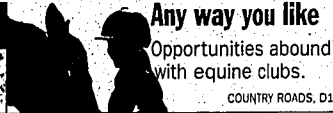


... economy still deals with debt.



Any way you like Opportunities abound with equine clubs.

Good Morning

High: 63 Low: 39

Scattered clouds, a little warmer. Details: B4

# Times-News

TUESDAY April 22, 2008 75 cents

MagicValley.com

## To the edge and beyond

### Group plans to re-create jump 35 years after Knievel

By Nate Poppino Staff writer  
The Web site doesn't hold many clues. In the midst of flames sits a car covered by a tarp. Orange lettering proclaims, "It's time to burn up the record book and cure history."



See photos taken of the 1974 Knievel jump by Twin Falls resident Herman Webcke.

for Twin Falls. The site is the first tangible sign of "Devel's Leap," a three-year-old project to strip a lucky stuntman to a set of engines and launch him or her across the Snake River Canyon. Like Evel Knievel, whose 1974 jump attempt brought fame and mayhem to the Magic Valley, the Devel's Leap organizers are aiming high. The event, planned for the same site used by Knievel, could become "Idaho's Olympics," said Hal T. Anderson, the land's cur-

rent owner. "Everyone in Idaho will be proud of this thing, really proud of it," said Daniel Labille, president of Chicago-based Rocket Man Productions Inc. and the man behind the jump attempt. "The 6.71 acres that include the jump site will be turned over to the city in the near future, a deal worked out last year. Before that happens, Rocket Man — an

### Take part

Do you have any special memorabilia, photos or home movies of the 1974 Evel Knievel jump? The Times-News is putting together a special project on the jump. Please contact Pat Marcontonio at 735-3288 or at patm@magicvalley.com. The "Ranch and Resort Television" episode announcing Devel's Leap can be viewed on Direct TV Channel 608 at 8:30 and 11 a.m. Wednesday and 9 a.m. Sunday. The show also airs on Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Please see EDGE, Page A3

### Election '08

#### Delegate race reaches critical hurdle

Heading into Pennsylvania's primary with 158 delegates at stake, Barack Obama has 1,648 delegates to Hillary Clinton's 1,509.

Obama	27	Superdelegate endorsements	2,025 needed for nomination
Clinton	1,648	Needs	516
Edwards	18	Undeclared superdelegates	347

At stake in upcoming contests: 408 Pa. Delegates

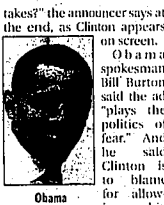
## Keystone State to decide Democratic, GOP delegates today

### Clinton reaches for Pa. win; Obama says he'll be close

### Elections 2008

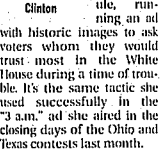
For more local and national election news, go to [MagicValley.com](http://MagicValley.com) and hit the Elections 2008 button.

BLUE BELT, Pa. — Hillary Rodham Clinton invoked Pearl Harbor, the Berlin Wall and Osama bin Laden as she reached for a victory in Pennsylvania's Democratic presidential primary to recharge her comeback effort.



Obama

Barack Obama said she would probably win but he hoped to keep it close in Tuesday's voting. Clinton made her closing arguments Monday for the biggest primary test on the election schedule, running an ad with historic images to all voters whom they would trust most in the White House during a time of trouble.



Clinton

Clinton is to blame for allowing bin Laden to escape by supporting war in Iraq and diverting the U.S. military. "It's ironic that she would borrow the president's tactics in her own campaign and invoke bin Laden to score political points," Biden said.

Clinton has used historic images to all voters whom they would trust most in the White House during a time of trouble. It's the same tactic she used successfully in the "3 a.m." ad she aired in the closing days of the Ohio and Texas contests last month. It was the first time a Democratic candidate has used bin Laden in a campaign commercial in the 2008 race for the White House. The terrorist appears along with images from the stock market crash, the bombing at Pearl Harbor, the Soviet threat, the collapse of the Berlin Wall and Hurricane Katrina as an announcer tells voters the political contest is for "the most important job in the world."

