

A NICE NINE
Golfers hit the links for nine-hole tournaments.
SPORTS, B1

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE
Pessimism about economy continues.
BUSINESS, A6

TOURNAMENT DEL TACO
FOOD & HOME, C1

CONTEST NARROWS TO FLAVORFUL FOUR

Good Morning
High: 48
Low: 30
Cloudy with a chance of showers. Details B4

Times-News

WEDNESDAY
March 26, 2008
75 cents

MagValley.com

TWIN FALLS SCHOOL DISTRICT



Bickel Elementary School teacher Shannon Anderson says goodbye to students Tuesday as she makes sure they get on the bus safely after school. "When they get out of school they're ready to run and play. And they should be," says Anderson. But due to new construction projects that began during school break, children must wait in lines in the hallway. "We're going to make it work," says Anderson adding that the new process is faster and safer because now she knows where every child is located.

Closed primary bill passes Senate

Beck, senators exchange heated remarks

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer



BOISE — After the infighting within the Republican Party was aired publicly, the Senate State Affairs Committee on Tuesday approved 6-2 a bill that would create a modified open primary election, but still allow parties to hold closed contests if desired.

The bill would create a modified open primary

election whereby voters at polls mark a box listing their party choice or "unaffiliated." Those who declare a party are required to vote in

See page SENATE, Page A3

Magicalvalley.com

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

Chunk of Antarctic ice shelf collapses

Puts larger area of glacier at risk

By Seth Borenstein
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — A chunk of Antarctic ice about seven times the size of Manhattan suddenly collapsed, putting an even greater portion of glacial ice at risk, scientists said Tuesday.

Satellite images show the runaway disintegration of a 160-square-mile chunk in western Antarctica, which started Feb. 28. It was the edge of the Wilkins ice shelf and has been there for hundreds, maybe 1,500 years.

This is the result of global warming, said British Antarctic Survey scientist David Vaughan.

Because scientists noticed satellite images within hours, they diverted satellite

See page SHELF, Page A3



This satellite photo released by the National Snow and Ice Data Center at the University of Colorado at Boulder shows the Wilkins Ice Shelf on March 6 on the Southwest Antarctic Peninsula as it began to break apart. The ice shelf, about seven times the size of Manhattan, began collapsing on Feb. 28, putting an even greater portion of glacial ice at risk, scientists said Tuesday.

Building Bickel

Multipurpose room, elevator to be installed

By Andrea Gates
Times-News writer

Construction work is under way at Bickel Elementary School to add needed space and an elevator to the nearly 100-year-old facility of 425 students.

The projects — including a 4,000 square-foot multipurpose room and an elevator to comply with American with Disabilities Act requirements — are some of a handful of projects promised in a \$49.7 million school bond voters passed in 2006. Also part of

that school bond is a new high school, Canyon Ridge, which is under construction and set to be completed in 2009.

Five multipurpose rooms at other schools in the district were also part of the school bond projects, but Bickel's is the first under construction, said Dale Thornberry, Twin Falls

School District facilities manager.

Other school bond projects that have been completed include an elevator that was installed at Lincoln Elementary School and parking improvements at both Morningside Elementary School and I.B. Perrine

See page BICKEL, Page A3

Bickel by the numbers

\$49.7 million School bond amount approved by voters in 2006	\$1,245,000 Expected cost for the Bickel construction project	4,000 Square-foot multipurpose room, one part of the construction	425 Students at Bickel Elementary School
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Technology snafus could add billions to cost of 2010 census

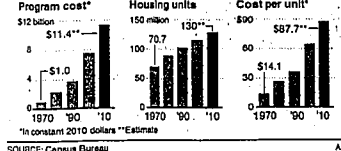
By Stephen Ohmer
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — Big worries for the nation's first high-tech census should have been obvious when tests showed some of the door-to-door headcounters couldn't figure out their fancy new handheld computers.

Now, officials say, technology problems could add as much as \$2 billion to the cost of the 2010 census and jeopardize the accuracy of the nation's most important survey.

Census officials are consid-

Rising cost of the census
The 2010 census is currently estimated to cost more than \$11 billion, the most expensive ever.



ering a return to using paper and pencil to count every man, woman and child in the nation.

At more than \$11 billion, the initial cost of the 2010 cen-

sus was already the most expensive ever. Officials now are scrambling to hold down costs while trying to ensure the count produces reliable population numbers — figures that will be used to apportion seats in Congress and divvy up more than \$300 billion a year in federal and state funding.

"What we're facing is a statistical Katrina on the part of the administration," said Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y.

"Will they leave this mess for the next administration?"

See page CENSUS, Page A3

Otter, nuclear activists react to INL nuclear waste decision



By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

State officials are applauding a 9th Circuit Court of Appeals decision requiring the federal government to remove all transuranic nuclear waste from the Idaho National Laboratory near Idaho Falls, but they warn

the issue could be far from resolved.

"We're pleased, obviously, with the decision," said Jon Hanlian, press secretary for Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter. "But who is to say if this is the end of it or not?"

Last week's opinion from the three-judge panel affirms an earlier federal district court

decision related to a 1995 agreement between the state and federal government, under which the state agreed to provide temporary storage for spent nuclear fuel. In return, the feds agreed to remove high-level nuclear waste stored at the area during the Cold War.

The feds questioned the deal

after the agreement, saying they'd agree to remove above-ground waste at the site, but not all the buried waste — barrels, boxes and equipment dumped into unlined trenches.

The state sued, saying the feds were backing out of the deal.

Meanwhile, the federal government began to develop

waste-removal plans under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act, a law aimed at cleaning up environmental hazards.

In December, the U.S. Department of Energy unveiled

See page NUCLEAR, Page A3

At Your Service directory .E5
Bridge .E6
Calendar .A2
Classifieds .E1-8

Comics .C6-7
Crossword .E7
Dear Abby .C7
Heroscope .C8

Jumble .E4
Magic Valley .D1
Movies .D3-4
Mutual Funds .A7

Obitaries .D2
Opinion .E2
Sudoku .E2
Weather .B4

Plenty of options: Career Fair opens doors for job seekers.
MAGIC VALLEY, D1

TODAY'S FORECAST

TWIN FALLS

Today	Tonight	Thursday
Cloudy with good chance for rain showers	Evening rain showers, changing to snow overnight	Cooler, with smaller chances of rain and snow
High 48	Low 30	43 / 28

MINI-CASSIA

Today: Cloudy with a good chance for showers. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Highs in the middle 40s.

Tonight: Evening rain showers changing to snow later. Little accumulation. Lows in the upper 20s.

Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy with reduced chances of rain and snow showers. Highs in the middle 40s.

Complete weather report: See page B4

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Twin Falls Lions Club meeting and no-host lunch, club business day (no speaker), noon, Golden Corral, 1823 Blue Lakes Blvd., Twin Falls, 312-5057.

Twin Falls County Democrats Central Committee monthly meeting, 7 p.m., Larry LaRocco Campaign Headquarters, 284 Gooding St. (Old Times-News building), Twin Falls, open to the public, all welcome, 420-1663.

EDUCATION

Magie Valley Medical Assistants, one CEU with class by Community Connection Assistant Mindy Hoskovec on Lifeline Service, 6 p.m., Sage Education Room, St. Lukes Magie Valley Medical Center, Twin Falls, 737-2000.

Ready? Set! Grow! Kindergarten Orientation, for all children ages 4 and 5 who will attend kindergarten next year (must be age 5 by Sept. 1, 2008), 6:30 p.m., Music Room/Gym, Poppelwell Elementary School, 200 N. Sixth St., Buhl, prize for child attending with parent, 543-8225.

EXHIBITS

Opening day of "Lincoln and Idaho" Traveling Exhibit, focusing on the life and presidency of Abraham Lincoln and his relationship with Idaho, during library hours, Burley Public Library, 1300 Miller Ave., no cost, open to the public, (208) 878-7708.

FAMILY

Candlelight Tales, 30-minute, "end of day" presentation for preschoolers and early elementary-age children (may wear pajamas), 7 to 7:30 p.m., in the Storytime Kiva, Twin Falls Public Library, 733-2964 ext. 110.

GOVERNMENT

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

Heyburn City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 941 18th St., 679-8158.

Twin Falls School Board, 7 p.m., administration office, 201 Main Ave. W., 733-6900.

HEALTH

College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit programs, 9 to 10 a.m. at several Magie Valley locations: CSI gym, Gooding ISDS gym, Jerome Rec Center, Shoshone High (old gym), Rupert Civic Center and Blaine County Campus Gym; and 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at CSI Burley Outreach Center Gym, no cost, 732-6475.

Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Ageless Senior Citizens, Inc., 301 Main St. N., Kimberly, no cost, 737-5988.

SilverSneakers Fitness Program, innovative exercise program designed specifically for Medicare beneficiaries' unique health and physical needs, 11:15 a.m. to noon, Twin Falls YMCA, 1751 Elizabeth Blvd., no cost for Humans-Insured/ YMCA members and \$5 per class for non-insured, 733-4384.

Free immunizations for South Central Idaho teens ages 12-18, includes Tdap (adult tetanus, diphtheria and pertussis), Hepatitis A and B, MMR, Meningitis and Chickenpox; does not include HPV (cervical cancer vaccine), 4 to 6 p.m. at the following South Central Public Health District offices by appointment only: 2311 Parke Ave., Ste. 4, Burley, 678-8221; and 1218 Ninth St., Ste. 15, Rupert, 436-7195.

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) ID No. 3, Chapter of Twin Falls, weigh-ins from 5 to 5:30 p.m. and meeting from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m., BridgeView Great Room (north entrance, third floor), BridgeView Estates, 1828 Bridgeview Blvd., 404-4793 or 736-9282.

HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

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

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

Snowpack levels

Watershed	% of Avg	% season peak	Oakley Salmon Falls As of March 25
Salmon	108%	100%	98%
Big Wood	96%	92%	95%
Little Wood	92%	85%	
Big Lost	91%	85%	
Little Lost	107%	96%	
Henrys Fork/Teton	106%	100%	
Upper Snake Basin	99%	92%	

* A comparison of basin snowpack, this day, with a 30-year average.
 ** An indicator of basin snowpack for the entire snow season, which peaks in some.

CORRECTION

Gun club's name incorrect

Country Roads incorrectly named the Jerome Rod and Gun Club. The Times-News regrets the error.

Stories published Tuesday and March 18 in

MORNING BRIEFING

AROUND THE WORLD

MASSACHUSETTS

Obama related to Brad Pitt, Hillary Clinton to Angelina Jolie

BOSTON — This could make for one old family reunion: Barack Obama is a distant cousin of actor Brad Pitt, and Hillary Rodham Clinton is related to Pitt's girlfriend, Angelina Jolie.

Researchers at the New England Historic Genealogical Society found some remarkable family connections for the three presidential candidates — Democratic rivals Obama and Clinton, and Republican John McCain.

Clinton, who is of French-Canadian descent on her mother's side, is also a distant cousin of singers Madonna, Celine Dion and Alanis Morissette. Obama, the son of a white woman from Kansas and a black man from Kenya, can call six U.S. presidents, including George W. Bush, his cousins. McCain is a sixth cousin of first lady Laura Bush.

"You'd think with all that singing talent in the family she'd be able to carry a tune," Clinton's senior adviser Philippe Reines said. "But now it makes much more sense how she snuggled a Grammy."

Clinton won her best spoken word Grammy in 1997 for "It Takes a Village." Obama also won a Grammy in that category this year for the audio version of his book, "The Audacity Of Hope: Thoughts On Reclaiming The American Dream."

AUSTRALIA

Australian building Stonehenge replica to lure tourists

PERTH — Pagans and druids, mark your calendars and book your airplane tickets. An Australian entrepreneur hopes to open a Stonehenge replica by the Dec. 21 solstice, just in time for New Age revelers.

"I'm doing it because I can," said Ross Smith, the former owner of a successful microbrewery business who plans to build the monument on his property in Western Australia.

The \$1.26 million project, to be called The Henge, will include 101 granite stones arranged in an inner and outer circle, a central altar, and will span 110 feet.

"We studied plans of the original and that's what The Henge will look like," Smith said.

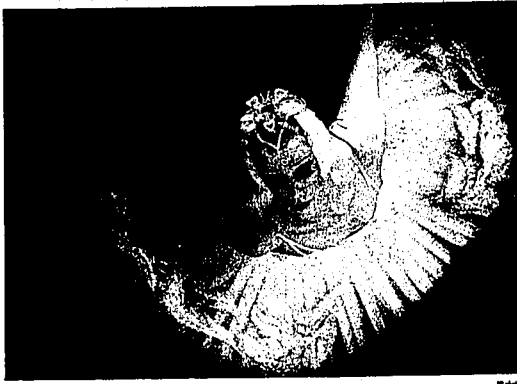
TEXAS

Father found guilty of putting baby daughter in microwave

GALVESTON — A young father was convicted Tuesday of badly injuring his infant daughter by putting her in a microwave, with jurors rejecting his claim that he was insane at the time.

Jurors deliberated about four hours before finding Joshua Mauldin, 20, guilty of felony injury to a child.

FLOATING ON SWAN LAKE



Moscow's Classical Ballet company dancer Ekaterina Berzina performs during a rehearsal of Pyotr Tchaikovsky's 'Swan Lake' in Madrid, Tuesday.

Unlike the original Stonehenge, guests will be encouraged to touch and play around the new monument, which will also have an interpretive center and a children's playground.

He hopes his replica will attract 200,000 to 300,000 tourists per year to the Margaret River region, already renowned for fine wine, chocolate and cheese.

A small team of quarry workers in Western Australia has spent the past five months drilling and blasting the stones into shape, and Smith expects the attraction will be open by Dec. 21, the summer solstice in the southern hemisphere.

Another full-size, intact replica of Stonehenge overlooks the Columbia River in Mayhill, Wash. It was built as a cement memorial the area's World War I dead.

After the verdict, jurors heard testimony in the punishment phase of the trial and deliberated for 27 hours without a decision. They were expected to resume today. Mauldin faces anything from probation to life in prison.

Prosecutors asked jurors to sentence him to life in prison because his daughter will endure a lifetime of physical and emotional scars. Defense attorneys asked them to give him probation so he could continue psychiatric treatment.

Mauldin had pleaded not guilty by reason of insanity, saying he was having a psychotic episode when he put his then 2-month-old daughter, Ana, in a hotel microwave for 10 to 20 seconds last May while her mother and grandmother were away.

Prosecutors said Mauldin was angry that he was in a loveless marriage and took it out on his daughter. Just before putting her in the microwave, Mauldin had punched the baby and put her in the hotel-room safe and refrigerator.

"This child has been scarred for life, for life, and not only physically," prosecutor Xochitl Vandiver said, holding up a photograph of Ana that showed a large red scar across the girl's face.

NEW YORK

Judge tells man to stop bothering Tyra Banks

NEW YORK — A man charged with stalking Tyra Banks has been ordered to stay away from the talk-show

host or face going to jail.

Brady Green, according to a criminal complaint, has followed Banks from coast to coast since January, sent her letters and flowers, and tried to phone her. Last week he was issued a court order requiring her to leave her alone.

Green, of Dublin, Ga., was arrested when he showed up several times March 18 at the Manhattan building where "The Tyra Banks Show" is taped and asked to speak to her, a misdemeanor complaint filed in Criminal Court says.

MICHIGAN

Attorney general nixes free barbershop beer

GRAND RAPIDS — The owner of Jude's Barbershop will continue offering haircuts and shaves to his customers, but no more free beer.

The Michigan attorney general's office says Thomas Martin's 11 shops in the Grand Rapids area may not hand out a brew with each cut because he needs a liquor license.

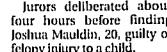
Martin says he was just continuing an old-fashioned complimentary service for his customers that started years ago.

Police had told him that handing out free beer violated local and state laws.

— The Associated Press



Mauldin



Mauldin

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Wednesday, March 26, the 86th day of 2008. There are 280 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On March 26, 1958, the U.S. Army launched America's third successful satellite, Explorer 3.

On this date:

In 1604, the Louisiana Purchase was divided into the Territory of Orleans and the District of Louisiana.

In 1827, composer Ludwig van Beethoven died in Vienna.

In 1892, poet Walt Whitman died in Camden, N.J.

In 1917, the Seattle Metropolitans became the first U.S. team to win the Stanley Cup as they defeated the Montreal Canadiens.

In 1958, The Bridge on the River Kwai won seven Academy Awards, including best picture of 1957; its director, David Lean, and star Alec Guinness also received Oscars. Joanne Woodward was named best actress for "The Three Faces of Eve."

In 1971, East Pakistan proclaimed its independence, taking the name Bangladesh.

In 1979, a peace treaty was signed by Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Egyptian President Anwar Sadat at the White House.

In 1982, groundbreaking ceremonies took place in Washington for the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

In 1988, Jesse Jackson stunned fellow Democrats by soundly defeating Michael Dukakis in Michigan's Democratic presidential caucuses.

In 1997, the bodies of 39 members of the Heaven's Gate techno-religious cult who'd committed suicide were found inside a rented mansion in Rancho

Santa Fe, Calif.

Ten years ago: President Clinton stood with President Nelson Mandela in a racially integrated South African parliament to salute a country that was "truly free and democratic at last." The federal government endorsed a new HIV test that yielded instant results.

Five years ago: The Senate approved a \$2.2 trillion budget that provided less than half the \$726 billion in tax cuts President Bush wanted. Former Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan died in Washington at age 76.

One year ago: The military concluded that high-ranking Army officers had made critical errors in reporting the friendly fire death of Army Ranger Pat Tillman in Afghanistan, but that there was no criminal wrongdoing in the shooting of the former NFL star by fellow soldiers. (The findings were rejected by Tillman's family.) Australian detainee David Hicks pleaded guilty before a military tribunal at Guantanamo to helping terrorists fight the United States in Afghanistan. (Hicks was sentenced to seven years in prison; all but nine months' prison time was suspended. Hicks was returned to Australia to serve out his term, and was freed last December.)

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Vol. 103 No. 86

Nuclear

Continued from page A1
 Its proposal for cleanup at the site — plans that did not include removing all the transuranic waste. At the time, the state wasn't commenting on the proposal, saying it wanted to hear the appeals court decision before taking a position.

This week, Curt Fransen, deputy director of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, said the state could meet soon with the feds to discuss moving forward on the CERCLA proposal.

But some nuclear activists, including Twin Falls' Peter Rickards, question the state's sincerity on its "all means all" position.

"If the state genuinely wanted all of the transuranic waste cleaned up, it would have taken a position on the CERCLA proposal before now, Rickards said."

"It's slow-motion theater of the absurd," he said. "The state is afraid to demand a full cleanup because they're afraid of losing jobs. If they can get away with pretending to want a cleanup (by pursuing a lawsuit) ... they'll do it. We're being sold a cleanup that is not clean."

The federal government's waste-removal proposal is estimated to cost about \$1 billion. Removing all the waste would cost as much as \$13 billion.

Activists say if the DOE is forced to pay for a full cleanup, it will cut other programs at the site, which

"It's slow-motion theater of the absurd. ... If they can get away with pretending to want a cleanup (by pursuing a lawsuit) ... they'll do it. We're being sold a cleanup that is not clean."



— Peter Rickards, Twin Falls

threatens jobs valuable to the state.

The feds have already removed about 700 cubic meters of waste from the site — just a fraction of the 36,800 cubic meters stored there. Under its proposal, it would remove about 6,200 cubic meters.

Mostly from nuclear weapons programs, was dumped at the site from 1954 until 1970, often haphazardly rolled into shallow, unlined pits off the backs of trucks. In 1970, the Atomic Energy Commission determined storage methods like the ones used at INEL weren't appropriate, and the government stopped burying waste.

Federal officials had estimated it would take tens of thousands of years for contamination to reach the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer, a Vermont-sized underground water source for hundreds of thousands of southern Idaho residents that flows beneath the site. In 1995, they changed that prediction to 30 years.

Five years later, water sam-

ples taken from wells at the site tested positive for plutonium contamination.

All the more reason to speed resolution in the waste-removal matter, state officials say. Idaho's federal lawmakers also want resolution.

"I support and encourage continued cooperation between the state and DOE on resolving in a practical and timely manner of the issue of buried waste retrieval and disposal at the INEL," said Sen. Larry Craig in a statement.

Craig, who has been instrumental in securing federal funding for the INEL, said it's important the groups move forward in line with the original 1995 agreement that required full waste removal.

The federal government can ask the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals to again review the case, or it can appeal to the Supreme Court, though neither court are obligated to hear the appeal.

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

Senate

Continued from page A1
 in that party's primary. Registration would be public record, but voters selecting "unaffiliated" would not list which primary they participated in.

For more than 30 years, Idaho has held open primaries, meaning anyone can vote in any primary without registering. About one third of voters call themselves independent.

Keith Allred of the non-partisan citizens' group The Common Interest, which sponsored the bill, said the modified system strikes a balance among fighting political entities in Idaho, promises reflective of the electorate and would survive a legal challenge.

"It resolves the current vulnerability to litigation that our current statute has," said Allred, a Twin Falls native and professor at Harvard.

In November, a judge dismissed a lawsuit brought by Republicans who sued the secretary of state, ruling they lacked grounds since it wasn't brought by the party itself. The state central committee then passed a resolution that says only Republicans can vote in primary elections — and the plaintiffs in the original suit can sue on behalf of the party. If lawmakers don't close the primaries, the plaintiffs can sue within 10 days after the session ends.

