue to tackle cats, but it's out of control in Twin," said Debbie Blackwood, who runs the Twin Falls Animal Shelter.

The catalyst for the ordinance was a 2006 raid on a Twin Falls kennel where the owner, Janet Rasmussen, was living with 323 cats — some dead and many diseased. One hundred seventeen of the survivors were euthanized, and Rasmussen was sentenced to six months in jail.

It was the worst hoarding incident yet recorded in Idaho, and it left city and county animal control officers convinced that the vague kennel licensing ordinance barred them from preventing the situation.

The four-cat, four-dog rule is fairly standard among those Idaho cities — including Boise and Idaho Falls — that legally limit animals per household.

Question is, how will it be enforced in Twin Falls? It's tough to track where a cat came from, and probably even harder to prove that more than four cats actually live in a household.

Still, a legal limit is valuable if for no other reason than collectors are more likely to be reported by neighbors.

A city of 40,000 people — even one with a long rural heritage — has an obligation to place reasonable limits on pets. Four cats are enough; any more very likely infringes on the rights of the neighbors.

## 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.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Bush ignored protests against water boarding

President Bush recently used his veto power to shut down a congressional effort to limit the CIA from using interrogation methods like water boarding. This is a form of torture, and torture is not allowed by the Geneva Convention.

Waterboarding has been traced back hundreds of years to the Spanish Inquisition. It is condemned by nations around the world. So when Bush allowed this, this is a black mark against the United States.

Sadly, Bush is not concerned about America's reputation around the world. It's saying that international agreements and laws don't apply to us. We are above the law. We can make treaties and agreements with all the nations of the world and then, when we don't like the agreement or it doesn't suit us, we can just do as we wish. Sadly, it is that arrogance of power that Bush is snubbing in the face of the world.

It is not a question of being soft on terrorism. Bush ignored the advice of 43 retired generals and admirals and 18 national

security experts in vetoing this legislation. Our own generals and experts testified against this. But the president chose not to listen to them. His ill-fated "stay the course" mentality has dragged this country into the mess it is in today.

Sadly, the Democrats don't have the two-thirds majority to overturn Bush's veto. The ends don't justify the means. President Bush's veto is essentially an endorsement of torture of terrorist suspects. Republicans say that the CIA should not have to follow military and manual rules, our own rules for our engaging the enemy. However, the Geneva Convention is international law, and if we wish to have any claim to civilized government and the rule of law, we should not dishonor our name by resorting to torture.

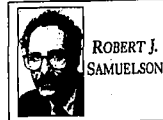
**WILL WHITE**  
Twin Falls

### Do we want Bill back?

Just wondered . . . Do those of you who are voting for Hillary really want Bill back in office?  
**BETTY ALLIE**  
Filler

# We put the teeth in OPEC

**W**ASHINGTON — For much of its 47-year existence, the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) has been a cartel in name only. It could not control oil prices because many of its members regularly breached the production quotas that were intended to regulate the market. So OPEC followed oil prices up and down, as supply and demand shifted. But now OPEC may be the real deal: a cartel that works. If so, that's bad news for the rest of the world.



ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

Look no further than last week's OPEC meeting in Vienna. Oil ministers declined to increase production in a strong case for doing so. Not only were oil prices fluttering above \$100 a barrel, but the United States is either in or near a recession and much of the rest of the world faces an economic slowdown.

What's wrong is that a fall of oil prices is one of the mechanisms by which a recession or economic slowdown corrects itself. Lower prices for gasoline, home heating oil and diesel fuel improve consumer purchasing power. They nudge inflation and increase confidence. In this sense, they're an important "automatic stabilizer" for a faltering economy.

Oil producers don't much care. High prices have been good to them.

Since 1999, annual oil revenue for OPEC countries has more than quadrupled, to an estimated \$670 billion in 2007, says energy economist Philip Verleger Jr. What's less clear is whether OPEC has merely benefited from tight oil markets or has acted as a true cartel, restricting output and raising prices. The right answer is, both.

Of tight markets, there's little doubt. Two massive oil miscalculations both aided OPEC. First was a widespread



Whatever happens, the long-term threat of a global oil cartel will remain. We should be taking the hard steps to limit its power.

underestimate of world demand, especially from China. Since 1999, China's oil use has almost doubled, to 7.5 million barrels a day (mbd) in 2007. (In 2007, world oil use was 86 mbd, up 13 percent from 1999. American oil use was 20.8 mbd, up 7 percent.) Second was an overestimate of supply. War, civil strife and nationalization have depressed production in Iraq, Nigeria, Iran, Venezuela and elsewhere. Total global capacity might be 4.5 mbd higher without these setbacks, says the Energy Policy Research Foundation (EPRI).C.

But that's only the half of it. Go back to late 2006. Crude prices were slipping from about \$70 a barrel in August toward \$50 a barrel. A true cartel would cut production to prop up prices. That's what OPEC did. In two steps, it reduced oil output by about 800,000 barrels a day, notes economist Larry Goldstein of EPRI. "By July, 125 million barrels of oil inventory had been wiped out," he says. At the end of 2007, inventories (measured by days of supply) were at their lowest point in three years.

Prices rose. OPEC's present market

power dates to early 1999, says economist Verleger. Oil prices then were about \$10 a barrel. The 1997-98 Asian financial crisis had cut demand; supply was essentially unregulated. Saudi Arabia undertook frantic negotiations with other major producers, including Iran, Kuwait, Venezuela and non-OPEC members Russia, Norway and Mexico. The result was an agreement to cut production sharply. Compliance with output quotas was surprisingly good; countries were terrified by the collapse of their oil revenues.

We are paying for past shortsightedness. Our dependence on oil imports, now almost 60 percent of U.S. supply, is inevitable. But we could limit OPEC's market power by curbing our demand and increasing our supply. As the worldwide gap between supply and demand rises, it's harder for producers to control the market. More have spare capacity; more are tempted to increase production to raise revenues. Today's surplus is concentrated in a few countries, especially Saudi Arabia, which can adjust production to influence prices.

Americans rant at foreign producers on the silly presumption that they should subordinate their interests to ours. But we refuse to do much that would actually limit their freedom of action. It was only last year that Congress raised fuel-efficiency standards for new cars and light trucks. We have steadfastly rejected higher gasoline taxes to curb unnecessary driving and strengthen demand for fuel-efficient vehicles (better to tax ourselves than let foreigners tax us through higher prices). And we have consistently restricted oil drilling in Alaska and elsewhere.

By doing so little to check its own thirst for imports, the United States has contributed to OPEC's present triumph. The extent of that triumph will be tested this year as new, non-OPEC oil supplies — from Brazil, Canada and Kazakhstan, among other places — will increase.

Meanwhile, a weaker global economy may dampen demand. Even OPEC may be unable to hold prices at today's high levels. Whatever happens, the long-term threat of a global oil cartel will remain. We should be taking the hard steps to limit its power. Considering our past complacency, we probably won't.

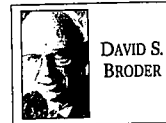
Newsweek columnist Robert J. Samuelson writes about economics.

## An Obama-Clinton ticket? Don't bet the rent money

**W**ASHINGTON — One of the great surprises of my first presidential campaign, back in 1960, came on the final morning of the Democratic National Convention in Los Angeles. Cecil Holland, a colleague at the old Washington Star, burst into our workspace, having discovered from his sources that Lyndon B. Johnson had just accepted John F. Kennedy's offer of the vice presidential nomination.

Barely 48 hours earlier, Kennedy and Johnson had tangled in a spirited debate before the Massachusetts and Texas delegations, continuing a fight that had started years before on the Senate floor and wound through that whole spring and summer. At times, it got really ugly, with India Edwards, a Johnson supporter, peddling the rumor (which later turned out to be true) that Kennedy was suffering from Addison's disease.

Ever since, it has always seemed the better course of wisdom not to dismiss the possibility of rivals for the presidency ending up on the same ticket. It happened again just four years ago, when John Kerry chose John Edwards as his running mate.



DAVID S. BRODER

But with all necessary cautions, the talk of Hillary Clinton and Barack Obama winding up as partners seems truly far-fetched. I thought that was the case well before Monday, when Obama labored to shut down the speculation while campaigning in Mississippi. He was responding to a series of comments from both Clintons. The former president speculated that together, his wife and Obama would be "an almost unstoppable force." Earlier, Mrs. Clinton had remarked that she had heard people say of her and Obama, "I wish I could vote for both of you." Well, that might be possible someday.

Plausibly irritated by the suggestion that he might need, or accept, a favor from his rival, Obama said Monday, "I don't know how somebody who's in second place (in delegates and popular votes) is offering the vice presidency to somebody who's in first place."

Such vows are standard-issue rhetoric while the contest is still on.

But judging from what I was told in a canvass of both the Clinton and Obama camps, there is good reason to believe this pairing will never occur. Even if the long campaign does not leave bruised personal feelings, practical considerations for both candidates argue strongly against such a deal.

For Clinton, partnering with Obama, with him on top of the ticket, would either leave her part of a defeated pair in a party that is not generous with second chances or, if they won, probably lock her out of a presidential race until 2016, when she would be 60 — almost John McCain's age now.

Knowledgeable Democrats see at least two more-attractive options for her. One is to return to the Senate, where she is popular, well-established and partially in line to be majority leader, a position with real power.

The other is to go back to New York, where Eliot Spitzer's resignation from the governorship on Wednesday leaves a potential opening for a new candidate in 2010. As for Obama, many of the same arguments apply —

with even greater force. He is less enamored of the Senate than is Clinton, but it could provide a comfortable resting place, for four or eight years. Or he could go back to Illinois and run for governor in 2010, when incumbent Democrat Rod Blagojevich would face a third term.

Obama would be a heavy favorite over Blagojevich or anyone else in a primary and over the nominee of the beleaguered Illinois GOP. And winning the governorship would provide the executive experience that may be the biggest gap in his current resume.

But there is an even better reason for Obama to shun an offer from Hillary Clinton. With Bill Clinton poised to move back if his wife becomes president, the White House West Wing will be a miserably crowded place.

There are almost always jealousies and tensions between the president's staff and the vice president's. But add in Bill Clinton's ego and add in Bill Clinton's ego and entourage, and serving there for Obama would really be cruel and unusual punishment.

Washington Post columnist David Broder can be reached at davidbroder@washpost.com.

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# OTHER VIEWS

## What Idaho's newspapers are saying about ...

### ... local-option tax



Idaho Statesman, Boise

The people can pass laws that their elected legislators won't touch.

Through a voter-approved initiative, Idahoans can bypass a resistant and obstinate Legislature.

Resistant and obstinate pretty much sums up the Legislature's sorry track record on local-option taxes. If the Legislature doesn't pass local-option legislation in the remaining weeks of the 2008 session, it is time for supporters to take their case to the people. They have a good case to make. A voter-approved local sales tax can help communities address their looming transportation needs, in their own way ... This attribute seems lost on legislators who espouse support for local control, but balk at allowing local taxing authority.

Some lawmakers have been talking about running a constitutional amendment to allow local option ... A voter initiative could make more sense. An initiative allows local elected officials ... to write the proposal allowing transportation taxes. A successful voter initiative would place local-option tax law in the state code, where it belongs.

Judging from a recent Boise State University public policy survey, Idahoans want this opportunity 57 percent of respondents support giving cities and counties the right to seek voter-approved taxes, with only 33 percent opposed.

None of this makes a local-option initiative a slam dunk. Just getting an initiative on the ballot is a challenge, requiring 45,093 signatures from registered Idaho voters by April 30. However, Moving Idaho Forward, a group lobbying for local option, has support

from leaders in the Treasure Valley, the Panhandle, Twin Falls and Rexburg. This coalition hasn't yet persuaded legislators but could provide the critical mass needed for an Initiative ...

### ... a double standard

Post Register, Idaho Falls

When it comes to safeguarding private employers' investment in top-flight talent, Idaho's lawmakers are enthusiastic and accommodating.

Not so when it comes to safeguarding the taxpayer's interest in top-flight talent working on the public's behalf.

Lawmakers have before them two bills that would impose "cooling off" periods on employees who are contemplating walking through a "resolving door" from one employer to another. Supported by Metaleuca Inc. and the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry, one would stop the top 5 percent of workers — those who sign a non-compete clause — from leaving a firm and joining a competitor for 18 months. The bill sailed through the Senate by a 25-10 vote last month and cleared the House Business Committee on Tuesday by a lopsided party-line vote.



Meanwhile, Sen. Kate Kelly, D-Boise, has proposed a one-year cooling off period before legislators and top policy making executives — possibly 10 percent of state workers — can begin lobbying their former colleagues on behalf of a special interest.

Although more than half the states and the federal government already do this, Kelly's bill has been stalled in the GOP leadership dominated Senate State Affairs Committee since Jan. 18. Organizations train their executives, give them influence, provide access to powerful people and lend knowledge about how to expedite deals.

In the case of the Metaleuca-backed bill, the issue is one of fair play. Why, the private sector asks, should it allow an executive to contemplate joining a competitor and take clients with him?

Kelly and many of her fellow Democrats opposed the bill, contending Idaho case law already protects the

rights of employers who sign non-compete contracts with their workers. But she makes a similar argument on behalf of voters and taxpayers. We invest in our elected officials — returning them to office because the more seniority they gain, the more influence they accumulate. Top appointed officials — at the department and bureau level — also make contacts and learn how to manipulate government. We trust them to work in the public interest.

So what happens when a gubernatorial aide working on a state land lease to a private resort winds up working for that resort? ...

### ... the felon next door

Lawston Tribune

Anyone want a house full of people with mental disabilities next door? Anyone? I love about a halfway house for paroled felons?

No? Given a choice, few people would choose to have a group home of any kind in their neighborhood. Thank goodness they don't have a choice. The Federal Fair Housing Act along with the Americans with Disabilities Act take the decision out of their hands.

That may change slightly in Idaho if Gov. Cl. "Butch" Otter signs a bill to bypass the federal regulations. The bill just passed the Senate 32-1 and sailed with equal ease through the House in February. The idea to give neighbors a voice in where group homes are located is extremely popular, but also extremely wrong.

The bill gives local governments the ability to exclude group homes for paroled criminals from single-family neighborhoods. The bill doesn't affect group homes for people with developmental disabilities, but give lawmakers time. Restricting neighborhoods is a seductive concept.



... (but) unless we want to keep every criminal locked up forever, parolees have to live somewhere after they're released. Group homes and halfway houses give them a better chance of staying out of trouble and out of jail.

They may never get that chance if they are shunned and rejected by people who can pick and choose their neighbors ...

Treaty which the U.S. Senate voted 95 to 0 to reject because it would destroy the U.S. economy while exempting China and other large CO2 emitters. CO2 is essential for food production and oxygen.

There is no evidence that CO2 is causing global warming. The earth has been warming for 300 years with most of the warming prior to CO2 increases. Solar sunspot activity does correlate well with earth warming and cooling. More than 22,000 U.S. Scientists have signed a petition against man-caused global warming and the benefits of extra CO2 to grow larger crops.

See petition: www.accessenergy.org. Al Gore's movie contains at least nine major lies. A DVD to refute the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and Al Gore is available at www.great-global-warnings.com or call (800) 342-6491.

We must utilize fossil fuels and nuclear power to keep America prosperous, independent and free. ADRIAN LARR, Ph.D. Twin Falls

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

## Presidential hopefuls aren't good enough

President Obama just doesn't sound good. Then there's his wife who reminds me of Olive Oyl of Popeye fame and, if elected, we could end up with Jesse Jackson as vice president with Al Sharpton as secretary of state and finally, Oprah as the ambassador to Africa. The Democrats act like he was the second coming of Christ.

President Clinton sounds better, but with her, we have Nancy Pelosi, and why not make Bill the vice president. Seary, isn't it?

President McCain reminds me of Tim Conway on the Carol Burnett Show when he shuffled the old doctor who should be in the Old Soldier Home because he acts so feeble.

Sad day, USA. RICHARD DAVIS Hagerman

world due to constitutional freedoms and abundant energy. So why is U.S. energy production being strangled by environmental extremists, government over-regulation, "endangered" species and the scam to reduce carbon emissions supposedly to reduce global warming?

The 1950's Congressional Reese Committee discovered that elite socialists were working to reduce our standard of living so we could merge into a world government. In 1966, The Hudson Institute's "Report from Iron Mountain" revealed that elite planners used the environment to scare us into accepting world government. Soon the unscientific Environmental Protection Agency (created by presidential executive order) used regulatory overkill to stop nuclear energy and most oil exploration.