Obama suggested in an interview with Pittsburgh radio station KDKA that Clinton probably would come out on top. Pennsylvania also holds a primary for the GOP!

## Lower part-time cost, increase for full-timers coming this fall

By Andrea Jackson Staff writer

The College of Southern Idaho Board unanimously voted Monday night during a regular meeting to change the costs students pay to attend school. The changes would take a load off pocketbooks of part-time students. But there will be a cost hike for full-timers that make up about 35 percent of the CSI population. Beginning in the fall semester, students taking fewer than 12 credits will be considered part-time instead of full-time. Full-time students will also pay about 8.6 percent more than they do now.

But for part-time students taking

Please see CHANGE, Page A3

### More (or less) buck for the bang

The College of Southern Idaho Board of Trustees voted Monday night to change tuition and fees come fall semester. Here's a review of how costs will change:

- 3 credits (part-time) — was \$315, will be \$285
- 6 credits (part-time) — was \$630, will be \$570
- 9 credits (part-time) — was \$ 945, will be \$855
- 10 credits (part-time) — was \$1,050, will be \$950
- 12 credits (full-time) — was \$1,050, will be \$1,140



College of Southern Idaho students Andrew Reyes and Rosalinda Ramirez talk Monday afternoon at the tower on campus during a break.

## Free-fallin': Plant renovation, runoff lead to higher Shoshone Falls flows

By Nate Poppino Staff writer

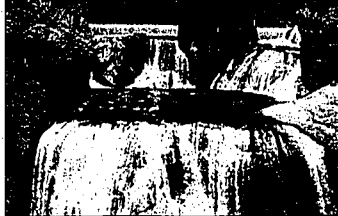
"It just depends how much the snowpacks melt." — Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Director Dennis Boywer

Delays in maintenance work on Idaho Power Co.'s Shoshone Falls power plant may be bad news for the company. But they're good news for the general public. Flows over the falls should be around 460 cubic feet per second for the near future, at least until the power plant is brought back online in the next couple of weeks, Idaho Power spokesman Dennis Loyce said Monday. Assuming the water's available, the company has to provide at least 300 cfs during

late spring and summer through an agreement with the city of Twin Falls written into its federal license. It's still less than the 700 to 800 cfs feeding the falls in March. Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Director Dennis Boywer said. But it definitely won't hurt the city's revenue while charging \$3 a vehicle to visit the falls — a pallery that began again March 29. Construction near the entrance to Shoshone Falls Park is temporarily on hold

until the city paves a parking lot, he said. With irrigation canals changing and reservoirs further up the Snake still being filled, Boywer said he doesn't expect much more water to make it to the falls anytime soon. "It just depends how much the snowpacks melt," he said. The current bump is largely due to runoff from canal charging and other sources, Lopez said. But with the plant down, any water that

would pass through it is being diverted over the falls instead. The renovations, started last fall, are likely the most extensive at the site since the 1930s, Lopez said. Only the plant's generators and turbines will remain the same. The company did its best to maintain the facility, he said, but regular upkeep could only do so much. "This time, I think we're doing just a complete change-out," he said. *Nate Poppino may be reached at 208-735-3237 or npoppino@magicvalley.com.*



Idaho Power is predicting higher than usual flows over Shoshone Falls for the foreseeable future thanks to ongoing maintenance that has shut down, its power plant.

# TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

## BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

Murlaugh School Donkey Basketball, 7 p.m., Hulse/Anderson Gym, proceeds benefit all student activities. 731-1666.

## CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

Magic Valley Toastmasters meeting and no-host lunch, with a focus on teaching and encouraging members in communication and leadership skills, noon, Glendy Corral, 1823 Blue Lakes Blvd., Twin Falls, new members welcome. 316-9534.

## EXHIBITS

2008 Student Show, 9:30 a.m. to 9 p.m., Jean B. King Gallery, Hallett Center for Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, no cost. 732-6655.