The second part of the bill allows for a party to conduct and pay for its own private election, including a closed caucus.

"This bill wins in court," said former Idaho Attorney General David Leroy, who warned the Legislature would need a special session if it doesn't act.

Democrats opposed the bill. But the bill provoked debate between the committee — which includes the four-member leadership team — and the full Senate. The former Boise state senator resulting the charge to close the contests who said his goal is to strengthen the Republican Party.

"Republicans have been disenfranchised for years," said Beppie. "The voting public is expecting some nexus between the platform and the candidates."

Discussion with Beck turned testy. One senator asked Beck, who served six years, if he was pursuing the matter after having lost an election. Another wondered if he was promising additional litigation. And one was concerned with Beck's analogy to international election customs.

"Are you advocating the United Nations set our election process here in Idaho?" asked Senate Majority Caucus Chair Brad Little, R-Emmet.

But many — including some committee members — wonder why the party wants to alter a system that helped Republicans hold 79 of 105 positions in the state Legislature, all statewide positions and the four-member

congressional delegation. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled states can't force political parties to associate with those who don't share their political beliefs. Three separate proposals to close primaries failed to clear the 2007 Legislature.

"There aren't any Republican senators who are dissatisfied with the current system," Sen. Denton Darrington, R-DeLoe, said after the vote, noting a lack of enthusiasm during the meeting. "But everybody knows you've got to do something and that seems an acceptable agreement."

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at 420-4271 or jhopkins@magicalvillages.com.

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Bickel

Continued from page A1
 Elementary School, Thornberry said.

Excavation work has been done at Bickel and construction is slated to take between four and six months. The project is expected to cost about \$1,245,000 with 25 companies doing the jobs, said Thornberry.

Work areas were fenced off during spring break and some ground-level equipment was removed, but students still have other equipment to play on during construction, district officials said.

"We're excited that construction has started," said

Kelli Schroeder, Bickel Elementary School principal.

The cafeteria at the school is used as both a gymnasium and cafeteria so space and scheduling are tight, she said.

Students currently eat breakfast in their classrooms because of the scarcity of space, so the new multipurpose room should help alleviate cafeteria crowding. "Maybe we'll be able to have breakfast in the cafeteria," Schroeder said.

The elevator will also be a welcome addition for some students and volunteers who are round-buckled by stairs.

"We had a student a few years ago with juvenile arthritis and she couldn't do stairs," said Schroeder.

The work isn't disturbing normal school activities, Schroeder said.

"We communicate, so if they do something loud ... They can do it after school hours or on the weekend." The next two school bond projects slated to go under construction are at Twin Falls High School — including a remodeling of the chemistry lab and bleachers, said Thornberry.

Andrea Gates may be reached at 735-3300.

Shelf

Continued from page A1
 cameras and even flew an airplane over the ongoing collapse for rare pictures and video.

"It's an event we don't get to see very often," said Ted Seambos, lead scientist at the National Snow and Ice Data Center in Boulder, Colo. "The cracks fill with water and slice off a tangle ... This system is like a runaway situation."

While icebergs naturally break away from the mainland, collapses like this are unusual but are happening

On the Web:

- The National Snow and Ice Data Center: <http://nsidc.org>
- The British Antarctic Survey: <http://www.bas.ac.uk/>

more frequently in recent decades, Vaughan said.

The collapse is similar to what happens to hardened glass when it is smashed with a hammer, he said.

The rest of the Wilkins ice shelf, which is about the size of Connecticut, is holding on

by a narrow beam of thin ice. Scientists worry that it too may collapse. Larger, more dramatic ice collapses occurred in 2002 and 1995.

Vaughan had predicted the Wilkins shelf would collapse about 15 years from now.

The part that recently gave way makes up about 4 percent of the overall shelf, but it's an important part that can trigger further collapse.

There's still a chance the rest of the ice shelf will survive until next year because this is the end of the

Antarctic summer and colder weather is setting in, Vaughan said.

Scientists said they are not concerned about a rise in sea level from the latest event, but say it's a sign of worsening global warming.

Such occurrences are "more indicative of a tipping point or trigger in the climate system," said Sarah Das, a scientist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute.

"These are things that are not re-forming," Das said. "So once they're gone, they're gone."

Census

Continued from page A1
 asked Maloney, a member of the House committee that oversees the census.

This was to be the first truly high-tech count in the nation's history with census-takers using handheld computers to track and tally the millions of Americans who do not return the census forms mailed out by the government. The Census Bureau plans to hire and train nearly 600,000 temporary workers to help.

But interviews, congressional testimony and government reports describe an agency that was unprepared to manage a \$600 million contract for the handheld computers that will be vital. Census officials are being blamed for a poor job spelling out technical requirements to the contractor, Florida-based Harris Corp.

The computers proved too complex for some temporary workers who were tried to use them in a test last year in North Carolina. Also, the computers were not initially programmed to transmit the large amounts of data necessary.

"This is a management problem. It's an organization-

al problem," Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez said in testimony this month before the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee.

Gutierrez, who oversees the Census Bureau, said officials there were unaccustomed to working with an outside vendor on such a large contract.

Census Director Steven

Murdoch acknowledged in an interview Tuesday that "communication problems" between census officials and Harris Corp. have resulted in

"serious issues." But, he added, "My pledge is that we are going to have a complete and accurate census."

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EDITORIAL

The quality of justice isn't the same across Idaho

If you're charged with a crime and can't afford a lawyer, the county will pay one to defend you.

Trouble is, Twin Falls County public defenders handle nine times more cases than their counterparts in Blaine County — who also earn more money.

So defendants in Twin Falls County don't get the representation they'd receive 60 miles up the road in Hailey.

In 1963, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that attorneys must be assigned to represent folks who are accused of a crime and can't afford their own lawyers.

Yet courts have been full of appeals based on inadequate representation by public defenders. Many convictions have been overturned or sent back for retrial.

In 2002, for example, Michelle Mellintin saw her Canyon County conviction for methamphetamine possession overturned on appeal because her court-appointed lawyer didn't wait for lab results before entering a guilty plea on Mellintin's behalf.

That's an extreme example, but every day in Idaho busy public defenders cut corners simply because they don't have time and resources to conduct a robust defense.

In 2006, each of the seven full-time attorneys at the Twin Falls County Public Defender's office was assigned, on average, 487 felony and misdemeanor cases. That's two new cases per lawyer each business day.

National legal aid standards are no more than 75 felonies and 200 misdemeanors annually.

Idaho is one of seven states that provides no state funding for county public defenders to ensure help for the poor is at least equal in all counties. That's not fair to either the defendants or the communities in which they live, but it's also unfair to taxpayers: Criminal cases settled on the fly are far more likely to be appealed, and the cost of these appeals comes right out of our pockets.

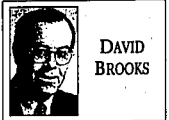
The Idaho Criminal Justice Commission is conducting a first-ever audit of county-level public defenders. The Legislature should pay close attention to its findings when released this fall.

Idaho has gone to great lengths to assure that there are no second-class public schools. Nor should there be, in any Idaho county, second-class justice.

Our view: Public defenders in Idaho's largest and poorest counties are overworked and underpaid. Justice and public safety suffer as a result. What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

The audacity of hopeless Hillary

Hillary Clinton may not realize it yet, but she's just endured one of the worst weeks of her campaign.



DAVID BROOKS

First, Barack Obama weathered the Rev. Jeremiah Wright affair without serious damage to his nomination prospects. Obama still holds a tiny lead among Democrats nationally in the Gallup tracking poll, just as he did before this whole affair blew up.

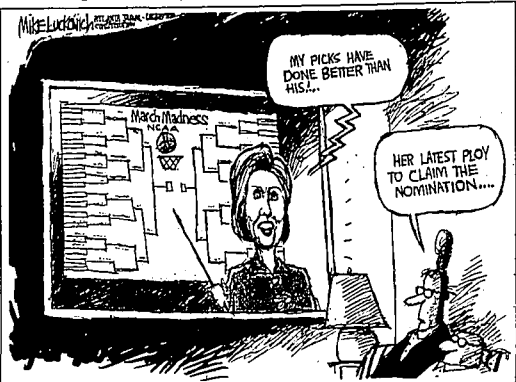
Second, Obama's lawyers successfully prevented the Rev. Wright affair without serious damage to his nomination prospects. Obama still holds a tiny lead among Democrats nationally in the Gallup tracking poll, just as he did before this whole affair blew up.

Third, as Noam Scheiber of *The New Republic* has reported, most superdelegates have accepted Nancy Pelosi's judgment that the winner of the elected delegates should get the nomination. Instead of lining up behind Clinton, they're drifting away. Her lead among them has shrunk by about 60 in the past month, according to Avi Zentman of Politico.com.

In short, Hillary Clinton's presidential prospects continue to dim. The door is closing. Night is coming. The end, however, is not near.

Last week, an important Clinton adviser told Jim Vandellie and Mike Allen (also of Politico) that Clinton had no more than a 10 percent chance of getting the nomination. Now, she's probably down to a 5 percent chance.

Five percent. Let's take a look at what she's going to put her party through for the sake of that 5 percent chance: The Democratic Party is probably going to have to endure another three months of daily sniping. For another three months, we'll have the Carvelles likening the Obamas to Judas and former generals accusing Clintonites of McCarthyism.



The road to the White House

Delegates still needed to secure the Democratic presidential nomination:

- 402 Barack Obama
- 539 Hillary Clinton

For three months, we'll have the daily round of resume padding and sulfurous conference calls. We'll have campaign aides blurring "blue dress" and "one-by-one" because his-black references as they let slip their private contempt.

For three months (maybe more!) the campaign will proceed along in its Verlan-like pattern. There will be a steady fire of character assassination from the underlings, interrupted by the occasional firestorm of artillery when the contest touches upon race, gender or patriotism. The policy debates between the two have been long exhausted, so the only way to get the public really engaged is by poking some raw national wound.

For the sake of that 5 percent, this will be the sourest spring. About a fifth of Clinton and Obama supporters now say they wouldn't vote for either candidate in the general election.

Meanwhile, on the other side, voters get an unobstructed view of the Republican nominee. John McCain's approval ratings have soared 11 points. He is now viewed positively by 67 percent of Americans. A month ago, McCain was losing to Obama among independents by double digits in a general election matchup. Now McCain has a lead among this group.

For three more months, Clinton is likely to hurt Obama even more against McCain, without hurting him against herself. And all this is happening so she can preserve that 5 percent chance. When you step back and think about it, she is amazing. She possesses the audacity of hopelessness.

Why does she go on like this? Does Clinton privately believe that Obama is so incompetent that only she can deliver the policies they both support? Is she simply selfish, and willing to put her party through agony for the sake of her slender chance? Are leading Democrats so narcissistic that they would create bitter stagnation even if they were granted one-party rule?

The better answer is that Clinton's long rear-guard action is the logical extension of her relentlessly political life.

For nearly 20 years, she has been ensnared in the appar-

atus of political celebrity. Look at her schedule as first lady and ever since. Think of the thousands of staged events, the tens of thousands of times she has pretended to be delighted to see someone she doesn't know, the hundreds of thousands of times she has recited empty clichés and exhortatory banalities, the millions of photos she has posed for in which she is supposed to appear amiable or tough, the billions of politically opportune half-truths that have bounced around her head.

No wonder the Clinton campaign feels impersonal. It's like a machine for the production of politics. It flows ahead from event to event following its own iron logic. The only question is whether Clinton herself can step outside the apparatus long enough to turn it off and sidestep voluntarily or whether she will force the rest of her party to intervene and jam the gears.

If she does the former, she would surprise everybody with a display of self-sacrifice. Her campaign would crumble at once, register until North Carolina, then use that as an occasion to withdraw. If she does not, she would soldier on doggedly, taking down as many allies as necessary.

David Brooks is a columnist for *The New York Times*.

Times-News

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Butterscotch gone but certainly not forgotten

I'm writing this letter in honor of our horse cat, Butterscotch, aka the Scotch. Scotch was known by many names in his 14½ years at the Magic Valley Veterinary Hospital — some were comical and some can't be repeated (these were dependent on his worthy behavior).

He was a big, beautiful orange cat and he enjoyed laying in the middle of the counter so no work could be done without moving him. Many a purse has been "cleaned out" by him in our lobby so there would be enough room in it for him to lie, and many kitties have had his obnoxious greetings; i.e., his big orange mug smashed at the front of their least or carrier; salutations! Many food and water dishes were knocked over and many

clients had help writing out their checks. Our "Wal-Mart greeter" (massor) will be missed by all of us here and by all that know him.

Scotch, may all the toilet bowl lids be forever open! With great love from all of us at Magic Valley Veterinary Hospital. MICHELLE LEWIS Twin Falls (Editor's note: Michelle Lewis is a certified veterinary technician; she submitted this letter on half of the staff at Magic Valley Veterinary Hospital.)

Lack of foresight was Heyburn's undoing

Regarding the airport: Good job, City of Heyburn. Small town. Small minds. No visions. It's no wonder. Simplest didn't give you his property. Good luck, Hicksville. GARTH DAYLEY Burley

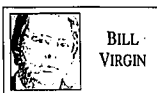
It's a house, not a lucky slot machine

In the great American sport of finger pointing and blame shifting, a new villain has emerged to explain the mortgage-finance crisis. The fault, it turns out, lies not with incompetent, deceptive lenders, not with speculative borrowers, greedy, neckless Wall Streeters, slumbering regulators, bubble-creator Alan Greenspan or all of the above.

Instead, the root cause is something far more fundamental: The American belief in the value of homeownership.

Or so says an emerging theory that argues that the attributes of owning a home have been, pardon the phrase, overlooked and that the U.S. is now so hellbent on getting people to buy, much of the current debacle could have been avoided.

So now is probably a useful time to review some basics about American attitudes toward homeownership and whether they did, in fact, contribute to the economy-shaking mess we're in now: 1. Homeownership is good. Homeownership — for the individual and for society — is good. 2. What's not so good, and what consequently hasn't worked, are the methods for encouraging home ownership and the expectations of what



BILL VIRGIN

ownership would accomplish financially for the buyers.

To judge solely from the volumes of aphorisms and sentimentalities about home, the significance of homeownership in American life goes far beyond the economic — becoming part of the nation's cultural fabric.

But tax and public policy have pushed homeownership for several practical reasons, starting with the stability homeownership brings to neighborhoods. People tend to have more reason to care about the well-being of their communities, the theory goes, when they have a financial stake in it, and are consequently more likely to take care of both home and community when they own a piece of it.

Yes, everyone has at least one neighbor whose house and lawn would seem to disprove the point. But as a sweeping generalization, homeownership has become a civic virtue that leads to stability and a long-term perspective among a community's residents. Homeownership was also

considered a financial virtue, being one of the few ways average Americans could achieve long-term financial solvency. Once they saved up for a down payment on that house, they could use the equity they slowly built up, from their own payments, price appreciation and improvements to the property, to move up to larger or nicer homes, to maybe even — and here's a novel concept today — to enjoy the income freed up by paying off the mortgage.

Which is about the point in our story where the trouble begins. Homeownership wasn't meant to be a slot machine that would pay off hugely to the lucky. But when it did, in overheated markets like California, home buyers began expecting double-digit annual percentage increases in home prices as the norm. Not only did those escalating prices raise the first rung of homeownership too high for many would-be buyers, it encouraged many borrowers and lenders to believe real-estate markets would ball them out of any mistakes they made.

Nor was homeownership supposed to be an ATM that never had to be restocked — although that's the way the banking industry treated it with the heavy promotion of an insidious product, the

home equity line of credit. "Tap the equity you've built up in your home!" the ads exhorted, never mentioning the risk those loans placed on that equity.

So lenders made loans to buyers who were stretching, even if they didn't get into trouble or if housing prices didn't drop. Which they did, in both cases.

And so here we are, with lenders swimming in red ink, borrowers losing their homes to foreclosure, the economy tanking and some expressing a dismissive attitude toward the basic concept of American homeownership.

Eventually the markets will correct, although the price of that correction is likely to be steep in lost jobs, houses, savings and economic health. If our present calamity strips away the excesses and false assumptions, and returns an appreciation of the merits of homeownership, that might be one of the few good things to come out of this.

Otherwise, families, neighborhoods, communities and society and the economy as a whole will suffer enormous long-term damage if another casualty of housing, the finance crisis is the belief that homeownership matters.

Bill Virgin is a columnist for the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer*.

Add your two cents

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

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

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

Cast your vote now for the Corporate Hall of Shame

Who says there's no justice for consumers? Opportunity has come again for consumers to vote their displeasure with corporate abuse.



IVAN PENN

The polls opened last week for the crowning of the worst corporations of the year: a 14-year-old project of Corporate Accountability International.

It's sort of like the frazzles (you know, the worst actor, worst picture Hollywood offers) for corporations that behaved badly over the past year.

There are eight nominees this year for the so-called Corporate Hall of Shame. The idea is by calling them out, consumers might persuade them to get their acts together.

is Nestle, for among other things, "threatening community water supplies with its bottled water branding." The others rounding out the eight nominees are Mattel, Countrywide, Wal-Mart (which is up for induction into the Hall of Shame for the second year in a row), Toyota, Wendy's, Blackwater Worldwide and Archer Daniels Midland.

Well, one of the nominees

Corporations nominated by Corporate Accountability International's Corporate Hall of Shame:

- Nestle (Nestle, Switzerland) for food processing, cosmetics; 2006 revenue: \$97.6 billion; 2006 net income: \$5 billion for water violations, including child labor exploitation, and illegal mining in water bottling plants.
- Archer Daniels Midland (Winneapolis, Minn.) grain, food processing, agriculture transportation; 2007 revenue: \$4.4 billion; for contributing to global warming by

bleaching endangered forests to develop palm oil plantations.

- Blackwater Worldwide (Mooresville, N.C.; security) 2007 revenue: unavailable; for killing, unarmaged Iraqi civilians, and using its ties to the Bush administration to secure lucrative contracts for security work in Iraq.
- Countrywide Financial (Costa Mesa, Calif.; mortgage banking, banking, capital markets, insurance) 2006 revenue: \$13 billion; 2006 net income: \$2.5 billion; for predatory mortgage lending to elderly and non-English speaking borrowers, and for gouging minority bor-

owers with discrimination rates and fees.

- Mattel (El Segundo, Calif.; toys and games) 2005 revenue: \$5.2 billion; 2005 net income: \$417 million; for producing lead-contaminated children's toys and lobbying against bans on other toxic chemicals.
- Toyota Motor Corp. (Tomball, Texas) cars and trucks; 2007 revenue: \$203 billion; 2007 net income: \$14 billion; for lobbying against measures to reduce global warming gas emissions while hypocritically sending millions to advertise its environmental "leadership" and PR in the

employees, including women, and for lobbying against child labor laws.

- Wal-Mart Stores Inc. (Bentonville, Ark.) retail; 2006 revenue: \$280 billion; 2006 net income: \$11 billion; for contributing to the growing global obesity epidemic, and for refusing to meet minimum wage regulations.

to seeing which corporations the voting public selects as the worst of the worst." Kelle Louaillier, executive director of Corporate Accountability International, said in a statement.

"Don't think it doesn't matter, Thomas Frist, CEO of Columbia/HCA, didn't take kindly to his company's induction: "I can't tell you how much that hurts the Hall of Shame," he told the Wall Street Journal after his com-

pany's 2000 induction. Consumers can cast their vote through July 4. The three companies with the most votes will be inducted this year.

Here's your opportunity to voice your displeasure with some corporate acts. Visit www.topcorporateabuse.org to cast your ballot.

Ivan Penn is a columnist for the St. Petersburg, Fla., Times.

Attention: Agricultural Employers

SNAKE RIVER FARMERS ASSOCIATION
Will host a special meeting featuring Dr. James Holt, who is widely regarded as the nation's leading expert on the H-2A temporary worker program and has played an active role on behalf of agricultural employers on all the major legislative and regulatory modifications of the program in the past 30 years.

Magic Valley Ag employers are encouraged to attend.

Dr. Holt will address realities Idaho farmers and dairymen face with respect to the availability of an adequate legal work force. He will also address the importance of enacting an emergency bill that would provide relief this season to agricultural employers facing labor shortages, including employers of workers in jobs not currently eligible for the H-2A program, such as dairies.

Labor: Issues and Options for Agriculture
by Dr. James Holt
Red Lion Canyon Springs Inn
Twin Falls, ID
Friday, March 28, 2008
1:30 pm to 4:00 pm

Let's try a dose of socialized medicine

"Socialized medicine" is the bogeyman that just won't be hurled at every national health plan since the New Deal — even Medicare, which critics warned would strip Americans of their freedom.



JACOB S. HACKER

And now it's back. Republicans from President Bush on down have invoked the specter of socialism in denouncing Democrats' attempts to expand publicly funded health insurance for children. Erstwhile GOP presidential contenders Rudy Giuliani and Mitt Romney lambasted the health plans of the leading Democratic candidates. The Republican nominee, Sen. John McCain, criticized Democrats for intending "to return to the failed, big-government mandates of the '60s and '70s to address problems such as the lack of

health-care insurance for some Americans." Never mind that nobody is proposing to turn doctors into public employees and hospitals into government institutions — the literal meaning of socialized medicine. The slogan gets its punch because it invokes a visceral public fear: that government involvement will drive up costs and drive down quality, wrecking the economy and damaging your health. Expanding government's role, the naysayers insist, will destroy what McCain calls "the world's best medical care."