The Idaho Senate correctly rejected a bill that tied fossil fuel CO2 emissions to climate change since CO2 has little to do with climate change.

Some facts to consider: The states are adopting much of the Kyoto Climate

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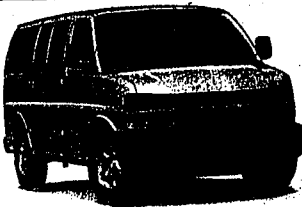
Hertz Gold Certified

- Pwr Seat
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD

Hertz Price  
**\$8,995**

One at this price #909G

'07 CHEVY EXPRESS

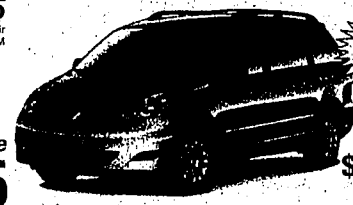


CARGO  
 • Air  
 • AM/FM  
 Hertz Gold Certified

Hertz Price  
**\$16,995**

One at this price #8943

'06 TOYOTA SIENNA



Hertz Gold Certified

- LE
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD/Cass
- Tint
- Rear Air
- Roof Rack

Hertz Price  
**\$16,995**

One at this price #9732

'07 LINCOLN MKZ



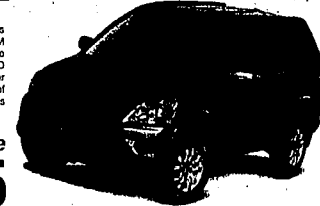
Hertz Gold Certified

- Pwr Seats
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Leather
- Sun Roof
- Wheels

Hertz Price  
**\$24,995**

One at this price #923G

'05 HONDA CRV



Hertz Gold Certified

- 4x4
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD/Cass
- Wheels
- Tint

Hertz Price  
**\$18,995**

One at this price #9750

'04 TOYOTA TUNDRA LTD



QUAD 4X4  
 • Pwr Seat  
 • Pwr W-L-M  
 • Tilt/Cruise  
 • CD/Cass  
 • Windows  
 • Running Boards  
 • Bod Liner  
 • Tow Pkg.  
 Hertz Gold Certified

Hertz Price  
**\$11,995**

One at this price #9627

'08 TOYOTA CAMRY



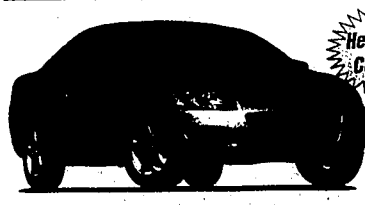
Hertz Gold Certified

- LE
- Pwr Seat
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD

Hertz Price  
**\$18,995**

One at this price #814G

'00 DODGE STRATUS



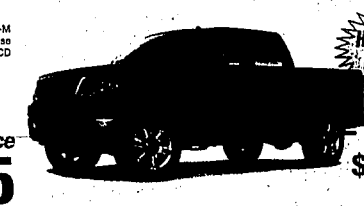
Hertz Gold Certified

- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD

Hertz Price  
**\$5,995**

One at this price #927G

'07 FORD F-150 SUPERCREW



Hertz Gold Certified

- XLT
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Tow Pkg.
- Norf Bars
- Bod Liner
- Wheels

Hertz Price  
**\$24,995**

One at this price #9745

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## New Gooding charter school names principal

By Andrea Gates  
Times-News writer

The principal of Gooding's first charter school set to open this fall at the Idaho School for the Deaf and the Blind comes from the library at Robert Stuart Junior High School in Twin Falls.

Justy Studabaker will be the principal of North Valley Academy. She was a founder of the new charter school and is the sister-in-law of Debby Infanger, the charter school's board president, who is also a founder. Three of the school's five board members are founders of

the school.

"I'm very excited with the opportunity to make a difference," said Studabaker. Another founder of the school,

Gayle Yakovac-Desmet, worked for 30 years with the Gooding School District, where she was principal of the high school for more than four years.

Even though the Gooding School District didn't authorize the new school's charter



Studabaker



Yakovac-Desmet



Infanger

— that was done by the Idaho Public Charter School Commission — the school district and the charter school will collaborate, founders said.

Examples of this will include sharing sports teams and busing, Infanger said,



### On the Web

Enrollment applications in English and Spanish available online, [www.northvalleyacademy.com](http://www.northvalleyacademy.com).

and the charter school has requested the school district cater meals.

"In a small community there's always that worry, is this going to hurt the public school system?" Infanger said. "This is bringing school choice to the community."

There's also collaboration between North Valley and the ISDB. North Valley will lease nine classrooms at ISDB, and it may share the gymnasium,

lunchroom and special education teachers. ISDB is running under capacity and has seen enrollment decreases in recent years.

About 70 students have enrolled so far at North Valley, which has a capacity of 264 students in kindergarten through eighth grade, Infanger said.

Students have until May 6 to apply before a lottery is held. First priority is given to

founders' children, kids living inside the Gooding School District — then if there are still slots open, students can enroll from outside the district.

Come fall, there will be three public charter schools in the area, including North Valley in Gooding, one-year-old Xavier Charter School in Twin Falls, and a brand new virtual online charter school called ISuccess.

The mascot of North Valley Academy is a patriot — a man walking with a drum — and it will have uniforms such as Polo-style shirts and khaki pants.

## Solid foundations

### Some 23 percent of school districts supported by foundations

By Andrea Gates  
Times-News writer

Almost a quarter of the public school districts in Idaho have non-profit foundations that nourish their budgets; most of them formed in the early 1990s, the *Times-News* has found.

State and local authorities say that's good news for Idaho schools that can always use a few extra bucks.

"I do not think these non-profit groups mean schools are underfunded," said Melissa McGrath, spokeswoman for the State Department of Education. "I think it shows how local communities are willing to step up to help improve their local school."

The State Department of Education doesn't track how many school districts have non-profit foundations, nor does it encourage or discourage their formation, McGrath said.

Based on data from the Internal Revenue Service and the Idaho Secretary of State, the *Times-News* determined that 27 of Idaho's 115 school districts have non-profit foundations.

But if a district forms a non-profit, does it mean that it's not getting enough money from taxpayers?

"It's a good question," said Wiley Dobbs, Twin Falls School District superintendent. "Our state makes a big commitment to education, and I don't think I would paint it with that broad of a stroke."

The largest portion of the state's general fund goes to education.

"I think (a foundation) really just enhances the educational opportunities for our teachers



Twin Falls High School junior Emilee Williams, left, plays a piano Wednesday that was donated to the school. Camille and Jim Cox, both Twin Falls High alumni, donated two pianos to the school during the holidays to replace older models that have been used for the past 40 years at the school.



### On the Web

Go to [www.magicvalley.com](http://www.magicvalley.com) to see a list of 28 school districts in Idaho with non-profit foundations.

Find Twin Falls School District alumni or donate online at [www.tfhsalumni.com](http://www.tfhsalumni.com).

and our kids," said Dobbs. The Twin Falls School District Education Foundation, run by a 13-member board and formed in 1991, connects alumni and creates an avenue for giving.

In 2005 the foundation gave money to teachers for supplies — \$100 for certified elementary teachers in the district — to buy classroom necessities and spare teachers' pocketbooks. But by 2006, the foundation stopped giving that stipend because the state started paying the bill. This school year, the state gave

every full-time classroom teacher a \$350 supply stipend. And state funding for classroom supplies has been approved for next year by the Legislative Joint Finance Appropriations Committee.

The Twin Falls School District Education Foundation has given \$1,000 grants to schools since 2005, along with support for a supplemental levy in 2006, and creation of a Web site for alumni.

Camille Cox and her husband Jim, both Twin Falls High School alumni, made a donation around Christmas time — two Yamaha

pianos to replace those used when she was a student, 40 years ago.

"I was concerned because the pianos were in such bad shape," said Cox. "It meant something to our family and the schools."

Even though the Twin Falls School District Foundation has fewer donations coming in than the Boise Public Schools Education Foundation, the percent of public support paid directly to schools is the same — about 84 percent.

The foundation in Boise brought in \$884,434 last year in direct public support. The Twin Falls foundation, which serves a school district that's more than three times smaller, raked in \$13,290 in direct public support.

Andrea Gates can be reached at 735-3380 or [Andrea.Gates@lee.net](mailto:Andrea.Gates@lee.net).

## TWIN FALLS P&Z denies permit for apartments

By Damon Humzeker  
Times-News correspondent

The Twin Falls Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday denied a permit to build apartments and revoked a permit from a nonexistent business. They also approved a couple of requests.

The owners of Party Center, a division of Bent-A-Center that caters to large functions and conventions, asked for a special-use permit to expand their business on Addison Avenue East in a commercially zoned area.

"It's just a good use of an empty building — put it to work," Commissioner Cyrus Warren said. The commission approved the permit.

Tom Newirth of Hummel Architects, on behalf of the Twin Falls School District, requested a non-conforming building exemption for Black Cat Youngster. The building is exempt from conforming to current ordinances because the school has been there since 1904 and has essentially been grandfathered in.

"The expansion, a building for indoor physical education, won't be glaringly distinguishable from the rest of the school — just tall enough to play basketball," Newirth said.

Linda Hancock was a resident near the school for 20 years. Noticeably angry building exemption for Black Cat Youngster, said, "It's not going to be used for competitive sports — just for practice." Younkun assured Hancock.

"It's just a difficult situation," Commissioner Warren said. "It's not going to be used for competitive sports — just for practice." Younkun assured Hancock.

Please see P&Z, Page B3

## Senate ed chairman pulls bill that would fire teachers easier

By Jared S. Hopkins  
Times-News writer

BOISE — The final remnant of a controversial teacher pay reform plan died Thursday after the Senate Education Chairman pulled back a measure making it easier to fire teachers.

The original legislation would have set up a system that required school districts to have a hearing official determine whether teachers should be dismissed. But an amendment that won the support of the teacher's union was opposed by the Idaho School Boards Association, so Sen. John Goedde, R-Coeur d'Alene, pulled the bill he was sponsoring.



### On the Web

For more stories about the Idaho Legislature, a blog by political reporter Jared S. Hopkins, a Who's Who in the Idaho Legislature blog, and the Idaho Legislature's new website, go to [www.idaholegislature.com](http://www.idaholegislature.com).

"I hope I don't ever have a school board trustee complain about the cost and time it takes to fire a teacher again, because I'll remind them of what happened

today," he said during a committee meeting.

Lawmakers last month rejected ISTARS. Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna's controversial plan to increase teacher salaries in exchange for reduced job security. Then, facing a fall in state revenues, lawmakers broke the system in two: One bill, dubbed "ISTARS Lite," gave pay raises with no change in job security. The job security portion was siphoned into Goedde's bill.

In the past, school officials have said it is too difficult to fire bad teachers. Legislators — particularly backers of Luna's plan — say that's why Please see TEACHERS, Page B3

## Bill could curb invasive mussels

By Jared S. Hopkins  
Times-News writer

BOISE — Legislation was introduced Thursday that would authorize the Idaho State Department of Agriculture to take action in curbing quagga mussels, an invasive species that lawmakers and officials fear could devastate south-central Idaho irrigation systems.

ISDA officials and lawmakers say there is high potential for the mussels, a striped mollusk in the same family as the pesky zebra mussel, to migrate to Idaho and clog the Magic Valley's rivers, lakes and irrigation systems.

There is currently no state law that addresses quagga mussels. Last year, the Legislature approved \$4 million to invasive plants, principally milfoil, and an

underwater plant that spreads rapidly.

Thursday's legislation — dubbed the Idaho Invasive Species Act of 2008 — came from Rep. Eric Anderson, R-Priest Lake, where invasive species such as milfoil have drawn attention. His action earned him the nickname "Marty Milfoil."

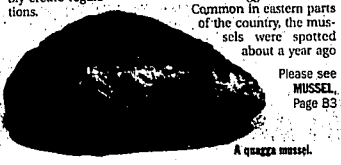
Anderson said the legislation asks the ISDA to craft administrative rules and then inspect boats, set up monitor stations and possibly create regulations.

"We have to do everything possible to end this," said Anderson. "It's the biggest ecological challenge we'll be faced with."

The State Affairs Committee sent the legislation directly to the House floor. The mussels, which are the size of a thumb nail and clump together, are often found attached to boats. In irrigation systems, the fear is that any pipes that take water from large bodies could be clogged.

"Common in eastern parts of the country, the mussels were spotted about a year ago

Please see MUSSEL, Page B3



A quagga mussel.

**Charles Wesley Westbrook**



· Dad began his journey as the youngest of seven children born in Steins, Miss., on Aug. 13, 1917, to Wesley Arnold and Dena (Thomas) Westbrook. Dad's journey ended on March 11, 2008, in Twin Falls, Idaho.

· As a small child in a hardwood farming family, Dad picked cotton and learned to handle a mule team. His family survived the Dust Bowl era and the depression by relocating to farm in Oklahoma and Texas before returning to Mississippi once again.

· At the age of 17, after graduating high school, he joined the Mississippi Army National Guard, and drove a cab and worked as a janitor until enlisting in the Army Air Corps in 1939. During World War II he served as a bombardier and navigator aboard B-17's and B-29's in Central and South America, keeping the Panama Canal safe for Allied shipping. While on assignment at Gowen Field in Boise, Dad's Army Corps Buddy, Wes Lyons of Boise, Idaho, introduced Dad to Olevia Harris and after just six months and six dates, Dad and Mom married in Christian Day in 1943. Idaho became his new home which he referred to as "paradise."

· After the war a son, Larry and a daughter, Diane were born in Boise. Dad's work with General Electric Supply Company prompted a move to Twin Falls where daughters Sheryl and Patricia were born. After retiring from General Electric, Dad worked for Gem Electric and Magic Valley Electric. Even though he worked long days, Dad found time to enjoy life with his family. He was involved in Boy Scouts and was a leader on a 50 mile hike in the Sawtooth mountains, panned for gold, played the harmonica, danced almost every weekend until he kept a perfect record, and loved to share stories about his life and the books he read.

· He and Mom were Mall Walkers and members of the "Friday Night Group" with whom they enjoyed meeting for years with their money at the mall. Dad also found time to be involved in Lions Club, the Masonic Lodge, and Shriners, where he could be found shuttling children and their parents to Salt Lake City for medical treatment, fundraising for hamburgers at football games.

BURLEY—Dewayne Lewis Clayton, an 87-year-old resident of Burley, passed away peacefully at home on Wednesday, March 12, 2008.

He was born Nov. 11, 1920, in Garland, Utah, the son of Leo Albert Clayton and Adeline (Hinnman) Clayton. During World War II, he served in the United States Navy stationed in Okinawa. Upon returning home, Dewayne married Marie Holden "Sweetie" on Oct. 8, 1946, in Elko, Nev. Their marriage was later solemnized in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple on Aug. 17, 1962.

Dewayne was a farmer at heart. He worked his own farm and was involved in other farm-related businesses.



He was an active member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He faithfully served in many callings, especially enjoying the Scouts and temple work.

The family wishes to express heartfelt thanks to the many caregivers who provided loving care, allowing Dad to stay in his home as he desired. Very special thanks and love to his primary caregivers Carmelita Jorgensen, Hospice Visitation C.N.A., who provided unconditional love, respect, and dignity to our father, and Maria Piotula and Susan Kessler for their continual care and companionship. Dad had looked forward to his visits from his new found friend, Hospice Chaplain, Dick Goetsch.

Dad is survived by his children, Larry and wife Ruth Westbrook; Diane Alison Beryman; Sheryl (Westbrook) Ford and husband Mike; Patricia Westbrook; grandchildren, Ryan and wife Nancy Merritt, Thud Merritt; Seth Merritt; and great-granddaughter, Kelsey Merritt.

**Gaylord (Gabe) Layton**

Gaylord (Gabe) Layton, age 64, of Twin Falls, passed away Thursday, March 6, 2008, at Sunrise Care and Rehabilitation. He was born Sept. 25, 1943, in Grand Island, Neb. His family has since relocated to Ontario, Calif. For the past 10 years Gabe has resided in Twin Falls.

He loved Idaho and D'Uken's Draft House. He also loved baseball.

Survivors include his mother, Grace Layton; and brother, David B. Layton. He was preceded in death by his father, Henry Layton.

