

Your guide to local shooting ranges and gun clubs.

COUNTRY ROADS, D1

Water watchers say more precipitation needed for adequate irrigation.

BUSINESS, C1

CSI women begin play at national tournament today.

SPORTS, B1



Good Morning

High: 53 Low: 36

Cloudy, small chance of rain. Details: B6

Times-News

TUESDAY March 18, 2008 75 cents

MagicValley.com

Sales tax receipts down statewide; M.V. economy fares better

By Joshua Palmer Times-News writer

Idahoans are cutting back on purchases as the nation's economy slows, according to the most recent state tax revenue report. According to the Idaho State Tax Commission, total gross receipts for February — the most recent month reported — were down 0.79 percent, marking the largest decline in tax

revenue in about a decade. State sales tax receipts for February were down 3.7 percent compared to the previous year. Economists had expected sales tax receipts to increase 1.7 percent. "February was very disappointing," said Mike Ferguson, chief

INSIDE: State to invest \$7.5 million in state programs. See page D3

"It's a pretty good indication that people are tightening their belts for what's ahead."

— Mike Ferguson, chief economist for the State of Idaho Division of Financial Management

economist for the State of Idaho Division of Financial Management. "It's probably not the time to hit the panic button, but it certainly is cause for concern."

Growth in Idaho sales tax receipts began to slow late in 2007 until reaching a tipping point in January, when they started to decline. State economists attribute the

decline in state tax receipts to a downturn in home, auto and retail sales.

Tax receipts for sale of gas, declined 12.5 percent while cigarette tax revenue slid almost 9 percent.

"It's a pretty good indication that people are tightening their belts for what's ahead," Ferguson said.

Please see RECEIPTS, Page A3

St. Paddy's procession



Hundreds flock to Main Avenue with booze, brats and beads

By Andrea Gates Times-News writer

For Abby and Kacie Bitzenburg, St. Patrick's Day on Main Avenue was about more than just watching the parade.

With metal-soled shoes and green velvet track suits they clogged to Irish jigs, smiling and wowing the cheering crowd encircling them.

"I love the feeling of performing for everyone," said Kacie Bitzenburg, 16. "I like how free it is."

Her little sister, Abby, 9, also likes impressing the crowd and earning her applause. "It's just fun, the rhythm and everything."

The awes emanating from the small crowd encircling the Bitzenburgs compared with the one coming from a much larger mass of people lining Main Avenue Monday in Twin Falls.

Pick-up trucks towing men running for sheriff followed each other down the road, one by one, spaced between other vehicles sporting a heavy helping of business logos — and some green tassels.

A fleet of loud motorcycles was trailed by an older man riding a bicycle — a sight that drew some smiles and laughs from the crowd.

But that noise didn't overcome a loud horn emanating from a shiny, large Glimbia truck.

Organizer Bev O'Connor said she estimates at least 40 vehicles drove through the parade — patrolled by Twin Falls Police doing crowd control.

In green sun glasses, O'Connor stood behind her bar at O'Dunken's Draught House where people were still sipping beers, and enjoying the festivities hours after



ABOVE: Five-year-old Kyree Jensen, of Twin Falls, waits for the St. Patrick's Day parade to arrive Monday in downtown Twin Falls. TOP: The parade rolls along Main Avenue Monday as hundreds of spectators watch.

the parade had ended. She said she's helped organize it for about five years.

"It was a good, long parade," O'Connor said.

Other parade participants agreed that the street festivities, which lasted about 25

minutes after the noon hour were satisfying. "I enjoyed it," said John Anderson, who's last time at the parade was four years ago. "It was just right."

And Burley resident of 17 years, Jan Halstead, said her

first time at the parade was enjoyable. "My daughter's selling beer ... Green beer. She came from Boise."

Andrea Gates can be reached at 735-3380 or Andrea.Gates@lee.net.

Keipper attorney pushes for case dismissal

Magistrate found probable cause for murder

By Cassidy Friedman Times-News writer

JEROME — The defense attorney for a man accused of killing his domestic life partner argued Monday against a magistrate's January ruling that probable cause existed in the second-degree murder case.

5th District Magistrate Thomas Borreson ruled that Cliff Keipper's use of a gun to kill his domestic partner was an act in itself that implied malice, in finding probable cause that Keipper committed the crime at the couple's east Jerome

County home. "The fact that blood was everywhere — on the victim's shirt, his arm and the floor — but not on the gun that Keipper said his partner

Jerome Thomas, 33, held in his hand, was enough to convince Borreson that Keipper's actions were probably not self-defense.

Those arguments, which moved Keipper one step closer to trial, didn't sit well with Keipper's attorney, county public defender Joe Rockstahl.

"When Cliff was bound

Please see KEIPPER, Page A3



Board votes against road through north rim park

Vote could kill plans for development of Devil's Corral

By Matt Christensen Times-News writer

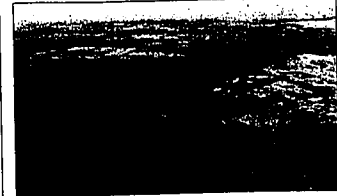
JEROME — Jerome County commissioners threw a stumbling block Monday into the path of a property owner wanting to build a road through Snake River Canyon Park, a pro-

posed 7,200-acre recreation area along the canyon's north rim.

Landowner George Panagiotou has asked the Bureau of Land Management, which leases the park property to Jerome County, to allow him to build either a gravel or paved road across the space to private property he owns near Devil's Corral, a beloved recreation site some residents fear will be developed if the road gets built.

Commissioners voted unanimously on Monday against the plan, after the

Please see ROAD, Page A3



Jerome County commissioners voted to recommend to the Bureau of Land Management to deny a request for George Panagiotou to build a road through Devil's Corral, pictured on the right.

Iraqis now face same problem as Idaho ranchers: Wolves taking down their livestock

Animals no longer fear humans in war-torn country

By Hassan Halawa and Borzou Darazghi Los Angeles Times

SAMAWAH, Iraq — The bloodthirsty enemy had gathered on the city's

perimeter, but this time the locals were ready.

They had formed armed committees similar to forces of the so-called "Sons of Iraq" movement fighting off al-Qaida in Iraq militants in western Iraq. They

were gearing up for a fight. Their foes had been attacking them with increasing abandon on the outskirts of this river city 170 miles south of Baghdad. They struck along the harsh desert plain leading to Saudi Arabia. They came day or night.

Among children, supernatural powers were attributed to these adversaries.

They could withstand intense cold, according to legend, and their eyes changed from yellow to orange to green.

There would be no mercy for this enemy. And no negotiations.

Please see WOLVES, Page A3



At Your Service directory...C6 Classifieds...C3-B Dear Abby...B5 Magic Valley...D3 Opinion...A6-7 Bridge...C7 Comics...B4-E Horoscope...B4 Movies...D5 Mutual Funds...C2 News/Opinion...C3 Sports...B1 Business...C1 Country Roads...D1 In Your Garden...D2 Obituaries...D4-G Jumble...C5 Weather...B6 Calendar...A2 Crossword...C8

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Today, Tonight, Wednesday. Includes weather icons and forecast details like 'Mostly cloudy, small chance of a rain shower'.

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of rain or mixed rain and snow showers. Highs upper 40s.

Complete weather report: See page B6

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

CEREMONIES/OBSERVANCES

Five-year anniversary observance for U.S. invasion of Iraq, with special speakers on various aspects and implications of the invasion, 7 p.m., in front of the bandshell, Twin Falls City Park.

CHURCH EVENTS

Lenten Luncheon, a light lunch of soup with Pastor Al Fry of Presbytery Church speaking in preparation for Easter noon church fellowship hall, Rupert United Methodist Church.

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Magie Valley Toastmasters meeting and no-host lunch, with a focus on teaching and encouraging members in communication and leadership skills, noon, Golden Coral, 1823 Blue Lakes Blvd., Twin Falls, new members welcome, 736-2010.

EXHIBITS

Sally Machila "Books of a Taiwan Autumn," 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Herrick Center for Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, 732-6655.

GOVERNMENT

- Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 736-4068. Blaine County commissioners, cancelled. Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 644-2700.

HEALTH AND RECOVERY

- College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit programs, 9 to 10 a.m. at Filer Elementary and Hagerman High School Gym; and 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the old gym in Buhl, no cost, 732-6475. Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10 to 11 a.m., Living Waters Presbyterian Church, 821 E. Main St., Wendell, no cost, 737-5988.

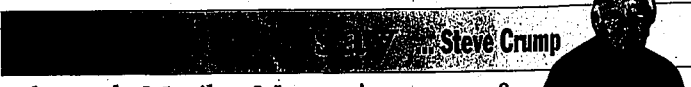
MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium "Icy Worlds/Saving the Night/Live Sky Tour," 7 p.m., Herrick Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families, 732-6655.

CORRECTION

Due to incorrect information from the hospital, a baby's name was misspelled and the father's name omitted in the Stark Report published on Feb. 24. Brynly Gregory Carter is the son of Staci Ann Vavser and Cary Carter of Hansen; he was born Feb. 6, 2008, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center. The Times-News regrets the error.

MORNING BRIEFING



Who stole Marilyn Monroe's potatoes?

What's the most famous photograph every taken in—or about—Idaho? ... I'd argue that it's a 1952 picture of Marilyn Monroe wearing a burly dress made from a potato sack from Long Produce of Twin Falls ...

Call me

If it's odd, funny, quirky, outrageous or poignant and happens in south-central Idaho, I want to know about it. Call me at 733-3223, or write to scrump@magievalley.com

Rost feel as if they just saw a ghost ... Sanchez and Rost played George and Eleanor Widener in the Dilettante Group's production last week of the Broadway musical "Titanic," about the ill-fated passenger liner that sank on April 15, 1912, in the North Atlantic ...

playing her relatives. ... Sanchez and Rost shook her hand and offered her tickets to a future show ...

THE BACHELORETTE

Yes, that was Twin Falls' own Alyssa Johnson on ABC's "The Bachelor" Monday night ... The premise of the series is a bachelor being courted by 25 women ... On each successive episode, women are eliminated from the process ...

George and his son, Harry, went down with the ship ... Eleanor and her maid escaped in a lifeboat; Mrs. Widener lived another 25 years ...

As is the custom after a performance, Sanchez and Rost walked into the lobby outside the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium to greet members of the audience ...

Alyssa, who's 24, plans to graduate from Boise State University in December, where's she's studying biology and chemistry ... She hopes to go into the skin-care business, perhaps on the research and development side ...

"We were the first members of the cast out there; nobody else was around yet," Sanchez said ... "This woman, who looked like she was in her 40s with brown-blond hair, came out of the auditorium and came up and introduced herself ...

"I was just stunned to meet her," Rost said ... "It's something you don't expect at a community theater in Twin Falls, Idaho," Sanchez added ...

Clearly not ...

Joey Sanchez and Tina

Steve Crump is the Times-News opinion editor.

AROUND THE WORLD

IDAHO Senate backtracks, votes to lift ID election day booze sale ban

BOISE — In voting that one lawmaker described as "weird," the Idaho Senate reversed course Monday and approved a measure to lift a 69-year-old ban on package liquor sales on election day.

locked 16 to 16 with three legislators absent on whether to lift the Depression-era ban on election-day liquor sales.

IRAQ Female suicide bomber kills at least 43 in holy city of Karbala

BAGHDAD — A female suicide bomber struck Shiite worshippers in the holy city of Karbala on Monday, an official and a witness said, killing at least 43 people and leaving pools of blood on the street leading to one of Iraq's most revered mosques.

in a series of attacks that left at least 72 Iraqis dead, including six youths killed when mortar rounds slammed into a soccer field in eastern Baghdad.

At least 3,990 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, March 18, the 78th day of 2008. There are 288 days left in the year.

Today's highlight

On March 18, 1858, German mechanical engineer Rudolf Diesel, the inventor of the diesel engine, was born in Paris.

On this date:

- In 1766, Britain repealed the Stamp Act of 1765. In 1837, Grover Cleveland, the 22nd and 24th president of the United States, was born in Caldwell, N.J. In 1922, Mohandas K. Gandhi was sentenced in India to six years' imprisonment for civil disobedience. (He was released after serving two years.) In 1937, some 300 people, mostly children, were killed in a gas explosion at a school in New London, Texas. In 1938, Mexican President

Lazaro Cardenas nationalized his country's petroleum reserves and took control of foreign-owned oil facilities.

In 1940, Adolf Hitler and Benito Mussolini met at the Brenner Pass, where the Italian dictator agreed to join Germany's war against France and Britain.

In 1959, President Eisenhower signed the Hawaii statehood bill. (Hawaii became a state on Aug. 21, 1959.)

In 1962, France and Algerian rebels signed a cease-fire agreement, which took effect the next day.

In 1965, the first spacewalk took place as Soviet cosmonaut Alexei Leonov went outside his Voskhod 2 capsule, secured by a tether.

In 1974, most of the Arab oil-producing nations ended their embargo against the United States.

Ten years ago: Julie Hiatt Steele, a former friend of Kathleen Willey's, released a sworn affidavit undercutting

Willey's claim that President Clinton had made an unwelcome sexual advance toward her in 1993.

(According to Steele, Willey instructed her to tell Newsweek that Willey had confided the alleged episode to her immediately after it supposedly happened; Steele said she had heard about the accusation in 1997.)

Five years ago: A jury in Corpus Christi, Texas, cleared Bayer Corp. of liability in a \$560 million lawsuit that accused the pharmaceutical giant of ignoring research linking the cholesterol-lowering drug Baycol to dozens of deaths. In Salt Lake City, Brian Mitchell and Wanda Barzee were charged with aggravated kidnapping, sexual assault and burglary in the town of Alton, where Brian Smart, who was found with them six days earlier, (Mitchell and Barzee have been found incompetent to stand trial.) Olympic gold medal figure skater Sarah Hughes won the

Sullivan Award as the nation's top amateur athlete.

One year ago: Pakistan's national cricket team coach, Bob Woolmer, 58, was found dead in his hotel room in Kingston, Jamaica, during cricket's World Cup tournament. (An inquest into Woolmer's death ended with the Jamaica jury unable to reach a ruling.)

WHAT'S NEW ONLINE

See video and a photo gallery of the 48Straight Jeep King of the Mountain ski festival in Wood River and check out video of the action at the Twin Falls Gun Club. And why people love shooting.

nowpa level 100% advertisement with statistics table for various items like Waterbed, Salomon, Big Wood, Little Wood, Life West, etc.

Times-News advertisement with subscription rates, contact information, and a table for advertising rates.

Receipts

Continued from page A1

Data on sales tax collections by county will not be released until later this year, but businesses in south-central Idaho appear to be weathering the economic downturn better than most regions of Idaho — thanks in large part to the agricultural industry that is enjoying record commodity prices.

Unemployment rates in Twin Falls, Burley and Jerome are at least 1 percentage point below the statewide rate of 4 percent. And despite a downturn in home sales in the region, foreclosure rates in the Magic Valley have risen less than 5 percent, compared to more than 20 percent in the Treasure Valley.

However, the decline in state tax revenues may pose challenges for south-central

Idaho over the long-term as the Legislature allocates funding for programs that affect the state as a whole.

In February, the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee told the Division of Financial Management to revise its projection for state sales tax receipts.

The division returned with projections 3 percent less than originally expected.

Committee Co-Chairman

Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, said most programs received additional funding this year. However, he added that it was significantly less than what many agencies asked.

"We have to take a more conservative approach because this has been the fifth month that sales did not meet projections," Cameron said. "And the thing is that sales tax is our bread and butter."

Keipper

Continued from page A1

over, it didn't feel right in my gut," he told a district judge Monday in a motion to dismiss the case. Fifth District Judge John Butler took the motion under advisement, promising to return a ruling in writing "in due course."

the use of a firearm," Rockstahl said. "There was a lack of malice because this was self-defense."

At the probable cause hearing, Jerome Lammers, a second public defender in Rockstahl's office, argued nothing in the record suggests anything but self-defense.

But Jerome County Prosecutor Mike Seib said Monday "there was a lot of inconsistent statements." Add to those inconsistencies the fact that the gun Keipper says his husband used to attack him contained no blood spatter, Seib said, and it creates probable cause.

At the time of the hearing,

Rockstahl and Lammers had only begun to consider their case, Rockstahl said. An alternate scenario had yet to dawn upon them — a scenario, he said, that explains why the blood missed the victim's gun.