## GOVERNMENT

Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse, 425 Shoshone St. N., 735-0068.

Jerome County commissioners, 9 a.m., courthouse, 300 N. Lincoln, 644-2700.

Blaine County commissioners special meeting, 1:30 p.m., courthouse, 206 First Ave. S., Halley, 788-5500.

Jerome School Board, 6 p.m., Carter Luther Vocational Ag. Building, high school, 104 Tiger Drive, 324-2392 ext.1010.

Twin Falls City Planning and Zoning Commission, 6 p.m., council chambers, 305 Third Ave. E., 735-7267.

Glenns Ferry City Council, 7 p.m., City Hall, 110 E. Second St., 365-7418.

Jerome City Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m., council chambers, 100 E. Ave. A., 342-8189.

Shoshone Planning and Zoning Commission, 7 p.m., City Hall, 207 S. Rail St. W., 886-2030.

Hagerman Planning and Zoning Commission, City Hall, 191 State St. N., 837-6636.

## HEALTH AND RECOVERY

College of Southern Idaho's Over 60 and Getting Fit programs, 9 to 10 a.m. at Filer Elementary and Hagerman High School Gym; and 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the old gym in Buhl, no cost. 732-6675.

Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10 to 11 a.m., Living Waters Presbyterian Church, 821 E. Main St., Wendell, no cost, 737-5988.

Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10:30 a.m., First Segregation Fire Station, Eden, no cost, 737-5988.

Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 11 to 11:45 a.m., Oakley Fire Station, 315 E. Main St., Oakley, no cost, 731-5988.

Ongoing exercise program for people with Parkinson's disease, offered by Magic Valley Regional Health, 11 a.m. to noon, the Episcopal church of the Ascension, 371 Eastland Drive N., Twin Falls, no cost, 737-2977.

Silver/Sneakers Fitness Program, innovative exercise program designed especially for Medicare beneficiaries (unique health and physical needs), 11:15 a.m. to noon, Twin Falls YMCA, 1753 Elizabeth Blvd., no cost for Humana-insured or YMCA members and \$5 per class for non-insured, 733-4384.

Adult Children Anonymous (A.C.A.) meeting, for individuals recovering from alcoholic or dysfunctional family environment, 6 p.m., Canyon View Psychiatric and Addiction Services, 228 Shoup Ave. W. (west entrance), Twin Falls, no cost, 308-5666.

Mild-Castella Shelter for Women & Children Twin Falls support group, 6 p.m., 123 S. St. Rupert, (208) 438-0987.

Celebrate Recovery, a place to learn life-affirming health behaviors, 7:30 p.m., Magic Valley Evangelical Free Church, 821 H Ave. E., Jerome, no cost, 732-4237.

## HOBBIES AND CRAFTS

Burley Bluegrass Jam, traditional bluegrass fiddle (all skill levels welcome), 7 to 10 p.m., The Chadwick Grille, 139 W. Main St., corner of Main and Oakley, Burley, (208) 670-4668 or robcurtis2@gmail.com.

## MUSEUMS

Faulkner Planetarium "Blow Away: The Wild World of Weather," 7 p.m., Horrell Center for Arts and Science, north end of the College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families. 732-6655.

## SCHOOL REGISTRATION

2008-2009 registration for Filer and Hollister Elementary Schools Kindergarten, for children who will be age 5 by Sept. 1; proof of all updated immunizations, social security card and legal birth certificate required to register, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., Filer Elementary, (208) 326-4369 and Hollister Elementary, (208) 655-4215.

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

To have an event (including ongoing events) listed in the May monthly calendar, please submit the name of the event, a brief description, time, place, cost and contact number by April 22 to Suzanne Browne by e-mail at sbrowne@magicvalley.com; by fax, 734-5538; or by mail, Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548.

## CORRECTION

**Photo caption direction wrong**  
The caption for the photo of Pristine Springs in Monday's paper should have labeled the view as looking to the east. The Times-News regrets the error.