No local services are to be held, he will be buried in Ontario, Calif. Arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary, "Chapel by the Park."



He loved Idaho and D'Uken's Draft House. He also loved baseball.

**Ilene G. Tilley**

Ilene G. Tilley, 87, of Twin Falls, passed away Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at Woodstone Assisted Living Center. Ilene was born in Twin Falls on Aug. 21, 1920, to Dewitt and Adelaide Lubbock. She was the second of five daughters. Ilene attended school at Greenwood and Twin Falls High School. On Nov. 24, 1937, she married Wayne H. DeBoard. Three children, Barbara, Larry and Roger, were born into their union of 42 years. Wayne passed away in 1979, and she later married Vyn Tilley.



Ilene was a member of the Twin Falls Church of the Nazarene for more than 70 years. She received a Distinguished Service Award for her years of service as a Sunday school teacher. She was employed by the Twin Falls School District for 20 years and was head cook at Harrison Grade School when she retired.

Ilene was preceded in death by both of her husbands; her daughter, Barbara Mason; her parents; and sisters, Mildred White and Barbara Lahue.

She is survived by her sons, Larry (Willie) DeBoard of Clackamas, Ore., and Roger (Linda) DeBoard of Twin Falls, Idaho; sisters, Beauty Peterson of Nampa, Idaho, and Mildred Peterson of Caldwell, Idaho; seven

For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magiclevel.com.

Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magiclevel.com and click on "Obituaries."

Ruth H. Wellhausen of Wenatchee, Wash., and formerly of Hazelton, greatest service at 10:30 a.m. Monday at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls.

Sarah Catherine "Cathy" Kuzlik of Flir, celebration of life at 10 a.m. March 22 at Rock Creek Community Church, Fifth Avenue East and Idaho Street in Twin Falls (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

Flora Teresa Sebala Massas at 11 a.m. Wednesday at St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church, 161 Sixth Ave. E. in Twin Falls; rosary at 7 p.m. Tuesday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2466 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

**Dorris Marie Hurt (Wiese) Bellegante**

The spirit of Dorris Marie Hurt (Wiese) Bellegante left its exhausted shell March 5, 2008, from Burget, Idaho. Having suffered several strokes; robbing her of sight, speech, stature and independence, her once athletic, active and attractive frame was defeated.

Born July 28, 1925, in Bluffs, Va., she was the youngest of nine children to Mary Elizabeth Wells and William Henry Hurt. She married Harold Edward Wiese on March 20, 1944, in Salt Lake City, Utah. They raised their five children, four sons and one daughter in Ogden, Utah. They later divorced. She moved to Idaho and met and married Gelson Joseph (Joe) Bellegante on July 13, 1972. For almost 20 years, she was an Avon representative in the



Mindoka/Cassia County area.

She was an avid golfer, bowler and pool player. She won several state and national titles in bowling.

She was preceded in death by her parents, two husbands, three brothers and two sisters and one grandson.

She is survived by her children and their spouses, Dean Edward (Anne) Wiese of Farmington, Utah, Shelia Ann (Lacey) Jarolimek of Winnemucca, Nev., Marcia Joy Wiese of Rupert, Idaho, Alan Hay (Linda) Wiese of Washington Terrace, Utah, and Gilbert Lee (Michelle) Wiese of Heyburn, Idaho; 15 grandchildren; 23 great-grandchildren; three sisters; two brothers-in-law; and numerous nieces and nephews.

The service will be held at noon Monday, March 17, at the Hansen Mortuary in Rupert. Interment will follow in the Rupert Cemetery following the service.

**G. Elwood Parker**

BURLEY—G. Elwood Parker, beloved Son, Husband, Father, Grandfather and Great Grandfather, 91, passed away peacefully at the Twin Falls Care Center, on Tuesday, March 11, 2008. Elwood was born Oct. 9, 1916, in Liberty, Idaho, to his parents, George Henry Parker and Jennina Ann Alsop. He completed his basic education in southeastern Idaho.

Elwood joined the Army in March of 1942 and served during World War II in the First Special Service Force for 2 1/2 years. While on leave, Elwood spotted the love of his life, Emma Gilbert, who was teaching school in Wardboro, Idaho. Elwood and Emma were married in the Logan Temple on March 19, 1943. They were the parents of six children, Blane G. Parker, deceased; Susan Parker Vermillion of Lubbock, Texas; Myron G. Parker of Twin Falls, Idaho; Lawrence Parker Groom, deceased; Kelly G. Parker of Las Vegas, Nev.; and Tim G.

Parker of Hansen, Idaho. He was preceded in death by his parents, three brothers, wife, one son, and one daughter.

He is survived by two sisters and one brother, four children, 20 grandchildren and 17 great-grandchildren.

Elwood was active in The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. He served in many positions and callings. He loved to dance, garden, fish and hunt. He was proud to be an American and to have served his country. He was active in Scouting and enjoyed helping young men achieve their Scouting goals. He was an accomplished finish carpenter and took pride in his work.

A viewing will be held at the Bull Lads Church, 1001 Fair St. on Saturday, March 15, beginning at 10 a.m. following services at 11 a.m. Interment will be at the West End Cemetery. Burial Arrangements are being handled by Farmer Funeral Chapel.

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**SERVICES**

· Artell Aslett of Kimberly, memorial service at 10 a.m. today at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

· Stella A. Martindale of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. today at Payne Mortuary, 221 W. Main St. in Burley; visitation from 10:30 to 11 a.m. today at the mortuary.

· June Naylor of Hansen, graveside service at 2 p.m. today at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls (Reynolds Funeral Chapel of Twin Falls and Short's Funeral Chapel in Moscow).

· Oleta Lufay Mullen Smith of Heyburn, funeral at 2 p.m. today at the Burley United Methodist Church, 450 E. 27th St.; visitation from 1 to 1:45 p.m. today at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

· Carlos E. Gonzalez of Halley, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at St. Charles Catholic Church in Halley; rosary at 7 p.m. today at Wood River Chapel in Halley; visitation from 2 to 9 p.m. today at the mortuary.

· Melba Afton Harper Weedop of Burley, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Bella LDS Church, 152 W. 400 S. in Burley; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. today at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, and 10 to 10:45 a.m. Saturday at the church.

· Robert E. Williams Jr. of Jerome, funeral at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Jerome LDS Sac Center, 26 N. Tiger Drive (100 East) in Jerome; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m.

**Patient Spotlight**

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**Death notices on page B3**

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# COMMUNITY NEWS

## Local artist to perform on national radio show

Andrew Ryan, son of Steve and Cheryl Ryan, of Twin Falls, will perform live on a nation wide radio program.

A Prairie Home Companion, which broadcasts weekly from the world famous Fitzgerald Theater in St. Paul, Minn., has invited Ryan to join them on stage for its second annual "Talented 20's" broadcast. Of more than 1,000 entries, he became one of six finalists in the talent competition. The program will be aired live on the radio at 1 p.m. Saturday (MST). Magic Valley residents can listen to the program on



Ryan

KBSW FM 91.7, Twin Falls. Ryan is a singer/songwriter living in Boise, where he currently works as a physician's assistant. He recently finished medical school in Las Vegas, Nev., and recorded a solo album.

Listeners can vote for him online at A Prairie Home Companion's Web site, where links for listening and voting information can be found: <http://prairiehome-publicradio.org>.

## Reunion held for Burley class of '58

BURLEY — Burley High School class of 1958 will hold its 50-year reunion July 18-19. The committee needs help locating the following classmates: Lynn Johnson, Doggely Harris, Linda Lee Campbell, Smithers, Kenneth, Weeks,

Nancy Hathaway Hall, Bonnie Baird Smith, Jean Robbins Cooper, Sandra Roffman Bodensteiner, Arvelia Eilers Sawyer.

Anyone with any information: Roger at 431-3192. Addresses are preferred.

## M-C conservation district offering trees

BURLEY — The East Cassia and Minidoka Soil and Water Conservation District annual seedling tree sale has started. Orders may be turned into the N.R.C.S. office at 1361 East 16th St. in Burley. The trees must be paid for at the time the order is placed and trees will arrive in late April. The tree sale is final and complete about two weeks following their arrival. The sale provides seedling trees to landowners for wind-

breaks, shelterbelts and landscaping. This is an excellent way to start a conservation development project, a windbreak, or a habitat or landscaping project. The proceeds from the seedling tree sale support educational activities provided by East and West Cassia Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Available trees include hybrid poplar, Lombardy poplar, river birch, quaking aspen, blue spruce, Austrian pine, noble fir, common purple lilac, choke cherry, Siberian peashrub and Rocky Mountain juniper for \$25 for a bundle of 10 trees and north-red oak, beauty bush, red leaf mayday tree, summer lilac, butterfly bush and Peking lilac for \$15 for a bundle of five trees. For more information: 678-1225.

# DEATH NOTICES

## Thomas C. Winsor

BURLEY — Thomas Chadwick Winsor, 63, of Las Vegas, Nev., died Tuesday, March 11, 2008, at the Burley Care Center.

No formal service will be held at this time. Cremation was under the direction of Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley.

## Val K. Parke Sr.

CAREY — Val Kent Parke Sr., 77, of Carey, died Wednesday, March 12, 2008. A memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 19, at the Carey LDS Church (Wood River Chapel in Halley).

## Michelle Young

SHOSHONE — Michelle Huppi Young, 30, of Shoshone, died Wednesday, March 12, 2008, in Twin Falls. Arrangements will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary in Jerome.

## Horace Bridger

Horace Bridger, 61, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, March 12, 2008, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center.

The funeral will be held at 4 p.m. Saturday, March 15, at the Twin Falls LDS 6th Ward Chapel, 667 Harrison St. (Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

See what's new at [www.magicvalley.com](http://www.magicvalley.com)

step into Africa. Can your spirit survive the journey of a child? Coming soon to Twin Falls. For details and free tickets: [www.worldvisionexperience.org](http://www.worldvisionexperience.org)

# BIRTHDAYS

## Twin Falls woman turns 104

Helene H. Babcock of Twin Falls will celebrate her 104th birthday on Saturday. She has lived in Twin Falls for more than 70 years and currently resides at Centennial House, 1930 Heyburn Ave. E.



Babcock

Babcock was born March 15, 1914, in Mountain Home. Her grandfather, Ephraim

Smith was the first mayor of Boise city, the first Territory Treasurer of Idaho and was also instrumental in moving the capitol from Lewiston to Boise.

Her father was a druggist in Mountain Home and first president of the Idaho Pharmacy. She attended Mills College and University of Idaho with a degree in Education and taught in Coeur d'Alene.

She later married Edward Babcock and settled in Twin Falls. Her family, Carolyn Baird and Bill Babcock and families congratulate her on her birthday.

## T.F. woman honored at birthday celebration

Jeanette Schiermeier of Twin Falls was honored with a party on her 90th birthday, March 8, with her family, grandchildren, great-grandchildren and friends.

Schiermeier came to Twin Falls from Belleville, Ill., in 1961 with her husband, Ted, and their three boys. They operated the restaurant, The Blue Rooster downtown and an antique shop next door and also one at Smiley Creek. She operated the dress shop, Mode-O-Day with her daughter Sandy in the

Lynwood Shopping Center from 1967 to 1969.

She has been involved in many activities at St. Edward's Church where she is a member.

The party was hosted by her four children and their spouses. Tom (Pari) Schiermeier of Twin Falls, Rick (Mary Beth) Schiermeier of McCall, Don (Kristi) Schiermeier of Bruneau, Sandy and Ron Kienzle of Cincinnati, Ohio.



Schiermeier

# P&Z

Continued from page B1

"This has been necessary for a long time, as anyone knows who has seen it or went to school there — I'm old," Commissioner Wayne Bohm said.

The request was unanimously approved.

Kevin Bradshaw of Bradshaw Homes requested a special-use permit to build a four-plex, along with a storage unit, on Shoup Avenue. Munoz said the storage unit will be used for tenants in addition to yourself. Is that the business? asked Commissioner Gerardo Munoz.

"Well, I'm going to own the apartments," Bradshaw responded, indicating that

the storage unit his tenants will be allowed to use is not, in fact, the business.

President Joe Robinson said that the traffic on Shoup is already congested. Warren agreed and expressed further concern about fire trucks getting in and turning around.

Commissioners Younklin and Karen Steiger concurred, but it was Munoz who offered the bluntest assessment: "I think that when we leave it up to people to decide where to park, it's not always the best, most logical place but the closest place."

The request was denied, but Bradshaw can appeal to the City Council.

In 2006, Andrew Stephens Auto Group was issued a special-use permit. According to the city of Twin Falls, the business failed to comply with landscape codes, among other conditions. Stephens was notified that, if not compliant by late January, the permit could be revoked.

Sinus Misery? Sinus Center Idaho. Twin Falls • 732-0700

"I think it makes sense," Younklin said. It was then unanimously revoked.

The business no longer exists, however, so it's unclear who will be affected by the revocation.

Damon Hinzker may be reached at 420-4697 or [hinzker@aol.com](mailto:hinzker@aol.com).

# Auction Calendar

Table with columns for date, time, location, and auction details. Includes events like 'FRIDAY, MAR. 14, 11:00AM Kobet, Jerome Tractors + Trucks + Trailers', 'SATURDAY, MAR. 15, 10:00AM Public Auto Auction', 'SUNDAY, MAR. 16, 11:00AM Auction, Twin Falls', etc.

# Mussel

Continued from page B1

in Nevada's Lake Mead. They've gone to other states, including Arizona," said Anderson.

People are stunned at how quickly they've spread outside Nevada, said Amy Ferriter, ISDA invasive species coordinator. "I really do think the state of Idaho is at a high risk for quagga mussels," she said. "People aren't saying it. They

are saying when." The ISDA, Idaho Department of Fish and Game and Idaho Power Co. began last year monitoring the sites together, but lacked the proper funding, Ferriter said.

Any funding would come from the state's deficiency warrants, which serve as an emergency fund, most recently to fight wildfires across the state.

# Teachers

Continued from page B1

teacher pay needs an overhaul.

The Idaho Education Association, which was originally opposed to Goedeck's bill, was comfortable with the amendment that would give a choice of either go to binding arbitration or go to court.

"The issue at the center is it takes too long and is too costly to fire a teacher," said

Sherri Wood, president of the union that represents 13,000 of Idaho's 15,500 teachers. Just 18 cases went to court between 1995 and 2006. The amended version had fewer limitations and could have been less costly. Under that plan, a teacher appealed a board's decision directly to the court.

The state budgeting panel has approved \$24.7 million for teacher salary increases.

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Century Stadium 5 & Burley Theatre in Burley. Horton Hears a Who, Vantage Point, College Road Trip, Penelope, Alvin & the Chipmunks.

For more information, click Auctions on [www.magicvalley.com](http://www.magicvalley.com) AUCTION SALES REP: Hill Hollon, 735-3222 • [jhollon@magicvalley.com](mailto:jhollon@magicvalley.com)

# Miss Kimberly winners announced

**KIMBERLY**—Winners of the Miss Kimberly pageant have been announced. Maryanne Barrott was named Miss Kimberly. Tara Leavitt was named first runner-up and Kaylee Loosle was named second runner-up. Other awards went to Sarah Morris, Miss Congeniality; Jessica Williams, Lacey Haye Award; Maryanne Barrott, Kimberly Lions Club Spirit of Community Award and Traci Bair, Talent and Interview Scholarship Award from the College of Southern Idaho.



Winners of the Miss Kimberly Pageant on March 8 include, from left, Kaylee Loosle, second runner up; Maryanne Barrott, Miss Kimberly; and Tara Leavitt, first runner up.