But the critics have it backward. The best American medical care is indeed extremely good, but much of our system falls short — especially when you consider how costly it is, how heavy a burden it places on employers and families, and how many it excludes.

To see the advantages of public insurance, just look at the program that once prompted the fiercest charges of socialized medicine, Medicare. Since the introduction of cost controls in the 1990s, Medicare's expenditures have grown at a substantially slower rate than spending on private insurance, according to a recent analysis by the health-care experts Cristina Boccuti and Marilyn Moon. And despite Medicare's comparative frugality, the program's beneficiaries express greater happiness with their coverage than do privately insured patients

in surveys of consumer satisfaction.

The closer one looks, the more unexceptional — and often downright mediocre — U.S. care looks.

Given how much we shell out, what's really striking is how poor our care frequently is. Back in the 1940s and '50s, corporate America promoted private benefits as an alternative to government insurance on the grounds that they offered better value. Now bosses — and the rest of us — are living with a raw deal that U.S. business would never stand for in other areas of today's competitive economy.

It's time, in other words, to embrace a government role in health care, rather than run from it.

Jacob S. Hacker, a professor of political science at Yale University, wrote this article for *The Washington Post*.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hunters should be allowed to use ATV riding trails

More government control! When will it stop? On March 19, we invited members of the Forest Service to our meeting to tell us about the new travel plan. They told us that although the plan is done, we are still able to make future proposals. We were blindsided by them with an additional plan to close all spur roads. This means any road that is less than 1.5 miles long will be closed unless it goes to what they call a vista point. This means that the road that goes

to your favorite camping or hunting spot will no longer be available. They say that these roads serve no purpose other than for easier access hunting. Fish and Game says that our ATVs are a method of take and that they make game more vulnerable. The Forest Service and Fish and Game have proposed some closures. As long as they apply to everyone, I don't have a problem with it. I don't agree that we as hunters should be prohibited from riding trails that are legally open to ATVs just because we are hunting. I understand that modern methods have

made us lazy, but let's enforce the rules that are on the book. Road hunting is against the law, and that includes cross-country travel. Too many lazy people have given us a bad reputation. Before we lose all of our rights, let's stand together and put a stop to these actions. If you see someone doing something that is unethical, tell them so or report them. If you don't

like what is being done, write to your congressmen and let them know. Alone we are not heard, but if we band together, we will make enough noise that even Washington can't ignore.

MIKE RICONDO
Rupert
(Editor's note: Mike Ricondo is the president of the Snake River Trail Machine Riders Association.)

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Fund Raiser
Sunday, March 30th
In honor of...
Tina Privratsky-Brown

Tina has been diagnosed with breast cancer and will be having many treatments. This fund raiser is to help her and her family pay for the treatments.

For the Motorcycle fun run, meet at the Hub
1-84 Hwy 27, Heyburn. Sign-up between 9-9:30 am

Fund raiser will be held at the RiverSide Bar
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A6

BUSINESS

WEDNESDAY
MARCH 26, 2008

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

BUSINESS

BRIEFS

Refunds still waiting for some taxpayers

DENVER — Unclaimed refunds totaling almost \$4 million are awaiting about 5,000 Idaho taxpayers who failed to file a federal income tax return for 2004, according to the Internal Revenue Service.

Nationwide, \$1.2 billion awaits 1.3 million people. However, to collect the money, a return for 2004 must be filed with an IRS office no later than April 15.

The IRS estimates that half of those in Idaho who could claim refunds for tax year 2004 would receive more than \$464.

In some cases, individual had taxes withheld from their wages, or made payments against their taxes out of self-employed earnings, but had too little income to require filing a tax return.

Skywest to celebrate 25 years in Twin Falls

SkyWest Airlines, a subsidiary of SkyWest, Inc. this month is celebrating 25 years of service in Twin Falls.

To commemorate the anniversary, SkyWest and the Joslin Field Magic Valley Regional airport will host a celebration Thursday at 12:00 p.m.

Local dignitaries as well as SkyWest Airlines president and chief operating officer Russell "Chip" Childs, will be in attendance.

Members of the community are invited to join the festivities, where SkyWest will award two round-trip Salt Lake City tickets to one passenger.

SkyWest's special \$75 one-way anniversary fares are available for purchase through April 25 at www.delta.com, the ticket counter or by calling Delta Air Lines Reservations at 800-221-1212.

SkyWest employs 36 aviation professionals in Twin Falls that provide daily round trips to Salt Lake City.

Seven Idahoans to be inducted into Livestock Hall of Fame

Seven veterans in the livestock industry will be inducted into the 49th Southern Idaho Livestock Hall of Fame banquet April 8 at the Turf Club in Twin Falls.

Inductees are: dairyman Edward & Carol Southfield of Buhl, sheep producers Roscoe & Joyce Ward of Almo, dairy producer Mary Ellen Roth of Jerome, cattle producers Robert & Fredona Schenk of Burley, cattle buyer Russell Czaplinski of Twin Falls, University of Idaho grazing and range specialist Ken Sanders of Twin Falls, and nutrition management specialist and former UI dairy specialist Bob Ohlenssen of Twin Falls.

A no-host social time will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dinner will begin at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased through any Southern Livestock Hall of Fame board member or by calling the Ag Weekly office at (208)735-3244 or (208)735-3221.

— Staff and wire reports

Home sales in south-central Idaho rise in February

National home sales rise as prices tumble

By Joshua Palmer
Staff writer

Sales of existing homes in south-central Idaho edged up during the month of February — mimicking an unexpected increase in home sales throughout the rest of the nation.

Jerome was the only county in the region to see a decline in home sales, according to InterMountain Multiple Listing Service — a regional listing service comprised of nine real estate associations in southern Idaho and eastern Oregon.

Sales of existing homes in Twin Falls County for the month of February increased more than 2 percent compared to 2007. According to the report, there were about two more homes sold in February 2008 compared to the same month in 2007.

Existing home sales in Jerome County declined more than 38 percent from 13 homes sold in 2007 to 8 homes sold in 2008.

Nationwide sales of existing homes also posted an unexpected increase in February after falling for six straight months.

Analysts say the increased sales may have reflected more aggressive price cutting by sellers in some parts of the country, a real estate trade group reported.

Please see HOMES, Page A7

Consumer confidence drops to 5-year low

Pessimism about jobs, income fuels the decline

By Eileen Alt Powell
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Consumer confidence sank to a five-year low in March as tight credit markets, rising prices and worsening job prospects deepened worries that the economy has fallen into recession.

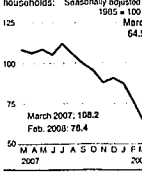
The Conference Board, a business-backed research group, said Tuesday that its Consumer Confidence Index plunged to 64.5 in March from a revised 76.4 in February.

The March reading was far below the 73.0 expected by analysts surveyed by Thomson/IFN.

Meanwhile, a widely watched index of U.S. home prices fell 11.4 percent in January, its steepest drop since data for the indicator was first collected in 1907. The decline reported Tuesday in the Standard & Poor's Case-Shiller index means prices have been growing more slowly or dropping for 19 consecutive months.

Index at 5-year low

The consumer confidence index from a survey of 5,000 U.S. households. Seasonally adjusted



SOURCE: The Conference Board

The weak readings depressed share prices on Wall Street. The Dow Jones industrial average dropped 74.37, or 0.6 percent, to 12,473.91 in morning trading. The Standard & Poor's 500 index and the Nasdaq composite index also fell. The Consumer

Conference Board's research center, said the latest index reading was the lowest since 61.4 in March 2003, just ahead of the U.S. invasion of Iraq.

"Consumers' outlook for business conditions, the job market and their income prospects is quite pessimistic and suggests further weakness in g

anxiety that households have because there are just so many uncertainties that everyone faces."

"These include the weakening job market, the fact that incomes haven't kept pace with inflation and 'growing recognition that households are less wealthy now than a year ago because of both the decline in home prices and in the value of their financial investments," he said.

Baumohl believes the economy fell into recession in the current quarter and that growth probably won't resume until the second half of the year, after government stimulus programs have had a chance to work.

These include measures by the Federal Reserve to boost credit markets and the plan by the Bush administration to distribute tax rebates starting this summer to encourage consumer spending.

The Fed on Tuesday said it had received bids of nearly \$89 billion for \$50 billion in short-term loans offered in its latest auction to banks. So far, the Fed has made \$26 billion in such loans since December to help ease credit conditions.

Baumohl said government actions should help the economy resume growth later this year, but that the recovery could be weak.

"Even if we emerge from recession sometime this summer, the second half of the year is going to feel bad," he said.

For most people, they won't be able to tell if the economy is growing 1 percent or shrinking 1 percent."



Desta Wouden, left, and her daughter Miriam Desta look at a Honda at Tamaroff Honda in Southfield, Mich. Wouden is worried about declining home values and an overall economic slowdown, especially in hard-hit southeast Michigan.

Putting on the brakes

U.S. auto sales likely to drop again in March as economy takes toll

By Tom Krisber
Associated Press writer

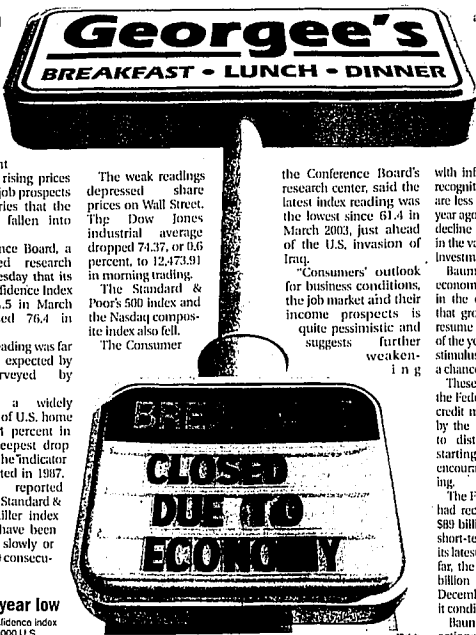
SOUTHFIELD, Mich. — Just like everyone else in Southeast Michigan, Desta Wouden is worried about declining home values, high gas prices and the economic slowdown.

But the computer software maintenance specialist still spent much of his Good Friday holiday inside the showroom at Tamaroff Honda, sitting in a deluxe new Accord and talking with a salesman.

No matter what happens to the economy, Wouden, 41, needs to replace his 1995 Honda Civic with 160,000 miles on it.

"I pushed it as much as I can," he said in the showroom of the dealership in the Detroit suburb of Southfield. "I need a good, dependable car."

Please see AUTOS, Page A7



A sign at the former Georgee's Restaurant in Lake Alfred, Fla. is seen Tuesday. Consumer confidence sank to a five-year low in March as tight credit markets, rising prices and worsening job prospects made many worry that the economy has fallen into recession.

Confidence Index has been weakening since July, and it is watched because lower consumer confidence tends to result in lower consumer buying, which is a drag on the economy.

Lynn Franco, director of

may be on the horizon," she added.

Economist Bernard Baumohl, executive director of The Economic Outlook Group in Princeton Junction, N.J., said consumers' present "reflects the great

New farm labels still absent

A year after NAFTA labels announced, only 4 farm pesticides and herbicides have them.

By Blake Nicholson
Associated Press writer

BISMARCK, N.D. — In announcing a joint label for farm pesticides and herbicides last year, regulators in the United States and Canada called it a milestone in the reduction of trade barriers. A year later, only four chemicals have a NAFTA label.

Only one of those chemicals is expected to be widely used in the field, and only one is on a list of 33 "priority" products compiled by 18 farm groups in the two countries. It

"It would be a stretch to say I'm happy with the progress. The progress has been slow."

— North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson

remains to be seen whether the new labels will save farmers money.

"It would be a stretch to say I'm happy with the progress," said North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson, who is president of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture. "The progress has been slow."

Jay Vroom, president and chief executive of CropLife America, a pesticide trade association based in Washington, D.C., said the industry is committed to the NAFTA label process and is gaining momentum. "The fact that we've seen progress indicates it's not just talk," Vroom said.

Some officials say U.S. farmers may not see true cost savings until import duties and other fees are reduced or eliminated.

Farmers have long pushed for chemical "harmonization," saying prices for the same product often differ in Canada and the United States. A 2005 North Dakota State University study determined that American farmers could save \$17 million each year through access to pesticides north of the border that

Please see LABELS, Page A7

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	21.97	▲ .10	Dell Inc.	20.42	▼ .14	Idacorp	32.60	▼ .10
Lithia Mo.	11.46	▲ .27	Micron	5.79	▼ .05	Supervalu	28.83	▲ .18

COMMODITIES

For more see page A7

Live cattle	91.15	▼ .73	May Oil	101.22	▼ .36
Mar. gold	934.60	▼ 16.3	Mar. Silver	17.76	▼ .69

Today in business

WASHINGTON — Commerce Department reports on new home sales for February.

WASHINGTON — Commerce Department reports on durable goods orders for February.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table with columns: Name, Last, Chg, Assets, and various fund names like Fidelity, Vanguard, etc.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change, and various commodity names like Wheat, Soybeans, etc.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Change, and various futures contracts like Corn, Soybeans, etc.

BEANS

Table with columns: Bean Type, Price, and various bean varieties like Black, Green, etc.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Grain Type, Price, and various grain varieties like Wheat, Corn, etc.

NYSE

Table with columns: Name, Vol, Last, Chg, and various NYSE stock symbols.

AMEX

Table with columns: Name, Vol, Last, Chg, and various AMEX stock symbols.

NASDAQ

Table with columns: Name, Vol, Last, Chg, and various NASDAQ stock symbols.

INDEXES

Table with columns: Index Name, Value, Change, and various market indices.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table with columns: Stock Name, Price, Change, and various local stock symbols.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns: Market Name, Value, Change, and various market summary data.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Names: Stocks are listed alphabetically by the company's full name (not its abbreviation). Company names made up of initials appear at the beginning of each listing.

Labels

Continued from page A6. So-called harmonization bills failed in Congress, but last March, state and federal officials announced that farm chemical makers...

Labels

side marketed as Far-Go in the United States and as Avaxid in Canada, only three more have received labels, said Jim Gray, the lead farm chemist regulator in North Dakota.

Labels

Toprak, chief industry analyst at the information site Edmunds.com. He predicts that when automakers report their U.S. sales results for March on Tuesday, the U.S. market will be down 12 percent when compared with March of 2007.

Labels

Canadian Horticulture Council, said last June that they wanted labels for at least 10 of its 33 priority products to be in the same stage of development by the end of 2007.

Labels

most of their money on SUVs and trucks, and those segments have been suffering quite a bit." At Crippen Buick-Pontiac-GMC-Mazda-Volvo in suburban Lansing, the foreign brand mix has shifted in GM brands in the first three weeks of the month when compared with the same time last year, said owner Jeff Crippen.

Labels

But Buick, Pontiac and GM are still the biggest chunk of the business. He was hoping for a rebound in the final week of the month. Lehman Brothers analyst Brian Johnson, in a note to investors, predicted continued weakness in GM stocks this year due in large part to tighter lending standards on domestics is negative," Toprak said.

Labels

Real estate agents in south-central Idaho say data provided by the multiple listing service might not accurately reflect the market because the data sometimes includes duplicate listings. Analysts cautioned against reading too much into the one-month rise in sales throughout the nation. Many economists are predicting that the steep slump in housing will not bottom out until later this year after prices fall further and allow higher levels of unsold inventories to be reduced.

Homes

Continued from page A6. The National Association of Realtors said that sales of existing homes rose by 2.9 percent in February to a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 5.6 million units. It was the biggest increase in a year and caught economists by surprise — they had been expecting sales to decline. The trade group reported that the median existing sales price in February fell to \$185,900. That was the largest year-over-year drop in records since 1999. Contrary to other regions of Idaho and most parts of the nation, prices for existing homes in south-central Idaho increased an average of 16 percent since February 2007. Cassia was the only county where the average price declined over the past year. By region of the country, sales surged by 11.3 percent in the Northeast and were up 2.5 percent in the Midwest and 2.1 percent in the South. The only region of the country to see an average decline in the sales price was the West, where they dropped by 1.1 percent. The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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'08 DODGE 1500 SLT



Hertz Gold Certified

- CREW
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Wheels
- Tow Pkg

Hertz Price
\$26,995

One at this price #9793

'07 FORD EDGE



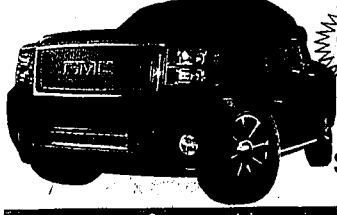
Hertz Gold Certified

- AWD
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Wheels
- Roof Rack

Hertz Price
\$24,995

One at this price #9789

'07 GMC 2500 SLE CREW CAB



Hertz Gold Certified

- 4X4
- Pwr Seat
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Running Boards
- Wheels
- Tow Pkg

Hertz Price
\$28,995

One at this price #9791

'06 BUICK LACROSSE



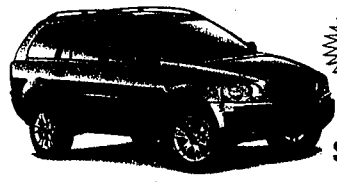
Hertz Gold Certified

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

Hertz Price
\$15,995

One at this price #9466

'05 VOLVO XC-90



Hertz Gold Certified

- 4X4
- Pwr Seats
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Leather
- 3-Seats
- Sunroof
- Wheels

Hertz Price
\$29,995

One at this price #9781

'05 CHEVY IMPALA



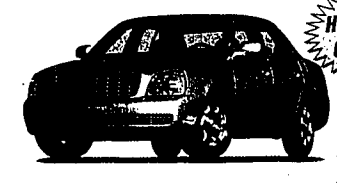
Hertz Gold Certified

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

Hertz Price
\$13,995

One at this price #9396

'02 CADILLAC DEVILLE



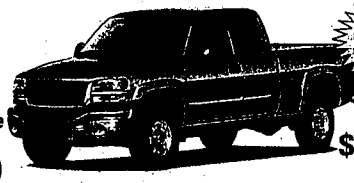
Hertz Gold Certified

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

Hertz Price
\$12,995

One at this price #9186

'04 GMC 1500 SLE EXT CAB



Hertz Gold Certified

- 4X4
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Wheels

Hertz Price
\$19,995

One at this price #9788

'06 DODGE DAKOTA SLT CREW SPORT



Hertz Gold Certified

- 4X4
- Pwr Seat
- Pwr W-L-M
- Tilt/Cruise
- CD
- Tow Pkg

Hertz Price
\$22,995

One at this price #9612

'08 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX



Hertz Gold Certified

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

Hertz Price
\$17,995

One at this price #8896

Hertz

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INSIDE: Jazz beat up Bobcats to keep pace in tight Western Conference playoff race, B2



INSIDE: Local roundup, B2 | NBA & NIT, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Weather, B4

Dice-K wild, but Ramirez gives Boston win over Oakland

By Howard Ullman
Associated Press writer

TOKYO — Boston, Japan, it doesn't matter: Manny Ramirez strikes a winning pose for the Boston Red Sox. In the earliest major league opener, the Red Sox started their World Series tie defense with a signature Manny moment. Ramirez stood frozen in the batter's box, admiring his 10th-inning drive to center field off Huston Street, thinking it would be a three-run homer. Instead, the ball bounced off the wall for his second five-run double, good enough to lift the Red Sox over the Oakland Athletics 6-5 on Tuesday night. "Daisuke Matsuzaka excited fans at the start, and Ramirez at the finish. "Ultimately, it was a great ballgame," Matsuzaka said through a translator. "I hope people got a chance to enjoy it live." A crowd of 44,628, including fans from Boston, cheered at the Tokyo

Republicans issue new Clemens report; attack Democrats' findings

(AP) — The Roger Clemens vs. Brian McNamee dispute over whether the seven-time Cy Young Award winner took performance-enhancing drugs has become a feud between Republicans and Democrats, reprising the partisan nature of last month's Clemens-McNamee congressional hearing, the leading Republican on that committee released a report Tuesday questioning some of the Democratic majority's conclusions about the investigation. The 109-page report contains details Rep. Tom Davis believes could challenge the credibility of Brian McNamee, the personal trainer who testified under oath he injected Clemens with steroids and human growth hormone from 1998-01. Minority staff from the House

Committee on Oversight and Government Reform will pass along additional information to the Justice Department. The FBI is investigating whether Clemens testified truthfully to Congress. "Did Roger Clemens lie to us?" Davis said in a release accompanying the report. "Some of the evidence seems to say he did; other information suggests he told the truth," the Virginia Republican said. "It's a far more complicated picture than some may want to believe. Memories fade and recollections differ. That's human nature, not criminal conduct." The report does not take issue with the basis for the criminal referral — the core matter of whether Clemens lied to Congress about taking per-

formance-enhancers. But it does question McNamee's versions of events on several points. "It includes portions of previously undisclosed interviews with new witnesses and addresses issues such as whether Clemens attended a party at then-teenage Jose Canseco's house in 1998; information about injections of vitamin B-12; and whether Clemens developed an abscess on his buttocks. The report — "Weighing the Committee Record: A Balanced Review of the Evidence Regarding Performance Enhancing Drugs in Baseball" — stands as a counterpoint to the 18-page memo compiled by majority staff and released by chairman Rep. Henry Waxman, a California Democrat, on Feb. 27.