# www.magicvalley.com

## Times-News

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CIRCULATION: Circulation Director Paula Mitchell, 735-3327

MAILING LIST: 733-0931 ext. 1; Burley Region Paul Buckley, 621-8242; Cassiopia phones 620-4000 to 671-6400; and 11 a.m. on weekdays for questions about news subscriptions and ad rates. If you don't receive your paper by 6:30 a.m., call the number for your area before 10 a.m. for delivery.

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# MORNING BRIEFING

## You don't say ... Steve Crump

**Vertigo and martinis at the Canyon Crest**

It's not the first time, of course, that bar patrons have experienced a room spinning ... But in the case of the lounge at Dan Willie's new Canyon Crest Dining and Event Center, it really is ...

Willie installed an 11-foot revolving table at the behest of eight customers ...

"At first, they called themselves the Knights of the Round Table," Willie explained ... "Now they're just The Board ..."

Willie and the patrons split the cost of the table, which had to be specially engineered by a company that manufactures revolving platforms for car shows ...

"They get exclusive rights to the table on Wednesday nights at 5," Willie said ... "When they're not there, anybody can use it ..."

The table and its supporting platform can make a 360-degree revolution in as few as four minutes or as long as 45 minutes ...

"A revolution every 15 minutes is about as fast as I can stand it," Willie said ...

A full revolution gives a panoramic view of the Snake River Canyon, the restaurant and the lounge — an ideal vantage, I suspect, for a manager ...

"Yeah, you can see just about everything that's going on," Willie said ...

And the platform can be reversed — it spins in the opposite direction ...

"If you're feeling a little

## Whadyya know?

It's odd, funny, quirky, poignant or weird and it happens in south-central Idaho, I want to hear about. Call me at 735-3223, or write to me at scrump@magicvalley.com.

**Twin Falls rancher Bob Dooley and settled with him and his brother Ed ... Three years later, Ed died suddenly and couple received \$2,000 on a life insurance policy ...** Soon after, Bob Dooley suddenly died, supposedly from typhoid fever ... Lydia collected \$2,500 on his life insurance policy.

Within two years she had met, married and murdered two Montana men before attracting the attention of a local deputy sheriff, who pursued her quiet life to the ends of the Earth ... She was arrested in Hawaii ... where she had just married a Navy petty officer ...

Southard was convicted in Twin Falls in 1921 of slaying Meyer ... Finally paroled in 1943 — over the objections of then-Gov. Chase Clark — she fled to Utah, where she married again only to be abandoned by her eighth husband ...

After she died in 1958, Southard was buried in Twin Falls in the Memorial Park at 2 in the morning ... under a headstone that read "Anna E. Shaw ..."

"Unverified medical reports supposedly state that Lydia's body was completely hairless the time of her death," Anderson said ...

"The arsenic, I suppose, from bolting all that flypaper. She eventually poisoned herself ..."

*Steve Crump is The Times-News Opinion editor.*

## AROUND THE NATION

### WASHINGTON

**Defense Sec. Gates: Iraq Force not helping in Iraq**

Defense Secretary Robert Gates said Monday the Air Force is not doing enough to

help in the Iraq and Afghanistan war effort, complaining that some military leaders are "stuck in old ways of doing business."

Gates said in a speech at Maxwell Air Force Base, Ala., that getting the military services, largely the Air Force, to

send more unmanned surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft to Iraq and Afghanistan has been "like pulling teeth."

Addressing officer students at the Air Force's Air University, the Pentagon chief praised the Air Force for

its overall contributions but made a point of urging it to do more and to undertake new and creative ways of thinking about helping the war effort instead of focusing mainly on future threats.

— The Associated Press

## WHAT'S NEW AT MAGICVALLEY.COM

- See a video of the dedication of the new Jerome Middle School.
- A group of local and out-of-

state developers are talking about another Snake River Canyon jump. See a slide show of the 1974 Evel

Knievel jump. • Who would you pick as No. 1 in the NFL Draft? Make your selection in an online survey.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Tuesday, April 22, the 113th day of 2008. There are 253 days left in the year.