Thomas' upper body may have jerked spasmodically upward as he lay on the floor already dead, Rockstahl said, causing the bleeding from his head to seep over his arm and shirt.

This new theory had not been presented at the probable cause hearing, Seib said. He said Keipper's attorneys may well use that line of defense at trial but that it should not be grounds for

reversing the probable cause hearing, also called a preliminary hearing.

"For preliminary hearing purposes, the standard was met," Seib said.

When given a second chance to speak, Rockstahl reverted to his original argument doubting the use of a gun should imply malice.

"If we can infer malice from a gun we could do a pre-lit from an affidavit: Jeremy is dead; a gun was used," he said.

Road

Continued from page A1

BLM asked the board to make a recommendation on Panagiotou's proposal.

George has tried to get a right of way in there since Day 1," said Commissioner Joe Davidson, who oversees the park planning committee and has been involved in park plans for several years. "And the public overwhelmingly does not want a right of way in there."

Devil's Corral is a scenic

local area of the Snake River near Shoshone Falls. It's also a former home to American Indians, where petroglyphs are scrawled onto granite canyon walls and raptors nest and hunt above the river and its tributaries.

The area is also a sentimental recreation spot to many Magic Valley residents, including Handy Erkins, who used to own the private property near Devil's Corral.

Panagiotou has taken every public criticism for allowing a zip line — a cable between two anchored

objects on which people travel with a pulley — to be built over the Corral.

"You have a bomb brandt out there," he said, fighting back tears. "Once it's gone, it's gone."

Despite not being allowed to speak, a standing-room-only crowd at the meeting gumbled against Panagiotou's plan.

The BLM is now scheduled to review Panagiotou's proposal, and will likely follow to deny the board's recommendation to deny the road request, officials said.

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"If we can infer malice from a gun we could do a pre-lit from an affidavit: Jeremy is dead; a gun was used," he said.

Keipper's jury trial is scheduled for May.

Wolves

Continued from page A1

The enemy, after all, were packs of hungry gray wolves who had overcome their fears of humans and begun feasting on livestock, right in front of the farmers.

"The locals formed armed groups, exchanging shifts throughout the day in order to protect people, cattle, sheep, and also children and women heading to schools, from those ferocious wolves," said Mohammed Abu-Reesha, a Samawah resident.

The gray wolf, also called the Arabic wolf in Iraq, is among the most impressive predators in the Middle East. It grows up to 6 1/2 feet long and stands as tall as 3 1/2 feet, weighing up to 120 pounds, said veterinarian Fahad Abu Kaheela.

It has powerful jaws and can sprint at 40 miles per hour. The wolves hunt strategically, organizing themselves into packs and communicating messages via howls at different tones. They've been prowling Iraq's

dusty wastelands for hundreds of years.

But something strange happened this year. Locals believe the wolves must have crossed some threshold of desperation or hunger, some tipping point that had prevented them from traipsing onto human turf. They overcame their fear of people and began entering towns and villages to feast on sheep and cattle.

Animal experts say predatory beasts such as wolves

overcome their fear of humans when they're in close proximity to them. Some farmers speculated that that the wolves had migrated from deserts to the villages because of three years of sparse rains and a lack of suitable prey. Others, including the local vet, said the incursions began after nomadic tribes began using high fences to protect their livestock, perhaps driving the wolves toward population centers.

Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, said most programs received additional funding this year. However, he added that it was significantly less than what many agencies asked.

"We have to take a more conservative approach because this has been the fifth month that sales did not meet projections," Cameron said. "And the thing is that sales tax is our bread and butter."

SPRING INTO HEALTH

Spring Specials!
MAR. 18 - APR. 1

Solaray

- Cal-Mag Citrate 180 caps - Reg. \$17.99 SALE \$14.39
- B-12 2000 mg 90 lozenges - Reg. \$11.99 SALE \$9.59

Irwin Naturals

- Women's & Men's Libido Formulas Reg. \$27.95 SALE \$22.36
- Power to Sleep Reg. \$19.95 SALE \$15.96
- Fast Action Hoodia Diet Reg. \$39.95 SALE \$31.96
- Nature's Life Bromelain Sinus Ease Reg. \$24.95 SALE \$19.96

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Centre Pointe Plaza • 1111 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. • 733-1411
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NEW! NOW OFFERING EXTENDED SIZES **1x to 3x**

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Mon-Fri 10:00am-5:30pm • Sat 10:00am-4:00pm
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10 Winners Total!

A. B. M. & S. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. All proceeds from this drawing will be donated to the Idaho Power Foundation.

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IDAHO POWER
AN ENERGY COMPANY

Planned Power Outage
Oakley & Surrounding Area

Oakley area service will be interrupted briefly beginning at 2 a.m. on Thursday, March 20 while Idaho Power safely upgrades reliability of electrical equipment. The outage is expected to last approximately two hours.

The affected area includes East of Murtaugh, Oakley, and Golden Valley North to I-84. About 1,870 customers will be affected.

Our primary objective is improved electrical service and fewer outages in your area. We appreciate the support of residents and businesses in Oakley and the surrounding area.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Idaho Power Customers at 1-800-498-6151.

Shop Courtesy Tuesday, or Wednesday

ONE DAY SALE

MANY BEST PRICES OF THE MONTH

OPEN EXTENDED HOURS BOTH DAYS STARTING AT 9 AM (Furniture Galleries open at 10 am)

MORNING SPECIALS 9AM-1PM BOTH DAYS

only while quantities last

SPECIAL 60% OFF

FAMOUS AMERICAN DESIGNER™ & CHARTER CLUB® COLLECTION
Reg. \$35-\$149, special \$14-\$90.
After 1pm, 12.50-\$4.50.

Also in Petite and Women's 14-24 at similar savings.



SPECIAL 60% OFF

JM COLLECTION & ALFRED DUNNER
Reg. \$26-\$100, special 10.40-\$40.
After 1pm, \$13-\$50.

JM Collection also in Petite and Women's 14-24 at similar savings.



SPECIAL 19.99

JUNIOR JACKETS
Style shown is by Fire. Reg. \$34. After 1pm, 24.99.



★ SPECIAL 60% OFF

ALFANI SUITS™
Only at Macy's. Reg. \$475, special \$150.
After 1pm, 237.50.



SPECIAL 49.99

MEN'S CLEARANCE SPORTCOATS
Only \$150. After 1pm, 99.99.



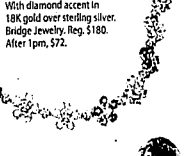
SPECIAL \$10 OFF

WOMEN'S NATURALIZER™ & EASY SPIRIT™ SHOES
Entire stock. Reg. \$9.99-\$9.99, special 34.99-\$9.99. After 1pm, 44.99-\$9.99.



SPECIAL 59.99

SEMI-PRECIOUS GEMSTONE BRACELET™
With diamond accent in 18K gold over sterling silver. Bridge Jewelry. Reg. \$180. After 1pm, \$72.



SPECIAL 19.99-39.99

MEN'S CLEARANCE SHOES
Only \$40-\$165. After 1pm, 29.99-\$9.99.



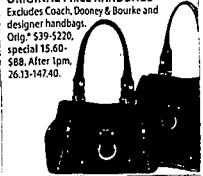
SPECIAL BUY 1, GET 1 FREE!

NEWLY REDUCED & CLEARANCE SLEEPWEAR & ROBES
Orig. \$15.98-\$88. After 1pm, 11.99-\$66 each.



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ORIGINAL PRICE HANDBAGS
Excludes Coach, Dooney & Bourke and designer handbags. Orig. \$39-\$220, special 15.60-\$68. After 1pm, 26.13-\$147.40.



SPECIAL BUY 1, GET 1 FREE!

DRESS SHIRTS & TIES
Reg. \$2.50-\$9.50. After 1pm, 24.99-\$9.99.



★ SPECIAL EXTRA 15% OFF

CLUB ROOM™ & ALFANI™ SPORTSWEAR
Only at Macy's. Reg. \$9.50-\$9.50, special 16.78-\$25.28. After 1pm, 19.75-\$29.75.



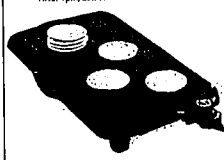
SPECIAL 50%+10% OFF

BOYS & GIRLS DRESS UP FASHIONS
Entire stock except Communion dresses, collections and Everyday Values. Reg. \$24-\$88, special 10.80-\$9.60. After 1pm, \$12-\$44.



SPECIAL 19.99

Presto 22" Jumbo griddle. 11 Features cool touch base, premium nonstick finish and slide-out drip tray. Model #7034. Reg. \$40. After 1pm, 29.99.



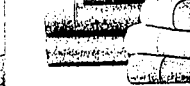
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ENTIRE STOCK MATTRESS PADS, FEATHERBEDS, & FIBERBEDS™
Only at Macy's. From Charter Club®, Wamsutter® and Hotel Collection™. Reg. \$50-\$300, special 24.99-\$149.99. After 1pm, 28.99-\$179.99.



★ SPECIAL 49.99

MONACO COLLECTION 6-PC. SHEET SET
Only at Macy's. 400-thread count queen or king sets include flat and fitted sheets and four pillowcases. Reg. \$135-\$150. After 1pm, 79.99-\$89.99.



★ SPECIAL 99.99

VERSAILLES 16-PC. BEDROOM ENSEMBLE
Only at Macy's. Includes comforter, sheet set, shams, decorative pillows and much more. Queen or king. Reg. \$350-\$400. After 1pm, 149.99-\$199.99.



★ SPECIAL 79.99

PACIFIC COAST VALIANT 4-PC. LUGGAGE SET™
Only at Macy's. 4-pc. set includes wheeled tote, and three expandable uprights. Reg. \$200. After 1pm, 99.99.



PLUS, ALL DAY TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY ONLY
get these even lower prices – you save 55%-85% on

CLEARANCE*

Orig. \$27-\$40 Was 9.99

Now 4.99

- Sportswear for her
- Juniors
- Kids apparel

Orig. \$41-\$72 Was 19.99

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Audit: FBI inconsistent in adding and subtracting names to terror watchlist

By Lara Jakes Jordan
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The FBI gave outdated, incomplete and inaccurate information about terror suspects to be added to the government's watchlist for nearly three years despite steps taken to prevent errors, a Justice Department audit concludes.

Responding, an FBI spokesman said gaps identified in the system should be fixed within six months.

Overall, the audit released Monday by Justice Department Inspector General Glenn A. Fine gave the FBI a mixed review for its process of submitting an estimated 8,000 names and other data to the terror watchlist that is compiled by U.S. intelligence agencies. It found that the FBI has proper training and other internal controls in place to help make sure names of suspected terrorists were accurately added to the list.

However, Fine's report rapped the FBI for failing to consistently pass along newly discovered information about people on the watchlist, or to remove those who were no longer

deemed a threat.

Between January 2005 and November 2007, the FBI processed the names of 8,240 suspects who were nominated to be added to the terror watchlist; the audit found. At times, FBI agents in field offices nominated terror suspects to be included on the

list without first checking with FBI headquarters in Washington — preventing a thorough review.

In a statement, FBI Assistant Director John Miller said the FBI has begun changing the way it submits names of international and domestic terror suspects to

make the nomination process easier and more efficient for agents.

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Scientists hunt for diabetes subtypes

WASHINGTON (AP) — You've heard of Type 1 and Type 2 diabetes, but what about a kind called MODY?

Diabetes is undergoing a genetics revolution that suggests there actually are many subtypes of the disease.

So this week, U.S. health officials are bringing 20 drug companies together with international gene specialists to jump-start the hunt for new therapies.

Some 21 million Americans have diabetes, meaning their bodies cannot properly turn blood sugar into energy. Either they don't produce enough insulin or don't use it correctly.

With the Type 1 form, the body's immune system attacks insulin-producing pancreatic cells, so that patients require insulin injections to survive. It usually, but not always, strikes in childhood.

With the most common Type 2 form, the body gradually loses its ability to use insulin, so the confused pancreas churns out extra until eventually its cells wear out. Most at risk are the overweight.

Genetics research is showing diabetes is far more complicated than those simple demarcations:

- First there's MODY, shorthand for six different subtypes thought to account for 2 percent of all diabetes. Each is caused by a single, different gene. Suspicions arise when patients are extra hard to treat, especially skinny people diagnosed with Type 2 diabetes or young adults with diabetic relatives who abruptly seem to develop Type 1.
- That brings us to the 16 genes discovered so far to play a role in Type 2 diabetes, and at least 14 in Type 1.

Surprisingly, the Type 2 genes don't affect how the body uses insulin, thought to be the trigger. Instead, they alter how the pancreas makes insulin in the first place, explains Dr. David Altshuler of Harvard and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

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EDITORIAL

Don't ask, don't tell: Primaries should stay open

Idahoans don't think it's anybody's business but their own whether they vote for a Democrat or a Republican in primary elections. And they've been telling their legislators so.

That's why a fervid campaign by a phalanx of conservative Republicans to persuade the Legislature to close their primaries is sinking faster than Bear Stearns stock.

And why not? The GOP holds 79 of 105 seats in the Legislature and all statewide positions, and every one of those 86 elected Republicans was nominated in an open primary.

For more than 30 years, Idaho has let anyone vote in any primary without registering. That rakes GOP stalwarts such as former state Sen. Rod Beck, who doesn't want those pesky Democrats and unreliable independents sully the Republican decision-making process.

In November, U.S. District Judge Mikel Williams slapped down a lawsuit brought by Beck and 70 other Republicans against Secretary of State Ben Ysursa — another Republican — to force the issue.

On the instructions of the state GOP Central Committee, state Chairman Kirk Sullivan reluctantly pitched legislation to close primaries earlier this year; it didn't even get a hearing.

The whole effort puzzles many lawmakers, who wonder why the GOP would want to freeze out the majority of Idahoans who call themselves either independents or Democrats. Two compromise proposals — one by Ysursa and the other by Twin Falls native Keith Allred, president of the Common Interest, a non-partisan public interest group — would preserve the open primary but create at least some type of public record about who voted for which party.

That's acceptable, but expensive: Ysursa would spend about \$200,000 of the taxpayers' money; Allred about \$400,000 over two years. The tab for closing the primaries altogether would be \$800,000, plus another \$500,000 by the counties.

In a tight budget year, that's crazy. The system ain't broke, so why fix it?

Our view: The effort by a faction of stalwart Idaho Republicans to transform the GOP from a political party into an exclusive club is going nowhere. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

Rethinking the power of charisma

As Americans struggle to choose their candidates to replace President Bush, there is no lack of arguments as to what qualities a president should have.

Enter Harvard University's Joseph Nye, who introduced "soft power" into the English language some 20 years ago. In his new book, "The Powers to Lead," he deconstructs just what it takes.



H.D.S. GREENWAY

There are many qualities of leadership of course, which Nye examines, but what struck my eye in this political season was his discussion of "charisma." It comes from the Greek for "divine gift, or gift of grace," and those so gifted include, in Nye's eye, Mahatma Gandhi, Adolf Hitler, Martin Luther King, Winston Churchill, Benito Mussolini, Tony Blair, Fidel Castro, Nelson Mandela, Osama bin Laden, Jack Kennedy, Franklin Roosevelt, Joan of Arc, and Eva Peron.

Charisma can be a great source power, i.e. the power to persuade rather than force, but then soft power itself can be put to evil use. Hitler came to power through free elections, after all, and his speeches brought his audiences to a frenzy. And bin Laden spreads his lethal mischief by persuasion rather than coercion.

Does charisma originate in the individual, in the followers, or in the situation? Nye asks. The answer seems to be all three. Sigmund Freud thought charismatic leaders represented the return of the primal father. The sociologist Max Weber argued that charisma represented an ideal that is only approximated in reality, and that charisma grew out of the relationship between the leader and his or her followers. Therefore charisma lasts



Winston Churchill's charisma was not universally recognized until his country was in a desperate war. But he had an innate gift of oratory that served him well. As John Kennedy said, Churchill took the English language and marched it off to war. Yet, when the war was nearly over, the British public voted him out of office.

"only as long as it receives recognition, and is able to satisfy the follower ..."

Winston Churchill's charisma was not universally recognized until his country was in a desperate war. But he had an innate gift of oratory that served him well. As John Kennedy said, Churchill took the English language and marched it off to war. Yet, when the war was nearly over, the British public voted him out of office. Worse yet, he lost to Clement Attlee, a modest man who had much to be modest about, as Churchill said, probably the least charismatic politician of his generation.