Caroline" after the last out. Ramirez, starting the final guaranteed season of his eight-year contract, hit a tying two-run double in the sixth inning and rookie Brandon Moss hit an RBI single that gave Boston a 3-2 lead and chased Oakland starter Joe Blanton. Matsuzaka, pitching in Japan for the first time since joining the Red Sox last season, left after five wild innings and 95 pitches, and Jack Hanahan's two-run homer off Kyle Snyder put Oakland ahead 4-3 in the sixth. Moss, playing because L.D. Drew hurt his knee in batting practice, hit a solo homer in the ninth off Street (0-1). Then, in the 10th, Julio Lugo reached on an infield single leading off, Dustin Pedroia sacrificed and

Dome, which hosted baseball's opener for the third time in nine

years. It was 6:10 a.m. back in Boston when the season began, and

organizers tried to make it feel like Fenway Park by playing "Sweet

Please see **OPENER**, Page B4



Magic Valley Christian's Zach DeKruyf lines up a putt on the No. 9 hole at the Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course Tuesday afternoon. DeKruyf shot a 34 to claim medalist honors at the nine-hole event.

MEN'S NCAA TOURNAMENT Choosing the elite

A capsule look at the Sweet 16 matchups

By Jim O'Connell
Associated Press writer

Thursday's Games
EAST REGIONAL
At Charlotte, N.C.
NORTH CAROLINA (1) VS. WASHINGTON STATE (4)
Something has to give North Carolina, scoring in the nation in second at 89.9 points per game, became the first team since Loyola Marymount in 1990 to break the 100 mark in its first two games. Washington State, second in the nation in defense allowing 56.1 points per game, allowed a total of 81 points in its first two games, one of the lowest figures in the shot clock age.

Both teams look good when they're running but both can get physical on front so his might not be the high-scoring game most people expect.

WEST REGIONAL
At Phoenix
UCLA (1) VS. WESTERN KENTUCKY (12)
UCLA set a modern record allowing a total of 78 points in the first two games. Still, the Bruins just squeaked by Texas A&M in the second round as Kevin Love and Darren Collison combined for 40 of their 53 points and made every big play down the stretch. Western Kentucky had the signature moment of the first round — Ty Rogers' 26-footer at the overtime buzzer against Drake — and also lost double-figure leads in both wins.

WEST VIRGINIA (7)
These teams have almost identical profiles as far as offense, defense and depth. The one advantage may be Xavier's experience in the tournament and the fact the Musketeers still harbor the disappointment of last-year's second-round loss to Ohio State where they blew a big lead late, something they did again in the second round against Purdue.

Tennessee (2) VS. LOUISVILLE (3)
Tennessee struggled for most of its opener against American and then combined overtime to beat Butler. The Volunteers were needed 11-for-38 from 3-point range. Louisville shot 59 percent in an easy, second-round win over Oklahoma but it was the Cardinals' defense that was most impressive, especially on the perimeter — 9-for-35 from 3-point range — and in forcing a total of 35 turnovers.

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Nice day for golf

MVC's DeKruyf, Filer boys shine at match

Times-News
Zach DeKruyf of Magic Valley Christian shot a 34 to win individual medalist honors but was the host Filer boys golf team that took the top team honors at Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course on Tuesday. Filer was led by Jared Watt, who shot a 38 to card the second-best score of the day at the nine-hole event. Filer shot a team score of 160 followed by Magic Valley Christian with a 190 and

Ohl finished third with a 208. MVC's squad might as well be called the "Zach Attack" as DeKruyf, Zach Rinard, Zach Van Esch and Zac Bickel turned in the Conquerors' top-four scores. On the girls side, Magic Valley Christian edged Buhl by one stroke, 239 to 240. Michelle Kooistra of Magic Valley Christian shot the low score with a 51 and Cori Flint of

Buhl was second with a 52.
Results
Team scores: 1. Filer 160, 2. Magic Valley Christian 190, 3. Oakley 208.
Individual scoring
Filer: Jared Watt 38, Alex Watt 40, Adam Russell 41, Tyson Johnson 41, Chase Holder 45.
Magic Valley Christian: Zach DeKruyf 34, Zach Rinard 47, Zach Van Esch 50, Zac Bickel 50, Cole Snyder 60, Cole Snyder 60.
Oakley: Trent Robinson 40, Addison Schugel 49, Plaston Robinson 54, Nate Pickett 58, Brenton Lind 78.
Buhl: Garrett Soren 46, Joel Christensen 47, Mark Montgomery 63, Matt Brown 68, Steven Kila, Michael Stricker 63.
Girls
Team scores: 1. Magic Valley Christian 239, 2. Buhl 240.
Individual scoring
Magic Valley Christian: Michelle Kooistra 51, Kristina Retana 54, Malena Wulley 57, Kierah Retana 61.
Buhl: Cori Flint 62, Karla Walker 58, Megan Smalley 64, Priscilla Soeder 68, Ashley Jones 76.
Filer: Sara Kaiser 62, Kimberly Matthews 64, Oakley: Brittan Green 62, Maddy Peterson 70.

Filer sweeps SCIC foe Declo behind Barlogi and big bats

Williams hit grand slam opening win

By Zach Kyle
For the Times-News
DECLO — The visiting Filer Wildcats outpitched and outslugged the Declo Hornets to sweep a Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference doubleheader by scores of 11-1 and 10-5 on Tuesday. Filer pitcher Taylor Barlogi held Declo to three infield hits in Game 1 to claim the win. The freshman struck out three batters, walked two and pitched all six innings. "We worked all winter with her, and she's just now starting to find her groove," Filer coach Bob Hansing said. "She's only a freshman. She's going to be a heck of a pitcher." Karl Osterhout, Declo's first-year softball coach, said the Hornets were tentative at the plate. "We didn't come out with our



Filer's Taylor Barlogi pitches during the first game of a doubleheader between the Wildcats and the Declo Hornets on Tuesday at Declo High School.

The Wildcats, however, brought their bats, scoring 21 runs on 24 hits in the two games. Shelby Nutting led the charge, hitting homers in both games to go with a double and triple. Teammate Len Williams also went yard with a grand slam in the opener. Hansing predicted Jill Haney, Nutting and Williams will all hit their share of deep balls this season. "We've got three that will hit them out," Hansing said. "When they get their swings down, it's going to take a big park to keep them in." Declo hitters were more assertive in the nightcap, scoring five runs on 10 hits. Leadoff hitter Shelby Koyle got the offense going with two singles, and Sarah Silcox provided some pop with an RBI double. Because an earlier doubleheader was canceled due to weather, the Filer games were Declo's first of the season. Osterhout said the Hornets got over some jitters and played better in Game 2, but they still have a ways to go.

"(We) came out a lot more relaxed and a lot more willing to swing," Osterhout said. "They still didn't swing the way I'd like them to, but we're a lot happier with the second game." Filer (4-2) hosts Payette today at 3:30 p.m. Declo (0-2) will travel to play Glenns Ferry next Tuesday afternoon at 3:30. Osterhout said the Hornets have much to work on in practice. "Over the past couple of years, they just have stressed the fundamental techniques, so we're starting over with all of them; freshman, junior, senior," Osterhout said. "We're all learning."
Game 1
Filer 11, Declo 1, six innings
Filer: Taylor Barlogi 10-1, 11-1
Declo: Jill Haney 1-1, 1-1
Taylor Barlogi and Karla Walker, Sarah Koyle and Kyle Williams, Kierah Retana, JP Hanning, Matt Brown, Nate Pickett, Brenton Lind, Zach DeKruyf, Zach Rinard, Zach Van Esch, Zac Bickel, Cole Snyder, 38, 40, 41, 41, 45, 34, 47, 50, 50, 60, 60, 40, 49, 54, 58, 63, 63, 62, 58, 64, 68, 76, 62, 64, 63, 70.
Game 2
Filer 10, Declo 5
Filer: Jill Haney 10-1, 10-1
Declo: Sarah Silcox 1-1, 1-1
Taylor Barlogi and Karla Walker, Sarah Koyle and Kyle Williams, Kierah Retana, JP Hanning, Matt Brown, Nate Pickett, Brenton Lind, Zach DeKruyf, Zach Rinard, Zach Van Esch, Zac Bickel, Cole Snyder, 38, 40, 41, 41, 45, 34, 47, 50, 50, 60, 60, 40, 49, 54, 58, 63, 63, 62, 58, 64, 68, 76, 62, 64, 63, 70.

TWIN FALLS 10-DAY FORECAST

Today: Cloudy with a good chance for showers. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Highs in the upper 40s...

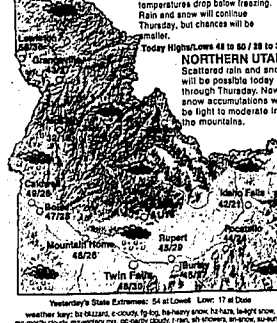
QUILLY RAIN 10-DAY FORECAST

Today: Cloudy with a good chance for showers. Northwest winds 10 to 20 mph. Highs in the middle 40s...

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS.

Snow will be likely through Thursday. Light to moderate snow accumulations can be expected. Winds will be strong enough to create areas of blowing snow and poor visibility.



TWIN FALLS 10-DAY FORECAST

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

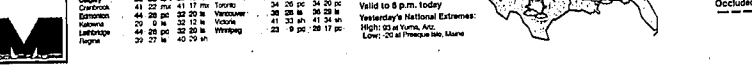
ALMANAC TWIN FALLS

Table with 4 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure. Includes sunrise and sunset times.

REGIONAL 10-DAY FORECAST

Large table listing 10-day forecasts for various cities across the region, including Boise, Salt Lake City, and Reno.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



REGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY: 'I can't imagine a person becoming successful who doesn't give this life everything he's got.'

MLB

David Ortiz was intentionally walked with two outs. Ramirez hit a drive to deep center and was sure it would be a home run. It wasn't, and he had to hustle to make it to second.

Webb, Halladay struggle through final tuneups

Brandon Webb and Roy Halladay probably wouldn't mind another spring training tuneup. If there was any time left... Both former Cy Young Award winners struggled through their final exhibition starts...

Tourney

Two tournament wins. The Jayhawks had two easy wins because of their defense, but their size that will give Villanova problems. Kansas outrebounds opponents by almost eight a game...

Impressive second-halves seen in the tournament in a long time. Georgetown is one of the top defensive teams in the country yet the Hoyas had no way to a 17-point lead. Davidson is effective with its subtle defensive pressure which forced Georgetown into 20 turnovers.

Advertisement for DMA's Mail Preference Service. Includes text: 'YOU CAN PUT A STOP TO THE TORRENT OF JUNK MAIL THAT COMES TO YOUR MAILBOX! GO TO www.magicalvalley.com AND CLICK ON THE GREEN HEART'

INSIDE: Potato enchiladas in 35 minutes, C3



INSIDE: Sensible Home, C2 | Comics, C6-7 | World, C8

Contest narrows to 4

From the heartache and triumph of tough competition, the Flavorful Four emerge. And the semifinal lineup is full of surprises.

None of the four eateries vying for a chance to play for the 2008 championship are among the Tournament of Taco's top seeds; the tacos that earned the most nominations from

Times-News readers dropped out in the first two rounds of testing, beat down by the competition.

And these are the four that did it. The key is impressing our culinary referees. We dispatched employees from various areas of the newsroom, each one tasting

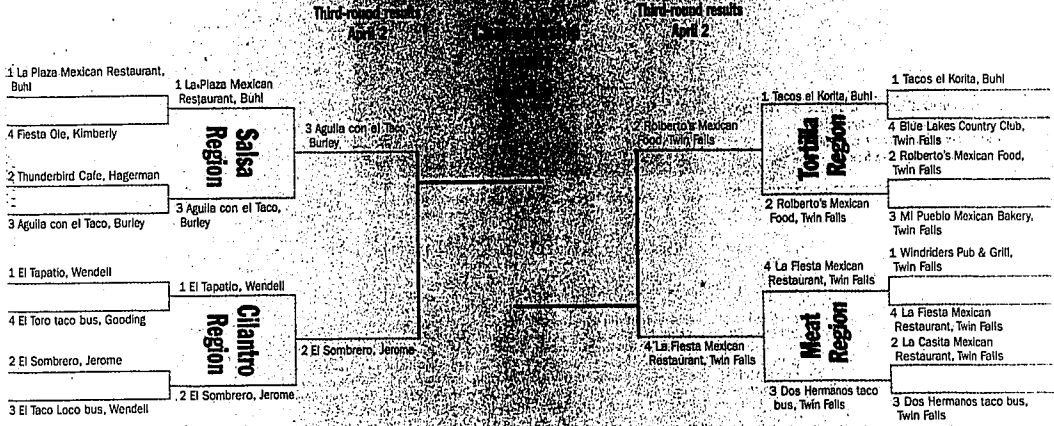
tacos at a pair of restaurants. One favorite from each matchup now advances to the third round, to be evaluated by another journalist.

Choose your sides and root for your favorites online at Magicvalley.com. Then next week in Food & Home, learn who faces off for the final game.



Magic Valley's

Flavorful Four



El Sombrero vs. El Tapatio



El Sombrero takes quarterfinal win

Like most people balancing a busy work day, I'm seeking a wallet-friendly lunch that's served with quality and promptness.

After testing the beef tacos at El Tapatio in Wendell and El Sombrero in Jerome, I chose the latter as the winner in all three categories.

Service at El Sombrero was prompt and friendly. The food was tasty and about a buck less than a similar meal at El Tapatio. For \$5.25, I got the lunch special at El Sombrero, which included two shredded beef tacos on corn tortillas, plus a side of rice and the traditional basket of chips

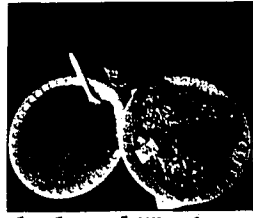
and salsa. The tacos had a robust flavor that wasn't too spicy and a generous amount of cheese — my culinary weakness.

The small amount of meat in the tacos at El Tapatio tasted bland; however, cilantro and lime added zest where spices were absent. Service was friendly but slow — after waiting about 10 minutes, I had to see the cashier about my check.

So, for a tasty taco on the run, I suggest El Sombrero for its speedy service, thrifty price and quality food.

— Joshua Palmer, business editor

Roberto's vs. Tacos el Korita



Roberto's squeaks by el Korita

Both Roberto's Mexican Food in Twin Falls and Tacos el Korita in Buhl play a solid game of carne asada: plentiful meat that's spiced right (despite some gristle), tasty tortillas and enough fresh stuff on top to round out the meal. Roberto's provides a small bar of topping options, and Tacos el Korita serves up onion, cilantro and green cabbage on its carne asada.

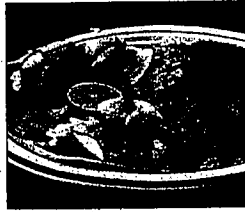
Both gave me incredibly rapid service. Initially, Tacos el Korita held the price advantage, with three of its small \$1 tacos and a \$2 side of rice and beans roughly equivalent to Roberto's \$6.29 combo with

two larger tacos plus rice and beans. But the \$1.25 I had to pay for bottled water at the Buhl eatery — which wouldn't serve tap water — erased that advantage.

That left setting as the match's deciding factor: That's not a strong point for Roberto's, where I sat on two broken seats before landing on a usable one to gaze out on Blue Lakes Boulevard traffic. But at Tacos el Korita, I never quite got over the grittiness of the dining room walls and floor (clean tables, though).

So it's Roberto's for the semifinals.
— Virginia Hutchins, deputy editor/features

Agulla con el Taco vs. La Plaza



Agulla advances after tough game

As far as I'm concerned this was the toughest matchup of the competition.

These two local eateries offered similar, but tasty, options for tacos. And both had high points that swayed the decision back and forth.

I ate three tacos at La Plaza in Buhl — beef, chicken and pork — and two carne asada D.F.

Tacos at Agulla con el Taco in Burley. Both cafe-style restaurants offered what Agulla's menu told me were Mexico's city-style tacos — small corn tortillas topped with meat, cilantro and onion with a juicy lime on the side. The ingredients were fresh, and I topped off all tacos with a generous squirt of tomatillo salsa from the squeeze

bottles provided. The sour of the lime and tomatillo salsa blended with the salty meat and corn tortillas to make the perfect taco. Both meals were cheap and filling, and the friendly staffs were quick. I was in and out in less than half an hour at Agulla, and just a little longer at La Plaza, which had a bigger lunch crowd.

But they did have some differences. Agulla gets style points for decor: Pretty murals simulating an open plaza beat out La Plaza's ceramic geckos and sepia-toned photos.

La Plaza scored some early points for great meat. The lean beef, chicken and pork was grilled and spiced with what might have been cumin. A great flavor addition.

The tortillas gave Agulla an edge — tastier and fided with a sprinkling of cheese between the two corn tortillas. The taco there also had more to offer: More meat and toppings left no room for the pico de gallo.

This was a tough game to call, but in the end, there can be only one winner: I'm passing the D.F. Tacos at Agulla along to the next round.

— Megan Otto, news editor

AND
QUARTER
TACO
ON
NEXT
THE
WHO'S
CHAMPION

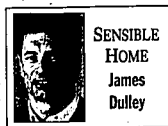


THE FINALS

Who's playing
the championship match?
Next week in Food & Home

Clearing the clutter of efficiency claims

DEAR JIM: Whenever I shop to buy an electric or gas appliance, I hear and see many "efficiency" claims. It gets confusing to determine which are legitimate. How can I compare the real efficiencies of products? — John K.



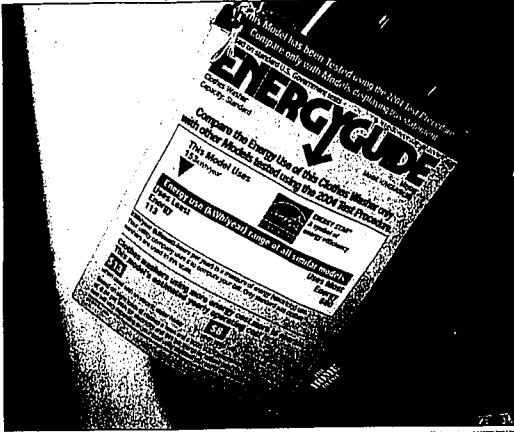
SENSIBLE HOME
James
Dulley

DEAR JOHN: It is important to buy efficient products, but it can get confusing. Depending upon the type of product and the fuel it uses, efficiency ratings can mean different things. Also, some manufacturers and/or salespeople play fast and loose with the accuracy of efficiency claims.

A basic definition of efficiency for any energy-consuming product is the amount of usable energy (heat, light, sound, etc.) output divided by the energy input. The energy input is usually an electric plug in the wall or a gas or propane line coming into your house. Electricity input is usually measured as wattage and gas or propane input as Btu (Btu per hour).

For nonenergy-consuming products, efficiency is more difficult to compare. Most home products, such as doors, windows, skylights, etc., base the efficiency rating upon some industry testing standard. Keep in mind, the conditions at your specific house may be different than the test standard, so also seek the advice of reputable local contractors.

For windows and doors, the efficiency is related to how airtight they are and the U-value (heat flow characteristics) when tested to the industry standard. Always ask about who did the prod-



Read the energy label on a clothes washer to compare its energy usage (efficiency) with other models.

uct testing. It should be an independent laboratory or an industrywide trade association. Check with Energy Star (www.energystar.gov) for listings of the most efficient ones.

Most plug-in electric heating devices and heaters, from the cheapest to the heavily advertised ones for \$400, are nearly 100 percent efficient.

All of the electricity consumed ends up as heat inside your house. The actual differences in operating costs depend upon how you use one and whether the design is the proper one for your specific needs.

Always read efficiency claims thoroughly when comparing products. For example, some lower-quality gas space heaters may claim a very high 90 percent "combustion" efficiency. Combustion efficiency refers to how efficiently the gas burns, not how efficiently the

heat is transferred into your house. It's "actual" heating efficiency may be only 70 percent.

For electrical appliances, such as window air conditioners, calculate the efficiency yourself by dividing the Btu/h cooling output by the electric wattage shown on the nameplate. For other major appliances, such as washers and refrigerators, rely on the yellow energy label. Your usage habits often have more impact on the overall efficiency than the appliance design itself.

For central heating and cooling equipment (furnaces, air conditioners and heat pumps), the manufacturer's efficiency ratings should be accurate. They are AFUE (annual fuel utilization efficiency for furnaces), SEER (seasonal energy efficiency ratio for air conditioners) and HSPF (heating seasonal performance factor for heat

pumps).

DEAR JIM: I have a large microwave oven which has a glass turntable in it. I have heard I should not remove the turntable. I want to put a large rectangular casserole in there. Can I remove the turntable? — Pat L.

DEAR PAT: The purpose of the round glass turntable in a microwave oven is to rotate the food for more even cooking. Many smaller and older microwave ovens do not have a rotating glass turntable on the bottom. The only problem you may have is that the hub, which seats in the bottom of the turntable, will still be turning. This will rub on the bottom of the casserole. Use some plastic spacers, not metal, to raise the casserole a little.

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

Tear down the wall(paper)

By Adrian Higgins
The Washington Post

Removing old, uo-strip-able wallpaper is widely known to be a miserable chore, but we found a technique that made pretty short work of it.