### Herrett Center for Arts and Science

**Faulkner Planetarium**

Adults	\$4	Students	\$2
Seniors	\$3	Families	\$9

**Icy Worlds Saving the Night/live sky tour**  
Fridays, Saturdays and Tuesdays at 7 pm

**Led Zeppelin Maximum Volume**  
Fridays at 8:15 pm

**Pink Floyd: The Wall**  
Saturdays at 8:15 pm

**Planet Patrol Solar System Showcase**  
Saturday at 2 pm

**WSKY: Radio Station of the Stars**  
Saturday 4 pm

The College of Southern Idaho  
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30 N. State • Twin Falls • 202 N. 2nd • Boise

## The Herrett Gift Shop

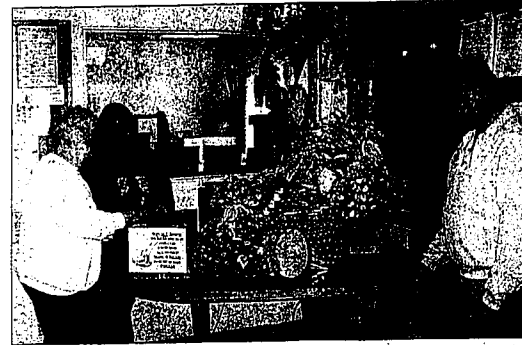
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## BASKET FULL OF GOODIES



The Minidoka County Sealer Center is raffling off a giant Easter basket overflowing with donations from local businesses. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. Proceeds from the raffle will benefit the center's Meals on Wheels program. Businesses who contributed include Alaska's Best, American Dream Realty, A+Designs, The Bookstore, Comfort Keepers, Doc's Pizza, Dago's Barbershop, Dickson Oil, D.L. Evans Bank, Finishing, Forever Friends, First Federal, Gathering Place, Good Day Pawn & Auto, Good Year Quality Tires, Grease Monkey, Hansen Mortuary, Idaho Youth Ranch Store, King's, La Morellino, Minidoka Memorial Hospital, La Panaderia, Park View Furniture, PMT, Pizza Hut, Pioneer Equipment, Ridley's, Robyn's Nest, Stock Room, Tots to Teens, U.S. Bank and Wells Fargo. The drawing will be held during the Easter luncheon at noon Friday, March 21. From left are Velma Laird, Holy Najera, Linda Reyes and Keith Gentry.

### Boys and Girls Club of Magic Valley picks summer registration dates

The Boys and Girls Club of Magic Valley has selected dates for summer registration.

Current members will register on Monday, non-members will register March 31.

The club accepts children ages 6-18. Cost is \$10 per day in Twin Falls and \$5 per day in Buhl.

For more information: Lindsey Westburg at 736-7011.

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<p><b>Be Kind Rewind</b> (in new format) Daily 7:30 9:45 Sat - Thurs 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:00 10:00 B.C. (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:25</p> <p><b>Dooms Day</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:30 Sat - Thurs 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30</p> <p><b>Bank Job</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:30 Sat - Thurs 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30</p> <p><b>Never Back Down</b> (in new format) Daily 7:15 9:45 Sat - Thurs 12:30 4:00 7:15 9:45</p> <p><b>Semi-Pro</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:45 Sat - Thurs 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45</p> <p><b>Golden Compass</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:45 Sat - Thurs 12:15 2:30</p>	<p><b>College Road Trip</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:00 Sat - Thurs 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:00 10:00 B.C. (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:25</p> <p><b>Horton Hears a Who!</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:00 Sat - Thurs 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:00 10:00 B.C. (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:25</p> <p><b>Enchanted</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:00 Sat - Thurs 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:00 10:00 B.C. (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:25</p> <p><b>Odyssey 6 Theatre</b></p> <p><b>Be Kind Rewind</b> (in new format) Daily 7:30 9:45 Sat - Thurs 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:00 10:00 B.C. (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:25</p> <p><b>Dooms Day</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:30 Sat - Thurs 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30</p> <p><b>Bank Job</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:30 Sat - Thurs 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30</p> <p><b>Never Back Down</b> (in new format) Daily 7:15 9:45 Sat - Thurs 12:30 4:00 7:15 9:45</p> <p><b>Semi-Pro</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:45 Sat - Thurs 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45</p> <p><b>Golden Compass</b> (in new format) Daily 7:00 9:45 Sat - Thurs 12:15 2:30</p>
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INSIDE: Minico names former T.F. coach as new girls hoops coach, C2



INSIDE: Local roundup, C2 | Golf & MLB, C5 | Business, C6-7 | Weather, C8

## BSU survives shaky start, beats Hawaii

The Associated Press

LAS CRUCES, N.M. — Boise State settled the nerves at halftime, then Reggie Lary took over. Larry scored 16 of his 26 points in the second half and the Broncos survived a shaky start, beating Hawaii 80-74 in the Western Athletic Conference tournament quarterfinals Thursday.

**INSIDE:** Tyler Tiedeman scored 14 points and Matt Nelson added 10 as Boise State (23-0) advanced to today's 6 p.m. semifinal game against the winner of Utah State. After trailing by as many as nine points, Boise State began the second half with a 12-2 run to

make it a game. It was tied at 60 with six minutes remaining when Larry scored inside to put the Broncos ahead for good.

"I didn't want it to be my last game," said Larry, a senior. "I did whatever I needed to do."

From there, Boise State hit 15-of-18 from the free throw line over the final 4:09. The Broncos also made 15-of-19 from the field in the second half, a whopping 79 percent, and 5-of-6 from 3-point range.

"We just tried to do what we do better," said Boise State's Greg Graham, the WAC's coach of the year. "We talked about a few things. Everybody was trying to do too much. After we settled in, we played much better."

Larry had nine rebounds and missed matching a career scoring high by one point. He had 10 points at halftime, hitting 7-of-8 from the free throw line, then took over as the Broncos got him more involved underneath.

After shooting 1-of-6 from the floor in the first half, Larry was 7-for-10 after the break.

"Reggie has been around a long time," Graham said. "He knows what he needs to do. He's a competitor. He has internal drive. He doesn't need it from the outside. I'd love to take credit for what he does, but it's mostly him."

Please see BRONCOS, Page C4

# Aussie All-American



College of Southern Idaho freshman Maddy Plunkett, bottom right, pictured with the rest of this year's Golden Eagles team, has assimilated into collegiate basketball to become a NCAIA Division I All-American candidate for a CSI squad headed to its first national tournament in three seasons.

## CSI's Plunkett a perfect fit in college hoops

By Eric Larsen  
Times-News writer

Sometimes it's hard to imagine Maddy Plunkett being from anywhere else. From the sporty little car her parents bought her to drive around Twin Falls to her penchant for dancing to the hip-hop played over the College of Southern Idaho gymnasium loudspeakers during warm-ups, the Golden Eagles' 6-foot-2 post plays the part of the all-American girl fulfilling her basketball dreams.

Oh, but there is the accent. "Pah-don?" And that, 8,000-mile trip home to Albany, New South Wales, Australia.

A product of Australia's strong national network of youth sports programs, Plunkett is part of the recent surge of Australian players finding success in American collegiate basketball. Plunkett followed in the footsteps of other Aussie hoops stars, including former CSI guard Zaryon Fereti, that have brought their polished basketball skills stateside.

"They don't have high school sports and these kids grew up in their clubs. They play it nonstop." CSI head coach Randy Rogers said of Australian youth basketball. "Maddy, to a fault, probably played as much basketball as she did go to school,

"This is my first time in snow and I'm pretty much sick of it and can't wait for the sun to come out."

— Maddy Plunkett, on her first season in Twin Falls

and she ends up at CSI because of academics a little bit."

Rogers certainly isn't complaining. Plunkett is a key player on a 30-2 Golden Eagles squad that will begin play at the NCAIA Division I National Championship on Tuesday. The smooth-shooting Aussie post is averaging 14.8 points and 7.7 rebounds per game, and is coming off a weekend when she was named Region 1B Tournament MVP and Scenic West Athletic Conference Player of the Year.

The ease of Plunkett's transition to the American collegiate game is partly due to her skills, partly to her nationality. While American and Australian cultures differ at points, a common language has saved Plunkett from the early communication barriers teammates Eva Ivanova and Soana

Lucet faced during their first months in Twin Falls. A primer course of American media didn't hurt, either.

"It's exactly like what you see off the movies," Plunkett said. "America is America. It's really different from back home. I do miss home but I do love it over here."

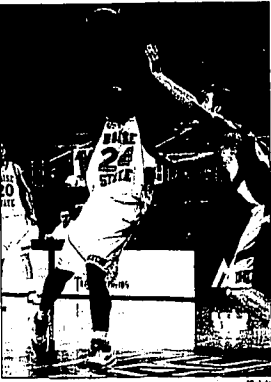
Her transition to Twin Falls has been so smooth that Plunkett's biggest adjustment has nothing to do with political or cultural climate. Just climate.

"This is my first time in snow and I'm pretty much sick of it and can't wait for the sun to come out," Plunkett joked. "I'm not really looking forward to it next year."

Rogers is hopeful that Plunkett will deal with the snow in Twin Falls one more year, though NCAA Division I recruiters across the nation have kept a close tab on the post quartet of Plunkett, fellow freshman Lucet, and sophomores Ivánova and Anita Burdick. For her part, Plunkett's talk about the role this year's sophomore group has played in her development hints at a return to for the Golden Eagles next season.

"The sophomore girls, they're great," she said. "I thought it was going to be really

Please see AUSSIE, Page C2



Boise State guard Reggie Lary (24) shoots over Hawaii forward Bill Amis during the second half of their Western Athletic Conference tournament quarterfinal Thursday at the Pan American Center in Las Cruces, N.M. Boise State won 80-74 and will face Utah State today.

## CSI baseball hosts Colorado NW

### Golden Eagles looking to avenge season-ending loss

By Eric Larsen  
Times-News writer

Revenge is a dish best served at home plate, at least for the College of Southern Idaho baseball team.

Golden Eagles head coach Bonner Walker and the five sophomores on this season's 10-12 team have had since May 4, 2007, to stew over last year's 10-7 season-ending loss to Colorado Northwestern Community College in Region 1B Tournament play.

Today, CSI gets its first crack at redemption against a 4-12 Spartans squad with a 1 p.m., doubleheader at Skip Walker Field. "The very first thing that I told the guys is that regardless of who ends your season, you look forward to playing them next year," Walker said. "It doesn't matter who it is. My motivation is that those guys ended our season."

"Regardless of their record, who they are, what they've got coming back, what they don't and whatever, I'm excited to play them."

The feeling is mutual for sophomore pitchers Jake Draeger, Jason Outman and Justin Smith, along with position players Jed Hanson and Travis Reynolds. Each watched the Spartans celebrate two wins over the Golden

### Eagle Eyes

Today: Colorado NW (4-12, 1-7 SWAC) at CSI (10-12, 3-5 SWAC), DH, 1 p.m.  
On the horizon: The Golden Eagles and Spartans meet for a noon, Saturday doubleheader. CSI hosts Dawson Community College (Mon.) at 2 p.m., Monday, and Treasure Valley Community College (Tue.) at 6 p.m., Tuesday for nine inning games before hitting the road to play four games at the College of Eastern Utah next Friday and Saturday in Price, Utah.  
On the radio: This weekend's games will be broadcast live on 1270 AM KTFI.

### CSI season leaders

(Minimums apply, through Western Nevada series)  
Batting — Average: Tyler Chism .328, Garrett Wolf .298. Hits: Chism 21, Justin Jensen 18. 2B: Andy Reyes 4, Chism, Matt Deacon 3. 3B: Chism 2, Jensen, Reyes, Wolf 1. HR: Jensen, Wolf 1. RBI: Jed Hansen 14, Tyler Chism 13. Runs: Deacon 13, Chism, Jensen, Reyes 12. SB: Chism 9, Deacon 9-11.  
Pitching — Record: Justin Smith 21, 2.12 ERA (4 starts); Jason Outman 22, 3.33 ERA (5 starts). CG: Smith 3. IP: Smith 29.3, Outman 24 1/3. SV: Tyler Barrett, Jake Draeger, Brandon Henn 1. SO: Smith 27, Draeger 22. Opponents' average: Smith .215, Draeger .240.

Eagles at Skip Walker Field last season.

Please see BASEBALL, Page C2

## CSI-SLCC rivalry hits diamond

### Teams vie for SWAC softball supremacy

By Eric Larsen  
Times-News writer

In the case of the Scenic West Athletic Conference softball standings, there is a crowd. Two, well, it's still a crowd.

One week after the College of Southern Nevada fell out of a three-way tie for the conference lead, the remaining co-leaders are set to play for conference supremacy today and Saturday in Twin Falls. The No. 9 College of Southern Idaho hosts No. 12 Salt Lake Community College in a series that nobody wants to split.

Aside from rivalry purposes, a weekend split between the Golden Eagles and Bruins would open the door for Southern Nevada to climb back into the tie for first with a likely weekend road sweep of Snow College.

For a 22-9 CSI team playing its first true home games at its new field against the squad's chief rival, a shot at the early conference lead is nice, but getting another crack at the 18-4-1 Bruins is the weekend's main motivator.

"The Salt Lake weekend is one of the week-ends that you highlight on the schedule," CSI

### Eagle Eyes

Today: No. 12 Salt Lake CC (18-4-1, 10-2 SWAC) at No. 9 CSI (22-9, 10-2 SWAC), DH, 1 p.m.  
On the horizon: The Bruins and Golden Eagles meet for a noon, Saturday doubleheader. CSI hits the road to Ontario, Ore., to play Treasure Valley Community College on Tuesday before heading to Rangely, Colo., to play Colorado Northwestern Community College next Friday and Saturday.

CSI season leaders (minimums apply)  
Batting — Average: Megan Zimmerman .423, Rocky Kroff .367, Hita Zimmerman .41, Rochelle Hoen 33, 2B: Gwynn Warren 7, Stephanie Holmes 5, 3B: Zimmerman, Noren 2, six with 1. HR: Holmes 4, Anna Sorrell, Jamie Stone 3. RBI: Zimmerman 24, Evans 21, Runs: Zimmerman 26, Noren 25. SB: Noren 14-15, Zimmerman 8-9.

Pitching — Record: Jody Zillner 9-3 2.61 ERA (11 starts); McKensy Hilstead 3-1, 5.13 ERA (6 starts). ERA: Holmes 1.50, Desi Thompson 1.70. CG: Zillner 9, Holmes 5. SV: Hilstead, Thompson 1. IP: Zillner 59, Thompson 53 2/3. SO: Zillner 56, Thompson 43. Opponents' average: Holmes .225, Thompson .228.

head coach Nick Baumert said. "I think it's even more exciting because you have the (Nos.) 9 and 12 teams in the country and

Please see SOFTBALL, Page C2





# Utah State rolls in WAC quarters, beating San Jose St.

LAS CRUCES, N.M. — Warning to opponents when hot-shooting Jaycee Carroll gets off a good start — look out. Carroll scored 24 points and freshman Tal Wesley added 15 points, nine rebounds and six blocked shots as Utah State beat San Jose State 65-55 Thursday in the WAC quarterfinals.

Tyler Newbold added 19 points on 7-of-8 shooting from the field, Gary Wilkinson scored 15 and the top-seeded Aggies (24-9) won their sixth straight to reach the tournament semifinals.

"It's good to come here and get a win," Utah State coach Steve Morrill said. "We've had a tough time with San Jose."

Not this time, though, because it didn't take long for Carroll to seize control. He made his first five field goals and scored 10 points as Utah State raced to a 19-8 lead through the first 5½ minutes.

The sharpshooters from Evanston, Wyo., had a putback, hit a jumper, then made consecutive 3-pointers, forcing a San Jose timeout. Seconds later, Poo Williams hit another 3-pointer and Carroll made a floater, putting the Aggies up 24-9.

It averaged Utah State's most recent loss, a 70-67 setback at San Jose on Feb. 18.

"We got after it early, which is something we didn't do at San Jose," said Carroll, who shot 10-of-13. "We were able to knock down a lot of shots. It's a

good start when you get out on top. They were playing catchup the rest of the game."

DaShawn Wright and C.J. Webster each scored 16 points as San Jose State (13-19) wrapped up a 10-day road trip that included the final week of the regular season.

**NEVADA 64, FRESNO ST. 57**  
LAS CRUCES, N.M. — JaValé McGee refused to let his youth show.

The sophomore forward had 22 points, 10 rebounds and four blocked shots as Nevada beat Fresno State 64-57 on Thursday night in the Western Athletic Conference quarterfinals.

"Nevada keeps getting better," Wolf Pack coach Mark Fox said. "What he needs is more experience. He is still maturing physically, but he is a competitor."

Nevada senior Marcellus Kemp responded with 12 points after a scoreless first half. McGee hit 9-of-15 from the field and DeMarshay Johnson scored 11 points as second-seeded Nevada (21-10) advanced to the semifinals.

"We just grinded it out," Kemp said. Alex Hilder scored 14 points while Kevin Bell and Eddie Miller each had 11 for Fresno State (13-18), which trimmed a 31-19 halftime deficit to three points midway through the second half but couldn't close the gap.