In time people can grow tired of charisma, especially if they begin to think it masks character faults. As Tory politician Michael Blair said of Tony Blair: "What he was able to accomplish was largely due to his charisma. ... At one time he was the master of spin, but "by now it is hard to find anyone who believes

a word he says." Nye doesn't debate the current political debate, but in today's race it seems to be Barack Obama who drew the charisma card. Like Reagan and Kennedy he seems to come up with the words that inspire, much to the annoyance of Hillary Clinton who is forever workshy. Her husband seems able to coast on charisma, but she seems doomed to impress rather than inspire.

As for John McCain, there can be a kind of charisma in a candidate's record. That was true of Dwight Eisenhower, who would not otherwise have been considered charismatic. Then there are the nonverbal elements of charisma. Nye points to academic studies that show that a handsome man enjoys an edge over an ugly rival. For a woman the advantage is even greater. Focus groups could predict the winners when shown images of candidates in unfamiliar elections. Predictions become less accurate when images

were accompanied by the sound of their voices.

The Journalist Martha Gellhorn once wrote, in 1946, that she could tell that Indonesia's Sukarno was a great orator "by watching his hands and following his voice and the eyes and faces of the children. One could feel his power," she wrote, even though she shouldn't understand a word that he said. "One remembered Hitler."

Yet charisma for one ethnic or linguistic group can be anathema for another. Hitler's undoubted magnetism might not have worked on Italians. And Mussolini's oratoric style would have seemed hilarious had he tried it on the British. But then the British never produced a Verdi, a Donizetti, a Rossini. Who knows, Obama might be boring in Burma, while Clinton might be electrifying in Beijing.

H.D.S. Greenway is a columnist for the Boston Globe.

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 Blise and Bill Bitzenburg.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Reporters were considerate with story

We would like to thank Ariel Hansen (writer) and Ashley Smith (photographer) for the "Decision to die" article on the illness and passing of our mother, Afon Scofield. They were very professional and considerate during this difficult time.

We hope others can take advantage of the services and compassion of Hospice Visions, as it was invaluable. The staff at Twin Falls Care Center was efficient and thoughtful. Dr. Cole Johnson and Dr. Nagari Narasimkan provided professional medical care and much more.

Thanks to the newspaper article, Lucky has a new home. A kind lady from Hazelton recently lost her cat and has now adopted mom's cat. I can't say one and all for helping us, but most of all for helping mom. SANDIE GOLAY CATHIE BLEVINS Twin Falls SHEILA TURNER Sweet

Reader appreciates 'Decision to die' story

What a great article published March 5 titled "Decision to die." Family members supporting a

decision made by their mother to stop medical intervention and let nature take its course demonstrates unselfish love, strength and courage.

I was glad to read hospice was involved in the care received at home. Hospice services can be invaluable to those facing terminal illness and those who care for them.

As a recipient of hospice services, I can attest to the compassion extended by health care professionals and the strength derived. Hospice was involved with us early on, resulting in better pain management and symptom control as well as social services and spiritual support. The nurses involved communicated regularly with our physician. The support given us early on, resulting in a journey just a little bit easier. Volunteers stayed in touch with us after our loss. I can't say enough in support of hospice care at home.

Inns off to the Times-News for capturing the emotions surrounding a difficult decision made and end-of-life journey. DEBRA L. GATES Twin Falls (Editor's note: Debra Gates is a registered nurse and administrator of Home Health Professionals and First Choice Home Care and Hospice.)

Conservationists, ag producers need to work together to face challenges

Idaho is changing fast. In the most recent Census report, Idaho was the fourth fastest-growing state in the nation. And this growth is taking its toll on our private rural working lands.

According to a recent Boise State University study, Idaho lost 145,000 acres of range and cropland between 1997 and 2003, while developed lands increased by 56,000 acres. Working ranches, farms and forests not only produce food, fiber and jobs, they provide important benefits like clean water and wildlife habitat.

Conservationists and agricultural producers need to work together to find solutions to the tremendous challenges facing Idaho's rural landscapes. We have a growing history of collaboration in tackling important issues like invasive weeds, post-fire restoration and, most recently, House Bill 467 — the Idaho Ranch, Farm and Forest Protection Act. H-467 would have provided tax incentives to producers who donate the development rights on their lands. It died in committee but the spirit of collaboration that led to this legislation lives on through a coalition of 30 groups representing more

than 100,000 Idahoans. What remains clear is that Idahoans must rally around pragmatic solutions rather than laying blame and grinding axes. And unfortunately, there still is too much of the latter happening on both sides — from the shrill cries of extremists who want to stop all uses of the land to the obstinate objections of folks who refuse to accept or acknowledge the changing operating environment. It has never been more important to rise above principled differences in search of pragmatic solutions.

Crop and livestock production contributes nearly 54 percent, or 7.3 percent, per year to Idaho's gross domestic product, while recreation — much of which occurs on private lands — contributes more than \$2 billion annually, or 4.1 percent. Together these industries account for more than 80,000 jobs — more than 10 percent of the state's total. Moreover, agricultural lands provide a boon to local

tax bases, while new subdivisions are often a drain. A 2004 report by the American Farmland Trust showed that for every dollar in local taxes paid, working lands received just 36 cents in services, while residential developments received \$1.15.

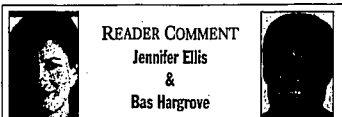
These figures do not account for other important benefits less easy to quantify, such as contribution to our rural heritage, local community environment and wildlife habitat. These "quality of life" factors that are drawing more people to Idaho and, ironically, threatening the goose that lays the golden egg.

Idahoans care about these benefits, and they're willing to pay more to protect them. In November, public opinion researcher Bob Moore found that more than six in 10 Idahoans were concerned about the loss of family farms and ranches, pollution of streams and lakes, and unplanned growth and development. Seventy per-

A 2004 report by the American Farmland Trust showed that for every dollar in local taxes paid, working lands received just 36 cents in services, while residential developments received \$1.15.

cent favor spending more state money to protect land around lakes and streams, conserve fish and wildlife habitat, and preserve natural areas. Leaders in conservation, agriculture and the Legislature owe it to these voters and to future generations to find solutions to protect what's best about Idaho.

Jennifer Ellis is a third-generation rancher from Blackfoot and president of the Idaho Cattle Association. Bas Hargrove of Boise is with the Idaho Chapter of The Nature Conservancy.



READER COMMENT Jennifer Ellis & Bas Hargrove



Get in your two cents

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Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office, mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magvalley.com.

Thanks to Bush, the mercury pollution lingers on

The Bush administration received a judicial rebuke long in the making in February when an exasperated panel of federal appeals judges held that the Environmental Protection Agency's weak-kneed approach to mercury pollution failed to follow the law. The court killed the rules and sent them back to the EPA for revision.

That will almost certainly buck the decision about mercury standards to the next president — a sad situation for a nation that should be leading the fight against global environmental threats such as mercury. Fortunately, many states have written their own standards to protect pregnant women and their babies.

Scientists tell us that 15 percent of American women of childbearing age have blood mercury levels in excess of what is safe, with an

RENA STEINZOR

even higher percentage found in American Indian women living near the heavily contaminated Great Lakes. About 30 percent of mercury emissions occur naturally. Human sources produce the remainder, with coal-fired power plants and chlor-alkali chemical factories at the top of the list.

The primary pathway of human exposure is food, specifically fish that have absorbed methyl mercury, the most dangerous form of the pollutant, from water bodies contaminated by industrial sources.

Prenatal exposure to methyl mercury, even at very low doses, causes neurological and other developmental damage, even if the mother does not appear ill. As many as 637,000 babies born each year in the United States are

in jeopardy from mercury in their mothers' bodies. The pollution is so widespread that 44 states warn against eating fish caught in waters posted with "fish advisories."

The Clean Air Act gives the EPA authority to restrict mercury and other polluting emissions, and in the final days of the Clinton administration, the agency issued a finding that mercury is a hazardous air pollutant, forcing the Bush administration to require pollution controls on coal-fired plants. But the Bush administration withdrew the proposal and, after several years' delay, issued a much weaker version.

What stunned legal and scientific experts was that the administration decided to ignore the law's clear instruction that it first decide if mercury is hazardous and, if so, require power plants to limit emissions. Instead, over the objections

of career staff, the EPA political appointees issued a toothless rule that waited until at least 2018 to impose controls on mercury, and which even then would allow power plants to buy and sell "allowances." Such a "cap and trade" system would have left decisions about how much pollution to emit in any given location to electric utilities, thus allowing pooling of mercury in poisoned waters, exacerbating the growing environmental problem instead of ameliorating it.

Not only would the approach not solve the problem, but it did not comport with the law. The Clean Air Act didn't call for capping and trading; it called for standards and regulations.

Fortunately, states with the worst problems rose to the occasion. Fourteen states filed suit against the EPA rule, and their efforts were rewarded in February.

Of course, like climate change, mercury is a global problem. Dirty, coal-fired power plants in China and Latin America emit thousands of tons of this extremely toxic metal, and we will never conquer the problem until we get those sources under control. That is why the United States needs to take a leadership role, not sit on its hands waiting for China and other developing countries to see the light.

It has been 18 years since Congress instructed the EPA

to do something about mercury pollution. This administration is unlikely to get the job done before leaving town, but at least its neglectful approach has given the courts occasion to remind us that even presidents are obliged to follow the law.

Rena Steinzor is president of the Center for Progressive Reform and a professor of law at the University of Maryland, Baltimore. She wrote this commentary for the Baltimore Sun.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Story on centennial brochure was appreciated

On behalf of the Twin Falls County Historic Preservation Commission, I would like to extend my gratitude to the *Times-News* and to reporter Melissa Davlin for the front page story on Jan. 31 on the Twin Falls County Centennial Brochure.

Many hours of planning, designing and editing went into this project, a project funded by grants through the State Historical Preservation Office, the Idaho State Historical Society, the Idaho Travel Council and the Twin Falls County commissioners. In making the brochure, much of the time was donated by the dedicated volunteers who serve on the Twin Falls County Historic Preservation Commission to create a user-friendly guide

on the historical story of our county. Also, the professional staff of designers and printers at BHP Printers worked extremely hard to finish the brochure for its debut at the 2007 Twin Falls County Fair. The Twin Falls County Historic Preservation Commission has been very pleased with the positive response to the brochure from residents and visitors alike with copies being distributed not only locally, but also by special request to interested individuals in California, Ohio, Washington, D.C., and even Scotland and Denmark.

The Twin Falls County Historic Preservation Commission appreciates the publicity the *Times-News* has given to the local history whether it is about brochures, historic buildings, then-and-now photographs (Sunday edition) or

the county museum. Our heritage is truly a great source of pride and very worthy of its preservation and promotion.

SHAUNA ROBINSON

Twin Falls
(Editor's note: Shauna Robinson is the chairman of the Twin Falls County Historic Preservation Commission.)



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Painful round of state budget cuts to hit poor, working class

By Aaron C. Davis
Associated Press writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Financially strapped states are looking to take away government health insurance and benefits from millions of Americans already struggling with a souring economy.

An Associated Press review of the budgets in all 50 states reveals coverage would be eliminated for hundreds of thousands of poor children, disabled and the elderly. More than 10 million people would lose dental care, access to specialists, name-brand prescription drugs or other benefits. About 20 million could see their care jeopardized by further cuts to doctors' reimbursements.

Health care is a choice target as governors and legislators confront the worst deficits they've faced in a decade or more, but that's not their only target: They're also considering cuts in aid to schools and universities, shrinking state workforces and even releasing prisoners before their sentences are completed.

Safety-net programs for the elderly, disabled and out-of-work also could be cut, even as the demand for those services is on the rise.

Despite the dire conditions, a handful of states are seriously considering general tax increases or even modest hikes on the wealthy to close the gaps. Lawmakers say they fear such actions would only further stress the economy.

Instead, states are looking to increase lottery ticket sales, promote Indian gambling or further raise taxes on cigarettes and alcohol. Those taxes disproportionately hit the poorest and working-class that would be hurt by the spending cuts, studies show.

Nearly two dozen states are grappling with deep cuts and tax proposals to close shortfalls totaling more than \$34 billion. That includes California, where lawmakers have made emergency cuts

and authorized billions in bond sales to halve a deficit once projected at \$16 billion through June 2009. Another dozen states are bracing for falling revenue.

In California alone, lawmakers already have cut more than \$1 billion in payments to physicians caring for 6.5 million people who rely on the state for health care. The move will push untold numbers from doctors' offices to overcrowded clinics and emergency rooms.

Unlike the federal government, which can spend more than the revenue it takes in, almost all states are bound by their constitutions to maintain balanced budgets.

Residents of Sun Belt states that had enjoyed a boom in housing construction and

rising real estate prices will be particularly hurt. The same is true for residents in states with significant financial-service industries. Those states face their largest deficits since the recession following 2001. Some are in their worst fiscal shape in decades.

The budget pain is not spread evenly from state to state, or even region to region.

Some states — especially Alaska, New Mexico, Wyoming and others rich in oil and gas reserves — are booming. In Wyoming, for example, a state savings fund from tax revenue from energy production will overflow with a projected \$4 billion by 2010.

Farm states, by and large, also are doing well. Growing worldwide demand for grains

and an expected ethanol boom have pushed corn and soybean prices to record highs, prompting a buying spree by farmers in South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa.

State colleges and universities in at least six states may have to boost fees for more than 4 million students to cover funding cuts. College-bound graduates in Florida and Idaho would lose scholarships.

At the same time they are considering such cuts, lawmakers are resisting broad tax increases or closing loopholes on businesses and the well-to-do to help cover the gaps.

Diane Rowland, executive director of the nonprofit Kaiser Family Foundation's

Commission on Medicaid and the Uninsured, said the current downturn could be particularly painful because there has been very little time since the last downturn.

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INSIDE: Dwight Howard, Magic take on LeBron, Cavs, B2



INSIDE: College hoops, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Comics, B4-5 | Tennis & weather, B6

Lightning-quick start lifts Golden Eagles past Dawson

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

As much as Boomer Walker hates being at the .500 mark, that's exactly where his College of Southern Idaho baseball team found itself, with a 13-13 record going into Monday's game at Skip Walker Field against Dawson Community College of Glendive, Mont.

A lightning-quick start perhaps put the Golden Eagles on the road to victory. CSI sent eight batters to the plate in the first inning and brought all nine to the dish in the second, scoring three runs in each inning to build a strong platform from which the Golden Eagles sprung to a 4-4 victory over the Buccaneers.

Despite not knowing any players on the Dawson (0-3) roster and hav-

ing no idea how the pitchers would approach each batter, CSI (14-13) got great production from the bats, particularly from the top three in the order — Matt Deacon, Garrett Wolff and Tyler Chism — the first two times through the lineup.

Not having a book on the pitcher proved to be a challenge that CSI batters were up for, however. The top three of the order set the table and the runs were generated from all over the lineup. First baseman Judd Jensen was the only player with multiple RBIs, finishing with 2. "I just figured that whatever they throw (No. 3 hitter Tyler Chism), they'd probably go about it the same way with me (as the No. 4 hitter). It's gotta be really hard for the leadoff hitter," Jensen said. "It's nice

to get off to a great start, and the top of the order made being No. 3 or No. 4 easier."

That early outburst proved to be more than enough for southpaw starter Tyler Barrett, who picked up his second win by tossing five-plus innings and striking out six batters while allowing just one earned run, and three in total.

"I felt really loose coming in. I just tried to mostly stay calm and just go with what felt right," Barrett said of facing batters of whom he had absolutely no knowledge. "The biggest thing of all was that my batters backed me up. That really built up my confidence and made me feel more comfortable going after their batters."

Barrett had just one hiccup in the

third inning, where a couple of walks and an error contributed to all of Dawson's runs.

But he settled down and continued to throw well even into the sixth inning, during which he turned the ball over to the CSI bullpen to finish it off. And the duo of Brandon Henn and Zane Gray did exactly that, holding Dawson hitless over the final four innings to negate the fact that the Buccaneers held CSI batters without a hit after the third inning.

"That glaring factoid was the major thing Walker took from the game, despite the great start."