- **Wearing rubber gloves and safety glasses, peel off the decorative top layer of the old wallpaper to reveal the paper backing that is likely to be stuck stubbornly to the wall.**

- **Fill a spray bottle with very hot tap water, then mist a section of paper until you can see drips develop. (If the room is heated, turn down the heat to reduce evaporation so the paper will stay damp longer.) After five minutes, repeat with fresh, piping hot water, then wait again.**

- **Using a large sponge and a dishpan, liberally apply a commercial wallpaper stripper solution. We used a product called M-1 Wallpaper Remover by a**

company named Jomaps. Give the solution another five minutes to soak in and soften paper and paste.

- **Take a long-handled scraper with a 4- or 5-inch-wide replaceable blade. Push the scraper away from you, angled to remove paper and paste. The angle is key, and will take some experimenting: Too low an angle and the scraper will not do its job; too high and it will gouge the plaster or drywall surface, which will need to be repaired with spackling compound. Practice in an inconspicuous area until you get the feel for it. A long, strong stroke should remove the paper efficiently.**

- **Change the blade when it begins to lose its edge. An average-sized room may take six to eight blades.**
- **If you reach a stubborn area, repeat the wetting and waiting steps.**

- **Stand back and admire the clean wall you have uncovered, ready for a fresh look.**

Take to the trails
Just in time for spring, the insider's guide to the Twin Falls trail system.
Monday in Image

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Best products from home show

By Gary Dymski
Newsday

These 10 products, big and small, should be a hit in 2008 with homeowners and contractors. Many were on display recently at the International Builders' Show, which featured nearly 1,900 exhibitors. Here's why these 10 are a cut above.

Rigidid SeeSnake Micro

The SeeSnake Micro brings the inspection game to the small contractor at an affordable price (less than \$200), says Danny Lipford, TV and Web personality for "Today's Homeowner." Visual inspections can be made in hard-to-reach areas — inside wall cavities, deep into plugged drains and even behind large commercial equipment. Being able to look into walls and plumbing lines allows contractors to give more accurate estimates. Lipford says. The unit is lightweight (1.2 pounds); handheld design features a color LCD monitor and three cable-tip accessories (mirror, magnet and hook). The flexible cable has a waterproof camera at its tip and can reach from 10 to 30 feet (with attachments). Four AA batteries provide up to three hours of continuous run time. The SeeSnake also is available in two larger sizes.

Kwikset SmartKey

Lose a house key and change the locks, right? That's not the case with Kwikset's SmartKey technology.

Nor does the homeowner have to call a locksmith for costly rekeying. SmartKey's groundbreaking lock technology allows users to rekey locks quickly and easily for improved access control and one-key convenience. In 30 seconds, users can take three simple steps to match multiple locks to one key, or to replace a lost or fanned key with a new, secure key, all while the lock remains in place. By using the included SmartKey Learn Tool and the existing functioning key, owners can safely match or change keys without special training or outside contractors. SmartKey's key technology also is secure against unauthorized key changing, because it requires both the

working key and the SmartKey Learn Tool to rekey the lock. Lock sets start at about \$40 at home centers and hardware stores.

Triplex and Sixplex Electrical Outlets

Made by Leviton, the Acenti line is the industry's first integrated triplex receptacle, plus it offers a design flair, coming in eight colors, including onyx, slate and driftwood. Acenti receptacles have all the safety features of conventional twin receptacles, are available in 15-amp and 20-amp ratings and fit in traditional electrical wall boxes. (The sixplex receptacle does take a special box.) Acenti triplex receptacles are

about \$20; the sixplex, about \$70. They're sold at select Home Depot stores as special-order items, and through electrical supply stores.

Jeld-Wen folding door system

With doors that fold accordion style, Jeld-Wen's system combines the architectural features of a classic French door with the openness of a sliding door. The result

Please see HOME, Page C5

Gadgets of the Month

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For more information, please call 734-0682

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Burley pair are world-class Dutch oven cooks

BURLEY (AP) — Three years after Omar Alvarez and Dian Mayfield picked up their first Dutch oven, the Burley residents are seasoned veterans and world champion chefs.

The pair walked away with top honors at the 2008 International Dutch Oven Society World Championship Dutch Oven Competition this month in Sandy, Utah.

"We were going for third place," Alvarez said after last year's fourth-place finish. Their winning meal, which beat out 15 other finalists, consisted of a flat iron steak with a wine cream sauce and a coffee and Kahlua flavored three-layered cake.

A Dutch oven is a thick-walled cooking pot, usually made of cast iron, with a tight-fitting lid.

At last year's competition, they cooked more traditional dishes, but noticed the competition was getting creative, Mayfield said. "We knew we had to step up to the plate," Mayfield told the South Idaho Press.

The winning recipe brought \$5,000, a ribbon and a plaque. Alvarez and Mayfield hope their win will inspire others in the area.

"We really want to re-ignite the interest of Dutch oven cooking in the Magic Valley," Mayfield said.

The pair, who have been friends for 20 years, plan to hold a Dutch oven fundraiser dinner for Meals on Wheels in May.

"They aren't the first world champions from Burley, however. Carla Boucaw won the competition nearly a decade ago.

"Here we go 11 years later and we're bringing the title back to Burley," Alvarez said. "I think that's pretty neat to have two world champions living in Burley."

Another area team, Ryan and Alesha Ketterling of Paul, also competed at the World Championships in Utah.

Mayfield said the camaraderie between Dutch oven chefs is amazing.

"There are no people on Earth I have met like Dutch oven people," she said.

Mayfield shared a secret of their success.

"I think it's a love of cooking," Mayfield said. "The details of cooking in a Dutch oven, you can learn that over time, but you have to start with that love."



Potato enchiladas in 35 minutes

By Bonnie S. Benwick
The Washington Post

In the time it takes some traditional enchiladas to bake, this shortcut preparation can make it all the way to the table, with melted cheese on top. For this dish, we like using Hatch brand enchilada sauce.

Serve with a salad of butter lettuce, chunks of avocado and orange sections, dressed with a citrus-yogurt vinaigrette.

Looking for a glass of wine to drink with these enchiladas? Wine columnist Karen Page and Andrew Dornenburg suggest the 2007 Rudolf Muller Riesling Kabinett, based on a recipe in Martina Spieler's "Yummy Potatoes: 65 Downright Delicious Recipes" (Chronicle, 2007).

for about 10 minutes, until the potatoes are just tender. Cut the scallions crosswise into 1/4-inch pieces; chop the cilantro leaves, discarding the stems. Drain and transfer the potatoes to a medium bowl; when they have cooled slightly, add one-third of the fresh cheese, one-third of the sharp cheese, the scallions and cilantro, mixing well. Taste and add salt and pepper, if necessary.

Meanwhile, mince the garlic. Cut the onion in half horizontally, then place it cut side down and coarsely chop or cut into very thin half-moon slices. Heat the oil in a large non-stick skillet over medium heat; add the garlic and onion and cook for 2 minutes, stirring. Add the chili powder and cook for 5 minutes, stirring to incorporate.

POTATO AND CHEESE ENCHILADAS

4 servings

12 ounces russet potatoes (1 large or 2 medium potatoes)
Kosher salt
6 scallions, white and light-green parts
1/2 bunch cilantro
8 ounces fresh-tasting cheese, such as queso fresco or diced Monterey Jack cheese
2 ounces sharp cheese, such as queso anejo or shredded Parmesan cheese
Freshly ground black pepper (optional)
2 large cloves garlic
1 small red onion
2 tablespoons canola oil
2 tablespoons chili powder, preferably ancho chili powder
1 1/5-ounce can enchilada sauce, preferably Hatch brand mild or medium
1 cup water
Pinch oregano leaves (may substitute 1 teaspoon dried oregano or epazote)
1/4 teaspoon ground cumin
Juice of 1/2 a medium lime (1 to 2 teaspoons)
8 6-inch corn tortillas
4 to 6 ounces grated cheddar or Monterey Jack cheese

Peel the potatoes and cut into 1/2- or 3/4-inch dice. Place in a medium saucepan and cover with an inch of water; lightly salt the water. Bring to a boil and cook, uncovered, over medium-high heat until the potatoes are just tender. Drain and transfer the potatoes to a medium bowl; when they have cooled slightly, add one-third of the fresh cheese, one-third of the sharp cheese, the scallions and cilantro, mixing well. Taste and add salt and pepper, if necessary.

Meanwhile, mince the garlic. Cut the onion in half horizontally, then place it cut side down and coarsely chop or cut into very thin half-moon slices. Heat the oil in a large non-stick skillet over medium heat; add the garlic and onion and cook for 2 minutes, stirring. Add the chili powder and cook for 5 minutes, stirring to incorporate.

Combine half a can (about 1 cup) of the enchilada sauce with 1 cup water and add to the skillet, then add the oregano, cumin and lime juice, stirring just until heated through. Remove from the heat.

Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Use nonstick cooking oil spray to lightly grease a baking dish large enough to hold the 8 corn tortillas. Have ready a rimmed baking sheet.

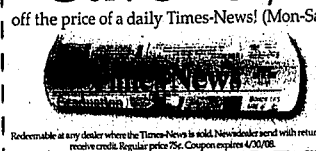
Spread the remaining canned enchilada sauce evenly across the baking sheet. Working in 2 batches, microwave 4 corn tortillas at a time on high for 10 to 20 seconds, until they are pliable. Immediately transfer them to the baking sheet and turn to coat both sides with the sauce.

Use a few tablespoons of the potato-cheese mixture to fill a strip down the center, or one side, of each tortilla; this should take about half of the potato-cheese mixture. Roll or fold to form an enchilada and place dish (overlapping them is OK). Repeat with the remaining tortillas, sauce and potato-cheese mixture. Pour the doctored sauce mixture over the enchiladas and sprinkle the grated cheese on top; bake for 15 minutes or until the enchiladas are heated through. Serve hot.

Per 2-enchilada serving: 600 calories, 27 g protein, 47 g carbohydrates, 35 g fat, 17 g saturated fat, 76 mg cholesterol, 656 mg sodium, 7 g dietary fiber.

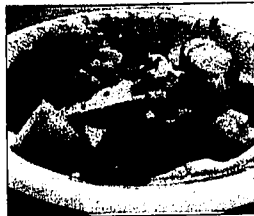
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La Fiesta vs. Dos Hermanos



Heft carries La Fiesta through

You get what you pay for is an axiom that's seldom rung true.

Three carne asada tacos from the Dos Hermanos taco bus on Twin Falls' Kimberly Road offered the bare minimum of toppings but were paid for in pocket change. Three lunchtime tacos at carbon at La Fiesta in Twin Falls made my gut ache and eliminated the need for dinner with what felt like a steakhouse three misgotten dined over five moist tortillas.

My vote goes to the latter. But then I paid a little less than I would have if I really had eaten a steak.

The taco bus still deserves a ton of credit for making every count. Sure, there was a piece of cartilage in my first taco, which soured the experience. And yes, meat was sparse with onions

and cilantro even sparser. But at least twice, the taco vendor made sure I had enough salsa from the squirt bottle.

— Cassidy Friedman, public safety reporter

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Entry forms printed Sundays through March 23, 2008.

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Times-News

Looking for new recipes and a new way to prepare them? Try cooking in a Dutch oven in the College of Southern Idaho North Side Center class "Dutch Oven Spring Dishes" and see how versatile and fun it is.

Instructor Colleen Sloan will share her expertise and a taste of history while teaching you how to season, cook with, clean and store Dutch ovens. You'll create a variety of spring dishes to enjoy in class, and receive recipe handouts so you can try them at home.

Class will be held from 6:30 to 9 p.m. April 9 at Wendell High School; cost is \$15. Bring a non-alcoholic beverage to enjoy with your food. Register North Side Center, 934-8678, or 202 14th Ave. E. in Gooding.

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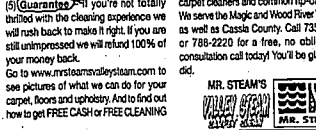
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FINAL WEEK! All entries must be received by March 27

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Saucy chocolate

By Amy Scattergood
Los Angeles Times

Watch rivulets of dark chocolate sauce pour down the curves of a scoop of ice cream or over the low cliffs of a raspberry tart and you get a hint of the transformative power of a good chocolate sauce. Thick and velvety, deeply, sensuously flavorful, such a sauce can dress up a simple dessert or elevate a great one. It's pretty good eaten straight with a spoon too.

Years ago, chocolate sauces were made with bricks of baker's chocolate or cocoa powder, with lots of sugar and vanilla to mask the bitterness, and heavy doses of cream or butter. But now chocolatiers are sourcing cocoa beans "at origin," just as coffee roasters do, and making bars of chocolate that, like bars of gold, list the percentage of cacao.

Now a sauce is a vehicle for the chocolate, a way of transforming its properties — solid to liquid — rather than altering or masking the taste. So making a great sauce is easier than it has ever been. Just simmer equal parts cream and butter. Add a touch of salt. Take it off the heat and stir in some broken-up chocolate and a nub of butter (for shine and body) and a barely perceptible mellowness) until the sauce is smooth and velvety. That's it.

With great chocolate, you want a minimalist sauce that depends utterly on the chocolate and showcases its complex flavors.

To start, choose a chocolate with about 70 percent cacao. Bars in the 70 percent to 75 percent range have a wealth of flavor that comes through more clearly than bars with a lower percentage of cacao — and a higher percentage of sugar. Yet, unlike chocolate with higher percentages of cacao, they don't need to be sweetened.

(If you're using a higher percentage of chocolate — a 75 percent, say, instead of a 70 percent — you might want to add a little more liquid. As



Cocovic 'Ocunare, left, was a favorite.

chocolates go up in percentage, the increasingly higher proportions of cacao solids make thicker sauces.)

Using equal parts heavy cream and water gives just the right texture: Too much cream and the sauce is a little fatty, whereas all water doesn't have quite enough body. And although you can use milk instead, cream has a cohesiveness, a slight twang that works well with the chocolate.

And although many chocolate sauce recipes call for vanilla, try making it without. Better to think of it as an optional flavoring. A pinch of salt is a better addition, as it brings out the flavors in the chocolate.

High-quality chocolate can have high citrus notes, maybe hints of raspberry, low notes of coffee or a register of spice. A good sauce brings these out.

You can play variations on the sauce to your heart's content.

Use creme fraiche (as many chefs do) instead of part or all of the cream. It gives a little zing, a slightly sour note that complements the flavors of chocolate.

Or add flavorings to the cream-water mixture. Steep tea or citrus zest in it, or a scented Madagascar vanilla bean, or a handful of crushed espresso beans or hazelnuts. Add a few tablespoons of your favorite liqueur, muddle fresh herbs, throw in a sachet of spices. Flavor the cream with cinnamon and chilies, as the Mayans and Aztecs did.

for a little unexpected heat.

Let the mixture steep for 30 minutes. Then strain it if necessary, reheat it — and add the chocolate just as you would for the basic recipe.

And unlike truffles or cakes, chocolate sauce can be adjusted once you've made it. Taste the sauce and if you want to change the flavor or texture, just add to it. Stir in a little more liqueur or extract, some sugar or a hint more cream if you like. If it's too thick, add water; too thin, warm it up and throw in more chocolate. Because the sauce has a high enough proportion of liquid to chocolate, it won't seize or separate. In fact, it's pretty foolproof.

Once you fall in love with a chocolate sauce, you might want to keep a jar of it handy in the refrigerator (where it will keep for weeks). The velvety sauce is amazingly versatile.

Whip some into warmed milk for a cup of morning hot chocolate or a bowl of chocolate soup. Serve it as a dipping sauce with a plate of strawberries; it makes a fantastic simple fondue. Ladle a generous amount over profiteroles, delicate puffs of pate a choux with ice cream hidden inside their hollows.

Or just pour a sauce made from a bar of 71 percent Ecuadorian chocolate, or a 73 percent Venezuelan single-bean origin, on your plain bowl of ice cream. You'll never think chocolate sauce is ordinary again.

CHOCOLATE SAUCE

Use a chocolate with 70 percent to 75 percent cacao. The sauce can be stored tightly covered in the refrigerator for several weeks. To serve, heat it in a double boiler, stirring occasionally.

- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- Pinch of sea salt
- 8 ounces chocolate, coarsely chopped
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter

In a medium heavy-bottomed saucepan over high heat, bring the cream, salt and 1/2 cup water to a simmer, stirring occasionally, just before it starts to boil, turn off the heat.

Remove the pan from the stove and add the chocolate



Photo by GREGG DEAN for the Times-News

Profiteroles with chile-cinnamon chocolate sauce.

and butter, stirring constantly with a wooden spoon to incorporate. Keep stirring until the chocolate and butter melt and the sauce is perfectly smooth. Serve immediately, or reheat when ready to use.

Makes 1 1/2 cups.

CINNAMON-CAYENNE CHOCOLATE SAUCE

- 1/2 cup heavy cream
- Pinch sea salt
- 1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon ground cayenne pepper
- 1/2 vanilla bean split lengthwise
- 8 ounces chocolate, coarsely chopped
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter

In a medium heavy-bottomed saucepan over high heat, bring the cream, salt and 1/2 cup water to a simmer, stirring occasionally. Just before it starts to boil, turn off the heat. Add the cinnamon and cayenne. Scrape the seeds from the vanilla bean into the mixture and drop in the pod. Cover and allow to steep for 30 minutes. Remove the bean and return the mixture to the heat, bringing it up to a simmer again.

Remove the pan from the heat and add the chocolate and butter, stirring constantly with a wooden spoon to incorporate. Keep stirring until the chocolate and butter melt and the sauce is perfectly smooth. Serve immediately, or reheat when ready to use.

Makes 1 1/2 cups.

PROFITEROLES WITH CINNAMON-CAYENNE CHOCOLATE SAUCE

- Cream puffs:**
- 6 tablespoons (3/4 stick) butter
 - 1/8 teaspoon kosher salt
 - 1 teaspoon sugar
 - 1 cup flour
 - 4 eggs

1. Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Line one large or two medium baking sheets with parchment.

2. In a heavy-bottomed medium saucepan, bring 1 cup water, the butter, salt and sugar to a boil. When the liquid is boiling and the butter has melted, remove the pan from the heat and immediately add the flour all at once. Beat with a wooden spoon until thoroughly combined.

3. Return the mixture to medium-high heat and continue heating with the spoon for 2 to 3 minutes, until the mixture pulls away from the sides of the pan and forms a ball and a "cooked" film forms on the bottom of the pan. The batter will be stiff.

4. Remove from the heat, and add the eggs one at a time, beating vigorously with

the spoon after each addition until thoroughly incorporated.

5. Drop spoonfuls of the choux paste in rows on the baking sheet, or use a pastry bag to form mounds about 2 inches across. Bake until puffed up and golden brown, about 20 minutes.

6. Remove the puffs from the oven, prick each with the end of a sharp knife to release the steam, then return to the oven and bake 5 minutes longer. Cool on a rack. Makes 12.

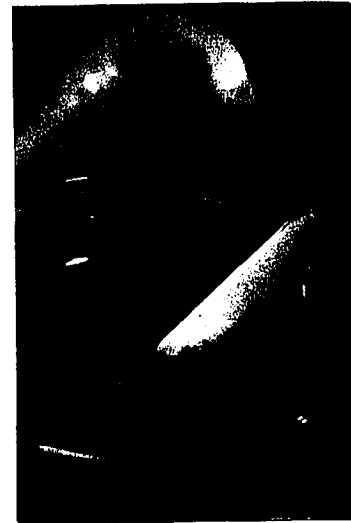
Profiteroles:

- 12 cream puffs
- 1 recipe cinnamon-cayenne chocolate sauce, reheated if not still warm
- 3 cups (1 1/2 pints) high-quality vanilla or espresso ice cream

1. Using a small serrated knife, cut the puffs in half horizontally. Place the bottoms in dessert plates or bowls, top with small scoops of ice cream and then place a puff top on each.

2. Pour chocolate sauce over each profiterole and drizzle some around the bottom of each. Serve immediately.

Servings: 6



A sauce highlights the qualities of dark chocolate — it makes a fantastic simple fondue, here with a slice of pear.



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B.C. By Johnny Hart

IS THAT SPIDER STILL ON MY BACK?
I DON'T KNOW, I'M GLAZED TO LOOK.
I'M DEPLOYING THE PERISCOPE!
'SUP.
YEEHAAA!
I THINK THAT'S A FEW TOO MANY HAYS.

Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

The Days Are Long... WHEN IS SHE GOING TO START SUFFERING FROM THIS CATARACT?
But The Years Are Short DO YOU KNOW WHAT TIME IT IS??

Baldo By Hector D. Cantu and Carlos Castellanos

HOW DO YOU SPELL 'BANK'?
BANKAAAAAAAAA.
YOU MEAN TWICE, IF YOU INCLUDE THE TIME YOU FORGOT TO SET YOUR WATCH BACK BY AN HOUR.
AND THIS TIME WHEN YOU E-MAILED THE WRONG TRY TO START TIME? OH, LOOK HOW YOU TRY TO FLIP IT AROUND!

Brevity By Guy & Rodd

WOW! THIS NEW 3-D IS AMAZING!
THIS IS A PLAY!

Dilbert By Scott Adams

YOU'RE LATE, AS ALWAYS.
YOU MEAN TWICE, IF YOU INCLUDE THE TIME YOU FORGOT TO SET YOUR WATCH BACK BY AN HOUR.
AND THIS TIME WHEN YOU E-MAILED THE WRONG TRY TO START TIME? OH, LOOK HOW YOU TRY TO FLIP IT AROUND!