**Today's Highlight:**  
On April 22, 1869, the Oklahoma Land Rush began at noon as thousands of homesteaders staked claims.

**On this date:**  
In 1509, Henry VIII became king of England following the

death of his father, Henry the VII.

In 1970, millions of Americans concerned about the environment observed the first "Earth Day."

In 1994, Richard M. Nixon, the 37th president of the United States, died at a New York hospital four days after suffering a stroke.

In 2006, in a dramatic pre-dawn raid, armed immigration

agents seized Elian Gonzalez, with his relatives' home in Miami. Elian was reunited with his father at Andrews Air Force Base near Washington.

Ten years ago: A young woman charged along with her high school sweetheart with murdering their newborn at a Delaware motel, pleaded guilty to manslaughter.

Five years ago: President Bush announced he would nominate Alan Greenspan for a fifth term as Federal Reserve chairman.

One year ago: In the first round of the French presidential election, conservative Nicolas Sarkozy and Socialist rival Segolene Royal received enough votes to advance to a runoff, which Sarkozy won.

## HOROSCOPE - BY JERALDINE SAUNDERS

**IF APRIL 22 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY:** You've got a tiger by the tail and are likely to make admirable headway in the year to come. For the next few months you need to maintain a low profile and conscientiously tend to responsibilities. The cosmic classroom is in session and you must pass a test on some level. Remain organized and pursue your ambitions diligently for the best success. During October and November your capacity for enjoyment will soar, so this is a good time for a romantic interlude or get-away-from-it-all vacation.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Nothing is simple and even your most valuable relationships are somewhat difficult to navigate for a brief period of time. Don't let money turn a hole in your pocket.

**Taurus (April 20-May 20):** The best times in life aren't

always free. Costly purchases or overindulgences can give you good feelings today and regrets tomorrow. This is not a good time to add to your debt burden or secure a credit card.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** You may feel inadequate in social settings. To bolster your reputation you might be tempted to promise too much, exaggerate abilities or enlarge upon your success. Don't try to outdo the competition.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** This is a good time to think about the difference between courage and recklessness. People who seek toleration of your assertiveness could secretly change their good opinion.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** Sterling character is worth its weight in gold. You may feel rigid and unbending if you compare yourself to others in social situations. You shouldn't

measure your actions against others, but against results.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Old friends or best friends could seem like an albatross around your neck right now. Duck for cover if invited to attend a social event. Costly investments of time and money could be required.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Promises are temporarily a dime a dozen, so don't put your heart or your money on the line unless you have proof that assurances are founded in fact. Flirtations brighten the day.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** A famous quotation says that the heart of a fool is guided by his mouth while the mouth of a wise man is guided by his heart. Think carefully before making a promise.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Good intentions won't buy a cup of coffee. Although it is expedient to go

along with public opinion, you may inadvertently agree to something not in your best interests. Sign no important documents.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Old connections might hamper your progress by loading you down with excess baggage from the past. You must honor previous obligations to clear the path.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** The people who criticize your actions are actually providing valuable input. On the other hand, the ones who smother you with compliments may inadvertently undermine your confidence and waste your time.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** In this technologically advanced age, the more you know about computers, the internet and online social networking, the more successful you will be. Research all the facts.

# Edge

Continued from page A1

entertainment and consulting company — intends to hold the jump to coincide with the 35th anniversary of Kneivef's.

Most details have yet to be worked out. Rocket Man public relations director Hud Ingelhart said, including the price tag. But the plan is to hold a competition, possibly televised, to determine the pilot of the jump vehicle, which itself is still being developed.

"We just want to have a good event and do everyone proud," Labelle said. "Everything else is sketchy right now."

That doesn't mean Labelle's company hasn't been hard at

work, arranging the event. Several local government representatives recalled meeting with the group at least a year ago, including Twin Falls City Manager Tom Courtney and Jerome County Commissioner Charlie Howell. While Twin Falls County Commissioner Terry Kramer said he hears jump proposals two or three times a year, Howell said the Jerome City Council is the only one he recalls in his four years as commissioner.