"It's always nice to get off to good start and get the win, but we got out early and just kind of fell asleep. It was one of those things where we did just enough to win the game," Walker said. "We got all of our hits in

the first three innings and then fell asleep over the last five, and that's what I took out of the game. But as a coach, I always want more."

CSI hopes to continue the momentum built Monday against Treasu Valley Community College, which knocked off the Golden Eagles 5-2 in Ontario, Ore., last week. The nine-inning game at the Skip gets started at 6 p.m. today.

CSI 8, Dawson 4

CSI: 2007-08: 14-13
 Dawson: 0-3
 CSI batting: Deacon 1, Wolff 2, Chism 2, Jensen 2, Deacon 1, Wolff 1, Chism 1, Jensen 1
 Dawson batting: Henn 1, Gray 1
 CSI pitching: Barrett 5.0 IP, 3 H, 0 R, 1 ER, 14 SO
 Dawson pitching: Henn 4.0 IP, 5 H, 2 R, 2 ER, 4 SO
 CSI fielding: Deacon 1, Wolff 1, Chism 1, Jensen 1
 Dawson fielding: Henn 1, Gray 1
 CSI base runs: Deacon 1, Wolff 1, Chism 1, Jensen 1
 Dawson base runs: Henn 1, Gray 1
 CSI errors: 0
 Dawson errors: 1
 CSI manager: Steve Skowronski
 Dawson manager: Steve Skowronski

Locked and loaded

CSI women eager for national tournament opener

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

SALINA, Kan. — Tera Tremayne's capacity for preparation reached its upper limit Monday afternoon.

Nine days had passed since the sophomore guard and the 30-2 College of Southern Idaho women's basketball team locked up the NCAA Division I Region 18 title and began focusing on this week's national tournament in Salina, Kan.

Nine days. Over the past three months, Tremayne and the seventh-seeded Golden Eagles were never more than six days removed from their next game. Monday afternoon, however, there had already been eight practices, that long two-day trip and a 30-minute shoot-around on the Bicentennial Center hardwood since CSI's regional victory over North Idaho College.

With the tournament banquet and NCAA Hall of Fame induction show in the way to attend and a nightly team meeting awaiting, Tremayne voiced a sentiment many of her Golden Eagles teammates would echo Monday night.

"Man, I just want to play," she said. Tremayne and the Golden Eagles will get their long-awaited national tournament debut at 1 p.m. MDT, against a 29-4 Walters State Community College (Tenn.) squad during the first round of national tournament play.

While it might stand to reason that



College of Southern Idaho guard Tera Tremayne looks for an open teammate in a game against the College of Eastern Utah earlier this season.

a 1,131-mile trip, a practice at the University of Wyoming's cavernous Arena-Auditorium and the annual tournament meet and greet that starts Sunday and extends through Monday night would conspire to create a distracting environment for a team with no national tournament experience, the exact opposite seems

true of the Golden Eagles. They're here to play basketball, and they can't wait to do it. "We're going to try to go for the title since we're here," Tremayne said. "The top teams in the nation are here, but we know we can play with them. We beat Monroe (N.Y.) and we know we can play with

Central Arizona." The immediate task at hand will be opposing Walters State's efficient dribble penetration attack. After reviewing game tape of the Senators' 66-64 Region 7 victory over Southwest Tennessee, CSI head

Please see CSI, Page B6

Familiar faces atop women's tourney

By Doug Feinberg
Associated Press writer

Connecticut's four seniors have never been to the Final Four. To get there before their college careers end, the Huskies must potentially get past Big East rival Rutgers in the Greensboro Regional.

The No. 1 seeded Huskies (32-1) will open against No. 16 Cornell on Sunday in Bridgeport, Conn.

Other No. 1 seeds are North Carolina, Tennessee and Maryland.

Connecticut, ranked atop the AP poll for 12 of the final 13 weeks, is hoping to get to the Final Four for the first time since 2004. The Huskies lost to LSU in the regional final last season.

"Connecticut being the overall No. 1 got first shot at regional selection," committee chair Judy Southard said. "As we moved on through placing the teams in the bracket, when we got to Rutgers they also were shipped to Greensboro."

"We spent quite a bit of time studying that and trying to find a way to avoid that happening. Once we really got to analyzing it, we got to an impasse if we were to protect the balance of the bracket."

If the Huskies don't get to the Final Four — April 6-8 in Tampa, Fla. — it will be the first Connecticut senior class in 20 years to not have played in at least the national semifinals.

2 seed Rutgers handed Connecticut its lone loss during the season, beating the Huskies on Feb. 5 in a Big East matchup. Rutgers rolls in the national championship game last season to Tennessee.

"With so many teams to choose from it's kind of ironic," Connecticut coach Geno Auletta said. "I guess Rutgers is the number-eight seed in the country? I find that hard to believe, but I guess they are. If I were them, I'd be questioning a little bit why it's going on."

Other games in the Greensboro regional are No. 8 Texas vs. No. 9 Minnesota, No. 5 Old Dominion vs. No. 12 Liberty, No. 4 Virginia vs. No. 13 UC Santa Barbara, No. 6 George Washington vs. No. 11 Auburn, No. 3 California vs. No. 14 San Diego, No. 7 Iowa State vs. No. 10 Georgia Tech, and No. 2 Rutgers vs. No. 15 Robert Morris.

Defending champion Tennessee is the top seed in the Oklahoma City regional. The Lady Vols' bid for back-to-back national championships begins Sunday against Oral Roberts.

Others in the Oklahoma City regional are No. 8 Utah

Please see TOURNEY, Page B2

Louisville worried about both Boise State, loaded East

By Will Graves
Associated Press writer

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — On the surface, Louisville's two-game skid to end the season didn't hurt the Cardinals, who are a No. 3 seed in the East Region in the NCAA tournament.

Don't tell that to coach Rick Pitino, who sees nothing but roadblocks between his team and another Final Four appearance.

"Somebody said to me, 'You'd have to play (North) Carolina,'" Pitino said of a potential meeting in the final night. "We should only be so lucky." The Cardinals' (24-8) open the tournament on Friday against Boise State in Birmingham, Ala. Though the Broncos are making their first tournament appearance in 14 years, they start four seniors and play the kind of uptempo basketball that has caused Louisville problems.

Pitino likened the Broncos to Brigham Young, which beat the Cardinals 76-76 in November. Louisville played that game with

out injured seniors David Padgett and Juan Palacios. They're both healthy now, leaving Pitino optimistic despite two tough losses — one to Georgetown in the regular season finale, the other to Pittsburgh in the Big East tournament quarterfinals — that blunted the momentum they built during an undefeated February.

"We feel great about our team," Pitino said. "Even in losses we've played good. The other night against Pittsburgh we played a terrific game, except in overtime we took four challenged shots, which got us behind and eventually led to our 'clense'."

Though they've shot just 41 percent from the field in their last three games, Pitino refuses to say the Cardinals are in a slump. "We're not a great shooting team,"

he said. "With us it's about execution."

Shooting the ball with a little bit of confidence would help, something Padgett knows his teammates can't afford to lose this late in the season.

"I try to tell these guys, 'The next one's going in. And that's how you have to think about it,'" Padgett said. "If you miss a couple in a row you can't start getting tight and nervous and start changing your form."

The Broncos won the Western Athletic Conference tournament by beating New Mexico State in triple-overtime on Saturday. They're averaging 82 points per game and don that can make them a nightmare to defend. "They're a veteran ballclub, the toughest first-round matchup I've had since I've been coaching," Pitino said. "Even with potential games against

Oklahoma, Tennessee and North Carolina on the horizon, Pitino said he's not worried about the Cardinals looking ahead. He's got all the proof of how hard the first round can be on videotape in his office.

Four years ago, Pitino remembers fans leaving a selection show party in a rage when the Cardinals — who won the Conference USA title that season — were dropped to a No. 4 seed. They played like a team in an opening round game against Louisiana-Lafayette, holding on for a 68-62 win.

The Cardinals know they can't afford to be similarly distracted against the Broncos.

"It is a lot more serious now, so everything before this is thrown out the window," said guard Andre McGee. "All the mistakes we had and all the losses, none of that really counts."

"Everyone is thrown into the same boat and everybody has the same opportunity."



MEN'S COLLEGE BASKETBALL March Madness begins tonight

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — Fifty-eight teams in the NCAA tournament field of 65 have won at least 20 games. Only one has lost that many.

At least Coppin State is unique. The Eagles will be the first team to start the NCAA tournament with 20 losses, when they take on Mount St. Mary's in the opening-round game Tuesday night.

"We're definitely not looking at their record to see how good they are," Mount St. Mary's coach Milan Brown said Monday. "They're going to be a tough test."

At one point this season, Coppin State lost 17 of 18 games and was 4-19. But the Eagles finished with a rush, winning 12 of their final 13 games, including the Mid-Eastern Conference tourna-

ment championship, and earning an automatic NCAA bid.

Coppin State, from Baltimore, won the conference championship by beating Morgan State 62-60, from Emmitsburg, Md., won the Northeast Conference tournament, beating Sacred Heart 68-55.

The Mountaineers are making their third NCAA appearance and first since 1999. Coppin State is making its fourth appearance and first since 1997.

Mount St. Mary's is 3-0 against Coppin State, and the two teams haven't met since 1984. The winner of Tuesday's game will face top-seed and No. 1-ranked North Carolina in the East regional in Raleigh, N.C.

Georgia's amazing run leaves under- fire coach speechless

ATLANTA (AP) — Dennis Felton had nothing to say Monday, which was certainly understandable.

No one could blame the Georgia coach for being speechless about his team's improbable, inspiring, unprecedented run through the Southeastern Conference tournament.

Actually, though, Felton's silent treatment wasn't by choice.

"He has no voice, not even a little gravel," assistant coach Pete Hurrmann said. "He's trying to get that back."

Better hurry, coach. There's another game to play on Thursday.

Georgia (17-16) is heading to the NCAAAs for the first time since 2002, a seemingly lost season turned upside down when the Bulldogs won the SEC tournament and an automatic bid.

To call it a miracle might be a bit of a stretch. But not by much.

"You're talking about one of the more incredible stories in college basketball this season, maybe the best," Florida coach Billy Donovan marveled. "Their story is the kind of thing you talk about when you go out to give motivational speeches, when you have a mountain to climb and don't think you can climb it. The mountain they climbed as a program, as a team, is truly remarkable."

The story will be told for years to come: A last-place team and a coach fighting for his job win their first game on a shot which drops with less than a second to go in overtime. Then, while waiting to play the following night, a tornado rips through the Georgia Dome on its destructive march through downtown Atlanta. The game is postponed and the tournament is hastily moved to a much-smaller coliseum at nearby Georgia Tech — the Bulldogs' bitter in-state rival.

From there, it only gets better. Much to Felton's chagrin, the SEC draws up a new schedule that has one team playing a doubleheader Saturday that sets out to beat Georgia, which beats Kentucky for the first time ever in the conference tournament, again going to OT. The Bulldogs sneak in a nap, then return six hours later to knock off Mississippi State, which won the SEC West.

Georgia catches a bit of a break when regular-season champ Tennessee is eliminated in the semifinals, but there's still NCAA-bound Arkansas waiting in the championship game. Playing their third game in less than 28 hours, the Bulldogs race out to an early 19-point lead and hold on to win the conference tourney

for the first time since 1983.

Next up is third-seeded Xavier in the opening round of the NCAAAs.

The victory was especially meaningful to Georgia's coaches, assistants and Dave Bliss. Both were there at the beginning of a massive rebuilding job, and it looked as though their gritty careers would end without even a sniff of the NCAA tournament. No wonder they looked so happy during the celebration.

Herrmann also remembered a player who wasn't there. Kevin Brophy was supposed to be part of this senior class, but he was killed two summers ago in a car accident.

In a sense, this makes up for the NCAA tournament Georgia missed in 2003. The Bulldogs won 19 games that year and surely would have received a postseason bid, but allegations of major wrongdoing began to emerge early in the season. Coach Jim Harrick's son sent illicit payments to a player, and also taught a sham course that turned Georgia into a laughingstock.

"For those who might have forgotten it, the class of '03 had 'Coaching Principles and Strategies of Basketball,' which included such strenuous questions on its final exam as 'How many halves are in a college basketball game?' and 'How many points does a 3-point field goal account for in a basketball game?'"

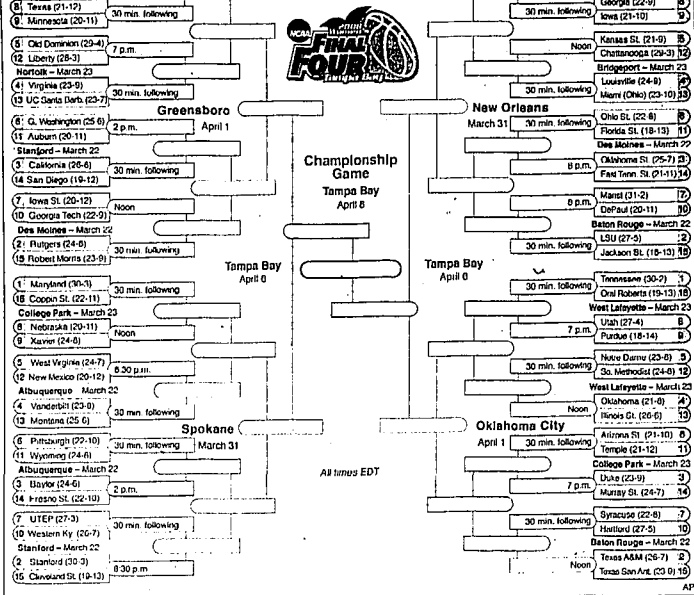
Harrick lost his job and the Bulldogs landed on NCAA probation. Enter Felton, who came from Western Kentucky with a mandate to clean things up.

"Dennis inherited one of the biggest messes that has ever been inherited," Vanderbilt coach Kevin Stallings said. "What he's done there under very adverse circumstances is extremely admirable." It wasn't easy. The Bulldogs bottomed out at 8-20 in Felton's second season. They managed 19 wins a year ago and played in the NIT, raising hopes of a breakthrough season. But, in keeping with his no-nonsense nature, Felton kicked two of his best players off the team for breaking team rules. Another player quit and two promising freshmen were lost to injury.

In one of eight scholarship players, Georgia staggered through a 13-16 regular season and finished last in the SEC East. Going into the conference tournament, there was plenty of speculation that Felton's next job would be his last with the Bulldogs.

Not anymore. Not after that amazing weekend in Atlanta.

Women's Division I Basketball Championship



Tourney

Continued from page B1

vs. No. 3 Purdue, No. 5 Notre Dame vs. No. 12 Southern Methodist, No. 4 Oklahoma vs. No. 13 Illinois State, No. 6 Arizona State vs. No. 11 Temple, No. 3 Duke vs. No. 14 Murray State, No. 7 Syracuse vs. No. 10 Hartford, and No. 2 Texas A&M vs. No. 15 Texas-San Antonio.

North Carolina earned the top seed in the New Orleans Regional. The Tar Heels open on Sunday against No. 16 Bucknell. The Tar Heels ran through the Atlantic Coast Conference undefeated. Their only two losses came against Tennessee and Connecticut.

Other games in the New Orleans regional are No. 8 Georgia vs. No. 9 Iowa, No. 5

Kansas State vs. No. 12 Chattanooga, No. 4 Louisville vs. No. 13 Miami, Ohio, No. 6 Ohio State vs. No. 11 Florida State, No. 3 Oklahoma State vs. No. 14 East Tennessee State vs. No. 7 Marist vs. No. 10 DePaul, and No. 12 LSU vs. No. 15 Jackson State.

LSU has reached the Final Four the past four seasons.

Despite losing in the ACC tournament semifinals to Duke, Maryland is the top seed in the Spokane regional. The Terrapins will face Coppin State in the first round on Sunday.

"I tell you, we're ecstatic," said Maryland coach Brenda Frese of the No. 1 seed. "We obviously feel like you play the entire season for this

moment. The fact that our non-conference schedule really prepared us for, now to play in one of the toughest conferences, to go 30-3, I think it's a tribute to our team and to our program, just how hard we worked throughout the course of the season."

Frese delivered twin boys in late February, but is back as the Terrapins seek their second national championship in three seasons.