Doonesbury By Gary Trudeau

YES?
I DON'T EXPECT YOU TO BE A POLICE OFFICER.
I'M HOPING TO BE A POLICE OFFICER.
I'M HOPING TO BE A POLICE OFFICER.
I'M HOPING TO BE A POLICE OFFICER.
I'M HOPING TO BE A POLICE OFFICER.

The Elderberlies By Phil Frank and Joe Troise

Called the UPS here. The letter's leg it.
They're asking a few things as temporary quadwill ambassadors.
And I don't include me, will be featured in a new TV commercial.
Very exciting news. Boome!
An' don't forget all us little folk when yer playin' high-stakes backzies in Oprah's gilded breakfast nook.
Oh, to spend just one day in your warped little world...
Ah, you'd never survive. What with all this dry county 'n'...

For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

SO CAN I BE A GROOMSMAN?
SURE, WHEN SHE GETS TO THE CHURCH.
COOL... SOMEBODY IN THE PASTOR'S FUTURE, I'M GONNA GET MARRIED TOO...
GOMEWHERE, THERE'S SOMEONE WHO'S TOTALLY INTO ME. NO IDEA THAT HE'S GONNA MARRY ME WITH ME!
...GONNABE TO BLISS!

Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

ZOO DIET CLINIC
HEY, EVERYBODY... THERE'S NO LONGER AN 800-POUND GORILLA IN THE ROOM!

Luann By Greg Evans

I'M SORRYED NO ONE ELSE ASKED YOU TO THE BALL, YOU FIVE, TO BE EXACT.
SEVERAL GUNS DID JUST TELL YOU HOW TO KEEP?
FINE? WHY DIDN'T YOU GO WITH ANY OF THEM?
I DUNNO, THEY WERE JUST WORKING FOR ME.
AND I'M RIGHT?
WE'LL SEE.

Mallard Fillmore By Bruce Tinsley

YOU THINK TOO MUCH... STOP RELYING ON YOUR HEAD, AND FOLLOW YOUR HEART!
WHAT'RE YOU WATCHING?
I'M NOT SURE, IT'S EITHER A DENY-A MONIE OR AN OBAMA RALLY...

Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis

HEY, CONCIERGE, I NEED TO GET MY BED MADE UP.
WHY DON'T I TALK TO YOU AND YOU TELL HOUSEKEEPING?
WHY DON'T I TALK TO YOU AND YOU TELL HOUSEKEEPING?
WHY DON'T I TALK TO YOU AND YOU TELL HOUSEKEEPING?
WHY DON'T I TALK TO YOU AND YOU TELL HOUSEKEEPING?
BECAUSE HE MIGHT FIND OUT ABOUT YOUR FREELOADING GYPSIES.

Pickles By Brian Crane

THERE'S SOMETHING UNSPELTING ABOUT THE WAY THIS GARBAJE CAN OPEN UP WHENEVER ANYONE WALKS BY.
I KNOW IT'S AN INFRARED SENSOR THAT MAKES IT OPEN, BUT IT ALMOST SEEMS ALIVE.
IT'S LIKE IT'S DEMANDING ATTENTION.
YEAH, RIGHT?
FEED ME!

Rose Is Rose By Pat Brady

READY TO ORDER?
LMA...
THIS IS WHERE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO FINISH!
NICE! WANT IT?
IT IS IF YOU WANT TO BRING A PATE.
IT IS IF YOU WANT TO BRING A PATE.

Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

SAPP?
PUDE... AGAIN??
IT'S 'SLAM LOCKER,' STAND UP, THEN CLOSE LOCK. REMEMBER?
JUST POTR THE COMBINATION FOR ME, CHAZ??

Non Sequitur By Wiley

HEY, GOOD NEWS, LOOKS LIKE WE'RE FINALLY AHEAD OF THE CURVE IN THE HOUSING MARKET.

Strange Brew By John Deering

WAR DEPT.
RETRICHTING THE LAST WAR DEPT.

Use your head before you act, Sagittarius

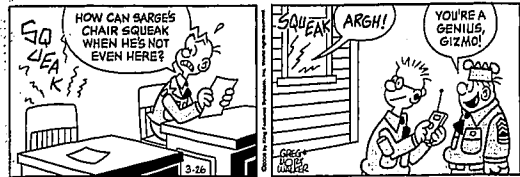
HOROSCOPE
Jeraldine Saunders

FROM RELATIVES.
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Although it is almost time to reap the benefits of being on the winning team, you will need to follow someone else's diligent example.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Some days you have your physical and enthusiasm than common sense. Think through your ideas before acting. If in doubt, avoid garbling with your heart or wasting your money.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Flying by the seat of your pants may result in an embarrassing exposure of your posterior. You are thrilled to perform feats of derring-do, but could be viewed by others as rash and impetuous.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): If you sit up on the edge of feelings or ideas expressed by others, it is best to blend in with the crowd and avoid controversy.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Trade harsh words for kind ones. Avoid arguments with a partner or coworker soul mate by being sensitive to their expectations. Minor crosscurrents can be sidestepped by being generous and sincere.

balanced on the end of the spoon. Remain balanced.
CANCER (June 21-July 22): It's not whether you win or lose, but how you play the game. While the horoscope Mars transits your sign you might be too anxious to be first at any cost.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Although excited about getting things done quickly you might accidentally tread on some sensitive toes. Tone down any aggressive qualities and strive to be a bit more considerate.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Have blind faith in the future. Your physical senses may tell you that it is time to be skeptical or time to take dynamic action, but your intuition tells you that everything will be just fine in the end.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Saccharine sweetness may be a tool used to express aggressive one-upmanship. Ignore exaggerated claims and challenging deadlines. Don't take your friends for granted or expect too much

Boatle 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



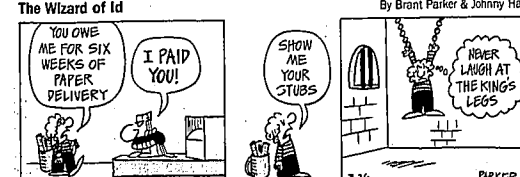
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum



THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil Keane



Even furry pets need shelter when the winter winds blow

DEAR ABBY: I have seen several dogs and cats left outside in below-zero weather this winter. Yes, animals have fur to help them keep warm, but that doesn't mean they don't get cold (even in dog coats). People get cold staying outside for an extended amount of time, even when bundled up, so imagine how the animals feel. These innocent animals can suffer from frostbite and hypothermia just like humans.

Why you please remind your readers that pets should be brought inside on cold days and nights?

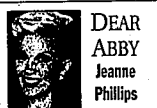
ANIMAL LOVER

IN NORFOLK, N.Y.

DEAR ANIMAL LOVER: While some breeds of dogs do better in cold weather than others, all of them need interaction with their guardians. The animals you observed may have been left in the cold out of ignorance on the part of the humans with whom they co-exist.

I don't care how furry some of our furry friends appear to be. Check with your veterinarian to see when your breed should be brought indoors.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a divorced single mother with a 13-year-old daughter I'll call "Gia." We live next door to an attractive 62-year-old widow I'll call "Doris," who has become like a grandmother to Gia and a



DEAR ABBY
Jeanne Phillips

dear friend to me.

Last night I went to my daughter's room and found her standing on a stool in her closet looking out a small window into Doris' bedroom. When I asked Gia what she was doing, she didn't answer, so I climbed up on the stool to see for myself. Abby, Doris was in bed with her son, "Jeff," having sex. I could hardly believe my eyes!

Jeff is 36 and a mama's boy. He has his own home but visits his mother often. Gia said she has watched them many times since we moved here four years ago, and described some of the things she's seen.

I'm not sure how to handle this. Doris is very close to us, and Gia seems unaffected when we get together for dinner or the movies, etc.

Should I tell Doris and Jeff that I saw them? And what do I say to my daughter, who has been "educated" beyond her years?

SEEN ENOUGH,

CHAMPAIGN, ILL.

DEAR SEEN ENOUGH:

You should definitely tell Doris that your daughter has been getting an eyeful from

her closet window, and strongly suggest that Doris' curtains be closed when Jeff is "visiting." And if you haven't already talked to your daughter about sex — and appropriate behavior — it's time you played catch-up, so don't delay.

I would find it hard to continue a friendship with a woman in an incestuous relationship with her son. They're in serious need of counseling.

DEAR ABBY: I am an assistant librarian in New Mexico. My daughter recently told me she's going to convert to Buddhism. I'm perplexed by her choice. I want to support her because her aunt is also a Buddhist, but I wasn't raised Buddhist.

What advice can you give me?

LONGTIME READER

DEAR LONGTIME READER: As an assistant librarian, you're surrounded by books. The time has come to pick up a couple and start reading about Buddhism and Buddhist philosophy. If you're near a computer, Google it. You'll find an abundance of information on the subject. I would also recommend that you attend a couple of meetings with your daughter. That way, you'll have a better understanding of what she — and her aunt — are attracted to.

Alaska couple get married in pool

NIKISKI, Alaska (AP) — The cake was in the shape of a pool and the walk down the aisle was replaced by a zip down a water slide as Mark Confer and Joanne Wainwright took the plunge into marriage — literally.

The two were married Saturday in a swimming pool. Instead of jumping in with both feet, they came whooshing around and down the pool's 136-foot slide. The couple then bowed their heads while Scott Coffman, senior pastor at Church Heights Baptist Church, blessed their marriage.

Confer and Wainwright are dedicated to physical fitness. Confer's passion is skiing, while Wainwright has swum competitively and coached high school swim teams most of her life.

"I always would tell my students if I ever got married in Alaska I was going to get mar-



Joanne Wainwright and Mark Confer kiss Saturday, after they were married in a ceremony at the Nikiski Pool in Nikiski, Alaska. After exchanging their vows, they hosted a pool party reception for family and friends.

ried at the Nikiski Pool," Wainwright said. According to its Web site, the enclosed, heated pool is open year-round and offers "excellent views of the surrounding ter-

rain and wildlife."

On top of their pool-shaped wedding cake, the couple placed a tiny bride and groom coiled on the diving board, ready to dive in.

Watch out for snakes in your luggage

By Matthew Barakat

Associated Press writer

MELEAN, Va. — A high school coach employing his luggage after a team trip to South Carolina was bitten by a small rattlesnake that had somehow gotten into his bag, authorities said. Andy Bacas was released Tuesday after an overnight hospital stay.

Bacas is a rowing coach at Yorktown High School in Arlington, told authorities he felt a sharp pain on his hand

Monday when he reached into his luggage after returning from the road trip. He then saw the nearly foot-long snake and slammed the suitcase shut.

Fire and rescue workers took the suitcase outside, opened it and blasted the snake, a juvenile canebrake rattler, with a carbon dioxide fire extinguisher. The chemical froze the animal to death.

"The guy who responded had seen the fire extinguisher technique done on TV," Arlington County Fire

department spokesman Ben Barkdale said.

Bacas' son, Peter, said the luggage had been left open on a porch during the trip. Barkdale said he had no information that the snake was deliberately put into the luggage.

Bob Myers, director of the American International Rattlesnake Museum in New Mexico, said it's conceivable that a snake would crawl into luggage seeking warmth or shelter.

Man caught while collecting workers comp

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP) — Prosecutors say a video shows a Connecticut correction officer running a 40-year-dash in women's clothing and high heels — at a time he had claimed he was too injured to work.

Garrett A. Dalton of Naugatuck has been charged with workers compensation fraud. He's accused of taking part in a radio station's contest for Hannah Montana concert tickets last year. Not only did he have to dress in drag but he had to carry an egg on a spoon. Authorities were alerted after someone saw Dalton in a TV news report. Prosecutors say the 41-year-old collected more than \$5,000 in workers' compensation after he reported a work-related injury in June.

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SAUDI ARABIA King calls for dialogue among different religions

RIYADH — The Saudi king has made an impassioned plea for dialogue among Muslims, Christians and Jews — the first such proposal from a nation with no diplomatic ties to Israel and a ban on non-Muslim religious services and symbols.

The message from King Abdullah, which was welcomed by Jewish, Christian and Muslim leaders, comes at a time of stalled peace initiatives and escalating tensions in the region.

Muslims have been angered by cartoons published in European papers seen as insulting the Prophet Muhammad and by the pope's baptizing on Easter of a Muslim journalist who had converted to Catholicism.

"The idea is to seek representatives of all monotheistic religions to sit together with their brothers in faith and sincerity to all religions as we all believe in the same God," the king told delegates Monday night at a seminar on "Culture and the Respect of Religions."

The specifics of Abdullah's initiative — and who would participate — remained unclear, in particular whether Israeli religious leaders would be invited to a Saudi-brokered dialogue. The kingdom and all other Arab nations except Egypt and Jordan do not have diplomatic relations with Israel and generally shun unofficial contacts.

The call — the first of its kind by an Arab leader — was significant. The Saudi monarch is the custodian of Islam's two holiest shrines in Mecca and Medina, a position that lends his words special importance and influence. Abdullah said Saudi Arabia's top clerics have given him the green light — crucial backing in a society that expects decisions taken by its rulers to adhere to Islam's tenets.

It also raises the possibility that a religious dialogue could have a political impact, in the Middle East, easing tensions between Arabs and Israelis in a way that years of off-and-on negotiations and political conferences have failed to do.

COMOROS

Comoros troops land on rebel-held island, capturing capital

ANJOUAN — The Comoros army seized the capital of this rebel-held island Tuesday, but sporadic fighting persisted as troops flushed out pockets of resistance and searched for the renegade colonel who hoped to make Anjouan independent.

Explosions and gunfire started before dawn as hundreds of soldiers backed by an African Union force moved into the town of Mtsamudzu against forces led by Col. Mohamed Bacar.

Crowds of jubilant residents poured into the streets to cheer the invaders, chanting "Bacar is a dog!" and "We have won!"

There was no official word

on casualties. An Associated Press reporter saw an elderly man being carried after he apparently was hit in the hip by a stray bullet. Two African Union soldiers also appeared to suffer minor injuries.

"We have now taken the Anjouan capital," Defense Chief of Staff Mohamed Dosara said by telephone from the main island of Grand Comore. "We have met a small amount of resistance." He said troops were searching for Bacar.

The Comoros — an archipelago of three main islands 250 miles off Africa's south-

eastern coast with a population of about 750,000 — has experienced a series of coups and political upheavals since independence from France in 1975. The late Bob Denard, a notorious French mercenary, controlled the Comoros behind a figurehead leader for most of the 1980s after a coup he led.

Bacar, who seized control of Anjouan in 2001 and stayed in power after an illegal election last year, had drawn increasingly strident warnings from the central government and the African Union.

I R A Q U.S. and Iraqi troops battle Shiite militia in Baghdad and Basra

BAGHDAD — Iraq's leaders faced their gravest challenge in months Tuesday as Shiite militiamen loyal to anti-American cleric Muqtada al-Sadr battled government forces for control of the southern oil capital, fought U.S. and Iraqi troops in Baghdad and unleashed rockets on the Green Zone.

Armed Mahdi Army militiamen appeared on some Baghdad streets for the first time in more than six months, as al-Sadr's followers announced a nationwide campaign of strikes and demonstrations to protest a government crackdown on their movement. Merchants shuttered their shops in several Baghdad districts in commercial districts in several Baghdad neighborhoods.

U.S. and Iraqi troops backed by helicopters fought Shiite militiamen in Baghdad's Sadr City district after the local office of Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki's Dawa Party came under attack, the U.S. said. Residents of the area reported intermittent explosions and gunfire in the area late Tuesday.

An American soldier was killed in fighting Tuesday afternoon in Baghdad, the U.S. military said.

Although all sides appeared reluctant to trigger a continuation, Brig. Gen. Ed Cardon, assistant commander of the U.S. task force operating south of Baghdad, said the situation in the south was "very complicated" and "the potential for miscalculation is high."

— from wire reports

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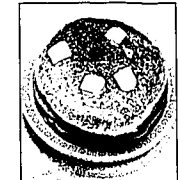


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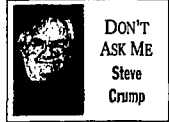
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She has ways and means of finding out

Forgetting listening skills, empathy and the capacity to sit through an entire episode of "Oprah": The most vital attribute in a marriage is knowing how — or whether — to stand up to interrogation.

"We're not talking waterboarding, here: Just direct questions, cleverly asked, that will yield up a good deal more information than "How was your day, Hon?"



DON'T ASK ME
Steve Crump

I'm at a big disadvantage because my wife makes her living as an auditor. Her whole workday consists of looking for logistical inconsistencies in stories that sound too good to be true.

You know, stuff like, "Why, on Feb. 27, did you do procedures X, Y and Z differently than you did on Feb. 28-29 and again March 3?"

There's no real defense against that sort of questioning. People do things differently on different days for illogical reasons they can't recall, much less articulate.

And if they do articulate them, it sounds suspicious.

Plus, skilled auditors like my wife can imply what they suspect by simply raising an eyebrow or clearing their throats. It doesn't matter if you are guilty; are you feeling guilty?

Well, are ya?

You bet I do. When I was a kid, my dad, Friday and Officer Gannon would be grilling a suspect on TV's "Dragnet." I'd break into a sweat and confess to my Mom that I copied Sheila Dennison's algebra paper back in sixth grade.

When I've had conversations like this: "Did you drop off the dry-cleaning today?" she'll ask. "No, I dropped off the dry-cleaning Saturday."

"But you never drop off the dry-cleaning on Saturdays."

"Well, last Saturday I did."

"Did you do that because you forgot to take the car into Jiffy Lube on Saturday?"

"I didn't forget; I took the car to Jiffy Lube today."

"In all the years I've known you, you've never taken the car to Jiffy Lube on a different day than you dropped off the cleaning."

This goes on until, thoroughly rattled, I blurt out: "OK, OK. I didn't drop off the dry-cleaning or take the car to Jiffy Lube, all right? I went out to the driving range and wrapped my golf clubs around newly planted saplings."

Doesn't matter if I did what I confessed to doing or not. *Busted* is almost always better than *suspected*.

That's because it takes a lot of energy to shade the truth. First, you have to make up a story, which has to be consistent every time you tell it. Then you have to consider how this report of your activities differs with how you usually behave.

Then you have to remember the whole thing.

So basically, I instantly cop to whatever mischief I might have done. It's far easier to ask for forgiveness than permission.

That's not an original thought, by the way. I got it from my Uncle Howard.

He was married for 67 years.

Steve Crump may be reached at 735-3223, or write to scrump@magicvalley.com.

SAWTOOTH NATIONAL FOREST Forest Service restricts vehicles to roads, trails

By Matt Christensen
Times-News writer

Off-highway vehicle riders once relished this time of year, when snow melted and machines were prepped for summers of backcountry excursions to southern Idaho's seldom-seen scenic locales.

This spring, riders aren't so happy. Under federal guidelines passed in 2005, off-highway vehicles on the

Sawtooth National Forest are banned beginning this year from cross-country travel and are restricted to a series of designated roads and trails.

But what's really got user groups peeved is that most of their traditional, user-created routes — paths forged by vehicles over decades — weren't included in the Forest Service's new travel plan.

"We're concerned that trails that would make sense to be open are

being lost," said Mel Quale, a member of the Magic Valley Trail Machine Association.

In the South Hills, perhaps Magic Valley's most popular area for off-highway riders, 380 of about 450 miles of trails are now off limits to motorbikes, jeeps and all-terrain vehicles, said Scott Nanneng, forest supervisor for the agency's Minidoka District.

"The big one, of course, is the

South Hills," said Nanneng, whose decision to close the trails was a difficult one.

The Forest Service worked with user groups to identify the most popular routes in its decision-making process, then balanced the value of keeping those trails open with the effects motorized vehicles had on the landscape and wildlife.

Please see **RESTRICTIONS**, Page D3

"The police department had quite a few (visitors) ... They had guns and stuff."

— Liz Dominguez, a CSI student who helped direct traffic during the 6th Annual Southern Idaho Career Fair

Plenty of options

Visitors view over 70 booths at career fair

By Andrea Gates
Times-News writer

A large gun resting on a table set by Twin Falls Police Department officers at the College of Southern Idaho Gymnasium was an alluring sight for job-seekers Tuesday during the 6th Annual Southern Idaho Career Fair.

About 72 area businesses, agencies and schools set up booths for the six-hour fair sponsored by the *Times-News*, Yahoo and the College of Southern Idaho.

The police booth was a hot draw for the anticipated 2,000 visitors, CSI organizers said. "The police department had quite a few ... They had guns and stuff," said Liz Dominguez, 21, a CSI student majoring in computer graphic design who helped direct traffic during the event.

There are four openings at the Twin Falls Police Department, a force of 64 officers, said Lou Coronado, a traffic officer and recruiter. "We're down a little."

About 10 to 15 people expressed interest in police work and signed-up for



Twin Falls Police Department officer J.P. O'Donnell talks with a visitor to the Southern Idaho Career Fair Tuesday at the College of Southern Idaho.

more information. Coronado said. School booths included University of Great Falls, University of Montana Western, Idaho State University, Boise State University, Newseu High University and the CSI. Seventeen-year-old Matt

Alexander, a business major at CSI, said he found one company he liked, but he said he would have liked to have seen more companies and fewer schools. "Primerica (Financial Services) — that would be something I'd be interested in."