Bell's 3-pointer with 11:11 remaining

cut the margin to 43-40, but McGee responded with a three-point play. The 7-foot-11 McGee drove for a dunk and added the free throw for a 46-40 lead.

"To beat a team like Nevada, you have to hit shots from the perimeter," Fresno State coach Steve Cleveland said. "We closed it, but we just couldn't finish it."

Nevada has won six straight over the Bulldogs, including a 76-63 win Saturday to close the regular season. McGee had 23 points and 14 rebounds in that one, helping the Wolf Pack to a fifth straight 20-win season.

Kemp, Nevada's scoring leader with a 20.1 average, found an offensive rhythm after going 0-for-4 in the opening half. He kicked-started the offense with a 3-pointer less than two minutes after halftime.

**NEW MEXICO STATE 73, IDAHO 53**  
The University of Idaho's journey in the Western Athletic Conference tournament was a short one that came crashing to a halt with a 73-53 blowout loss at the hands of tournament host New Mexico State on Thursday night.

Justin Hawkins led all scorers with 26 points for the Aggies (20-13), who advance to play Nevada in the semifinals tonight.

The Vandals (8-21) were led by Darin Nuples 12 points.

— The Associated Press



New Mexico State guard Jahmar Young, left, is pressured at midcourt by Idaho guard Brandon Brown, right, during the first half of a Western Athletic Conference basketball tournament quarterfinal Thursday at the Pan American Center in Las Cruces, N.M.

BYU guard Sam Burgess goes around Colorado State guard Marcus Walker during the Mountain West Conference men's basketball tournament in Las Vegas on Thursday.



## No. 24 BYU routs CSU in quarters

LAS VEGAS — Colorado State's David Cohen got the style points for his hook shot from behind the backboard at the halftime buzzer. Yet it was No. 24 BYU that came back out with the emotional edge and the hot hand.

The top-seeded Cougars shot 74 percent in the second half of their 89-63 rout of the Mountain West Conference tournament Thursday.

The Cougars (26-6) had five sharpshooters reach double figures, led by Lee Cummard, the conference co-player of the year. Cummard scored 18 points, while Sam Burgess had 13, Jonathan Tavernier and Chris Collinsworth each scored 12 and Trent Plaisted had 11.

Junmer Fredette would have given the Cougars a half dozen scorers in double figures if not for a missed free throw that rattled out just before he took a seat in the closing minutes.

"BYU reminds me of the Harlem Globetrotters," says coach Tim Miles said. "I mean, they pass, they cut, they make shots. Oddly enough, didn't the Washington Generals wear green and gold?"

The Rams (7-25), who suffered a school record 17-game skid with a win over Wyoming in the play-in game, didn't have any players in double figures. Andre McFarland, Marcus Walker, Adam Nigon and Willis Gardner scored nine each.

Still, the Rams led for much of the first half and trailed just 40-34 at the break following Colorado State's let's-see-that-again basket as the buzzer went off following his terrific rebound.

When the Cougars marched at the play, then got down to business.

The Rams seemed to take the emotional momentum into the locker room after Cohen's big basket, but the Cougars made quick work of them, making 17-of-23 shots to bury the Rams, who went winless in conference play

## Hoyas drain 17 treys in win

NEW YORK — Jessie Sapp scored 23 points and No. 9 Georgetown tied a Big East tournament record with 17 3-pointers, feeding off a second-half comeback to beat Villanova 82-63 on Thursday in the second round.

Jonathan Wallace hit five 3s and had 19 of his 29 points in the first half for the defending champion Hoyas (26-4), who advanced to play fifth-seeded West Virginia in the semifinals on Friday.

DeJuan Summers added 19 points for Georgetown, winners of five straight. All-Big East center Roy Williams, who was 0-for-2 from the field and had no points and just four rebounds before fouling out with 5:09 left.

Villanova (20-12) went on a 26-9 run and took a 45-43 lead on Dante Cunningham's two free throws with 13:41 left. Antonio Fendley putback moments later gave the heavy underdogs a four-point lead.

Sapp converted a three-point play to put Georgetown ahead 51-50 with 12:04 to go. He followed with a 3-pointer to begin building the lead and the Hoyas pulled away.

**WEST VIRGINIA 78, NO. 15 CONNECTICUT 72**  
NEW YORK — Joe Alexander continued his scoring streak with a career-high 34 points and West Virginia earned its second appearance in the Big East semifinals.

Alexander was 12-for-22 from the field and 10-for-12 from the free throw line as West Virginia led the entire second half. The Mountaineers' biggest lead was 13 points, the last time at 61-38 with 10:18 left, and they held off a run that led the Huskies as close as 70-65 on a driving layup by A.J. Price with 2:02 to go.

Price had 22 points for the Huskies (24-9), who have lost their last four games in the Big East tournament, a streak that started with in the semifinals in 2005.

**PITTSBURGH 76, NO. 13 LOUISVILLE 69**  
NEW YORK — Sam Young scored 21 points and 12 rebounds, and hit a pair of free throws with less than a minute left in overtime to help Pittsburgh advance to the semifinals.

The seventh-seeded Panthers (24-9) outscored Louisville 12-2 to start the overtime.

Pittsburgh, which has knocked Louisville out of three straight conference tournaments, will play either third-seeded Notre Dame or No. 6 seed Marquette on Friday night.

DeJuan Blair added 16 points and eight rebounds for Pittsburgh.

Earl Clark scored 19 for Louisville (24-8), and Derrick Carter, Juan Palacios and David Padgett had 11 each.



Georgetown's Patrick Ewing Jr. during a timeout at Madison Square Garden in Manhattan on Thursday against Villanova. Georgetown tied a Big East tournament record with 17 3-pointers to down Villanova and advance to the conference tournament semifinal.

Ryan Anderson scored 17 points and Patrick Christopher 12 to lead the ninth-seeded Golden Bears (16-19), who have lost eight of their last 10.

**NO. 21 WASHINGTON ST. 75, OREGON 70**  
LOS ANGELES — Derrick Low scored 18 points, and Washington State led most of a 20-point lead before beating Oregon.

Taylor Hochstetler scored 16 points. Kyle Wester Jr. had 14 points and seven assists, and Robb Cowgill added 12 points and six rebounds for the third-seeded Cougars (24-7), who won for the seventh time in nine games following a three-game losing streak.

Tajuan Porter scored 17 of his 20 points in the second half and Malik Hairston also had 20 points for Oregon (18-13), whose final hopes for an NCAA tournament berth almost surely disappeared.

**SOUTHEASTERN CONFERENCE**  
**NO. 14 VANDERBILT 93, AUBURN 82**  
ATLANTA — A.J. Ogilvy scored a career-best 27 points and Shan Foster added 26 after being named the top player on the coaches' All-SEC team earlier in the week, leading Vanderbilt in the opening round.

The Commodores (26-6) shot 67 percent (53 of 79) from the field, falling just short of the conference tournament record. They advanced to face Arkansas in the quarterfinals.

Auburn (14-16) will miss out on a postseason berth for the fifth year in a row. Rashawn Barrett scored 20 points to lead four Tiger players in double figures. Senior Frank Barrett chipped in with 17 before fouling out of his final college game with less than a minute to go.

Vanderbilt built a double-digit lead 5½ minutes into the game, and was comfortably out front most of the first half with the Big Two leading the way. Foster had 19 points and Ogilvy 14 by halftime.

**CONFERENCE USA**  
**NO. 1 MEMPHIS 75, TULANE 66**  
MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Chris Douglas-Babers scored 17 points, and No. 2 Memphis advanced to the semifinals of the C-USA tournament.

Memphis (31-1), the two-time defending tournament champ, will play either Southern Mississippi or No. 4 seed UCF, who played last Thursday night.

Coach John Calipari and the Tigers are trying to lock down a No. 1 seed in the NCAA tournament for the second time in three seasons.

Robert Dozier added 14 points for Memphis and grabbed nine rebounds. Derrick Rose had six assists and six rebounds to offset a 2-for-8 performance from the floor.

David Gomez led Tulane (17-15) with 18 points.

— The Associated Press

## Broncos

Continued from page C1

Hawaii (11-9) ended the season on a seven-game losing streak, its longest since 1995-96, and hasn't won in the WAC quarterfinals since 2005. The Warriors had their first losing season in 25 years under first-year coach Bob Nash.

Riley Luetgendorf and Milt Gibson each scored 17 while Jared Dillinger added 14 and Bill Arnis scored 10.

Hawaii trailed 64-60 after Dillinger made consecutive 3-pointers with 5:51 remaining, but they were forced to foul down, the stretch and the Broncos answered the challenge.

It didn't help that the Warriors were outbreasted 37-27 and shot just 24-of-62 (38.7 percent) from the field.

"We wanted to get a little deep into the shot clock," Nash said. "The ball just wouldn't drop."

Boise State swept the season series with Hawaii but the Broncos were sluggish this time, hitting 41.8 percent from the field in the first half and matching their 40-minute average with 15 turnovers.

"The first game of the tournament is always a little hard," Graham said after the win. "I thought we were a little edgy."

The Warriors led 25-27 at the break, but the Broncos attacked the rim to open the second half. Larry scored twice, Nelson added a hook and it was tied at 37 with 16 minutes to play after Anthony Thomas swished a long 3-pointer.

"Anthony's 3-pointer was huge for us," Graham said. "A little long, but it was huge."





**Stocks rebound from steep drop**

(AP) A fractious Wall Street rebounded from an early plunge to finish moderately higher Thursday, after Standard & Poor's predicted financial companies are nearing the end of the massive asset write-downs that have devastated the stock and credit markets.

Dow Jones Industrials	48.87	Nasdaq composite	11.89	Standard & Poor's 500	11.88	Russell 2000	8.50
	12,110.24		2,243.87		1,306.77		667.31

For a complete stock listing, go to [MagIcvalley.com](http://MagIcvalley.com)

C6

# BUSINESS

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

FRIDAY  
MARCH 14, 2008

## Bush urges Congress to finish farm bill by April

By Mary Clare Janick  
Associated Press writer

"I believe the government has a responsibility to provide America's farmers and ranchers with a timely and predictable farm program."

— President George W. Bush

WASHINGTON — President Bush is urging Congress to keep current farm law for another year if lawmakers can't agree by April on a new bill to extend farm and nutrition programs — a possibility given that congressional negotiations have stalled.

Bush said Thursday he will sign a one-month extension of the existing farm law passed by both chambers

Wednesday, pushing expiration to April 18. The 2002 law originally expired Sept. 30 and has been extended repeatedly.

The president said lawmakers should stop relying on such short-term fixes and approve at least a one-year extension if it expires without a new law in place.

"I believe the government has a responsibility to provide America's farmers and ranchers with a timely and predictable farm program," Bush said in a statement.

The Bush administration has threatened to veto both the House- and Senate-passed versions of the five

year legislation that would provide \$286 billion to expand farm and nutrition programs such as food stamps and farmer subsidies. The administration contends that both chambers used tax increases and funding gimmicks to pay for the bills, and lawmakers are scrambling to find new

ways to finance the legislation.

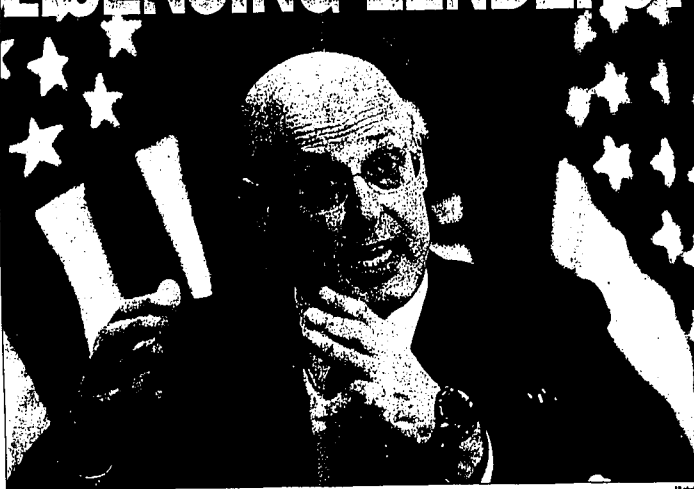
House and Senate leaders have urged the two agriculture committees to finish the bill, but political pressure to produce the legislation has not been as strong as in the past. Prices have reached record highs for many crops,

and many farmers would be pleased with an extension of current law.

Still, farm-state lawmakers say a new bill is necessary for the rural areas they represent. There may not be as much money to write that next year's bill is unclear, especially if fiscally conservative Republican John McCain wins the post. The new legislation also includes more money for

Please see FARM, Page C7

## LICENSING LENDERS?



Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson gestures during a news conference at the National Press Club in Washington, Thursday.

## Paulson calls for stronger oversight of mortgage lenders

By Jeannine Aversa  
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said Thursday that a presidential working group will seek stronger regulatory oversight of mortgage lenders to avert the kind of credit crisis that is dragging the economy down.

In a new Bush administration initiative that Paulson said is not about "blinding excuses and scapegoats," a presidential working group set up in the wake of the 1987 stock market crash is calling for a series of actions designed to avert the kind of chilling housing and credit crunches that are threatening to throw the nation into recession — if it isn't there already.

The objective here is to get the balance right — regulation needs to catch up with innovation and help restore

investor confidence but not go so far as to create new problems, make our markets less efficient or cut off credit to those who need it," said Paulson, who heads the working group.

One recommendation calls for federal and state regulators to strengthen oversight of mortgage lenders and another urges state financial regulators to implement strong nationwide licensing standards for mortgage brokers, according to the group's report, released Thursday.

On Wall Street, Paulson's comments and the working group's recommendations failed to give solace to skittish investors. The Dow Jones industrials plunged more than 200 points in morning trading.

The group also called for improvements by credit rating agencies that have been criticized for not accurately assessing risk on complex mortgage invest-

ments. These kinds of business transactions eventually soured, driving markets into chaos. The working group also is calling for better disclosures and assessments of risks on investments.

The recommendations come as the meltdown in the housing and credit markets has unhinged Wall Street, catapulted home foreclosures to record highs and forced financial companies to rack up multibillion losses on bad investments in mortgage backed securities.

The mess threatens to plunge the country into its first recession since 2001. The president's working group on financial markets was formed after the 1987 stock market crash to monitor market. It includes Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke and the heads of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Commodity Futures Trading Commission.

## Jerritt Canyon GM: 'We're committed to get through this'

By Doug McMurdo  
For the Times-News

ELKO — Jerritt Canyon General Manager Chip Todd didn't have much to add to Wednesday's order to shut down the two masters at the Elko County mine, saying company executives are in Carson City meeting with Nevada Division of Environmental Protection officials, to discuss the order to shut down operations.

A yearlong investigation into mercury emissions led to a state-ordered shutdown of the processing plant on Wednesday. The Jerritt Canyon Mine is a major gold mine with operations in northeastern Nevada.

Todd said the mill has been down for about two

weeks for cleanup and repair work, mining has stopped, but no employees have been laid off and no layoffs are planned.

"We're committed to get through this and get in compliance," said Todd, noting the NDEP order did not determine the mine has violated Clean Air Act provisions. He did concede the mercury emission problem at Jerritt Canyon is in need of address.

Leo Drozdoff, head of the state Division of Environmental Protection, said Wednesday that his order requires Queenstake Resources' Jerritt Canyon Mine, near the Idaho border about 50 miles north of Elko, to install new, more effective emission-control equipment.

## Gold hits \$1,000 Higher jewelry prices likely

By Mae Anderson  
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Bargain-hunting at the local jewelry stores just got harder.

Gold, which has soared to record levels in the past year, hit a new milestone Thursday, rising to \$1,000 an ounce for the first time in futures trading — a boon for investors, but a deterrent to consumers shopping for jewelry.

Michelle Findlay, a manager at a toll operator



Gold necklaces are displayed in a New York jewelry store window. Gold prices hit 1,000 for the first time Thursday.

Please see GOLD, Page C7

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### AG sues four more fax advertisers

BOISE — Attorney General Lawrence Wasden filed lawsuits against four companies, alleging violations of Idaho's unsolicited fax advertising law.

In his lawsuits, Wasden alleges that the companies faxed hundreds of unsolicited advertisements to Idaho residents, businesses and government agencies.

The lawsuits seek civil penalties and injunctive relief against: SunStar Travel and Tours of Altamonte Springs, Florida; Travelcomm

Industries of Orlando, Florida; Slim America Labs, based in Walnut Grove, California, and Reno, Nevada; and, Hard Money Placement of Benton and Puyallup, Washington.