Others in the Spokane regional are No. 8 Nebraska vs. No. 9 Xavier, No. 5 West Virginia vs. No. 12 West Virginia, No. 4 Vanderbilt vs. No. 13 Montana, No. 6 Pittsburgh vs. No. 11 Wyoming, No. 3 Baylor vs. No. 14 Fresno State, No. 7 UTEP

NBA

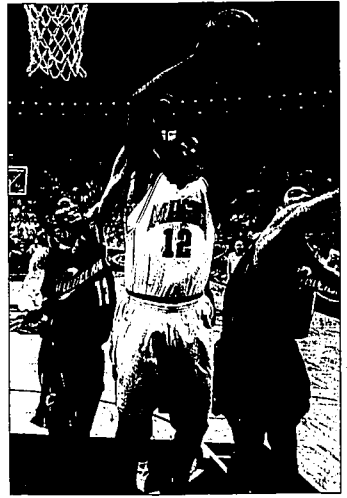
Howard lifts Magic past LeBron, Cleveland

ORLANDO, Fla. — Dwight Howard had 23 points and 13 rebounds. Rashard Lewis scored 21 and the Orlando Magic beat the Cleveland Cavaliers 104-90 on Monday.

LeBron James had 30 points, nine rebounds and six assists for Cleveland. Delonte West had 16 points and Sasha Pavlovic added 14.

The Magic made their mark from long range, including five 3-pointers in a four-minute stretch of the third quarter. Orlando was 14-for-32 on 3s, compared with 6-for-19 for the Cavaliers, and got 20 points off 15 Cleveland turnovers in its fifth straight win.

Hedo Turkoglu had 18 points and seven rebounds and Maurice Evans had 10 points for Orlando. Jameer Nelson had seven assists but only six points on 2-for-12 shooting.



Orlando Magic center Dwight Howard (12) goes up for a dunk before Cleveland Cavaliers guard Delonte West (13) and center Anderson Varejao, right, during Monday's game in Orlando, Fla.

JAZZ 96, RAPTORS 79

SALT LAKE CITY — Deron Williams scored 21 points and his backup, Ronnie Price, had 13 points and five assists as Utah tied a franchise record with their 19th straight home victory.

With the game tied at 65, Price led the Jazz to a 24-4 run to start the fourth quarter. He had two driving layups, two assists and some pesky defense on Toronto's T.J. Ford. Carlos Boozer had 13 points and 10 rebounds as the Jazz matched the 19-game home winning streak they had from Jan. 19-March 29, 1996.

left ankle. Sam Cassell had 17 points. He gave Boston its first lead of the fourth quarter with 46 seconds left when he hit a 3-pointer to make it 89-87.

Manu Ginobili had 32 points to lead the Spurs, who lost their season-high fourth straight.

Tony Parker added 17 points and Tim Duncan scored 10.

third straight win and move them one-half game ahead of idle New Jersey for eighth place in the Eastern Conference.

PACERS 110, KNICKS 98

INDIANAPOLIS — Mike Dunleavy tied his career high with 36 points, and the Indiana Pacers beat the New York Knicks 110-98 Monday night.

Danny Granger had 26 points and 11 rebounds, and Troy Murphy added 13 points and 10 rebounds for the Pacers, who snapped a two-game losing streak.

GRIZZLIES 98, ROYALS 80

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — Mike Miller had 18 points and 13 rebounds, helping the Grizzlies snap a four-game losing streak.

Juan Carlos Navarro led Memphis with 21 points. Hakim Warrick scored 19 and Marko Milic added 11 points and 10 rebounds.

HORNETS 106, BULLS 97

NEW ORLEANS — Chris Paul had game highs of 37 points and 13 assists for the Hornets, who outscored Chicago 33-13 in the fourth quarter.

Paul made an open 3-pointer with 2:47 left to tie it 96-96. After a steal by Jannero Pargo on the next possession, Paul found Tyson Chandler for a thundering alley-oop dunk to give the Hornets their first lead since half time.

Bonzi Wells, who scored 19 points, added two free throws and a dunk in the next two possessions to seal the Hornets' victory.

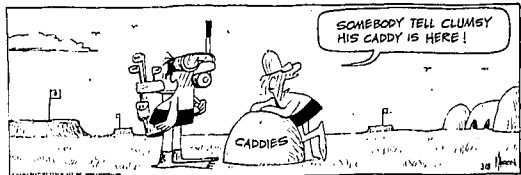
TIMBERWOLVES 99, CLIPPERS 90

MINNEAPOLIS — Al Jefferson had his 48th double-double with 22 points and 14 rebounds and Ryan Gomes scored 19 points for Minnesota, which won for the fourth time in six games and moved past Seattle into fourth place in the Northwest Division.

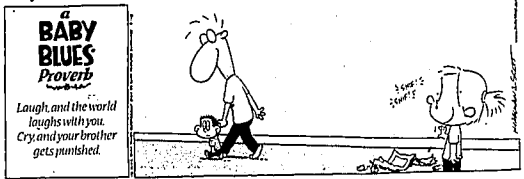
Jefferson trails only Orlando's Dwight Howard among NBA leaders in that category.

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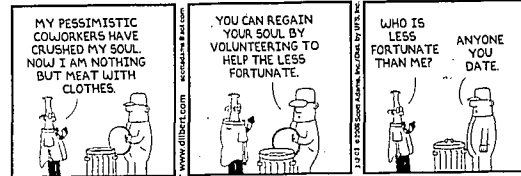
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The Elderberries By Phil Frank and Joe Tronise



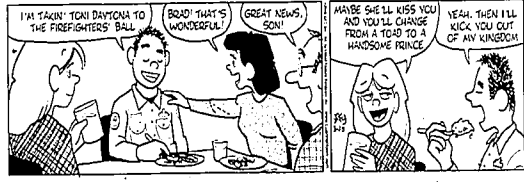
For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston



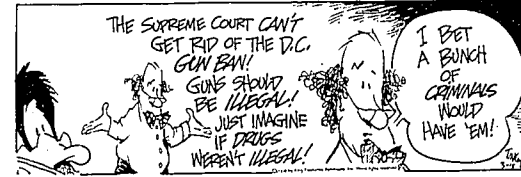
Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves



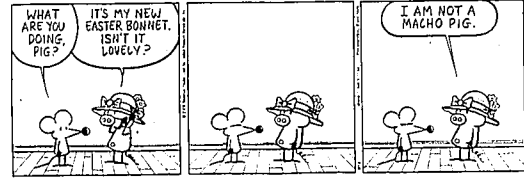
Luann By Greg Evans



Mallard Fillmore By Bruce Tinsley



Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis



Pickles By Brian Crane



Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady



Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Wisdom could be your middle name, Gemini

IF MARCH 18 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Prepare for a few weeks of mystifying celestial weather through July. You may be working extra hours or following a path that leads to a dead end. Get all your loose ends sewn up so that when opportunity knocks in October and November, you will be ready to rock 'n' roll. Problems that develop in the spring should evaporate under a steady dose of good luck in the late fall. You will be wiser than usual in the autumn and can safely make life-altering decisions or meet a significant someone who has your best interests at heart.

HOROSCOPE Jeraldine Saunders

to rest by the sidelines. Don't get swept up in a new enthusiasm under these stars. CANCER (June 21-July 22): Stick to your current objectives. It's not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game. Scrupulous and an ethical outlook will keep you from making a serious mistake. This is a good time to ask someone for valuable advice. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You may note that other people make a bundle of money through a certain investment — but your own timing might not be appropriate. Get more information.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): If you are overly involved in delving into the secrets that perplex you, there is a chance that you will offend someone who is counting on you to do something else. Don't get sidetracked. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Cover up. Naked truths are never a pretty sight. A significant other might give you a good idea or valuable advice. Someone may sweeten criticism by presenting it with a philosophical viewpoint. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Other people who are older and wiser than you might offer beneficial nuggets of wisdom sifted from years of experience. Hold your ambitions in check. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Be listening rather than conspiring. You can cut an elegant figure if you keep your financial plans and arrangements aboveboard. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Avoid landing on the wrong side of the boat and a companion might win you supremacy over a financial matter. Weighty questions require expert advice rather than action. Maintain a low profile.

Non Sequitur By Wiley



Strange Brew By John Deering



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom, & Chip



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



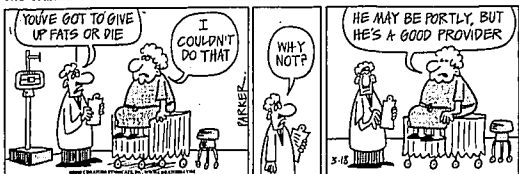
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



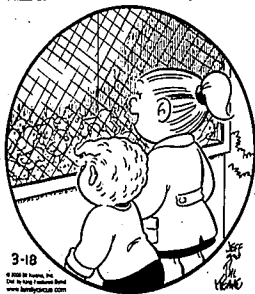
Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



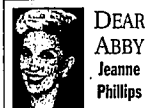
THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Help for hoarder is available from many different sources

DEAR ABBY: Your reply to the letter from "Troubled in Colorado" (Jan. 10), regarding "Meg," a compulsive hoarder, missed one important point. Hoarding is treatable. I am a code compliance officer and encounter these situations frequently.



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

Hoarding is known by several other names — Pack Rat Syndrome, collecting, etc. — but it is considered to be a form of OCD, which is highly treatable once you convince the person to get treatment. Sufferers are usually aware they have a problem, but ashamed to let anyone know. This problem crosses all social and economic boundaries. People with it are often highly intelligent, otherwise normal people. They just need help, and it is available. Many areas have support groups to help.

— JUDY JONES MURIELLA, CALIE
DEAR JUDY: Thank you for writing. Yes, as with many other problems, help is available — if those who need it will only reach out. People with OCD can be helped through therapy, drugs, experts and organizations.

One such organization is the Obsessive Compulsive Foundation. It is best accessed through its Web site, www.ocfoundation.org. Its phone number is (617) 973-5801. It offers referrals to local groups across the United States. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: "Troubled in

Colorado" should call her county social services office. Most states have a senior adult services office that could help the woman in that letter take care of her needs. Hoarding is often a sign of self-neglect, and that's something these officers often deal with. They can refer her to providers who can help her clean her place.

If she has a mental health issue, the senior services worker would also help her find counseling or a doctor to deal with her challenge in discarding things.

— C.R. MAHONEY AGENCY ON AGING CLEVELAND

DEAR READERS: FYI, your local Area Agency on Aging can be reached at (800) 697-1116 or at www.eldercare.gov, and has expertise in handling such matters.

DEAR ABBY: I'm responding to "Troubled in Colorado," who was trying to decide what to do about the poor living conditions she found in her sick co-worker's house. I work in a hospital, and what I have seen under similar circumstances is that EMS will report living conditions like the one she

described to the receiving ER, which will likely get a case manager involved, along with treating the patient's medical problems. The woman sounds like she has significant OCD that needs to be addressed.

— J.R.G. IN CRANSTON R.I.

DEAR ABBY: As a professional organizer for more than 10 years, I have seen it all. "Meg," the woman in that letter, is a hoarder, which can be caused by depression. Any professional organizer should be able to help her get organized. But she also needs professional help to get to the bottom of her depression. The condition of her house is a symptom of her problem, and any professional organizer who deals with hoarders can help her.

— LESLIE J. NEW BRITAIN, CONN.

DEAR ABBY: My sisters found me in similar circumstances. The dirty living quarters, not reaching out for help — these are all too common among people with major depressive disorder. The past year has been difficult, but with the help of my family, my therapist and the right medication, I'm doing well. You were right, Abby, when you said "Troubled" needs to let the hospital know, so "Meg" can get the help she needs.

— DOING BETTER IN MILWAUKEE

THOUGHT

"No man has a right in America to treat any other man tolerantly, for tolerance is the assumption of superiority."

— Wendell Willkie, American politician (1892-1944)

Free Concert!

Sea Chanters

chorus

The United States Navy Band
Washington, D.C.

Thursday, April 3, 2008 at 7:30 pm
CSI Fine Arts Auditorium

Sponsored by:

Times-News
magicalvalley.com

UNITED STATES NAVY BAND
WASHINGTON, D.C.

To obtain free tickets, clip and enclose this coupon with a self-addressed/stamped envelope to:
Times-News Navy Chorus
P.O. Box 548 • Twin Falls, ID 83303

Please circle the number of tickets needed: 1 2 3 4

Ticket requests not to be completed by a self-addressed, stamped envelope will not be filled.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of rain or mixed rain and snow showers. Highs lower 50s.
Tonight: Generally cloudy. Perhaps a brief shower in the area. Lows middle 30s.
Tomorrow: Cloudy with a chance of scattered mainly rain showers. Highs lower 50s.

BURLEW/RUPERT FORECAST

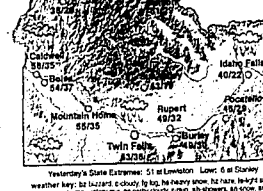
Today: Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of rain or mixed rain and snow showers. Highs upper 40s.
Tonight: Generally cloudy. Perhaps a brief rain or snow shower in the area. Lows near 30.
Tomorrow: Cloudy with a chance of scattered mainly rain showers. Highs around 50.

IDAHO FORECAST

SUN VALLEY SURROUNDING MTS.
Mostly cloudy with scattered snow showers.
Snow shower activity may back off a bit tonight, but scattered snow showers will return again Wednesday.

Today Highs 34 to 48 Tonight's Lows 14 to 19
BOISE Scattered rain showers will be possible today. Showers will become less likely tonight, but chances increase for Wednesday.

NORTHERN UTAH
Today will see a slight chance of rain and snow showers. Scattered rain and snow showers will be possible tonight and into Wednesday.



REGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY
Acceptance comes from meeting life's challenges vigorously.
I want to see you triumph over your trials and difficulties, and I want to see your material walls to exclude pain from your life.

TWIN FALLS 5-DAY FORECAST

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

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity. Includes barometric pressure and sunrise/sunset times.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table listing weather forecasts for various cities in the Pacific Northwest region.

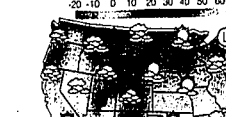
NATIONAL FORECAST

Table listing weather forecasts for various cities across the United States.

WORLD FORECAST

Table listing weather forecasts for various cities in Europe, Asia, and other regions.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



CANADIAN FORECAST

Table listing weather forecasts for various cities in Canada.

MOON PHASES

Table showing moon phases for the current month, including Full Moon, New Moon, and other phases.

Yesterday's Weather

Table listing weather data for various cities from the previous day, including high/low temperatures and precipitation.

Sunrise and Sunset

Table listing sunrise and sunset times for various cities.

U.V. INDEX

Table listing UV index levels for various cities.

TENNIS
Davenport outlasts Chan; Nadal, Blake advance at Indian Wells

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (AP) — Defending champion Rafael Nadal defeated Donald Young in their first meeting, and James Blake evened his record against familiar foe Carlos Moya in third-round matches Monday at the Pacific Life Open.
Nadal beat his 18-year-old American opponent 6-1, 6-2. Blake took a methodical 6-3, 6-4 victory over Moya.
Two-time women's title winner Lindsay Davenport bounced back from a second-set loss to defeat Chan Yung-jan 6-4, 5-7, 6-2. Ana Ivanovic, ranked No. 2 and the top seed since Justine Henin is skipping the tournament, advanced with a 6-3, 6-0 win over Tatjana Gardin.
The 21-year-old Nadal, second in the rankings to Roger Federer, benefited from Young's inconsistency.
Although he was able to match Nadal stroke-for-stroke in some rallies and also hit several hard winners

that brought roars from the crowd, Young's inexperience was evident at other times.
After hitting a routine forehand out of a long rally in the second set, Young slammed his racket to the ground in frustration. Soon after he banged an overhand volley into the net, shaking his head at missing the easy shot.
Young won just seven of 17 points when he went to the net and Nadal was 6-of-7. Young made 38 unforced errors, 13 more than Nadal.
Although just some three years older than Young, three-time French Open champion Nadal obviously has a huge edge in experience.
"Well, I think he's young," Nadal said, describing how the match went. "I think he started very nervous. So I tried to score in the beginning, and he had some mistakes."
Young agreed.
"Obviously I was really nervous," he said. "It's not the first time I played in front of a lot of people, but it's the first time I played No. 2 in the world."
Asked if his nerves had calmed down by the second set, Young said, "Yeah, losing 1-6. I think they go away. But overall, it was pretty decent."
The 28-year-old Blake, at No. 9 the highest-ranking U.S. player remaining in the tournament since No. 6 Andy Roddick was eliminated a day earlier, won for the sixth time in 12 career meetings against Moya, the former No. 1 now ranked 19th.
"We know each other's games really well," Blake said. "I've had a lot of tough matches with him. So I was really happy with getting through in two sets, and either way just getting the win was something I was proud of."
Davenport often seemed her own worst enemy in the match against



James Blake returns a ball during his victory over Carlos Moya on Monday at Indian Wells, Calif.
Chan, the 31-year-old Davenport, former No. 1, had to overcome 48 unforced errors, 20 more than her 18-year-old opponent from Taipei.