"Obviously, I'd watch it just to see what they would do," said Howell, who said the group also met with the Jerome City Council and Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

The logistics involved in

arranging a jump are huge, involving 20 or so agencies from the Bureau of Land Management to the counties, said Shawn Barigan, Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce executive director. But Rocket Man seems aware of that; he said, and is the most organized and legitimate of the half-dozen jump groups who have approached him in the past three years.

"They've made the appropriate contacts," Barigan said. "They understand the numerous agencies and governments they have to work with to make something like this go off."

Labelle said he's not quite to the point of beginning a mar-

keting and press rollout for the event. But it already received some attention Monday night on "Ranch & Resort Television," a rural real-estate show co-hosted on DirecTV by local Realtor Johnny Urrutia — better known as Johnny U. Among other things, Urrutia said the vehicle will be developed by NASR and Purdue University. A spokesman for Purdue University said Monday he was not aware of the proposal.

"This will be the biggest thing Idaho has ever had since (Kneivef's) jump," Urrutia said Thursday.

Note Poppino may be reached at 208-735-3237 or nppoppino@magicvalley.com.

Check the classifies for whatever you need

## Times-News magicvalley.com

erroneously ran the wrong Farmers National Bank ad on Sunday, April 20th. The ad invited the public to meet the Farmers Management team between 3-6 p.m. on Sunday. The bank was closed on Sunday. The Times-News apologizes for the error.

# Change

Continued from page A1

fewer than 12 credits — or about 64 percent of the college population — costs will decrease from \$105 per credit.

CSI officials conceded they don't like to increase costs. "While we do not like to impose this type of increase, these are the group of students that utilize more of the services we offer," according to a memorandum from the college.

A financial burden is put on part-time students under CSI's previous approach of raising fees and tuition, college officials said. "Traditionally, they (part-time students) utilize fewer services and continue to experience disproportionate increases in the cost per credit," according to the college.

College administrative officials said this tuition and fee change should keep future increases lower and more equitable. The CSI Student Senate recently endorsed the tuition and fee changes.

According to the college, students taking 12 credits as full-timers are currently paying less than students at any other community college or four-year institution in Idaho. Costs to attend Triennial Valley Community College in Ontario, Ore., however, are "a bit below" those at CSI, said CSI President Jerry Beck.

Only students taking 12 credits or more can get full-tuition financial aid. The CSI Foundation also offers grants to students, most of which are given to full-time students, said Beck.

This year, the CSI Foundation dolled out about \$100,000 in grants and could possibly provide \$1 million next school year, said Curtis Eaton, the foundation's director.

Most higher education institutions in Idaho base full-time fees on eight credits, but the emerging College of Western Idaho is expected to consider 12 credits as full-time, according to CSI.

The board's vote was quick, and one member tried to conduct other business before it even occurred.

Donna Brize, a long-standing CSI trustee, stood before the vote to try and present a student with a gift in unrelated business. "Oh, you want to vote first," she said.

In other college news, Ben Curcio, a CSI sophomore, asked the board to allow a Frisbee golf course, on campus. Curcio said there would be no cost to the college for the course, except to use the land, and the board approved the request.

The board unanimously approved the CSI employee contracts and compensation schedule for the 2009 fiscal year with a 3 percent increase along with \$100 per employee.

The board also approved the purchase of a lot at 1134 W. Caswell Ave. for \$44,000 to build a house by the 2010 fiscal year, which will be rented out by the college. College officials said houses and

town-homes owned by CSI are often rented to faculty members or businesses, and funding for the Caswell lot would come from the school's plant facilities fund.

"It is our intention to continue to lease these and

future residential construction houses as they are completed," according to a CSI memorandum.

Andrea Jackson may be reached at 735-3360 or andrea.jackson@csnet.net.

### Women. Want to make a difference?

Join the Junior Club of Magic Valley. You will find a dedicated group of community-minded women who feel the same way.