The fair also boasted booths from local, state and federal government agencies and the military.

For 18-year-old Ryan Elwell, who's saving money for college by working at a local restaurant, the fair was interesting but not exactly life-changing. "The busi-

nesses were friendly." But Elwell said there weren't a slew of options that addressed her dreams of becoming a photographer.

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

Burley robbery suspect nabbed in Nebraska

By Sven Berg
For the Times-News

BURLEY — James Shallcross, the man suspected of robbing North Burley's Payless shoe store last Thursday, was arrested Tuesday in Ogallala, Neb., Lt. Randy Kidd of Cassia County Sheriff's Office said.

Kidd said Shallcross, 18, was arrested shortly after he allegedly committed another armed robbery at a motel in Ogallala. The suspect was caught inside a nearby store as he attempted to purchase a gas can. In Shallcross' possession, Kidd said, local police found a black pellet gun fitting the description of the gun he is suspected of using in the Payless robbery.

Shallcross, a native of Kentucky,



Shallcross

showed up on wanted lists Friday after two witnesses identified him from a photo lineup as the culprit in the Payless robbery. Before robbing Payless, Kidd said, Shallcross attempted to use his father's credit card at a Twin Falls store, but it was declined. That led Shallcross' father to call the Twin Falls Police Department, marking a trail behind his son's movements.

Shallcross' father could not be reached for comment Tuesday night.

Kidd said after the Payless robbery he expected Shallcross to

commit further crimes because his credit cards had been cancelled and he likely had no other access to money. Kidd said the amount of money — as yet undisclosed — Shallcross took from Payless would have taken him about as far as Ogallala.

Kidd said as soon as Shallcross' Ogallala case has been disposed of, he will be shipped back to Burley to face charges in Cassia County's Fifth District Court.

Asked what may have driven Shallcross on a mini-crime spree, Kidd said he simply didn't know. "His dad didn't even know," he said.

Sven Berg may be reached at (208) 677-8764 or sberg@southidaho.com.

Judge denies Keipper's dismissal motion

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

JEROME — A district judge has denied Cliff Keipper's motion to dismiss the probable cause hearing in his second-degree murder case.

In the March 17 motion hearing, Keipper's attorney argued new points never raised in that hearing with the purpose of dismissing the magistrate's finding of probable cause. The case, which hinges on whether Keipper acted in self-defense when he shot his domestic partner Jeremy Thomas in their east Jerome County home, will not get resolved at this early stage, the judge ruled in a memorandum decision filed March 20.

Keipper's attorney Joe Rockstahl challenged 5th District Magistrate Thomas Borreson's finding that the killing constituted "implied malice." Blood soaked the floor, Thomas' shirt, and his arm. But a Jerome County



Keipper

Fairfield seeks more time on airport query

By Cassidy Friedman
Times-News writer

A federal aviation spokeswoman in February made a few presentations, then set forth an ultimatum:

"Are you willing to own and operate an airport in your area, yes or no?" she asked before setting a March 31 deadline for local governments to answer. The enormous question fell like an owl on Fairfield Mayor David Hanks, whose tiny county has been

deemed to have the greatest number of ideal relocation sites.

"They kind of just dropped this on us," Hanks said.

On March 20, Hanks sent the FAA a letter stating "maybe."

"We need more time and more study," said Hanks, who said before Fairfield gives a definitive answer there needs to be more discussions among local area government. "If the FAA says you didn't say yes, you're out of time, then we're dead."

FAA environmental impact

statement project manager Cayla Morgan said she has not yet received the letter yet. She also said "we are going to be reasonable about any requests that people have."

This is a request for more time. With the Friedman Memorial Airport in Halley falling short of federal standards, the FAA is pressuring Magic Valley counties to develop plans for a replacement airport.

Please see **AIRPORT**, Page D3

Kenneth George Reid

Kenneth George Reid, 93, of Twin Falls, died Saturday, March 22, 2008, at St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center. Ken was born June 16, 1914 in Cottonwood, Idaho, to Walter R. and Addie R. Reid. Ken was the youngest of three boys Ray and Carth (both deceased). The family moved to Filer in 1920, where his father operated a barbershop. Ken completed grade school and high school in Filer.



In 1930, Ken received a bachelor of science degree in pharmacy from Idaho State University and later completed some post-graduate medical studies from the College of Idaho in Caldwell. While working in a drug store in Preston, Ken met the love of his life, Edna Choules of Fairview. Edna was a school teacher at a local grade school. They were married on May 29, 1942, in Boise by the then-governor, Gov. Clark. The governor remarked that to marry the only two Democrats in Franklin County was an honor.

Ken and Edna were blessed with three children, Janice Kohler (Gary) of Keyport, Wash., Bonnie Rees (Dick) of

Kimberly and Mike Reid (Candy) of McCall. There are three survivors by six grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren. The greatest sorrow of Ken's life was the loss of his granddaughter, Becky Rees, at the age of 19. Ken's greatest interest in life was his family and the welfare of each one. Ken was grateful for the love of his wife who, in sickness or in health, good times and times not so good, was always there. Ken pursued the practice of pharmacy throughout his career. He was director of pharmacy at the Magic Valley Memorial Hospital for several years and retired in 1973.

Ken enjoyed fishing, golf, gardening, traveling, reading and loafing. Ken volunteered in many programs such as Cub Scoutmaster, O'Leary PTA president, MVMH Credit Union president, L.B. Perrine Toastmaster president and Toastmaster area governor. He was a counselor in the Fox Aid program, Shiba (Senior Insurance Benefits Adviser), the small business administration adviser. Ken was a longtime member and past president of the Twin Falls Monarch Lions club.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 28, at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home, 2551 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

Terrell 'Terry' Kenton Peterman

MOUNTAIN HOME — Terrell "Terry" Kenton Peterman, 57, of Mountain Home, passed away peacefully into the presence of his Lord on Resurrection Sunday, March 23, 2008, while at home with family after a brave two-year battle with brain tumor.



Terry's deep faith in God sustained him throughout this difficult time. He taught us all that death is not to be feared when we are safe in the hands of God.

A viewing will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 27, at Rest Funeral Home, McMurry Chapel in Mountain Home. The funeral will be held at 10:30 a.m. Friday, March 28, at the Mountain Home Church of the Nazarene, 950 N. Seventh E. Interment will follow at 3 p.m. at the Idaho Veterans Cemetery in Boise.

Terry was born to Kenton H. Peterman and Ruth Jerome Peterman on May 9, 1950, in Nampa. He grew up working on dairy farms in Star, Kuna, Meridian and Middleton with his family until he graduated from Middleton High School in 1969. He then entered the U.S. Army, where he served as a chief warrant officer during the Vietnam War. Terry flew both gun ships and troop-carrying helicopters throughout Vietnam and as part of the military's secret Lam Son Mission into Laos. Terry received commendations for his performance and was awarded two Purple Hearts during his military service.

Terry partnered with his father, Kenton, and brother, Jerry, in their Peterman Farms agribusiness operation. For obituary rates and information, call 735-3266 Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 3 p.m. for next-day publication. The e-mail address for obituaries is obits@magicvalley.com. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 4 p.m. every day. To view or submit obituaries online, or to place a message in an individual online guestbook, go to www.magicvalley.com and click on "Obituaries."

Vernon J. Wageman

HEYBURN — Vernon Jake Wageman, an 83-year-old resident of Heyburn, died Tuesday, March 25, 2008, at Parke View Care and Rehabilitation Center in



He was born Oct. 22, 1924, in Canfield, N.D., the son of Christ and Martha (Dockett) Wageman. When he was 17, he and his family moved to Rupert, where Vern completed his education, graduating from Rupert High School. He was a veteran of World War II, having served our country in the United States Army. He married Betty Rose Amen on Sept. 18, 1948, in Elko, Nev. Together, they raised five children. She passed away on Nov. 28, 1977, from cancer. Vern worked and retired from the I.R. Simplot Company. He loved his family and enjoyed camping, his family and his little dogs. Yard work was his passion! He loved springtime when he could be seen out-

door work he loved. Dad, whenever we plant a flower, we will remember you. Survivors include his children, Karen (Randy) Higley of Heyburn, Don (Cathy) Wageman of Nampa, Dale (Junko) Wageman of Henderson, Nev., and Karla (Dwight) Higley of Heyburn; 12 grandchildren; 10 great-grandchildren; and his siblings, Bessie Grace of Twin Falls, Violet (Henry) Amen of Rupert, Christ Wageman Jr. of Jerome and Dewayne (Georgia) Wageman of Burley. In addition to his beloved wife, Betty, he was preceded in death by his parents; his son, Terry Wageman; one great-grandson, Chance Palmer; two brothers, Roger and Alvin; and two sisters, Hilda and Tilly.

The funeral will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 29, at the Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in Burley, where friends and family may call from 6 until 8 p.m. Friday and one hour prior to the service Saturday. Burial will be in the Paul Cemetery, with military rites provided by the Mini-Cassia Veterans and Auxiliary.

Lilly Elsie Geier

GOODING — Lilly Elsie Geier, 92, a resident of Gooding, died Monday, March 24, 2008, at the DeSano Place in Gooding. Lilly was born to Enrique and Angellina Saborio in San Jose, Costa Rica. Lilly met and married Matthew Geier while he was member of the United States Air Force and stationed in Costa Rica. They had one daughter, whom they raised in the various countries in which he was stationed. Lilly came to the United States for the first time in 1994, and the family eventually made their home in southern California. Lilly moved to Gooding in 2002 to be closer to her daughter and family.

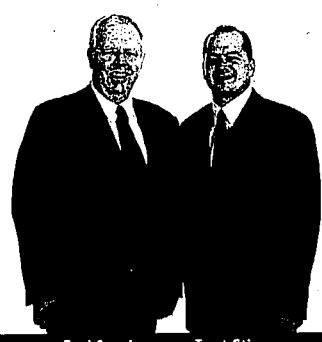


Lilly was preceded in death by her parents; her husband; her brothers, Edgar, Padre Henry and Jorge; her sisters, Violeta and Zulay; and her beloved great-granddaughter, Mary Shannon. She is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Gert and John Clark of Gooding; her brother, Alvaro Saborio; her sisters, Adia de Costa Rica and Elsie Downey of San Diego, Calif.; her grandchildren, Cathy Clarkson Harris of Dallas, Texas, and Colleen (John) Shannon of Idaho Falls; her great-grandchildren, Mindy, Bradley, Paul, Bridg and Michael; as well as a special niece, Helen Acosta of Escondido, Calif.

A viewing for family and friends will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 27, at Demary's Gooding Chapel, followed by prayers of the rosary at 7 p.m. at the chapel. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 28, at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church in Gooding. Burial will follow in the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding.

A viewing for family and friends will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. Thursday, March 27, at Demary's Gooding Chapel, followed by prayers of the rosary at 7 p.m. at the chapel. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Friday, March 28, at St. Elizabeth's Catholic Church in Gooding. Burial will follow in the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding.

It's about your loved one.



Fred Coggburn Trent Stimpson

We believe that a funeral should be a celebration of life and we encourage you to make your celebration as personal as possible with pictures, mementos, keepsakes & video tributes.

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DEATH NOTICES

Lawrence E. Holler
RUPERT — Lawrence Edwin Holler, 77, of Rupert, died Thursday, March 20, 2008, at the Mindkoda Memorial Hospital in Rupert. A graveside service will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, March 27, at the Rupert Cemetery potluck dinner follows at the Rupert First Assembly of God Church on the corner of Fourth and H streets (Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel).

from 1 to 2 p.m. Friday at the Hansen Mortuary, Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St.

Albert M. Thomas
PAUL — Albert M. Thomas, 90, of Paul and formerly of Oklahoma, died Tuesday, March 25, 2008, at his home. A graveside service will be held at 2:30 p.m. Friday, March 28, at the Paul Cemetery; visitation will be

Opal Tolman
OAKLEY — Opal Moffett Tolman, 87, of Nampa and formerly of Oakley, died Monday, March 24, 2008. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, March 29, at the Oakley LDS Stake Center, 355 N. Center Ave.; visitation from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 28, at Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1250 E. 16th St. in Burley; and 10 to 10:45 a.m. Saturday at the church.

William L. Towne Jr.
ELY, Nev. — William L. Towne Jr., 86, of Ely, Nev., and formerly of Dietrich, died Friday, March 14, 2008, in Ely.

A graveside memorial service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, March 29, 2008 at the Shoshone Cemetery in Shoshone (Demary Funeral Service, Shoshone Chapel).

Don Worthington
BURLEY — Don Worthington, 81, of Burley, died Monday, March 24, 2008, at his home. Arrangements will be announced by the Rasmussen Funeral Home of Burley.

Charlotte M. Waltrip
BUHL — Charlotte M. Waltrip, 67, died Tuesday, March 25, 2008, at Snake River Rehabilitation and Living Center in Buhl. Arrangements will be announced by Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

Patrick Oral Grenz of Twin Falls, (funeral at 2 p.m. Friday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls; visitation from 4 to 8 p.m. Thursday at the mortuary.

George Larry Kay of GAINESVILLE, Va., and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 4 p.m. Saturday at Cross United Methodist Church, 1210

132nd St. S.E. in Mill Creek, Wash.

132nd St. S.E. in Mill Creek, Wash.

SERVICES

Richard L. Vawser of Hansen funeral Mass at 11 a.m. today at St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church, 161 Sixth Ave. E. in Twin Falls (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

funeral at 2 p.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

George Larry Kay of Gainesville, Va., and formerly of Twin Falls, memorial service at 4 p.m. Saturday at Cross United Methodist Church, 1210

funeral at 2 p.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

132nd St. S.E. in Mill Creek, Wash.

132nd St. S.E. in Mill Creek, Wash.

Jerome woman to celebrate 97th birthday

JEROME — Beulah Easton will celebrate her 97th birthday with an open house

from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Sunday at Creckside Residential Care Center, 222

Sixth Ave. W. Friends and family are invited to attend.

Patient Spotlight

"I have the new Inteo hearing aid from Widex, and love it!"



C.L. (Foggie) Fisher, Twin Falls

Ive come to realize how important it is to do business locally. I bought my previous hearing aids in Boise, and while the office there was nice to deal with, they just weren't close enough. That's why I went to see Fritz at Professional Hearing Aid Services. I like him and his staff and what they've done for me. I have the new Inteo hearing aid from WIDEX, and I love it!

Now I can hear what's being said to me in conversation, and that means a lot. I love being able to go into the office and get help when I need it.

If you need hearing aids, go see Fritz and his staff at Professional Hearing Aid Services. They'll treat you right!"

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AROUND THE VALLEY

T.F. man flees accidents, arrested in Boise

A Twin Falls man was arrested Monday night in Boise after police say he fled from an accident in his pickup, drove the wrong way onto an Interstate 84 connector and veered off the road into a barrier.

Tracy M. Twiss, 40, fled a second accident shortly after 6 p.m. the same day, according to a Boise Police report. But police found him in a nearby building. He blew more than twice the legal alcohol limit, police said. Twiss was arrested on suspicion of fleeing the scene of an accident and a felony driving under the influence.

CSI: Federal financial aid applicants should apply now

College of Southern Idaho students who want to apply for federal financial aid for

the fall semester are encouraged to apply now, according to a Tuesday news release from the college.

College officials say students who apply now will likely see a three-week turnaround in the processing of their applications, but as more people apply in the summer it can take six weeks to process applications, according to the news release. This can lead to students not being able to pay for their tuition and books on time, the release shows.

Students are encouraged to apply for financial aid when they apply for admission, according to the release. For more information about federal financial aid: CSI Financial Aid Office at 732-6273 or www.falssa.edu.gov.

CSI gets grant for civil liberties symposium

The College of Southern Idaho received a \$3,000 grant from the Idaho Humanities

Council for a third annual Civil Liberties Symposium. The symposium, which will focus on the media, is set from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. on June 19-20 at the CSI Fine Arts Theatre.

It's being presented by the Friends of Minidoka, CSI and the Minidoka Internment National Monument, according to information from Russ Tremayne, associate history professor at CSI.

Much of the grant will be used to bring in keynote speaker Geoffrey Stone, University of Chicago Law School dean and author, Tremayne said.

At least 13 other presenters are set to be at the event, including Idaho Supreme Court Justice Jim Jones.

Pre-registration is suggested with a cost of \$50 for non-credit seeking participants and the symposium can also count for college and professional credit at different fees. For more information: Tremayne at 732-6885 or rtremayne@csi.edu.

Free health screening for children in M-C

The Minidoka County School District will hold Child Find this Friday at the Minidoka Pre-school/Mt. Harrison Campus.

Child Find is a free screening for children ages 3 to 5 years old. Children are screened to identify needs that may result from developmental delay and physical or mental concerns. The screening includes speech and language, physical health, gross and fine motor skills, self-help abilities, social skills and pre-academic skills, vision and hearing. It is very important to identify children with delays early so they will have time to build skills they will need to be successful in kindergarten.

Appointments may be made by calling the Minidoka Preschool at 436-6059. Or contact a school near you for an appointment.

— from staff reports

Veterans service office needs more drivers

By Blair Koch Times-News correspondent

Thank you — two, simple words not said enough to volunteers who transport area disabled American veterans, said Kirk Sheldon of Burley, a veteran of the Vietnam War.

Veterans had the chance to say thank you by treating volunteers to lunch Saturday at The Golden Corral in Twin Falls. "I certainly appreciate them, every single one of them that volunteer to be the drivers and (or) taking the time out of their life to do it," Sheldon said. "Without the van or driver there would be no way I could get the treatment I need. I need to be in Boise some times once a week. I wouldn't be able to even afford the gas."

Volunteers for the Veterans Service Offices of Twin Falls and Blaine — which oversee two buses with pickup points in Twin Falls, Buhl, Filer, Jerome, Wendell, Gooding, Bliss, Hammett, Glens Ferry and Mountain Home — drive veterans to appointments at the Veterans' Administration Hospital in Boise.

Sheldon is just one of more than 1,200 riders last year alone. Drivers such as Sheldon's wife, Tammy Sheldon, said they don't do it for recognition but as a way to give back to those in uniform. "My son uses the bus service," she said. "He was in Iraq. If it weren't for the program, I don't think he would be able to go to Boise."

Become a volunteer

To find out more about becoming a volunteer driver for war veterans, contact Cheryl Ringberg in Twin Falls, 733-7610 ext. 21, or Richard Dalton in Mini-Cassia, 878-3599.

According to hospital guidelines, the vans transport only nine people at a time including the driver, said Cheryl Ringberg, vans coordinator in Twin Falls.

"We see the need for the van service to only keep increasing," she said. "With the price of gas and everything else that keeps going up, I think our program will be utilizing our service."

The service is provided free to the veterans. While some trips take a few hours, most drivers plan on spending up to 15 hours on the road and at the hospital per trip. Even so, it's worth it, they say.

"I do it because it feels good and it gets me out of the house," said volunteer Ken Spencer of Twin Falls.

Giving time to help aging comrades is a way to reconnect with fellow servicemen, said Lillian Wright. Her husband, Jim Wright, served in Vietnam. "These guys loved the military and this helps keep them connected to that — to what is important in their lives," Wright said.

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

5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

Twin Falls County

ARRAIGNMENTS (MARCH 24)
Brent L. Fairchild, 20; Buhl; driving without privileges; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for April 15; \$500 bond.
Orion T. Dodson, 49; Twin Falls; driving under the influence; open container; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for April 15; \$5,000 bond.
Ethan H. Lewis, 19; Twin Falls; resisting/obstructing an officer; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; pretrial hearing set for May 6; released on

BIRTHDAYS

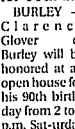
Heyburn man to celebrate 90th birthday
HEYBURN — George Hellewell of Heyburn will celebrate his 90th birthday at an open house from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Saturday at his home, 1910 15th St., Heyburn. The family requests no gifts, just bring memories for a

BIRTHDAYS

BURLEY man honored for 90th birthday
BURLEY — Clarence Glover of Burley will be honored at an open house for his 90th birthday from 2 to 4 p.m. Sat.-Sunday at the Burley Odd Fellows Hall, 1350 Oakley Ave.



Hellewell



Glover

Restrictions

Continued from page D1

The Forest Service has wrestled with those effects in recent years as the popularity of off-highway vehicles, especially ATVs, has risen. In the Magic Valley, ATV registrations climbed 71 percent between 2001 and 2005, to 11,953, according to the State Department of Parks

and Recreation. The backcountry boom is taking a toll on wildlife and habitat, forest officials say. Sediment loads in Rock Creek, which runs through the South Hills, are increasing and threatening fish, partly because off-highway vehicles are speeding erosion.

Hunters complain that noise and confusion from off-highway vehicles scare away game. But motorized user groups say they're being pigeon-holed, and that condensing so many riders onto a few trails could curb the popularity of their hobby and limit the number of people who

visit national forests. Some riders may simply ignore the restrictions, Quale said. Riders who stray from the trail face fines, but enforcing the rules could be difficult, especially since just a handful of enforcement officers cover huge expanses of forest.

User groups have less than a month to challenge the Forest Service's decisions, but it's unclear if they will. "We don't know yet who, if anyone, plans to appeal," Quale said.

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

Airport

Continued from page D1

Since the early 1980s, two studies have pegged Camas County as among the top places to build a new airport. Using cost studies from Friedman Airport, Morgan said at the presentation that building a new airport could require \$120 million, though the federal agency would likely cover \$50 million of that amount.