CSI

Continued from page B1
coach Randy Rogers knows his team will need to play the defensive basketball against its 10th-seeded opponent.
"We're going to have to make sure we really help each other and do the little things like sliding over on defense and boxing out," Rogers said.
The Golden Eagles will enter today's game close to full strength, though a portion of the team is suffering through a minor cold. Freshman post Maddy Plunkett was the hardest hit by the illness, but was able to attend all of Monday's events with little trouble.
Though the illness gives Rogers some cause for worry, Monday's shoot-around was a positive after-subpar practices in Laramie, Wyo., and Salina.
The Golden Eagles shot fairly well in their introduction to the Bicentennial Center, as the openness of the arena didn't seem to hamper CSI's perimeter shooters.
"I was thinking it was going to be very different but it was as bad as I thought it would be," Tremayne said. "Coach Rogers said it was going to be bigger and mess with our perspective, but it didn't really bother me today."
In his third appearance at the national tournament, Rogers is trying to remind his players, along with himself, to take the experience in. At the same time, Rogers wants his team to enjoy the experience without being Kansas sight-seers come the tournament's latter rounds.
Reaching Saturday's final round of play will require

NCAA Division I Women's Basketball National Championship

Table listing the schedule for the NCAA Division I Women's Basketball National Championship, including dates, times, and locations for various rounds.

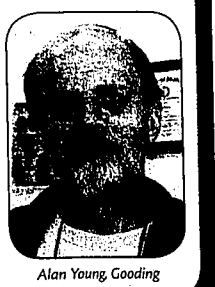
Can't get to Kansas?

There are a number of ways to keep up with NCAA nationals, even for those not in Salina, Kan., this week.
CSI's games will be broadcast live by Ken Simmons on 1270 AM KTR and simulcast online at http://athletics.csi.edu on the "Listen Live" link.
Live statistics of every tournament game will be available at http://www.bicentennial.org/ncaa/nationalchampionship.htm under the link "Click here for live stats during each game."
An audio stream of every tournament game will be available at http://www.kstl.com by hovering over the "Sports" tab at the top of the screen and clicking the "Live Play by Play" link from the drop-down menu.
Breaking news updates of each CSI tournament game will be available at www.magicvalley.com.

Patient Spotlight

"Just talking about how much better I can hear gives me goose bumps!"

"I work in the forest, and after I got my new Widex Inteo hearing aids I could hear the pine cones falling from the trees, the water flowing in the streams and the birds singing. It's phenomenal!
Life is wonderful again. Just talking about how much better I can hear gives me goose bumps! Many thanks, Fritz and Inteo from Widex. You both get an A+."
If you want to hear better, call the people at Professional Hearing Aid Services."



Advertisement for Professional Hearing Aid Services, featuring the Widex logo, contact information for Twin Falls and Burley, and a testimonial from Alan Young, Gooding.

Stocks mixed on Bear Stearns news

(AP) Wall Street ended a temperamental session widely mixed Monday after investors grappled with JPMorgan Chase & Co.'s government-backed buyout of the stricken investment bank Bear Stearns Cos.

Dow Jones Industrials 11,972.25

Nasdaq composite 2,177.01

Standard & Poor's 500 1,276.60

Russell 2000 650.48

Maglev 11.54

Maglev 1.28

Maglev 1.28

Maglev 1.28

For a complete stock listing, go to Maglevvalley.com

BUSINESS

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

INSIDE: Fill in the blanks to complete today's puzzle, CB

2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
					15		
					10		

C
TUESDAY
MARCH 18, 2008

INSIDE: Mutual funds and commodities, C2 | Classifieds, C3-8 | Sudoku, C3 | Jumble, C5

Sound familiar? Fed set to cut interest rate again

Also approves emergency loans to investment houses

By Jeanine Aversa
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve is primed to aggressively cut a key interest rate even lower today, racing to contain spreading financial fires that threaten an economic meltdown.

With the quick collapse of the investment bank Bear Stearns, fears are mounting about whether other financial companies may fail. Many believe the country has already sunk into recession and all the problems — if not contained — will deepen and prolong the pain.

The Fed, in a bold action on Sunday, agreed for the first

time to let big investment houses get emergency loans directly from the central bank. The new lending facility is similar to one that's been available to commercial banks for years — started Monday and will continue for at least six months. It marked the broadest use of the Fed's lending authority since the 1930s.

Also Sunday, the Fed approved a \$30 billion credit

line to engineer the takeover of Bear Stearns.

"The Fed is on high alert — something you don't see but once every quarter century, may be, in this case, since the Great Depression. This is a very unusual period," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Moody's Economy.com.

That's because the Fed is having to fight multiple battles at the same time: a housing collapse, a severe credit

crunch and Wall Street turmoil that threatens the stability of the entire U.S. financial system. All these problems feed on each other, creating a vicious cycle that can be hard for the Fed and other Washington policymakers to break. The weight of those troubles is like a millstone on the nation's economy.

"Now the issue is fighting the deeper recession," said Brian Bethune, economist at

Global Insight. "It has kind of moved to another level. The fires are spreading," he said.

To limit the damage, Bernanke and his colleagues may ratchet down a key interest rate, now at 3 percent, by as much as a full percentage point, to 2 percent, which would put that rate at the lowest it has been since late 2004. Because that rate

Please see **FED**, Page C2

Water watchers guardedly optimistic

More precipitation needed for adequate irrigation

By Cindy Snyder
For the Times-News

Grain drills are starting to roll across the Magic Valley, but water managers are hoping that winter hangs around a little longer.

After seeing near-record precipitation levels in January and early February, the storm pattern seemed to dry up in late February and early March.

"About a month ago, we thought some of our SNOTEL sites were under reporting the snowpack," said Ron Abramovich, a hydrologist with the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation

Please see **WATER**, Page C2

Who's next to fail?

With JPMorgan deal to rescue Bear Stearns, market wonders which investment bank could be the next to go

By Joe Bruno
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — With a deal in place to save Bear Stearns from bankruptcy, the company's shares traded above the offer price Monday even as investors began turning a critical eye to other investment banks amid worries about how far the credit contagion could spread.

Despite the weekend agreement for JPMorgan Chase & Co. to buy Bear Stearns for a fraction of its value last week, worries that other banks had sizable exposure to troubled credit markets sent global markets tumbling. The uncertainty was evident on Wall Street, where the Dow Jones Industrials sank by more than 100 points.

At Bear Stearns' 17-story headquarters in midtown Manhattan, many employees said they still couldn't believe that the nation's fifth-largest investment bank is — essentially — out of business.

"Employees said there was no meeting to inform employees about what was happening."

"It's my first job out of school. I thought it was a big company — it would be good experience," said Ki Byung, who works for a division of Bear Stearns. "Now after a couple of months something like this happens."

Instead of making money, Bear Stearns employees are fringed boxes of their personal belongings out of the investment bank JPMorgan managers filed into it for the first time from that bank's headquarters directly across the street. While no layoffs have been announced, analysts expect that they could be significant.

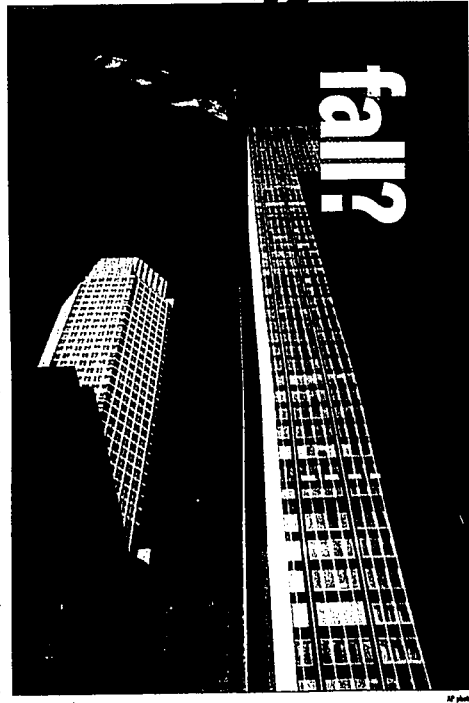
A complete collapse of Bear Stearns might have crushed the already-dividing confidence in the global financial system, which has frozen up after last year's troubles in the subprime mortgage market.

Bear Stearns was the most exposed to risky bets on the loans; it is now the first major bank to be undone by that market's collapse, but the fact that a major investment bank could reach the verge of buckling — and be sold at such a discount — sent dismay through Wall Street and beyond.

"One reaction is shock that a company that reaffirmed its book value at around \$94 on Wednesday can be worth \$2 per share four days later on Sunday," said Deutsche Bank analyst Mike Mayo.

While employees struggle to find any information they can, the financial industry wants to know exactly how badly Bear Stearns bet on mortgage-backed investments. Unraveling the nature of the biggest investment houses should provide some insight into what other financial institutions might have on their books.

With Bear Stearns seemingly gone, investors pondered who might be next. Lehman Brothers Holding Inc. stock fell more than 34 percent Monday, following a 15 percent drop on Friday amid con-



The headquarters for JP Morgan Chase, right, and Bear Stearns, left, are shown on Monday in New York. JP Morgan Chase said Sunday it will acquire rival Bear Stearns for a bargain-basement \$236.2 million, a stunning collapse for one of the world's largest and most storied investment banks.

Popcorn prices jumping

By John Horn
Los Angeles Times

LAS VEGAS — Global warming has had a strange effect on Hollywood, such as stars trading in their sports cars for hybrids and Al Gore hoisting an Oscar. But its latest effect might also be its corniest.

— the sellers of the nation's favorite movie snack say the salty tub soon will take a bigger bite out of your wallet when you're at the multiplex.

"The consumer will probably see an increase in popcorn prices pretty soon," said Carlton Smith, the chairman of Iowa's Jolly Time popcorn brand.

While the price hike probably will be modest, perhaps no more than 15 cents a serving, the rise is

Please see **PRICES**, Page C2

BUSINESS BRIEF

6th annual CSI Career Fair next week

The College of Southern Idaho will host the 6th annual CSI Career Fair from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 25.

The list of exhibitors will include more than 60 businesses, industries, and agencies ranging from manufacturing and retail to armed services and seasonal jobs.

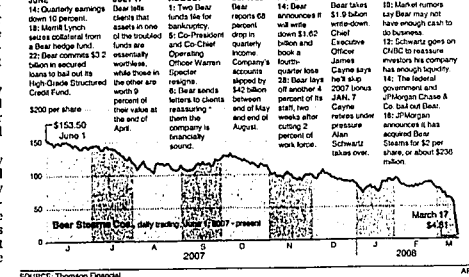
Major sponsors of the fair include Cactus Pete's, Glanbia, St. Luke's Magic

Valley Regional Medical Center, Idaho State University, the Times-News, APX Alarms, Nouveau Riche University, and the College of Southern Idaho.

The Career Fair is free of charge and open to the public. Refreshments will be available on site throughout the day. Businesses are invited to inquire about the limited number of display spaces still left for the event by calling 735-3269.

— from staff reports

Bearing down on a bailout



cerns it might be facing similar liquidity issues. Lehman Chief Executive Richard Fuld denied Monday that the firm was having such problems.

Bear Stearns shares fell \$26.32, or 87.7 percent, to \$3.68 — above the shocking low price of \$2 per share that JPMorgan Chase is paying.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	21.14	▼ .14	Dell Inc.	19.39	▼ .01	Idacorp	32.08	▲ .71
Lithia Mo.	9.68	▲ .05	Micron	6.02	▼ .12	Supervalu	27.78	▼ .16

COMMODITIES

Live cattle	89.23	▼ 1.3	April Oil	105.68	▼ 4.53
April gold	1102.6	▲ 3.1	March Silver	19.95	▼ 579

What to expect today in business

- WASHINGTON — Federal Open Market Committee meets to discuss interest rates.
- WASHINGTON — Commerce Department reports on housing starts for February.
- WASHINGTON — Labor Department reports on producer price index for February.

MUTUAL FUNDS

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

COMMODITIES REPORT

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

BEANS

Table of bean prices for various types like Pinto, Black, and Navy beans.

GRAINS

Table of grain prices including Wheat, Corn, and Soybeans.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ market activity.

INDEXES

Table of major market indices like Dow Jones, S&P 500, and Russell 2000.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Explanatory text for the Market Report section, detailing abbreviations and symbols used.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table of local stock prices for companies like Atlantic City and others.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table of local stock prices for companies like Atlantic City and others.

Water

Continued from page C1. Service in Boise. "The reality is we still need more snow in the high elevations. If it stops snowing now, we'll be eight to one hundred percent of average on April 1 peak is average, but it's not quite at the 106 percent of average that Abramovich calculated for the Upper Snake Basin needed to provide adequate snowmelt for projects that depend on the Snake River for irrigation water supplies.

"All the basins have exceeded last year's peak but are still less than two-thousand-six leches," Abramovich said. While basinwide numbers put the snowpack at 106 percent of average for March 1 across most of the state — something that doesn't often have — the snowpack is still slightly worrisome. That's because the low-elevation sites are at normal water levels, but the high elevations in north Idaho, for example, the low elevation snow is twice normal levels. But it's the high-elevation snow that sustains summer runoff. In the 2007 season, the snowpack was 30 inches of snow water equivalent — that's 200 to 300 inches of snow — loss about an inch of snow water equivalent each day during the melt season. That's why it takes so long for the snowpack to melt — it takes that keeps the streams running into the summer months. "It takes more water to melt a deeper snowpack," said Abramovich, who just flew over the Owyhee region in southwestern Idaho to check out the snowpack. "It's usually one of the first basins to begin melting in the state, but at 130 percent of average snowpack on March 1, it still probably won't start melting for another two weeks. That's good news for the rest of the state. "The longer we can keep the snow up there, the better off we'll be," Abramovich said. "If warm temperatures recently helped settle the snowpack — which had fallen as light, cold, fluffy snow — but a return to wet, colder weather is what's needed now. "I checked a SNOTEL site near Boise and found the site still needs another 4 to 5 inches of snow-water equivalent, which is 40 to 50 inches of snow. In March to reach the April peak. That's a tall order in March." Jay Briedenbach, a spokesman for the National Weather Service in Boise, said storm systems are on the way for the second part of March. He's expecting the pattern to bring snow to melt over the higher elevations across most of the state. "The second half of March will be wetter than the first half," he said. La Nina has dominated the weather over the past few years, bringing colder and wetter weather, but the 90-day outlook for spring is for equal chances of normal, above-normal or below-normal temperatures. "In a Nina in the spring is really not a good predictor of weather," Briedenbach said. "March is the last month when it really favors one thing or another."

Prices

Continued from page C1. inevitable and necessary, according to the popcorn providers and theater owners. "We're going to have a ShowWest, the annual convention of the National Association of Theater Owners, which ended Thursday. Movie audiences have long complained that prices are coming up along with chatty reviewers. In-theater advertising and the low quality of many new releases — have made watching movies at home often more attractive than going to theaters. While box-office grosses are rising because of higher ticket prices, with 2007's take totaling \$9.6 billion, annual admissions are essentially flat, hovering around 1.4 billion tickets sold each year. But if audiences worry that movie snacks are too expensive, they need to know those 55 buckets of popcorn is what keeps the average national admission price at \$7.77. Concession sales are a theater's lifeblood, accounting for as much as 45 percent of profits at the nation's largest chains. popcorn offers one of the biggest returns on investment for exhibitors because of its unpopcorned kernels used to make an entire bucket of popcorn cost just a few pennies.

Prices

Continued from page C1. affected a wide range of prices charged to millions of consumer and businesses, it is the Fed's most potent tool for reviving economic activity. If that happens, commercial banks' primary concern on certain credit cards, home equity lines of credit and other loans would drop by a corresponding amount to 5 percent, from 6 percent currently. The Fed's goal, since embarking on a cutting campaign in September, is to induce people and businesses to boost spending, thus bolstering the economy. However, with the panicky market that swept over investors, credit — even at a lower cost — has become harder and harder to get as financial institutions and others have become increasingly wary of business prospects.