The maximum civil penalty for violations of Idaho's unsolicited fax advertising law is \$5,000 for each unsolicited fax advertisement sent to an Idaho telephone number.

### IHFA to host free landlord workshop

Property owners, managers, landlords, and those involved in real estate in Southern Idaho are encouraged

to attend a free landlord workshop hosted by Idaho Housing and Finance Association.

The workshop, which will include information on fair housing, [housingidaho.com](http://housingidaho.com), and the Section 8 rental assistance program, will be held at 2 p.m. April 4, at IHFA's Twin Falls Branch Office, located at 844 Washington St. N., Suite 300. Seating for the workshop is limited, and those planning to attend must call to reserve space by contacting IHFA's Twin Falls branch office at (208) 734-8531 or (866) 234-3435.

— Wire and staff reports

## Small businesses can benefit from outsourcing their tax preparation and bookkeeping chores

NEW YORK — Ron Finklestein found a good reason for not compiling his business tax return: \$1,600.

That's how much Finklestein says he would have overpaid the government if he had gone ahead and submitted a return he had completed as an experiment. When he ran it past his accountant, he discovered he hadn't claimed all the deductions he was entitled to.

Many small business owners try to compile their

**SMALL TALK**  
Joyce M. Rosenberg

companies' returns, and they also try to keep the books too. Many like Finklestein, discover it's better to turn the financial part of the business over to someone with a head for finances — the work will be done faster and better. Moreover, outsourcing finances allows owners to focus on building their

companies.

Finklestein, an author and consultant in Akron, Ohio, only recently handed over the task of keeping the company's books to his accountant, a step he needed to take to have a better handle on how the business was doing. He wasn't consistently updating the books, and so he didn't know what the state of his cash flow. With his accountant in charge of his finances, he's able to

Please see SMALL, Page C7

## STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	21.76	▲ .09	Dell Inc.	19.85	▲ .16	Idacorp	21.56	▲ .39
Lithia Mo.	10.0	▲ .41	Micron	6.49	▼ .07	Supervalu	28.06	▼ .07

## COMMODITIES

For more see page C7

Live cattle	89.55	▼ .77	Apr. Oil	110.33	▲ .41
Mar. gold	992.3	▲ 13.5	Mar. Silver	20.3	▲ .42

Today in business

WASHINGTON — Labor Department reports on consumer price index for February.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance with columns for Name, Best, Worst, and various fund names like Fidelity, Vanguard, etc.

DEPARTMENTAL

Table of departmental stock prices with columns for Name, High, Low, and various stock symbols like AAPL, MSFT, etc.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table of commodity prices including Wheat, Soybeans, Corn, and other agricultural products.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities like Oil, Natural Gas, and Metals.

BEANS

Table of bean prices including Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, and other derivatives.

GRAINS

Table of grain prices including Wheat, Corn, and other cereal products.

NYSE

Table of NYSE stock market activity including volume and index changes.

AMEX

Table of AMEX stock market activity including volume and index changes.

NASDAQ

Table of NASDAQ stock market activity including volume and index changes.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table of market indices and performance metrics.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

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

GAINERS

Table of top-performing stocks on the NYSE.

LOSERS

Table of lowest-performing stocks on the NYSE.

GAINERS

Table of top-performing stocks on the NASDAQ.

LOSERS

Table of lowest-performing stocks on the NASDAQ.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table of local stock market activity including volume and index changes.

DIARY

Table of dairy stock prices including various dairy-related companies.

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INDEXES

Table of major market indices and their performance.

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Farm
Continued from page C6
certain crops, increased dollars to protect environmentally sensitive land and new benefits for fruit and vegetable farmers.

Farm
Members were hoping to have a significant impact on the legislation before Congress heads home for a two-week recess at the end of this week. But progress has been slow.

Farm
The process has been complicated by the absence of House Ways and Means Chairman Charles Rangel,

Farm
D-N.Y., who was hospitalized with the flu last week and has not yet returned to Washington. Rangel and Senate Finance Committee Chairman Max Baucus, D-Mont., have been charged with finding extra money for the bill.

Farm
Lawmakers have also disagreed on who has control over the legislation. Baucus and House Committee Chairman Gravelley, the top Republican on the finance panel, want

Farm
their committee to control some farm programs along with finding the money for it.

Farm
But Senate Agriculture Chairman Tom Harkin, D-Iowa, has said his committee should have total control over the bill.

Farm
Harkin insists a new bill in which reach.

Small
Continued from page C6
make more informed decisions.

Small
Moreover, "It's allowed me to focus my time on where my strengths are, in the sales and marketing side of the house," Finklestein said, estimating that he's gotten back 10 hours a month from not trying to do the books himself.

Small
"Who really helped me is the peace of mind knowing that it's done, and done right," Finklestein said. "I don't stay awake at night anymore thinking about it."

Small
Elizabeth Gordon, who owns a management consulting firm in Atlanta, kept her own books the first year she was in business.

Small
"It was a nightmare," recalled Gordon, president of Flourishing Business. "It's just not my strength... I need to

Small
put myself in the visionary leader role rather than worry about the minutiae better outsourced to someone else who's good at it."

Small
Her solution is to have a bookkeeper pick up her receipts and other papers every two weeks and enter them into an accounting program. "I don't use an accounting firm," Gordon says.

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BUILDING PERMITS

Cassia County
S. 1450 E., Burley; new house: \$184,601.
Burley and Clertie Waters, 2025 S. 1450 E., Burley; new commercial: \$171,600.

Gold

Continued from page C6
company in New York, said she has stopped buying pure gold pieces. Her latest buy was a silver bracelet plated in 18-karat karat.

Gold

Thursdays
Lower interest rates — and the prospect of more cuts — bringing the dollar's value down makes dollar-based commodities like gold cheaper for foreign buyers.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Cooler. Mixed showers possible. Highs upper 40s.
Tonight: Slushy nighttime snowfall. Lows low 30s.
Tomorrow: Chance of rain or snow. Highs middle 40s.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

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

Yesterday's Weather

Table listing weather for various cities: Boise, Caldwell, Coeur d'Alene, etc.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Cooler. Chance of rain or snow. Highs low to middle 40s.
Tonight: Chance of nighttime snow. Lows upper 20s.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

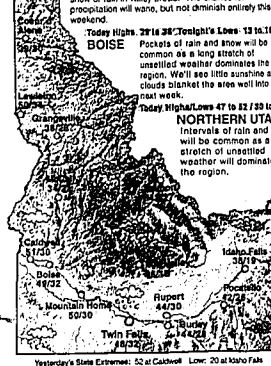
Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes monthly and daily data.

Sunrise and Sunset

Table showing sunrise and sunset times for various cities.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Mountain snows are anticipated today with periods of snow or rain in valley areas.



MOON PHASES

Table showing moon phases for March 14, 21, 28, and April 6.

MOONRISE AND MOONSET

Table showing moonrise and moonset times for Twin Falls.

U.V. INDEX

Table showing UV index for various cities.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Saturday, Sunday. Lists cities and their forecasts.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Saturday, Sunday. Lists cities and their forecasts.

WORLD FORECAST

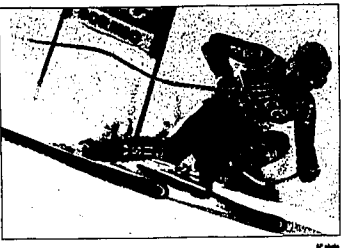
Table with 4 columns: Today, Tomorrow, Saturday, Sunday. Lists cities and their forecasts.

REGG MIDDLEKUPP'S QUOTE OF THE DAY

When it's bleak and mean-spirited, rise above it. Maintain the high when you're under fire. No victory is worth the expense of picking up the mud that falls from your and throwing it back.

Miller clinches his second overall World Cup title

Vonn closes in on first sweep by U.S. in the last 25 years.



Bode Miller of the United States speeds down the course during a men's super-G, at the alpine ski, World Cup finals, in Bormio, Italy, Thursday.

BORMIO, Italy (AP) — Bode Miller clinched his second overall World Cup title, then promptly retreated behind the tinted windows of his personal bus.

Lindsay Vonn was all smiles after moving so close to securing the women's crown that her only competitor still in the running conceded defeat.

Miller and Vonn are on the verge of the first American sweep of the overall titles since Phil Mahre and Tamara McKinney did it 25 years ago.

For Miller, who split from the U.S. team this season to train on his own, there were no smiles, no champagne, and few words — until he showed up later at an appearance for one of his sponsors.

"This isn't the type of World Cup finals I wanted to end the season with," Miller said. "In my mind, today wasn't my idea of a great Super-G race."

Miller finished a disappointing 12th in the final Super-G of the season. He clinched the overall title when his closest rival, Didier Cuche, announced after the race that he would not compete in the season's final slalom.

Miller was livid after Wednesday's downhill was canceled due to warm weather, handing the downhill title to Cuche with a five-point lead over Miller.

"The races, we just mostly want to race and see who's the fastest," Miller said. "It's tough when it comes down to the last races and the last races are like this. We want the finals to be the climax of the season so we can all be done and move on. This year it seems like it's not living up to anyone's expectations."

"It was looking to be a great final in downhill with Cuche and I, and it takes away from that excitement."

Vonn finished second Thursday in the season's final Super-G, behind Fabienne Suter of Switzerland, her best result in the discipline all season. She holds a 197-point lead over Maria Riesch of Germany with two races remaining and 200 points at stake.

"She already congratulated me," Vonn said of Riesch, her best friend on the circuit. "She needs to win both

events and she knows it's next to impossible. But not completely impossible."

Suter won the women's Super-G and Riesch captured the Super-G title by finishing sixth.

Vonn had already secured the downhill title before Wednesday's final race was canceled and she was pleased with her Super-G race.

Miller's personal coach John McBride rejoiced at what Miller, who also won the overall in 2005, did accomplished in his first season on his own.

"It's exciting to break new ground and do something different," McBride said. "This is the first time I've seen a World Cup professional team run outside the national governing bodies and I think that's exciting."

Miller decided to go solo after clashing with the U.S. squad over team rules.

He hired McBride away from the U.S. team by his head coach and brought in former U.S. coaches Forest Carey and Mike Kenney. Miller labeled his breakaway squad "Team America."

McNichol tried for years to hammer it into Miller's head that all the skier had to do to win combined races was finish the slalom run, yet Miller rarely did.

This season, Miller routinely completed combined races and won that discipline title with 410 points. Last season, Miller earned 20 points in combined.

Miller also quit drinking before this season.

"It's ironic. All those things now I want to see Bode do and achieve as a member of the U.S. Ski Team he's been willing to do on his own this season," McNichol said.

"I have to be big enough to say maybe he should have left the ski team earlier if he was going to do what he's doing now and achieve his potential."

"He was capable of winning the overall every year."

Advertisement for Hearing Aid, Men's College Basketball Tournament, and Loose Dentures. Includes text like 'HEARING AID', 'MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT', and 'LOOSE DENTURES?'.

INSIDE: Ask the Officer, D2 | Skywatch, D2 | The Wandering Geologist, D2 | World, D4

## Soldier Mountain hosts U.S. Disabled Championships

Ketchum's Storey gamers several second-place finishes

By Jon Mentzer  
The Wood River Journal

FAIRFIELD — The 2008 Hartford U.S. Disabled Championships were a huge success when it came to Soldier Mountain last week for the final ski event of the season.

Beginning last Monday and running through Saturday, the championships boasted Paralympics medalists, X Games medalists and World Champion skiers.

Wood River High School graduate and Ketchum native Ellis Storey competed in the NORAM, Slalom, Downhill, Super-G and

Giant Slalom events.

Storey found herself one step behind Allison Jones, as Jones took first in each event. Jones won the NORAM with a time of 1:42 while Storey came in a close second with a time of 1:45.

Jones took the Slalom (1:29), Downhill (1:47), Super-G (1:30) and the Giant Slalom (1:52). Storey took second in all events.

"This event is important to us," said Storey. "It's so much fun and the weather has been beautiful."

The success of this year's event has spawned speculation that it will become an annual event. Many of the skiers are yet to be named on the U.S. Disabled Ski Team, but thanks to this event there are

INSIDE:

hopefuls aplenty. Disabled skiers from visually impaired to sitting and standing skiers competed with many who are veterans of the U.S. military.

INSIDE:

It's really important to have a mountain that can do all of the fun events," U.S. Disabled Ski Team coach Ilay Watkins said. "Soldier Mountain is a unique mountain."

The Hartford Company has been one of the leaders in disability insurance and has been sponsoring U.S. Paralympics events since 2003. Hartford uses financial support to train athletes so they can compete.

"We want people to understand that (disabled athletes) are athletes too," John Carideo, Director of Sponsorship with Hartford said. "They can accomplish anything."

Please see CHAMPIONSHIPS, Page D3

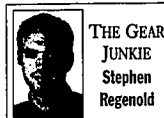


Monte Meier slaloms his way to a second-place finish at the 2008 Hartford U.S. Disabled Championships at Soldier Mountain last week.

## A better water bottle for biking

CamelBak Products LLC touts its new Podium Bottle as an upgrade to a technology that's been around since the 1950s.

Indeed, as the company notes, bikes, helmets, shoes and other cycling equipment get better every year. But the humble bike bottle has stayed pretty much the same for decades.



THE GEAR  
JUNKIE  
Stephen Regenold

"We set out to take away the bite-open, hip-slap-shut sequence that riders had to perform with other bottles," said Jon Austen, a product manager at the company. The result is a bike bottle that includes several significant upgrades, including a self-sealing squirt valve; a shut-off switch for

leak-proof transport; one-handed operation; and an anti-microbial lining to eschew the build-up of bacteria and fungus inside the bottle.

The Podium's squirt valve is made of medical-grade silicone, and the bottle is a polypropylene. Water gushes out with a slight squeeze. The self-sealing valve eliminates splatter while you're riding.

It comes in two sizes, one with 21 ounces of liquid capacity, one with 24 ounces. They cost \$8 and \$9, respectively. The smaller one weighed 2.6 ounces empty on my scale.

It is dishwasher safe. CamelBak ([www.camelbak.com](http://www.camelbak.com)) promises no leaching of plastic taste from the polypropylene bottle. In my test at home, where I let

Please see BOTTLE, Page D3

## THE FINAL PUSH



Photo courtesy Jay Smith/Black

## Big names set to hit Sun Valley slopes for 48Straight

For the Times-News

The momentum gained by America's ski and snowboard cross racers during an already stellar winter season shows no signs of letting up, with several top men's and women's riders well positioned to capture season-long titles and podium finishes at the grand finale of the 48Straight Jeep King of the Mountain competition this weekend in Sun Valley.

Coming into the final race, Shaun Palmer of South Lake Tahoe, Calif., and Lindsey Jacobellis of Stratton Mountain, Vt., control their own destiny in the snowboard cross standings following impressive back-to-back wins in the first two races of the season. In the ski-cross competition, Tomas Kraus of the Czech Republic leads the men, but Americans Errol Kerr and Daron Rahvles of Truckee, Calif., are right behind in second and third place, respectively.

In women's ski cross racing, phenom Ophelie David, who leads heavily in the standings and was positioned to capture her third straight Jeep King of the Mountain championship, will miss the final event thus opening the door for a number of

international challengers.

For Palmer, the season has been a resurgence of sorts. The extreme sports legend, who effortlessly last season won two world championships X Games skiing gold medals and even a mountain biking World Championship, claimed the top spot on the Jeep King of the Mountain podium last December, representing his first title in nine years. That victory and an early season second-place World Cup finish earned him a spot on U.S. Snowboarding's "A" squad, which he promptly followed with a second straight Jeep King of the Mountain title and another second place finish on the World Cup circuit in the same weekend.

In Sun Valley, "The Palm" will find himself pitted against three U.S. teammates who have each captured World Cup titles this season, including Olympic gold medalist Seth Wescott of Farmington, Maine; former Jeep King of the Mountain champion Graham Watanabe of Park City, whose title in Japan was the second of his career and bumped him to a ranking at No. 4 in the world; and Michigan's Nick Baumgraber, whose victory earlier this month at the Visa



Ski/cross is just one of many racing events that will take place at Sun Valley this weekend.

U.S. Snowboarding Cup in Lake Placid, N.Y., marked his first career World Cup title.