Blaine County and Halley government officials in January signed a resolution stating they're not interested

in co-sponsoring an airport outside of Blaine County. They selected a site in their own jurisdiction.

"We believe it is feasible to meet our future aviation needs at a different site in Blaine County," said Rick Bald, manager of Friedman Airport.

The FAA won't approve two replacement airports, Morgan said.

Hanks said the presentation left many questions unanswered. It omitted environmental

concerns and provided "unrealistic estimates" for production costs," Hanks said. Morgan declined comment on those two issues.

Hanks said council members are open to discussing co-sponsoring an airport in Camas County or elsewhere. In November, the FAA initiated a two- or three-year environmental impact study for a second airport in south-central Idaho.

"We're talking about a lot of public money and a lot of potentially private money,"

Hanks said. "Why don't we sit down and look at what's best? It doesn't have to be in Camas County. The overall goal of all of this is that we believe that this airport relocation is really a regional event."

Hanks said he expects to hear back from the

FAA in April.

Cassidy Friedman can be reached at 735-3241.

Keipper

Continued from page D1

Sheriff's detective testified he found no blood on the rifle that Keipper shot Thomas while holding.

"A reasonable inference from the lack of blood spatter on the carbine rifle is that the victim was not holding it at the time he was shot by the defendant," 6th District Judge John Butte wrote. "That inference, combined with the use of a deadly weapon ... is sufficient for the magistrate's finding of

malice and that the defendant acted without justification or excuse."

Butler said a theory Rockstahl offered at the motion hearing came too late to retroactively change the probable cause hearing. Rockstahl argued perhaps Thomas's upper body jerked up as he lay dying on the floor, causing the blood to miss the gun.

After Keipper shot Thomas, he called 911 and reported that he shot his husband.

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DRILLBIT TAYLOR
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SHUTTER
7:30 • R18 (R-13)

10,000 BC
7:20 • R25 (R-13)

VANTAGE POINT
7:30 • R20 (R-13)

BURLEY THEATRE SHOWS FRIDAY THRU TUESDAY EACH WEEK

Auction Calendar
Through April 19

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 26, 11:00am
Preston Ken & Sons, Deeds Farm Equip • Wheel Loaders Semi-tractor • Trucks • Pickups
Ads: 7-N-316, 23; SIP 3-15, 22
MUSSER BROS. AUCTIONS
www.mbauctions.com

THURSDAY, MAR. 27, 10:00am
Bankruptcy Farm Auction, Oakley • Tractors • Backhoe Trucks • Trailers • Farm Equip
Times-News Ad: 3-25
US AUCTION
www.us-auctioneers.com

SATURDAY, MAR. 29, 10:00am
Public Auto Auction, Twin Falls Cars • Trailers • Bots • RVs Equipment • Pickups • Trucks
Phone 734-2548 • Fax 735-8775
HUNTS AUTO AUCTION

SATURDAY, MAR. 29, 11:00am
Community Auction, Burley Saddles • Harness • Wheels Tires • Wicker Furn • Tools
WARD AUCTION
www.idahoauctions.org

SATURDAY, MAR. 29, 11:00am
Annual Spring Antique & Collectible Auction • Coins Antiques • Furniture • Jewelry
734-1635 • 731-6567
IDAHO AUCTION BARN
www.auctionsidoaho.com

SATURDAY, MAR. 29, 11:00am
Minidoka County Community Auction, Rupert • Farm Equip ATVs • Trailers • Vehicles
Times-News Ad: 3-27
MASTERS AUCTION
www.mastersauction.com

SATURDAY, MAR. 29, 1:00pm
Furniture • Appliances • Tools Collectibles • Garden Items
Phone 734-2548 • Fax 735-8775
HUNT BROS. AUCTIONS

MONDAY, MAR. 31, 6:00pm
Mini-Cassia Auction, Twin Falls Furniture • Household • Tools Collectibles • Gasoline/Walkers
Ads: 7-N-316, 23; SIP 3-15, 22
IDAHO AUCTION BARN
www.auctionsidoaho.com

MONDAY, MAR. 31, 11:00am
Wendell Community Auction, Wendell • Farm Equip • Ship • Lumber
Times-News Ad: 3-29
MASTERS AUCTION
www.mastersauction.com

TUESDAY, APR. 1, 5:00pm
Household • Tools • Antiques Outrageous Oddities • Jerome
KLAAS AUCTIONS & BARN
209-324-5522

THURSDAY, APR. 3, 11:00am
Greggson & Bradshaw Farm Auction, Blackfoot 2-30
Times-News Ad: 3-27
MUSSER BROS. AUCTIONS
www.mbauctions.com

SATURDAY, APR. 5, 9:00am
Mini-Cassia Auction, Twin Falls Auction • Fairgrounds, Burley Contact Bill Estes to list your consignments: 670-2070, 654-2666
IDAHO AUCTION BARN
www.idahoauctions.org

SATURDAY, APR. 5, 10:00am
Bob Olson Moving Estate, Ft. 1 Generations Antiques Collectibles • Glassware • Furs
ARMSTRONG AUCTIONS
www.armstrongauctions.com

SATURDAY, APR. 12, 9:55am
Blaine, Arto & Community, Pocatello • Vehicles • ATV Farm • Collectibles • Real Est.
Times-News Ad: 4-10
PRIME TIME AUCTION
www.primetimeauctions.com

SATURDAY, APR. 19, 11:00am
Seal Auction, Gooding Cattle Trailer • Shop Household • Ice Creams
Times-News Ad: 4-10, 4-13, 4-16
WARD AUCTION
www.idahoauctions.org

WASHINGTON Pentagon mistakenly shipped ballistic missile parts to Taiwan in 2006

WASHINGTON — The U.S. military's mistaken delivery to Taiwan of electrical fuses for an intercontinental ballistic missile raised concerns Tuesday over U.S.-China relations and triggered a broad investigation into the security of Pentagon weapons.

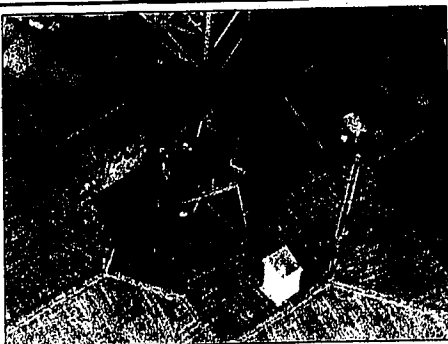
While the shipment did not include nuclear materials, the error is particularly sensitive because China vehemently opposes U.S. arms sales to Taiwan. Four of the cone-shaped fuses were shipped after Taiwanese officials in fall 2006 instead of the helicopter batteries they had ordered.

Despite quarterly checks of the inventory, defense officials said they never knew the fuses were gone. Only after months of discussions with Taiwan did the Pentagon finally realize — late last week — the gravity of what had happened.

Once the error was discovered, the military quickly recovered the four fuses. How it happened, and whether the incident constitutes a violation of any treaty or agreement governing international sales of missile technology, were lingering questions.

At a hastily called news conference Tuesday, Ryan Henry, the No. 2 policy official in Defense Secretary Robert Gates' office, said President Bush as well as Chinese leaders were informed of the mistake — an error Henry called intolerable.

"I cannot emphasize forcefully enough how strong the security facts about this matter and how disconcerting it is to him," Henry told reporters.



Workers try to remove part of a crane that fell through the roof of a building next to a construction site in Miami Tuesday, killing two workers. (Story at right.)

much sooner when the programs began paying out more in benefits each year than they collect in payroll taxes. For Medicare, that threshold is projected to be reached this year and for Social Security it is projected to occur in 2017.

Both programs are expected to come under increasing pressure as 78 million baby boomers start retiring and drawing benefits. "The financial difficulties facing Social Security and Medicare pose enormous challenges," the trustees said in their report. "The sooner these challenges are addressed, the more varied and less disruptive their solutions can be."

Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson, one of the trustees, warned of a fiscal train wreck unless something is done.

"Without change, rising costs will drive government spending to unprecedented levels, consume nearly all projected federal revenues and threaten America's future prosperity," Paulson told a news conference where he and the other trustees released the report.

"I think that given all we have heard and seen, he would not have been my pastor," Clinton said at a news conference in Greensburg, Pa., after being asked if Obama should have left the church. She declined to say what Obama should have done, or whether the subject is now a legitimate topic for her appeals to Democratic superdelegates, the party leaders who will decide whether she or Obama will be the presidential nominee.

Clinton was ready for the question at her news conference, and read much of her response from notes, unlike her handling of other questions.

"We don't have a choice when it comes to our relatives," she said. "We have a choice when it comes to our pastors and the churches we attend. Everyone will have to decide these matters for themselves. They are obviously very personal matters."

If Wright were her pastor, she said, "the choice would be clear."

Trustees project serious challenges for Social Security and Medicare

WASHINGTON — Trustees for the government's two biggest benefit programs warned that Social Security and Medicare are facing "enormous challenges" with the threat to Medicare's solvency far more severe.

The trustees, issuing their once-a-year analysis, said the resources in the Social Security trust fund will be depleted by 2041. The reserves in the Medicare trust fund that pays hospital benefits were projected to be wiped out by 2019.

Both those dates were the same as in last year's report. But the trustees warned that financial pressures will begin

PENNSYLVANIA Hillary Clinton says she would have split with Obama's pastor

GREENSBURG — Hillary Rodham Clinton said Tuesday she would have left the church that Barack Obama attends if her minister had talked about America the way Obama's pastor has.

Clinton's comments to reporters marked a clear shift in her handling of the Obama church controversy, which she had generally avoided until now. Some Democrats see Obama's refusal to dissociate himself from the Chicago church and its recently retired minister, Jeremiah Wright, as his stickiest campaign challenge so far.

NEW YORK Court overrules law requiring food, water for stranded passengers

NEW YORK — A federal appeals court Tuesday struck down a state law requiring airlines to give food, water, clean toilets and fresh air to passengers stuck in delayed planes, saying the measure was well-intentioned but stepped on federal authority.

The 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said New York's law

FLORIDA Crane accident at condo construction site kills 2 workers, hurts 5

MIAMI — A 20-foot-long chunk of construction crane plummeted 30 floors at the site of a high-rise condominium Tuesday, killing two workers and smashing into a home that the contractor used for storage, police said.

Five other workers were injured, one critically, at the site of the 40-plus-story luxury condo tower on Biscayne Bay.

The part that fell was a section workers had been raising to extend the equipment's reach. Miami fire spokesman Ignatius Carroll said. The crane's main vertical section was intact.

The section smashed through the Spanish-tiled roof of the two-story home, which Moss said had been used in the 1998 comedy film "There's Something About Mary."

Emergency workers and Note: Falls, this is one of those auctions where treasures keep coming out of the woodwork. There are 4 generations worth of collectables, antiques and unique items, some with great local and national historic value. See our website for dozens of pictures and lots more description.

We will run a preview Friday, April 4th, from Noon-5pm. Bring your friends. There are 2 Xtra special items: Bob's Great Grandfather was a Civil War Captain and handed down a drumhead with all the names from his Muster. Company D 96th. Bob's Aunt was married to Senator/Governor Gooding's son and handed down a daybed from the Senator's Wash, DC office. PLUS-4 generations of Antiques, Collectables, Glassware, Oriental Art, Antique Oriental and Persian rugs, Furniture, Porcelain and Pottery, Vintage Clothing and furs, ephemera, lots of silver, everyday household and misc.

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- Horton Hears a Who # 7 30 9 15
- National Treasure # 2 25 # 7 00 9 30
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- Vantage Point # 7 30 9 45
- Bank Job on Day # 7 00 9 30
- Meet The Browns # 7 00 9 15
- Never Back Down # 7 15 9 45
- Shutter # 7 30 9 45
- Dooms Day # 7 00 9 30
- Tom Clancy # 12
- Fool's Gold # 7 30 9 45
- The Bucket List # 7 30 9 45
- Jumper # 7 30 9 45
- Alvin Chipmunks # 7 00 9 00
- Penelope # 7 30 9 45
- Disturb Taylor # 7 00 9 15
- Juno # 7 30 9 45
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	3	4	2	6	
4	9			8	2
2	1	2	6	3	3
		1	6		
1	8			8	
		4	1		
9	2	1		5	4
	7	5		8	9

EASY

#28

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved. The grid has numbers, but nothing has to add up to anything else. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic. Find the answers for todays puzzle on page E-7.

206 Drivers

206 Drivers

206 Drivers

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40% commission.
Some benefits. Exp
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Phonobase Research
currently has immediate
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ment. This position
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Deluxe Late Model Equipment
Weekly Settlements
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Lawn sprinker repair-
man, exp. necessary.
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plex in Buhl. 20-25
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Saturday, Sunday days
C.N.A or N.A needed
Come work in a quiet
and beautiful
11 bed facility.
\$8.00-\$9.00 DOE.
Call David 385-1704

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\$16.00/hr with benefits.
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RESIDENT AIDES
No experience
necessary, all training
will be provided.
Assisted Living
Retirement Community
in Twin Falls is
currently looking for
Resident Aides to
assist the elderly in a
Retirement Home
setting. Day, swing and
evening shifts avail.
Pay will be
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Full Medical
Benefits available.
Apply in person at
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Suite 5, Twin Falls
or call 735-5002 for
more information.

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Security Officers
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Call Mon-Fri 9am-5pm
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nity in Jerome. Exp
w/federal Housing
programs preferred.
Computer exp req
Competitive salary &
benefits. Fax re-
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is subject to the
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The Times-News
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Receipt of copy will
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you will sell print and online advertising, develop
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customers while successfully prospecting/cold
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ever changing employment sector.
You will prepare and deliver sales presentations,
provide excellent follow-through and customer
support, communicate detailed account information
to your sales manager and act as a team player,
contributing to the team's success.

This position requires a goal oriented
individual with high energy and ability to work as a
team in a deadline driven environment. Candidate
should have successful sales experience, enjoy
working with people, and possess an
entrepreneurial attitude.

The ideal candidate will have excellent telephone
presence, good computer skills with experience in
Word, Excel and Power Point, excellent spelling
skills, and a keen eye for attention to detail.
Reliable transportation and a good driving
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We offer a great work environment,
competitive compensation including base plus
commission, and excellent benefits, including
medical, dental, vision, 401(k) retirement plan,
paid holidays and vacation.

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\$1750 for part-time RNs
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Full-time is 32 hours per week - Part-time is 20 hours per week
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skilled care provider, has a
full-time and part-time opportunities
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Full-time
Day, Evening or Night Shifts

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\$5000 Hire on Bonus
6pm to 6am
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Full time and Part time

BridgeView offers:
•Competitive, Above Average pay
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•401k Retirement Plan
•HHA, Dental and Optical
Insurance
•College Tuition Assistance
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or

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Handpicked individuals are looking for Caregivers for the summer in Woodcroft, FL. Summer help. If interested please pick up application at 616 27th Ave W. Wendell

TRADES
Leader Operator Wagon DOE
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TRADES
Mechanic for Medium and Heavy equipment. Must have experience in both fields. Pre employment Drug Screen
Call 208-337-1911 or send resume to 208-337-3557

TRADES
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Welders, Millwrights, Pipefitters for Staibros Steel. Call 208-224-6168 or fax resume to 208-228-2877 or mail to P.O. Box 190 American Falls 83411

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FINANCIAL
401 Open House
502 Homes for Sale
510 Out-Of-State Homes
511 Out-Of-State Homes
512 Farms/Ranches/Duities
513 Acreages/Lots
514 Income Property
515 Commercial Property
516 Vacation Prop

301 Business Opportunities
302 Business Opportunities
303 Franchises
304 Investments
305 Contracts & Mortgages
306 Financial Services

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301 School Instruction
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501 Open House
502 Homes for Sale
510 Out-Of-State Homes
511 Out-Of-State Homes
512 Farms/Ranches/Duities
513 Acreages/Lots
514 Income Property
515 Commercial Property
516 Vacation Prop

301 Business Opportunities
302 Business Opportunities
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302 Homes For Sale
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HURRY! \$118,900.
Call Rod

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REALTORS
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FILER 5 3 bed, 3 bath, 2 1/2 cars, bring your horses. \$320,000.
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New Subdivision! \$178,900
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For Buyers & Sellers
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Must sell now. Why pay more? \$140,000.
308-9994 or 316-8887

JEROME 3 bedroom, 1 bath home with covered deck, fenced backyard, wood stove, and car garage.
724 1st Ave. E. \$99,900. Possible lease to own. Call 733-8678/539-4449

JEROME Beautiful Jerome Golf Course, 47x27 Gigantic Great Room and Kitchen. 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fireplace, 8 ft. drop ceiling, travertine floors. Home security, automatic ceiling fans, fenced backyard.
\$289,000.
Call 208-324-8416

JEROME Birkh home newly remodeled, 3 bedroom, 2 full baths, 2 car garage, approx 1400 sq. ft., AC, nice neighborhood, automatic sprinkler system, fenced backyard.
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BUHL 3 bdrm, 2 bath on 1 acre, everything remodeled, new hot water pump, sprinklers, approx 1300 sq. ft. Nice place for a few anti matoz and shop out 3978 N. 1500 E.
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5 bdrm, 3 bath home w/10 acres, concrete, stable, creek frontage, RV garage, energy efficient geothermal heat & AC. Open house most weekends. \$469,000.
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Why Buy Here (12/81)
- Irreparable Flood with Lighted Water Treatment
- Large Water Park
- Private Golf Course
- Pressurized Irrigation Water
- 1/2 Acre Lot
- Great to Back Back Drive
- A Beautiful Working Farm
- Call Mark E. Jones

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KIMBERLY now listing, remodeled home over \$4,000 under recent appraisal. 1 1/2 bath, large fenced yard, \$109,900.
Call 811 208-423-6109 to set up showing

SHOSHONE \$15,000 reduction! \$269,500. Must sell now. Gorgeous 3776 sq. ft. home, 5 bedrooms, 3 bath. Full basement, oak cabinets, tile large bedrooms, large yard, covered pool. Inspection completed. Agents welcome.
Call 208-241-243

SHOSHONE 243 3 bedroom home completely remodeled with unattached 2 car garage on corner lot. \$145,000.
Call 208-886-2662

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Foreclosure Sale. 4009 Canyon Ridge Dr. 2 bdrm, 2 bath, 2975 sq. ft. brick home with \$15,000 of upgrades.
As long as this house is bought from owner the buyer has three options. Buy at \$109,900 or receive \$4000 at closing. Buy at \$195,000 & receive \$500 at closing. Buy at \$195,000 & receive \$500 at closing. Buy at \$195,000 & receive \$500 at closing.
Call 733-733-6154 info.

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502 Homes For Sale
TWIN FALLS 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2,200 sq. ft. Morningstar District, new roof, full basement, wood stove, pellet stove, off-road, lg family room, great house. Make an offer.
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THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff

"Culture is smitten with counting and measuring. It feels out of place and uncomfortable with the unmeasurable." - Jean Dubuffet

In this deal from an Australian pairs championship, North followed a subtle route in the auction by introducing spades before raising hearts. When he discovered that his partner did not have three spades, the grand slam in hearts had to have good play.

West led the spade five to dummy's ace, trumps were drawn in three rounds, and the spade king was cashed. If all had followed suit, declarer Boris Tencer could have claimed the rest. But the 5-1 split made things harder. Now he had to decide whether to take a simple diamond finesse or a ruffing one for his contract. It appears that if West has the spade length, it is more sensible to play East for diamond length, but in a grand slam there is no need to rush things.

Declarer improved his chances by cashing his three club winners before committing himself in diamonds. When West discarded a diamond on the third round of clubs, he was known to have started with one heart, two clubs, and five spades, and thus precisely five diamonds, while his partner had only three diamonds. This made it 5-3 in favor of playing West for the diamond king, so after taking the diamond ace, Tencer led the diamond queen from his hand, and West had no answer.

The deal turned out to be crucial in the event. North-South scored an 80 percent on this board and went on to win the title by a narrow margin.

For details of Bobby Wolff's authorship, "The Lone Wolf" contact kaytzer@aol.com. If you would like to contact Bobby Wolff, e-mail him at tobbyoff@midwestgroup.com. Copyright 2008, United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

NORTH 03-26-A
A K 7 4
A Q K 2
5
A K 10

WEST EAST
A J 10 6 5 2 A Q
9 A J 10 3
K 10 8 4 2 A 7 6
9 6 A J 7 6 5 4 3

SOUTH 9 3
K 8 7 6 5
A Q J 3
A Q 2

Vulnerable: North-South Dealer: North

The bidding: South West North East

2♥ Pass 2♣ Pass
3♦ Pass 3♥ Pass
4♠ Pass 4NT Pass
5♥ Pass 7♥ All pass

*Two of the five key-cards, counting the trump king and the four aces

Opening lead: Spade five

BID WITH THE ACES 03-26-B

South holds: A 9 3
K 8 7 6 5
A Q J 3
A Q 2

South West North East
1♥ 1♣ Pass Pass
Dbl. Pass 2♣ Pass

ANSWER: It was reasonable to reopen with a double of one spade (hoping partner had a penalty double), but you lost your gamble when partner bid two clubs. If you now correct to two diamonds, you would be showing a good hand with hearts and diamonds, so you should cut your losses and pass two clubs, hoping it is not too silly a place to play.



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