Water

Continued from page C1. Service in Boise. "The reality is we still need more snow in the high elevations. If it stops snowing now, we'll be eight to one hundred percent of average on April 1 peak is average, but it's not quite at the 106 percent of average that Abramovich calculated for the Upper Snake Basin needed to provide adequate snowmelt for projects that depend on the Snake River for irrigation water supplies.

"All the basins have exceeded last year's peak but are still less than two-thousand-six leches," Abramovich said. While basinwide numbers put the snowpack at 106 percent of average for March 1 across most of the state — something that doesn't often have — the snowpack is still slightly worrisome. That's because the low-elevation sites are at normal water levels, but the high elevations in north Idaho, for example, the low elevation snow is twice normal levels. But it's the high-elevation snow that sustains summer runoff. In the 2007 season, the snowpack was 30 inches of snow water equivalent — that's 200 to 300 inches of snow — loss about an inch of snow water equivalent each day during the melt season. That's why it takes so long for the snowpack to melt — it takes that keeps the streams running into the summer months. "It takes more water to melt a deeper snowpack," said Abramovich, who just flew over the Owyhee region in southwestern Idaho to check out the snowpack. "It's usually one of the first basins to begin melting in the state, but at 130 percent of average snowpack on March 1, it still probably won't start melting for another two weeks. That's good news for the rest of the state. "The longer we can keep the snow up there, the better off we'll be," Abramovich said. "If warm temperatures recently helped settle the snowpack — which had fallen as light, cold, fluffy snow — but a return to wet, colder weather is what's needed now. "I checked a SNOTEL site near Boise and found the site still needs another 4 to 5 inches of snow-water equivalent, which is 40 to 50 inches of snow. In March to reach the April peak. That's a tall order in March." Jay Briedenbach, a spokesman for the National Weather Service in Boise, said storm systems are on the way for the second part of March. He's expecting the pattern to bring snow to melt over the higher elevations across most of the state. "The second half of March will be wetter than the first half," he said. La Nina has dominated the weather over the past few years, bringing colder and wetter weather, but the 90-day outlook for spring is for equal chances of normal, above-normal or below-normal temperatures. "In a Nina in the spring is really not a good predictor of weather," Briedenbach said. "March is the last month when it really favors one thing or another."

Water

Continued from page C1. Service in Boise. "The reality is we still need more snow in the high elevations. If it stops snowing now, we'll be eight to one hundred percent of average on April 1 peak is average, but it's not quite at the 106 percent of average that Abramovich calculated for the Upper Snake Basin needed to provide adequate snowmelt for projects that depend on the Snake River for irrigation water supplies.



GOUNNING TO SHOOT

By Melissa Davlin
Times-News writer

They're the great equalizer. The mark of a true Westerner. The rope in a tug of war between government and personal freedom.

And, like 'em or not, they're an undeniable part of southern Idaho culture.

Guns are as Idahoan as potatoes and dairies for many locals, as the popularity of area gun clubs attests.

The cold months are especially busy for the indoor Twin Falls Rifle & Pistol Club. When the weather warms, shooters flock outside and enjoy the fresh air—a phenomenon not experienced in big-city gun clubs, where members shoot indoors year-round for lack of outdoor opportunities.

In Idaho, "they'd sooner go shoot rabbits," said Dan Brown, president of the Twin Falls club.

But for now, it's blustery outside, so gun owners crowd into the Twin Falls warehouse building to shoot. A window separates the range from the waiting area, but loud pops can still be heard from the other side of the wall.

Shooters aim at paper targets 50 feet away, then operate a pulley to bring their work back to them and check their accuracy.

Although no women were there on a recent weeknight, men aren't the only ones who can take aim.

"There's a lot of women that outshoot the men," said Dave Gyorffy, treasurer of Buhl Rifle & Pistol Club. "My daughter outshoots my son."

Like Gyorffy's children, many southern Idahoans start shooting early. And that's a good thing, said Walt Charles, owner of Rupert Rifle & Pistol Club. When children know how to shoot safely, they are less likely to have gun-related accidents.

Every Thursday night, Charles teaches juniors how to shoot safely in his indoor range outside Rupert. About 10 children attend, some as young as 9. Small girls shoot with teenage boys, an all-around safe environment.

"That's the thing about this," Brown said. "It's a life sport."

And, the gun club members say, there's nothing wrong with that.

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



Nyles Tilley of Burley loads a magazine into his .22-caliber pistol during a winter league shoot at the Twin Falls Rifle & Pistol Club on a recent Friday night.

Photo by JEFF HICKMAN/Photo Press



Maglevolley.com

See the sights and sounds from an evening of shooting at the Twin Falls Gun Club.



Max Vaughn, a pistol shooter from Rupert, takes a few shots during a winter league competition in Twin Falls. Vaughn has been shooting since 1972.

Finding your target

Buhl
Buhl Rifle & Pistol Club, 1230 E. 4100 N.
Facilities include: Indoor pistol (50 feet), indoor rifle (50 feet)
Range access: Members only
Hours: Anytime, with a member key
Cost: \$35 annually, \$50 couples, \$60 family, \$20 juniors; \$1 key
Information: Dave Gyorffy, 734-9327

Jerome
Jerome Rod and Rifle Club, mile marker 64 on U.S. Highway 93
Facilities include: Outdoor range, sporting clays; ammunition for sale
Range access: Public
Hours: Always open
Cost: \$3 per day for non-members; membership \$20 annually, \$30 family
Information: Kenny Siemens, 733-6045

Ketchum
Blaine County Gun Club, Ohio Gulch
Facilities include: Outdoor range, trap, skeet, sporting clays
Range access: Public
Cost: Trap/skeet, \$6 for members and \$9 for non-members; free stand, \$8; sporting clays, \$18 for 50 birds; rifle/pistol range, free for members, \$7 per day for non-members; annual family membership, \$150; individual membership, \$50
Hours: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and Sunday
Information: 788-2681

Rupert
Rupert Rifle & Pistol Club, 325 S. 400 E.
Facilities include: Indoor range
Range access: Public
Cost: \$1 for non-members; membership \$30 per year
Hours: Club meets 7 p.m. Thursday for juniors; adult times vary
Information: Walt Charles, 436-3344, cell 650-8922

Twin Falls
Twin Falls Rifle & Pistol Club, 253 Fifth Ave. W.
Facilities include: Indoor range
Range access: Public
Cost: \$30 for membership, \$5 for non-members
Hours: Club meets 6 p.m. Wednesday; juniors meet 6 p.m. Thursday
Information: Dan Brown, 734-8217, or Dave Gyorffy, 734-9327

Twin Falls Gun Club, 230 Federation Road
Facilities include: Outdoor range, snack bar; ammunition for sale
Range access: Public
Cost: \$25 annual membership; 25 targets for \$4 for members, \$5 for non-members
Hours: Open to the public from 10 to 6 p.m. Thursday and Sunday
Information: Jay Dee Schwenson, 308-6657

This list isn't comprehensive. Some southern Idaho shooting clubs operate informally, and some ranges are operated by volunteers. To venture deeper into the shooting scene, ask local gun dealers and owners for their inside scoop.
—Melissa Davlin

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

The right shirt for shooting

I got my first reporting battle wound from this assignment:

No, I didn't get shot. It was much more comical than that.

While at the Twin Falls Rifle & Pistol Club, a co-worker and range regular, Joshua Palmer, showed me how to shoot a .45 pistol. A few other members came over to watch.

I was prepared for the powerful kick, but I wasn't prepared for what happened next.

On my second shot, a shell casing flew back and went straight down my shirt. If you've shot before, you know how hot those stickers are. So there I was, trying not to drop the loaded weapon while digging a burning hot piece of metal out of my bra—all while standing in front of four men who had no idea what the heck was wrong with me.

I walked away with a blister on my sternum and a lesson for my gun-wielding female friends: Ladies, when you go shooting, wear a turtleneck.

—Melissa Davlin



Staying on target

Want to get in on the action? It's not as easy as showing up at a range and pulling a trigger. Here are some tips to get started:

- **Take a gun safety course.** If you've never handled a gun before, familiarize yourself with a course. Instructors teach safety, operation and shooting

fundamentals. Ask your local gun club to recommend a certified instructor.

- **Know the limits.** Some ranges allow only certain calibers. To make sure your rifle or pistol fits the specs, call ahead and ask.
- **Bring your own gear.** While clubs are beginner-friendly,

- don't show up without a firearm. Clubs don't rent out rifles or pistols, and most don't sell ammunition. Many sell their own targets, but call in advance to make sure you can expect to find ear and eye protection available at the indoor ranges.
- **Don't be afraid to ask for**

- help. Club members are eager to share what they know, so pipe up. Even if you know how to shoot, you might learn a thing or two.
- **Join a club.** Memberships are cheap and pay off in the long run. Plus, when you join, you will make contacts with people who know their stuff.

State to invest \$7.5 million in state programs

Sharp decline reflects shrinking budget

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

BOISE — The Legislature is poised to approve a budget for state agencies that is just \$7.5 million higher than last year's, a sharp decrease from past years' annual bumps and less than Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter's initial proposal, lawmakers and budget analysts said Monday.

Lawmakers say the figure reflects the state's shrinking budget and the legislative approach by the Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee. Idaho is among states across the country are feeling the burn of declining

tax revenue, a housing bubble burst and tough economic times.

JFAC members said their decision to decrease overall new spending to \$7.5 million — some recalled it the smallest they knew of — from Otter's overall request of \$28.5 million in enhancements stems from a tightening budget and not disagreements with Otter. The money is a combination of surpluses and ongoing funds.

"It's simply a matter of money," said Rep. Fred Wood, R-Burley, who sits on JFAC and helped draft the Department of Health and Welfare budget. Among Otter's requests still

In the budget are at least 12 new staffers for the Department of Health and Welfare; funding for an influenza vaccine, \$1,500 for a vegetable garden overseen by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture with produce destined for an off-site farm; and \$335,500 to expand the "Read to Me" program.

JFAC co-chairwoman Rep. Maxine Bell, R-Jerome, said the Read to Me Program was important to Otter's wife, Lori, and remained one of his priorities. He wants to add 5,000 kids and more than two dozen libraries to the summer reading program that serves more

than 7,000 kids currently.

"He has to administer a budget and we have to produce one," she Bell.

Over the past three months, state revenue has fallen by a cumulative \$13 million, said state economist Mike Ferguson. Revenues were positive in December, but in January revenues were about \$39 million short of projections, which caused the committee to set employee pay raises at 3 percent, down from Otter's preference of 5 percent.

Feb. tax revenues are expected to be \$8 million below projections, Ferguson said.

But Idaho is still bucking the trend than most states, probably because the Division of



Financial Management adjusted expectations midway in the budget process, Ferguson said.

"This essentially cuts back on the amounts of funds available," he said. "I would not characterize it as a fiscal catastrophe."

Budget writers are estimating the 2009 revenue at \$39 million lower than estimates from Financial Management. To pay for a new \$70 million mental health facility, the state was going to use both surplus and dedicated funding.

Instead JFAC decided to bond for the facility entirely.

"The Legislature is being extra cautious and still able to fund enhancements," said Ferguson.

The state has about \$300 million in economic reserves, some of which is released throughout the year. Most of it is considered to be "rainy day" money put aside for the worst economic times to avoid raising taxes or cutting services.

"One of the toughest decisions is deciding when it's finally raining," said Rep. John Rusche, D-Leviston.

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at 426-8371 or jhopkins@magvalley.com.

City moves forward with public works plan

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

Twin Falls City Council members gave the green light Monday evening to the initial design and financial plan for a planned public works complex near the city's animal shelter.

The structured deal is a partnership between the city of Twin Falls and the private, nonprofit entity Region IV Development Association — for a 20-year, \$4.5 million lease in consolidating the public works into one building.

The complex, said Gretchen Scott, assistant to the city manager, would provide space for the water and golf departments, as well as centralized office space making it easy for the public to find public works administrators. The city would partner with Region IV Development Association to build the complex, with the agency building the structure and leasing it to the city for 20 years.

Regional IV Development Association will acquire its funding through a bank loan, according to Mayor Lance Closs. City officials said without the deal, they would have limited options to build. Idaho's Constitution restricts local government from entering long term debt without the approval of voters.

Displaying photos of the current water and golf facilities, Scott said the complex would relieve the overcrowded waterworks and get golf employees out of a building that needs to be condemned. The photos seemed to make an impression, particularly of the golf building's deteriorating roof.

"That's disgusting and terrible, and nobody should have to work in those conditions," Councilman David E. Johnson said.

The live council still had some concerns, especially over how long the site would last and the cost to taxpayers. The city would pay about \$225,000 a year under the proposed lease, about \$1.10 more for the average water customer and 60 cents per cord more for golf course users, City Finance Director Gary Evans said.

Asked how long the area — a strip between the Coca-Cola bottling plant and the city's golf course — would serve the needs of the growing waterworks, architect Bruce Lively said he wasn't sure.

"From what I've seen in this community the last 20 years, I don't have a clue," said Lively, who completed the facility report the plan was derived from.

To circumvent Idaho laws

Season of change



Geneva Ellis walks past boxes in the Jerome office of CASA Monday morning. The organization is packing up and moving to a new Twin Falls location.

5th Judicial CASA Program celebrates new Twin Falls building, new director

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

For volunteers and staff with the 5th Judicial District CASA Program, the change might as well be night and day.

"Their former office is dark and cramped, squeezed into a row of houses on East Main Street in Jerome. But later this week, the nonprofit will finish moving into a spacious, sunlit building in southwest Twin Falls. The change, Executive Director Tahna Cooper said, will mean better facilities and more options for those who offer their help to children entering the court system.

"This is an amazing place," said Cooper, only in her second month on the job.

Long based in Jerome, the CASA program — Court-Appointed Special Advocates — will continue to provide for guardians ad litem to advocate for abused and neglected children who fall under the jurisdiction of the courts. But for the program, which covers eight south-central Idaho counties, these are times of change.

Cooper, formerly the center supervisor for South Central Head Start and a CASA volunteer for three years, was named executive director in January. And after several months where their

Help out.

CASA is looking for volunteers to advocate for children going through child protection cases. For more information: 324-6890.

property at 716 Bridge St. was left vacant, CASA board members Ken and Cathy Floyd decided late last year to offer the 2,000-square-foot office to CASA for a five-year lease.

"We just wanted to give back," said Cathy, the board's treasurer.

The building will come rent- and utility-free for at least the first five years, Cathy said — a \$120,000 value, not counting extensive remodeling. Staff preparing the Jerome office to be moved on Monday morning rattled off a list of things the new building would offer, including better parking, a training room and space for workstations for the many volunteers the program employs.

Perhaps the most valuable of those is the space for volunteers, Cooper said. It'll be the first time volunteers feel like they have their own room to work, she said. And it'll allow them to consult and work with kids or court representatives. The group will hold an open house in April to introduce the public

to the new building.

"We had very few visitors in Jerome," she said.

She's working to change that. As new director, Cooper said her goal is to nearly double the number of volunteers associated with the nonprofit. Ideally, each volunteer is supposed to manage one or two cases. The 5th District's 57 volunteers, she said, average nearly four each.

She'll bring that total up to 100 volunteers, she said, and continue to work with local and national groups for fundraising, including an art show and sale in April. Most recently, the program received a \$30,000 grant from the First Federal Charitable Foundation that paid for a laptop, projector and other equipment for training volunteers and giving community presentations.

Involved with Head Start for 22 years, Cooper said it was natural to move on to CASA. Both organizations, she said, fulfill her need to help children.

"CASA provides a voice for children when they probably feel they least have a voice," Cooper said. As attorneys, judges and other court figures change, she added, "I have been able to be that one person that's always there."

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

Jerome man faces three charges in Jan. robbery

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

JEROME — Before he robbed the Maverik gas station in Jerome and in the days afterward, two co-workers saw the stint as a perfect crime, according to a Jerome Police affidavit.

Before the heist, police say, two men discussed how the station would be easier to rob than other businesses. Afterward, Bradley Wallace, 27, showed off a newspaper article about the robbery, the affidavit says.