If that didn't prove to be a sufficient challenge, the line-up also features Squaw Valley, Calif.'s Nate Holland, currently resting in second place, who achieved an illustrious three-peat gold medal at the X Games, and Canada's Drew Neilson, another former Jeep King of the Mountain

champion now ranked No. 5 in the world.

The American presence in women's snowboard cross is equally dominant, with the stars and stripes holding down three of the top four places in the series standings. None has been hotter than X Games gold medalist Jacobellis, coming off her

Please see SUN VALLEY, Page D3

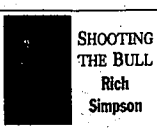
### ON THE AIR

...action from Sun Valley... televised to a national audience... CBS Sports and...  
...and... March 22, 2008

## Recollections of our affections: The .270 Winchester, Part II

If there's any truth to the adage that "first impressions are the most important," then I'm certain to be struck-back by the .270 Winchester for a long, long time.

Growing up in the pine thickets and cedar swamps of Maine — where whitetail deer run big and always run fast — the weapons of choice were primarily lever action .30-30s, pump and semiautomatic rifles and shotguns. Conventional wisdom



avored models capable of quickly rat-a-tating a sting of bullets or buckshot at the ribcage of a buck flashing through the dense underbrush.

Occasionally an I.L. Bean-outfitted hunter would be spotted mining through the woodlot toting a reworked 8mm Mauser or sporterized 30-40 Krag, but rifles with bolts on their sides were generally eyed with suspicion and their owners discounted as little more than uppity Massachusetts Interlopers.

It was my elder brother, Bob, who first broke with tradition when on one Friday evening, he breezed into the living room totting, of all

things, a bolt action Winchester rifle. Protruding from the front pocket of his coat were two boxes of yellow and red glossy of Super-X ammo. The rifle was a (now infamous) 'net '64 Model 70 — complete with that tawny blond walnut stock, phony impressed checkering, rough metal finish, and cavernous barrel channel. Perhaps to heighten the heresy, he had chosen a rifle chambered for a Western caliber: the .270 Winchester.

As soon as the cat-calls and finger pointing died down, Bob summoned "the brothers" back to the combination washroom/reloading center to peruse our limited stock of reloading manuals. We needed a lot more information on this curious new cartridge than could be gleaned from the back of the ammo cartons. What we discovered left us agnath.

Though the bullets appeared anorexic by Eastern woodlot standards,

those 130 and 150 grainers could really step out there. If the trajectory tables were up to snuff, then not only would sending a bullet out after a buck at the far end of a power line be feasible, you wouldn't have to hold the crosshairs two feet over its back to slip the slug into the boiler room. That fact, I recall, was nothing short of miraculous to a couple of Yankee boys accustomed to

Please see SIMPSON, Page D3









# Wheels

## & classifieds

The Times-News

Friday, March 14, 2008

Page E-1

### 2008 TOYOTA AVALON SEDAN

## Updated Focus!

Road Worth!  
By Ken Chester, Jr.  
Motor News Media Corporation

Big, modern, classy and oh-so roomy, the Toyota Avalon sedan features the right mix of response and handling. Offering driver and passengers the perfect sanctuary in the midst of daily driving, the front-drive Avalon is described by the automaker as distinctive, stylish and the 'most-American' of any Toyota product to date.

Available in XL, Touring, XLS and Limited trim levels, the Avalon receives a number of enhancements and upgrades for the 2008 model year, starting with freshened exterior look. The large Toyota sedan receives a new front bumper, front grille and headlights as well as new smoked rear tail lamps and new chrome outside door handles. Touring and XLS models are equipped with new 17-inch split six-spoke wheels.

Built at the automaker's Georgetown, Ky., manufacturing complex, the Avalon sedan is powered by a 3.5L six-cylinder prime mover bolted to a new six-speed electronically-controlled transmission with intelligence (ECT-1). The new gearbox features a sequential manual shift feature for a more involved driving experience when desired.

Avalon's underpinnings start with a unitized steel body with front and rear anti-rust subframes. This serves as the foundation for the vehicle's suspension hardware. MacPherson struts up front are complemented with offset coil springs and a stabilizer bar, while at the rear, a dual-link Independent MacPherson strut suspension with offset



Motor News Media Corporation Photo

coil springs and a stabilizer bar completes the suspension layout. The Touring model is upfitted with a sport-tuned suspension system.

The well-equipped passenger cabin features a futuristic layout of displays and controls that is refreshingly user friendly and extraordinarily convenient. This year, numerous enhancements to the standard and optional equipment increase comfort and convenience. The base XL model now offers an available four-way power front passenger seat, while the XLS and Limited

offer an optional new eight-way power front passenger seat and a new rich dark wood grain and chrome trim interior. All models gain a standard new multi-information display, leather shift knob, coin holder, leather shift knob and additional chrome interior accents.

Analog gauges are complemented by a computer center with a legible read out of useful information -- inside/outside temp, day month and year, etc. -- easy to see and understand. The driver's view of the road is excellent. The center armrest adjusts forward

for short drivers. Nooks and crannies are plentiful. The Avalon features two power points in the center console for the operation of various portable electronic devices.

A remote engine starter is available on all Avalon models equipped with the factory alarm system. Limited models offer Dynamic Laser Cruise Control. This system detects slower vehicles traveling ahead and decreases speed accordingly, and maintains a pre-selected distance. Finally the system detects when the preceding vehicle changes driving lanes and increases the

car to a pre-set speed.

Seating throughout the passenger compartment is spacious and very comfortable. Rear seat passengers are treated to plenty of leg room and a cavernous seating area. All models feature a 60/40 split manually reclining rear seat with separate headrests, center armrest with dual cup holders and a locking trunk pass-through. The trunk is a large, nicely shaped cargo area with plenty of room to haul luggage for a long trip or accumulate groceries and supplies.

### 2008 Toyota Avalon Sedan by the Numbers

**PRICING**  
The base Manufacturer's Suggested Retail Price (MSRP) for the 2008 Toyota Avalon sedan starts from \$27,075 for the XL, up to \$34,415 for the Limited. Destination charges add \$860.

**WHEELBASE**  
111.0; overall length: 197.2; width: 72.8; height: 58.5 -- all measurements in inches.

**ENGINE**  
3.5L V6 - 268 hp at 6,200 rpm; 248 lbs-ft of torque at 4,700 rpm

**TRANSMISSION**  
six-speed automatic

**EPA FUEL ECONOMY**  
19 city/28 hwy

**CARGO CAPACITY**  
14.4 cu. ft.

#### SAFETY FEATURES

Dual front airbags, front seat-mounted side-impact airbags, side curtain airbags, driver's knee airbag, day-time running lights, four-wheel disc brakes with anti-lock, full-size spare tire, remote keyless entry, engine immobilizer and tire pressure monitoring system. Towing adds high intensity discharge headlamps, and integrated fog lamps. XLS adds Homelink Universal Transceiver, anti-theft system, limited-slip differential, Smart Key system and rain-sensing windshield wipers.

Available safety options include: remote engine start system, vehicle stability control, traction control, brake assist, dynamic laser cruise control and navigation system.

#### WARRANTY

Basic: 3-year/36,000-mile, bumper-to-bumper

#### POWERTRAIN

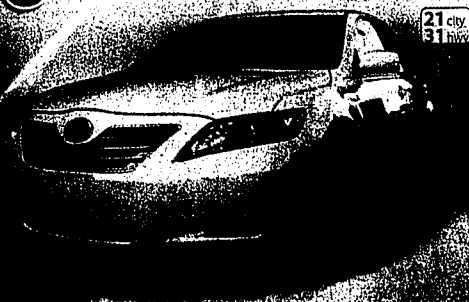
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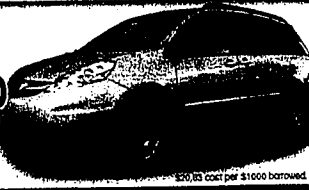


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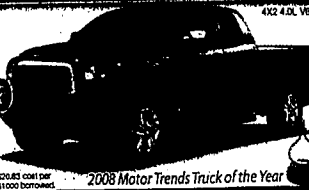


\$18.83 cost per \$1000 borrowed

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		3			4
3				6	
2	7	9			
8	7			9	1
	1	5			4
		3	5		9
				3	9
		4			
9			2		5

MEDIUM #28

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for today's puzzle on page E9.

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114 Miscellaneous Services  
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FOUND - Black Lab, mk, female. Medium height. Found Downtown Twin Falls. Call 734-1126.

FOUND - Cat, on North side of Shoshone Falls. Call to identify. 208-736-1067

LOST - Dog, mixed breed, female, tan in color, long hair, 16 yrs old, no hair on tail. Lost near 3400 N. & 2800 N. by the airport. TF: 208-736-6741

### Lost and Found

FOUND sweatshirt and also coat hanging on our trailer. Call to identify, 404-3040 or 415-1178

LOST German Short-hair, female, white/brown. Lost by Hollister. 731-1185

LOST Red Heeler cross class to Twin Falls shelter, could be going to Buhl, answers to Cloie. If soon call 308-7874

LOST Yorkie, blonde reddish-brown, female, 12 yrs, family misad her. \$500 Reward. 734-6880 or 734-4950

### Miscellaneous Services

High heating bills? Home energy audits. The Inspection Co. Call 208-326-5115.

Trying to find a good used automobile? Check out the classifieds for the largest selection available in your area today. 733-9031

### Drivers

DRIVER Local Fuel Distribution Center. Local pick-ups and deliveries. No CDL required. \$8.00 start. Apply in person at the Idaho Youth Ranch 3775 1335 E Kimberly.

DRIVER Local Fuel Transport Nights (begin 7pm) CDL, Hazmat. Doubles & 2 yrs exp. Required: 30 hrs pay and benefits. Apply in person at United Oil, 229 Eastland Dr. S. Twin Falls.

DRIVER Looking for a great career? J. J. Smolig Transport is hiring drivers for full or part time work at our Hayburn & Aberdeen terminals. Must have a current D.O.T. physical, and no recent citations or accidents. Competitive pay. Home every night. Bonus and salary incentive. Benefits and vacation eligible. Two days off each week. Retirement and 401k available. Call 800-392-6411 or apply at 1314 "O" Street, Hayburn or 624 Simplot Loop, Aberdeen. EEOC

### Drivers

DRIVERS Immediate Opening! Class A & Drivers. Excellent Benefits Available! Drug Free Workplace Applicants at J & C Custom 1330 Addison Ave. W. Mon-Spm Mon-Fri.

DRIVERS Looking for a great career? J. J. Smolig Transport is hiring drivers for full or part time work at our Hayburn & Aberdeen terminals. Must have a current D.O.T. physical, and no recent citations or accidents. Competitive pay. Home every night. Bonus and salary incentive. Benefits and vacation eligible. Two days off each week. Retirement and 401k available. Call 800-392-6411 or apply at 1314 "O" Street, Hayburn or 624 Simplot Loop, Aberdeen. EEOC

### 1010 Autos

MERCURY '77 Cougar, 4-door, one owner, 50K miles, \$1,500/offer. 208-736-7135

PONTIAC '99 Bonneville SE, \$5,995. Stock #841G.

PONTIAC '99 Grand Am, GT, 76K miles, \$6,950. 324-0069. 2811 So. Lincoln Jerome, ID. SmalleyMotors

### 1011 Import And Sports Cars

CHEVROLET '84 Corvete, exc. cond, many new parts \$11,000/offer. Call 208-226-5576 or 208-221-1058.

MERCEDES '88 190E 4 cyl automatic, sunroof, \$2,800 or best offer. 308-5495

### 1012 Stock Cars

RACE CAR Pony Stock. \$2800 or best offer. Call 208-280-1949

### LADIES - You want Control Right?

WANTED Christian woman (LDS, Baptist, etc.) 45-60, white, non smoker, or non drinker, shapely, some college. - Ho's 6'1" tall, 210 lbs, white, brown hair, blue eyes, hard worker, successful businessman. Univ. graduate, loves kids, ex. father, he's a giver, and wants someone to love and care for. Snail mail photo & full details

First letter to: Harry Bigchett, Box 97760, c/o Times-News, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303.

Will respond with a photo, details & role--Clip ad for a friend? Harry's Guarantee - If not completely happy, just return the unused portion for a full refund.

### 107 Pregnancy Tests

Confidential 208-734-7472

### 108 Professional Services

Bankruptcy Chapter 7 Guaranteed lowest price for attorney representation. We are a debt relief agency. Free Consultation Call 1-868-688-2369.

FOR SALE DEDICATED HAUL both directions "cabin" Utah 2003 Kenworth W90L, 18 spd transmission, CAT C16, 72" sleeper, 2 "45" corner hoppers, Wilson Grain Trailers 1 21" pup trailer 6PM 436-9704

### 113 Child Care Services

BO PEEP DAYCARE and Preschool now accepting new children. State licensed and CPR certified. 8am-6pm. 733-5057

### CHILD CARE

In home, meals and snacks included. \$15/day, ICDP certified. Call 208-293-6245

### CHILDCARE Licensed

Childcare, days and evenings. Lunches and snacks. ICDP accepted. References Call 735-4193

### 203 Construction

CONSTRUCTION Diamond Bar Construction now taking applications for Laborers, Concrete Workers, Welders in Hazelton/Gooding 324-5893 or 539-5878

### 205 Dairy

DAIRY Experienced Dairy Feeder/Retail Milkman in Buhl. Call 543-6971 between 6am-7pm

### 206 Drivers

DRIVER Class A CDL with 2 yrs exp. Clean MVR. Min. 25 yrs old. \$12/hr DOE. Local route. Call 208-338-0180

DRIVER Class A Driver to haul farm machinery & ag. Comm. Locality. Call 324-7458

### DRIVERS

Now hiring for a Full-Time Colliery. Must be able to lift 75 lbs, repeatedly. Class A or B CDC required. Full benefits include medical, dental & vision insurance + 401(k) plan. \$60 sign on bonus! Apply at: PSI Waste System 222 Gam Street Twin Falls.

DRIVERS Redi-Mix Drivers wanted. CDL required. Pay DOE. Full benefits. Apply at Idaho Concrete Co. 1264 Addison Ave. W. Twin Falls, ID or online at www.idahoconcrete.com Drug Free Workplace EOE

# SUTTON & SONS

## AUTO CENTER

www.suttonandsons.com

1-800-672-2225 • N. Main St./Hwy. 75 • Halley • 788-2225

\*Photos for illustration purposes only. Prices are Plus Tax, Title and Document Fees. Price does not include \$155 Dealer Doc Fee

### Spring Break Winter Clearance

### 2000 Honda Passport AWD

Kelly Blue Book \$9,725



Sutton's Price \$8,775 #93427

### 2006 Jeep Liberty 4X4

Kelly Blue Book \$17,990



Sutton's Price \$14,995 #93347

All 4X4's must go to make room for spring inventory

### 2004 Ford Expedition 4X4

Kelly Blue Book \$19,120



Sutton's Price \$15,995 #92857

### 2006 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 4X4

Kelly Blue Book \$23,630



Sutton's Price \$19,995 #93377

### 2005 GMC Sierra 2500 4X4

Kelly Blue Book \$26,085



Sutton's Price \$23,995 #93767

### 2006 Range Rover Sport AWD

Kelly Blue Book \$52,960



Sutton's Price \$46,995 #93627

## For the month of March, we will be performing FREE spring checks with all oil changes. Be sure your vehicle is ready for spring!

## Ready For Spring?

Our inspections will include?

- Wipers & windshield
- Tires & pressures
- Battery & cables
- Brakes
- Transmission
- Cooling system

- Shocks & struts
- Belts
- Hoses
- Steering system
- Drive shafts
- Exhaust system

**DRIVER**  
Local milk haulers.  
40K, medical,  
4 on 2 off.  
Call 208-324-3516

**DRIVERS**  
Seeking reliable &  
conscientious drivers  
to transport.

**GENERAL**  
Join One of the World's Largest Agribusiness Companies!  
Simpliot Grower Solutions has the following position available in the Hagerman Area.

**Simpliot**  
Grower Solutions has the following position available in the Hagerman Area.

**GENERAL**  
Operations Support  
3-5 days/week  
Candidates will have a strong mechanical background.

**GENERAL**  
Simple Grower Solutions has the following position available in the Hagerman Area.

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

**Education**  
The Valley School District #282 in Hazelton, Idaho has the following position available until filled.

**GENERAL**  
DISC VERY  
At a Swing Shift  
Positions Available

**Farm**  
Requires prepayment to publication.

**General**  
If you cannot work these hours, please do not apply.

**Child Care**  
Immanuel Lutheran Child Development Center is currently seeking qualified applicants to work in their infant room.