But both Wallace and Brent Higley, 29, now face one felony robbery count and one felony conspiracy count each in the Jan. 18 robbery of about \$125 cash from the station's cash register. Wallace's wife appeared in court Monday contesting drug charges that stemmed from her husband's arrest on Feb. 9 at their home. A multi-agency SWAT team arrested the couple from their home, with their two children present.

Higley surrendered after discovery he was being sought on a warrant.

"They conspired to rob the Maverik," said Jerome Police Chief Dan Hall. "And one of them was the driver and the other one was the person that entered the store and actually did it."

The charging record does not clarify which of them is charged with the theft and which one stayed in the car.

According to a surveillance video and statements from the clerk, the suspect entered the store at 1:57 a.m., wearing a black jacket with a hood, a ski mask, boots and armed with a pump action shotgun with a wood stock that revealed he was left-handed. The suspect, a slender, shorter man who spoke perfect English, ordered the clerk to "stand up, go the register, and remove all the money," the affidavit states.

Pretty quickly investigators hit a wall, the affidavit shows.

"But a Gooding County sheriff's detective discovered through a confidential informant a possible suspect. The informant, who had landed a previous arrest for Gooding County, said she had bought drugs from Wallace before. When making the drug deal, Wallace told the informant that he had robbed the Maverik store in Jerome," the affidavit says.

To prove it, he showed her the newspaper clipping and described the many steps he took to commit the crime, he said.

After he was arrested, Wallace implicated Higley, whom he described as his former co-worker at Jerome Cheese and later at Gandiaga Motors. He said he and his wife were "coming down" from drugs on the night of the robbery and needed money.



See a video of the suspect's robbery.

AROUND THE VALLEY

Citizens gather tonight for five-year anniversary of Iraq

A gathering tonight in City Park will mark the five-year anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

The event will start at 7 p.m. in front of the City Park bandshell. Speakers will honor the fallen, stand up for veterans' rights, call for an end to the U.S. occupation of

Iraq, and call attention to the economic cost of the war.

Participants are urged to bring signs expressing their viewpoint. Additional information: Jeff Ruprecht, 733-9639.

Meeting focuses on starting local council of LULAC

A meeting to discuss starting a local council of

the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) will be held at 6 p.m. today at the Idaho Department of Labor office at 450 Falls Ave. E.

LULAC calls itself the largest and oldest Hispanic organization in the United States, focusing on advances for Latinos economically, in education, political influence, health and civil rights through community-based programs. There are more

than 700 LULAC councils nationwide.

Interest in the 75-year-old organization was spurred after meetings held in response to an immigration sweep in mid-November where federal immigration agents arrested 108 illegal immigrants in the area during an investigation of human smuggling on bus lines.

Additional information: Alex Casianeda, 732-1240.

Macy Rae Reed

IDAHO FALLS — On Saturday, March 15, 2008, our little ray of sunshine went to heaven to be with her Heavenly Father.

Macy Rae Reed was born Dec. 3, 2002, in Idaho Falls, Idaho. She was the youngest of five children to Michael "Barty" and Holly Meuleman Reed. Macy loved and adored her big brother, Eric "Erico." She was his little "Tuttle." She watched out for him and wanted to go everywhere with him and do what he did. Macy was excited to go to school next fall and be at the same school with Eric. They were the best of friends and playmates. Macy was full of life and loved to sing, dance, play dress-up, ride her bike, "swirl," High School Musical, "Hannah Montana" and "That's So Raven." She was so excited last November when she was surprised for her birthday and went to the High School Musical Tour on Ice.

Macy loved going to her grandparents' farm in Rupert where she would play with the cats and run and play in the open spaces. She had wonderful tea parties with her Grammie and memorable tractor rides with her Grampa.

Macy has attended work at InnoVest Health Care with her mom since she was 8 weeks old. She was considered part of the staff and had her own name badge, computer and desk. She loved eating hard-boiled eggs with Lonna, learning preschool skills with Deb and telling Marilyn all about her friends. She would often go into Amy Lou's office with her pad of paper and pencil and say, "Let's have a meeting" or "I need to have an appointment with you." Macy was a good friend to all the staff at InnoVest and to the other kids who came to work with their parents. She loved to walk across the street to the gas station with Lonna, where she would get treats. She often chose a treat to

share with her brother, Eric. Her daddy was her Disneyland. Macy played many days in the park to Macy's Department Store together. They loved to sing, tease, laugh and tickle each other.

Macy was attending Krista's Garden preschool and attended dance class, where she had many friends and playmates. Macy loved getting dressed up for her dance recitals. At the young age of 5, Macy had a very special way about her. She had a very loving and giving spirit, was always laughing and smiling, and was always happy and concerned about others being happy.

Macy is survived by her parents, Barty and Holly Reed; and her big brother, Eric, all of Idaho Falls; maternal grandparents, Perry and Rae Meuleman of Rupert; paternal grandfather, Lavon Reed of Idaho Falls; Aunt Amy and Uncle Nick Graizer of Twin Falls; maternal great-grandmother, Madge Hansen of Twin Falls; Uncle Eddie Reed of Las Vegas, Nev.; Aunt Diane Taylor of Seattle, Wash.; Aunt Christine (Betty) Jackson of Phoenix, Ariz.; Uncle Dave Reed of Idaho Falls; Aunt Michelle Thiessa of San Diego, Calif.; Aunt Dan'Val (Phil) Anaya of Fort Worth, Texas; and numerous other aunts, uncles and cousins. She was preceded in death by five great-grandparents; a maternal uncle, Kevin Meuleman; and her paternal grandmother, Sybil Diane Reed.

The funeral will be held at noon Wednesday, March 19, at Calvary Chapel Church, 4250 S. 25th E. (Hitt Road), with Pastor Gordon Boyle officiating. Visitation will be from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, March 18, at Wood Funeral Home, 273 N. Hidge in Idaho Falls, and from 11 a.m. to noon Wednesday at Calvary Chapel Church. Burial will be in the Erico-Shelton Cemetery, in lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to the memorial fund that has been set up in Macy's name at any Washington Mutual Bank. In the words of our little girl, "love you — bye."

Joseph Dean Shaffer

POCATELLO — Joseph Dean Shaffer, 78, passed away Friday, March 14, 2008, at a local medical center. He was born in Inkorn, Idaho, on Sept. 14, 1929, the son of Edward Shaffer and Olive Virginia Jones. He spent his early childhood in Inkorn and graduated from high school in 1948. He joined the Navy and served as a corpsman. He was discharged early to come home and help out on the farm.

Joseph married Eileen Walton in 1950. They raised three sons: Frederick, Joseph, and Carey Shaffer. The couple later divorced. He moved to Fairfield, Idaho where he farmed and raised cattle. He always worked hard and was very successful in what ever he did. He also farmed in Tuttle, Idaho.

Joseph attended I.S.U. and Ricks College. He was a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and served in many church positions including the bishopric for many years. He also served as a bishop.

In later years he married Cleva Gray Hagler and they spent their time between living in Tuttle and Pocatello, Idaho. They enjoyed traveling together, visiting friends and going different places.

He is survived by his loving wife, Cleva and her family. His sons, Frederick, Salt Lake City, Utah, Joseph, Idaho Falls, Idaho, and Carey, Hagerman,

ID; a brother, Timothy (Helen) Shaffer, Inkorn, Idaho, a sister, Madalene (R.D.) Palmer, Pocatello, Idaho, four grandchildren, three great grandchildren, numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins. He was preceded in death by his parents, 11 brothers and sisters, and one grandson.

Joseph was raised in a large family and enjoyed visiting with them all. He had great compassion for the elderly and ailing and was always ready to serve them. He will be greatly missed.

Funeral services will be held Tuesday, March 18, at 11 a.m. at the 52nd Ward Chapel, 3444 Hawthorne Road, with Bishop Brett Mower officiating. The family will meet with friends from 10 to 10:45 a.m. prior to the service at the church. Interment will be at the Inkorn Cemetery.

Arrangements are under the care of Colonial Funeral Home, 2005 S. Fourth Ave., Pocatello. Condolences may be sent to the family online at www.colonial-funeral-home.com.

LAYTON, Utah — Beloved husband, father and grandfather, Max Lynn Goates, returned to our Heavenly Father surrounded by his family on Sunday, March 16, 2008, due to a short but valiant battle with cancer.

Max was born Dec. 6, 1921, in Payson, Utah, to Catherine Viri Clark and David Ray Goates. Max was the second of five children. He graduated from Gunnison High School. Max served honorably in the U.S. Navy in the South Pacific during World War II. On Sept. 20, 1946, he married his love, Catherine Buchanan, in the Salt Lake Temple. They were blessed with five children: Sandra Lynn (Vernon) Freeman of West Valley, Utah; Kathryn Renee

(James) Rogerson of Layton, Utah; Diana Jean Goates of West Valley, Utah; Brent Ray (LeAnn) Goates of Kaysville, Utah, and Michael Lynn (Susan) Goates of Herriman, Utah.

Following Burness' death in 1994, Max then married

Emma Bernice Dille on May 10, 1985, in the Boise Temple. They made their home in Kimberly for 23 years. Max was a machinist and master mechanic for U & S Sugar and Amalgamated Sugar for 49 years. He was a faithful member of the LDS Church, where he willingly served in many positions. He was a very loving and caring husband and father.

Max is survived by his wife; five children; seven stepchildren; 39 grandchildren; 51 great-grandchildren; three great-great-grandchildren; two sisters, Laltae (Doe) Jarrott, Dean (Lannar) Paxman and Glenda (Eldon) Pultispher; and sister-in-law, Gladys Goates. Max is preceded in

death by his parents; and one brother, Earl.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Thursday, March 20, at the Kimberly LDS 2nd Ward Chapel, 222 Birch St. in Kimberly. A viewing will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday, March 19, at Parkes Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2251 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls, and from 10 to 11 a.m. Thursday at the church. A graveside service will be at 2 p.m. Friday, March 21, at the Lehi City Cemetery in Lehi, Utah. Services are under the direction of Leavitt's Mortuary in Layton, Utah. Online condolences may be sent to the family at www.leavittsmortuary.com.

William Lebaron Towne Jr.

ELY, Nev. — William Lebaron Towne Jr., age 82 years, of Ely, Nev., passed away Friday, March 14, 2008, in Ely, Nev.

He was born Aug. 22, 1925, in Dietrich, to William Lebaron Sr. and Sylvia Dora (Miller) Towne. William received an honorable discharge from the Merchant Marines; he served from 1944 to 1947. William was a dairy farmer until 1963 in Dietrich. From 1963 to 1969, he owned and operated Bill's Garage and Repair in Dietrich. He then moved to White Pine County, Nev., where he has lived here for 38 years. He worked at Kengocott Copper for 10 years and worked for Valley Motors for 17 years. He was a former member of the Masonic Lodge in Shoshone, master of the Dietrich Grange, member of the Idaho State Grange, member of the Eagles Lodge in Oakland, Calif., life member of James

level Post 3547 Veterans of Foreign Wars, member of American Legion Post 3 of Ely. Nev. William enjoyed macramé, making wind spirals and metal art. As a young child, he played with tobacco cans as toys, making different articles for entertainment.

William is survived by his wife, Gladys O. Towne of Ely, Nev.; son, Elvin (Candy) Towne of Boise; daughter, Theresa Towne of Ontario, Ore.; five grandchildren; four great-grandchildren; brother, Ralph (Deloris) Towne of Dietrich; and numerous nieces and nephews. He is preceded in death by his parents, son, Donald Towne; two sisters, Bessie Nelson and Mary Jarrell; and one brother, George Miller Towne. A graveside service will be held in Shoshone at a later time.

DEATH NOTICES

Bobby Lee White
MALTA — Bobby Lee White of Malta, died Saturday, March 15, 2008, at a friend's home in Meridian. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday, March 19, at the Meridian Assembly of God Church (Accent Funeral Home in Meridian). A service will be held at 2 p.m. Thursday, March 20, at the Malta LDS Church in Malta; visitation at 1 p.m. Thursday at the church (Rasmussen Funeral Home in Burley).

Geessien Liestro
Geessien "Jean" Liestro, 78, of Twin Falls, died Sunday, March 16, 2008, at her home. Arrangements will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel of Twin Falls.

Vicki L. Martinez
JEROME — Vicki Tovar Martinez, 39, of Jerome, died Sunday, March 16, 2008, at St. Benedict's Family Medical Center in Jerome. Arrangements will be announced by Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.


Kyle Lee Blanc
JEROME — Kyle Lee J. Blanc (Jacob), 13, of Jerome, died Sunday, March 16, 2008, at St. Luke's Medical Center in Boise. Arrangements will be announced by Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Susan Pond
Susan Pond, 60, died Saturday, March 15, 2008, at Sunbridge Care and Rehabilitation in Twin Falls. Arrangements will be announced by Parkes Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

Mary Adams
BURLEY — Mary Martin Adams, 88, of Burley, died Monday, March 17, 2008, in Riverton, Utah. Arrangements will be announced by Hansen-Payne Mortuary in Burley.

Margie M. Hunter
WENDELL — Margie Mae James Kraus Hunter, 79, of Wendell, died Sunday, March 16, 2008, at Magic Valley Manor Assisted Living in Wendell. Arrangements will be announced by Demaray Funeral Service, Wendell Chapel.


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—Stella Paris



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LEGISLATIVE BRIEFS

House passes bill regarding consolidation

The House approved a bill Monday that would provide rules for temporary schools boards if school districts decide to consolidate.

Under the bill, sponsored by Rep. Donna Pence, D-Gooding, districts that consolidate after Jan. 1, 2009, will consist of five members if two districts combine; seven members if three or more districts combine.

Pence said she is not aware of any districts planning to consolidate but that the changes are needed. Last year, lawmakers approved legislation that would provide financial incentives to districts that chose to consolidate.

Cameron bills on health care pass Senate

Two pieces of legislation from Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Butter, that address health care in Idaho have passed the Senate and await approval on the House floor.

One bill fixes a hole in a bill that passed last year. It raises the dependent age that children could remain on their parents' health insurance policy. The ages rise to 21 for children not full-time students and 25 for full-time students.

The legislation did not include government entities, fraternal society, public service corporations or self-funded plans. Cameron, who owns an insurance agency, said the bill will reduce the number of uninsured and reduce the cost of attending college.

The bill is co-sponsored by Rep. Fred Wood, R-Burley, and Sharon Block, R-Twin Falls.

Both bills passed the Senate unanimously. The second bill would allow people to apply to the High Risk Pool if they will exceed their lifetime maximum within 90 days. The High Risk Pool was created in 2000 by the Legislature to provide a way for Idahoans to purchase insurance. But it prohibited people currently with insurance from applying, which created problems with people under care who would otherwise need the insurance, Cameron said. The high risk pool insurance would then become secondary insurance.

Senate panel OKs bill to increase fiscal oversight

The Senate State Affairs Committee on Monday passed a bill 7-2 that would require all major initiatives at general elections to have a fiscal impact similar to proposed bills in the Legislature.

All proposed legislation in the Legislature is required to include a description of how it might affect the state's tax base. The bill's sponsor, Sen. Monty Pearce, R-New Plymouth, said that voters who head to the polls should be held to the same standard as legislators. The bill would require a note on how the initiatives would affect government, private property and business.

Democrats voted against sending the bill to the Senate floor over concern that there might be unintended financial consequences on the Division of Financial Management and that measuring impact on businesses would create a different standard, not the same one.

—From staff reports

Plan

Continued from page D3

forbidding cities from entering into long-term agreements and provide security for Region IV. City Attorney Fritz Wunderlich said, the city will lease the land to the agency for 40 years and have it returned after the 20-year building lease. The leases will be negotiated year-to-year so future councils could opt out at any time, he said.

The project will now be bid by Region IV and the results reported back to the city. Council members said the plan was a unique chance to be proactive about the city's needs.

"Because of the conservative nature of this community, we tended to put things off when we should have stepped out prior,"

Councilman Don Hall said.

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

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Horton Hears a Who! (no show) 7:00-9:00pm
Enchanted (no show) 7:00-9:00pm
Olympus 6 Theatre

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Never Back Down (no show) 7:30-9:45pm
Sleeper 2 (no show) 7:30-9:45pm
Semi Pro (no show) 7:30-9:45pm
Golden Compass (no show) 7:30-9:45pm

Horton Hears a Who! (no show) 7:30-9:45pm
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