**CUSTODIAL**  
Gooding School District #221 Custodial FIT Evenings 3-11 pm Applications may be obtained at the District Office

**DISC JOCKEY**  
The Pioneer Club is seeking a computer literate Karaoke Disc Jockey start immediately.

**GENERAL**  
Celtic Staffing  
Immediate Hire

**(6) CDL Drivers**  
"Class A"  
(7) CDL Drivers  
"Class A"  
"Hazmat"

**GENERAL**  
CDL A  
Exp. Builders  
Framers  
Construction clean-up

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CDL A  
Exp. Builders  
Framers  
Construction clean-up

**GENERAL**  
DISC VERY  
At a Swing Shift  
Positions Available

**MANUFACTURING**  
Sears Mfg Co.  
is a very stable employer and is accepting applications for the following positions:

**GENERAL**  
Full-time  
manufacturing position available immediately.

**CAREGIVER**  
Caring shift  
Candidates needed  
FIT & FIT. Benefits included.

**GENERAL**  
Maintenance and Groundskeeper needed at Mindobe Community Fairgrounds.

**LABORERS**  
Landscape workers  
needed.  
Call 208-308-2941.

**LIBRARY**  
Part-time, Flexible hrs  
Twin Falls Public Library is looking for a service-oriented person to join our staff.

**MECHANIC**  
For a Mechanic  
with Franchise and Experience.

**OPERATOR**  
Skilled Class A CDL  
Driver & Equipment Operator

**GROCERY**  
Retailer in Bluff is seeking an experienced Meat Cutter.

**GROCERY**  
New hiring for the following positions:  
Freight Crew  
Cashiers

**HOTEL**  
Comfort Inn is hiring for a Laundry person, Breakfast host, and evening Front Desk person.

**JANITORIAL**  
Permanent Part-time  
Custodial Aide

**RESTAURANT**  
Servers needed  
Lunch and Dinner Shifts.

**SECURITY**  
Supplemental  
Retirement Income.  
Security Guard

**WAREHOUSE**  
Delivery Driver/  
Warehouse cleaning record

**INSURANCE**  
Commercial Insurance Processor  
involves data processing, research and telephone skills.

**MANAGEMENT**  
Airport Inn in Halley has an opening for Assistant Manager.

**MANAGEMENT**  
Motel Managers in Twin Falls  
bilingual, good at Husband and Wife

**HEALTH CARE**  
Handscapped  
Individuals are looking for Caregivers for the summer in Wendell.

**PHARMACY**  
Retail Pharmacy  
in Bluff is seeking an experienced Pharmacist.

**HEALTH CARE**  
Handscapped  
Individuals are looking for Caregivers for the summer in Wendell.

**GENERAL**  
CNA's  
Evenings & NOC

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**MEDICAL**  
In home service needs  
Mature Man or Woman to do cooking, housework, laundry, care.

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**PROFESSIONAL**  
The City of Blackfoot is now accepting applications for the position of Firefighter/Paramedic.

**SALES**  
Retail Sales  
Horticulture, customer service & team work skills needed in our nursery.

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Horticulture, customer service & team work skills needed in our nursery.

**TRADES**  
HVACR  
TECHNICIAN  
Wanted. Up to \$30 per hr. Minimum 5 yrs. exp.

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HVACR  
TECHNICIAN  
Wanted. Up to \$30 per hr. Minimum 5 yrs. exp.

**PROFESSIONAL**  
Assistant Commercial  
Construction Superintendent  
719-302-4264

**MEDICAL**  
St. Benedicts  
Family Medical Center

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**MEDICAL**  
St. Benedicts  
Family Medical Center

**GENERAL**  
Loves  
Travel Stops & Country Stores, Inc. is now hiring at our Heyburn, ID location.

**DISPATCHER**  
We are looking for an enthusiastic, self-motivated and goal-oriented individual to join our team.

**CONSTRUCTION**  
Masons & Tenders  
needed, must have excellent work ethic.

**MEDICAL**  
Experienced Diesel  
Truck Mechanic and Mechanics Helper  
needed ASAP.

**TRADES**  
HVACR  
TECHNICIAN  
Wanted. Up to \$30 per hr. Minimum 5 yrs. exp.

**GENERAL**  
PEPSI  
We are seeking experienced, responsible, self-motivated individuals for full-time employment in our Twin Falls warehouse and TF market area.

**PEPSI**  
Positions available:  
• Merchandising  
• Route Delivery-requires class A CDL & good driving record.

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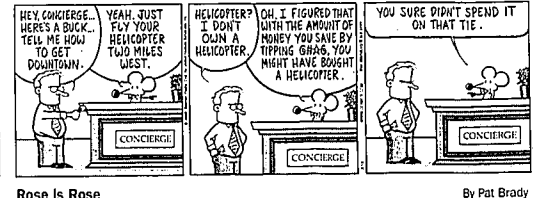
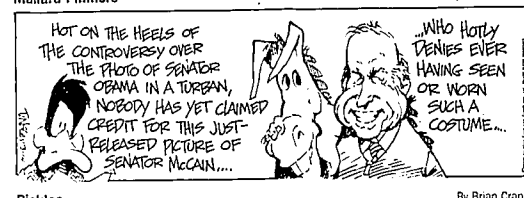
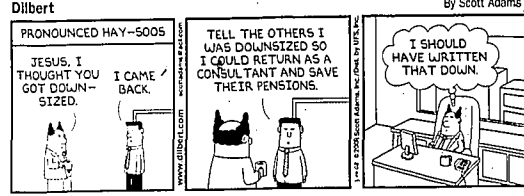
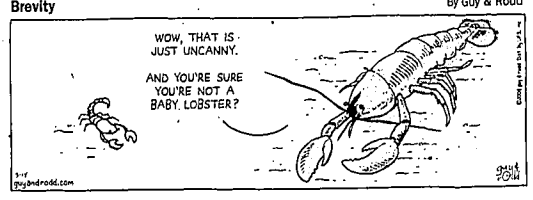
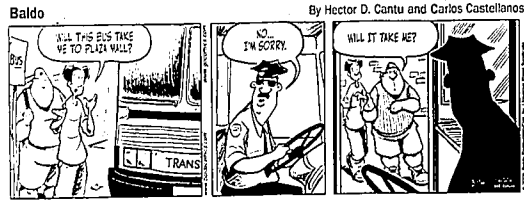
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PEPSI  
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## Get things out in the open, Sagittarius

**HOROSCOPE**  
Jeraldine Saunders

IF MARCH 14 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: A brief suspension of reality will be good for you. In September be prepared for a change for the better — during which time you will know what you want. Your fondest wishes may be granted and you may experience strokes of good fortune that will make life easier and more prosperous. You are luckier than most people in the year ahead, so thank your lucky stars.

**ARIES** (March 21-April 19): A sense of duty might weigh down love. The question is whether a certain connection is a commitment or a ball and chain. Consider carefully whom you can trust in order to attain peace of mind.

**TAURUS** (April 20-May 20): A busy schedule leaves little room for fun and games. The good news is that a partner or close companion might offer helpful assistance just when you need it.

**GEMINI** (May 21-June 20): It might be wise to be discreet about a business relationship or career objective. Cut some corners and put a lid on spending around the household.

**CANCER** (June 21-July 22): It may be necessary to remain

cold and professional in social situations, but you can let your hair down with close friends. This might be a good time to start a diet to trim down to size.

**LEO** (July 23-Aug. 22): The past might dictate the future. It is wise to conscientiously take care of existing obligations and avoid taking on new ones. Be diligent about meeting deadlines and fulfilling promises under today's terms.

**VIRGO** (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Take it on the chin. You've heard the children's chant, "Fingers keepers, losers weepers." What happens might not seem fair but might be right on the scales of justice. Don't expect largesse from others.

**LIBRA** (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): It may be the perfect time to deal with small details that could trip you up like roller skates on the stairs and loose screws on the cabinet door. There is no time like the present to fix things.

**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Speak softly and carry a

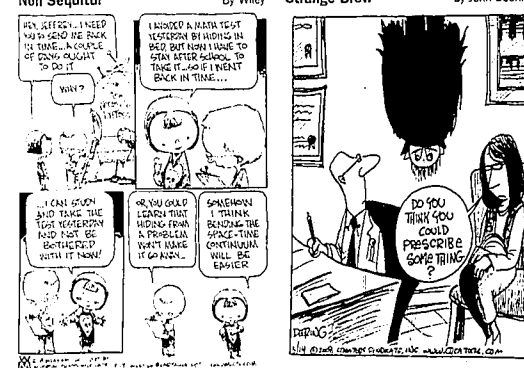
big stick. Like the well-known president who popularized this phrase, you can make your wants and needs known in a congenial way. Smooth out the rough edges with diplomacy.

**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Get things out in the open. Praise is more valuable than criticism. Keep everything aboveboard and open, rather than hiding worries.

**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Pass tests and deal with hard lessons. You could be measured and judged by the results, not what you say. Maintain a professional demeanor and adhere to the rules if you want to achieve social success.

**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Fill the piggy bank with spare change and clip some coupons from a magazine. In the long run these penny economies will help you achieve the security you deeply desire.

**PISCES** (Feb. 19-March 20): Sow exactly what you reap. A lack of enthusiastic response from others may be due to an exacting or critical attitude on your part. Everything will work out for the best if you remain polite and diplomatic.



**Beetle Bailey**

By Mort Walker



**Blonde**

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



**The Born Loser**

By Art Sansom, & Chip



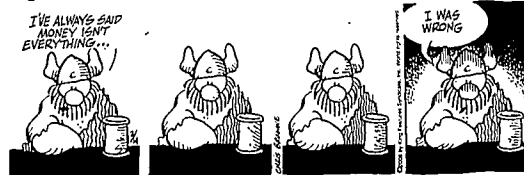
**Garfield**

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 Ketcham



**THE FAMILY CIRCUS**

By Bil Keane



# Savings plan for parents is better late than never



**DEAR ABBY**  
Jeanne Phillips

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm 26 and concerned about my children's future. They are in their late 40s and have absolutely nothing saved for retirement. Dad has a physically demanding job and won't be able to do it forever, and they are currently in debt up to their ears.

There are six kids in our family. I appreciate the fact that my parents are blowing off some steam when it comes to spending money, since they were unable to do it while we were all younger. However, I feel it's time they look at the big picture.

If something was to happen to Dad or he was unable to work, they'd lose everything. At this point, they will be unable to pay for any of their own expenses when they're older, and my siblings and I don't have money to support them. Our youngest brother still lives at home and is adopting the same spending habits as Mom and Dad.

How would you recommend we speak to our parents? They tend to be sensitive about these matters. Do you know of any articles or books we could reference when speaking to them?

**PENNYWISE**  
IN ST. PETE, FLA.  
**DEAR**  
Assuming that you and your four adult siblings are equally concerned about your parents' welfare, you should approach them as a group. It's

still not too late for them to start saving and investing for their retirement years. And you and the others could help them by offering to match what they save each month. Even a small amount adds up.

If five of you each put in \$20 a month (\$100) and your parents put in \$100, at the end of a year they would have \$2,400. By the time your father was ready to retire in 20 years, they'd have some serious money put away — not counting any increase in the value of their investments.

The U.S. General Services Administration Federal Citizen Information Center offers free information that could help you. Log on to [www.pueblo.gsa.gov](http://www.pueblo.gsa.gov) and look under the heading "Retirement Planning" in the "Money" section. You'll find lots of good advice, and you can even order free and low-cost booklets on saving and investing and much more. Or call (888) B-Pueblo (888) 878-3256 for a free Consumer Information Catalog. Also check your local library.

Your parents may or may

not be receptive to this idea. However, if you turn the matching money into a "game," they'll be more likely to go for it. Good luck.

**DEAR ABBY:** Last year, against the advice of my friends and family, I forgave my psychopathic wife. He swears he loved me and wanted to spend the rest of his life with me. I let him back into my life and let him talk to me about marriage and the future.

Within a few months he was up to his old tricks again, chasing other women, so I had to send him packing.

How do I forgive myself for being so stupid? I believed he loved me, and I am furious with myself for falling for his charm and his lies. My family isn't being very supportive because they didn't want me to reconcile. Please help me.

**—FOOLED METWICE**  
IN COLUMBUS, OHIO

**DEAR FOOLGLED:** Please stop beating yourself up. You're an optimistic person who believed in second chances, and your ex-boyfriend abused your trust.

Now that you understand he is incapable of change, it's time to learn from this experience and go on with your life. We learn more from our mistakes than our successes — and the lesson you will take from this is to draw the line sooner if you notice a person's words don't match his deeds.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, March 14, the 74th day of 2008. There are 292 days left in the year.

### Today's highlight:

On March 14, 1794, Eli Whitney received a patent for his cotton gin, an invention that revolutionized America's cotton industry.

### On this date:

In 1883, German political philosopher Karl Marx died in London.

In 1900, Congress ratified the Gold Standard Act.

In 1907, Theodore Roosevelt signed an executive order designed to prevent Japanese laborers from immigrating to the United States as part of a "gentlemen's agreement" with Japan.

In 1923, President Harding became the first chief executive to file an income tax return.

In 1939, the republic of Czechoslovakia was dissolved, opening the way for Nazi occupation of Czech areas and the separation of Slovakia.

In 1951, during the Korean War, United Nations forces recaptured Seoul.

In 1964, a jury in Dallas found Jack Ruby guilty of murdering Lee Harvey

Oswald, the accused assassin of President Kennedy.

In 1967, the body of President Kennedy was moved from a temporary grave to a permanent memorial site at Arlington National Cemetery.

In 1980, a Polish airliner crashed while making an emergency landing near Warsaw, killing all 87 people aboard, including 22 members of a U.S. amateur boxing team.

In 1991, a British court overturned the convictions of the "Birmingham Six," who had spent 16 years in prison for an Irish Republican Army bombing, and ordered them released.

Ten years ago: India's Congress party picked Sonia Gandhi, the Italian-born widow of assassinated prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, as its new president. An earthquake killed at least five people and left some 10,000 homeless in southeastern Iran.

Five years ago: Actor Robert Blake was released from jail on \$1.5 million bail, 11 months after he was arrested on charges of murdering his wife, Bonny Lee Bakley. (Blake was later acquitted at trial.)

Christopher Boyce, whose Cold War spying was immortalized on film in "The Falcon

and the Snowman," was released from a halfway house in San Francisco after a quarter-century in prison.

One year ago: The Pentagon released the transcript of a military hearing in which Khalid Sheikh Mohammed said he "was responsible for the 9/11 operation from A to Z." President Bush, speaking from Mexico, said he was troubled by the justice Department's misleading explanations to Congress of why it fired eight U.S. attorneys, but said the firings were "entirely appropriate."

## THOUGHT

"The worst sin toward our fellow creatures is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them; that's the essence of inhumanity."

— George Bernard Shaw  
Irish playwright (1856-1950)

## Prince Charles jams with drummers

**KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)** — Prince Charles and wife Camilla joined a group of Rastafarian musicians Wednesday for a jam session outside the old home of reggae great Bob Marley.

On a Caribbean tour to promote environmental protection, the royal couple were led through the home — now a museum honoring the late singer — by Marley's widow, Rina, and sons Robert and Rohan.

Charles and Camilla viewed memorabilia such as tour photos and a Gibson guitar favored by the singer, who rose to international stardom before dying of cancer at 36.

Earlier Wednesday, hundreds of people jostled each other for a glimpse of the British royals during a visit to an impoverished community. Charles and Camilla chartered and planted a seedling at a community center in Rose Town, where his Foundation for the Built Environment is helping with



Britain's Prince Charles, center, and his wife Camilla, Duchess of Cornwall, center, right, play with a local band at the home of the late reggae singer Bob Marley which is now the Bob Marley museum, in Kingston, Jamaica, Wednesday.

revitalization efforts. "It's quite a spectacle," local resident Dale Bent said of the royal visit.

The prince also inspected an honor guard in the capital. Gov. General Kenneth Hall

and British Commissioner Jeremy Cresswell accompanied the royals, who are nearing the close of a five-island tour aboard a 246-foot yacht that boasts a hot tub, gym and 24-member crew.