The Junior Club sponsors events such as *The Bile of Magic Valley* and *The Holiday Home Tour*. We also volunteer to help many other events, such as *The Kids' Art in the Park* and the *Magic Valley Air Show*.

If you would like to meet an awesome group of women and participate in volunteer and fund-raising activities, please call now and make a difference!



**The Junior Club of Magic Valley**  
Call Gretchen Scott at 308-7228  
or Andrea Dayley at 736-7656

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## T.E. Council to revisit alcohol ban at Dierkes Lake, Shoshone Falls

Members approve  
Pristine Springs deal

By Nate Pappano  
Staff writer

The Twin Falls City Council will revisit a controversial April 7 decision banning alcohol possession at Dierkes Lake and nearby docks at Shoshone Falls Park, council members narrowly decided Monday evening.

A motion by Councilman Don Hall to reconsider the new policy passed 4-3, with councilman Trip Craig, Lee Heider and Will Kezelle opposing, Hall's intent, he said, isn't

to do away with the whole change.

"I believe in the ban at Dierkes," he said. Rather, he wants to re-examine the amendment that added the docks area. As things stand, it is legal for boaters to drink on the Snake River but illegal for them to bring their alcohol to their boats.

The issue should be handled by the docks area by the county, Hall said, the same entity that regulates the water. The original amendment was proposed by Heider and Kezelle. Councilman David Johnson, the sole vote against the fall ban, seconded Hall's Monday motion. The discus-

sion on the ban will take place at a future meeting.

The decision, not an agenda item, capped an evening for the council. In what council members and one member of the public hailed as a historic event, the council unanimously approved a complex, \$26 million agreement to join with the state and groundwater pumpers to purchase Pristine Springs.

A 15.3 cubic-feet-per-second water right from the springs combined with an expected 7 to 15 cfs from a new right the city has applied for at Sunnybrook Spring would solve the city's water demand and arsenic reduction

needs for the next 20 years. City Manager Tom Courtney said. The Sunnybrook water would not be necessary until at least 2025.

The hatchery would be leased back to its owner for at least two years to finish out its cycle, Courtney said. The city would have access to the property for conducting soil tests, hydrological studies and similar surveys.

According to the agreement, the city will have 120 days to pay its \$10 million contribution and secure any required public or judicial approval for missing the funds. The city will likely use a one-year interest-only loan

through D.L. Evans Bank while it finds more permanent funding, Courtney said, and plans to submit most of the cost to judicial review as an "ordinary and necessary" expense, allowing long-term debt.

"We have no choice but to comply with the federal arsenic requirement," he said by way of example. An estimated \$16 million in infrastructure costs for handling the water could be added to the city's bill, Courtney said. City staff will meet later this week to determine what can be legitimately included in the judicial review and what will have to go before voters as a

bond election. Also Monday, the council voted to appeal an April 8 decision by the Planning and Zoning Commission cutting a requirement for the city's Urban Renewal Agency to widen Washington Street South outside Jayco's plant. Council members said they were worried about the fairness of the decision and the burden widening the road would be on the city's general fund.

"We're woefully underfunded for it," Councilman Trip Craig said.

The council also approved \$13,700 to buy a new drug detection dog for the police department.



Deion Ortega, 12, left, and Dillon Mogensen, 12, play the National Anthem at the opening of the dedication ceremony for the new Jerome Middle School Monday evening in Jerome.

## Celebrating new digs Luna comes to dedicate new Jerome Middle School

By Damon Hunzeker  
Correspondent

JEROME — Junior-high students of Jerome have attended their new school for nearly a month now, most of whom are happy with the spacious, high-tech structures.

Monday night's dedication was held in the cafeteria — a word recently new to most parents and students. The ceremony opened with the JMS band struggling through the national anthem, then performing a rousing rendition of "Tiger Rag" — the Jerome School District anthem.

"It brought back memories," parent Dawna Mogensen said. "I was proud to hear it when I was in high school, and now my kids are playing it in the band. It's a whole new meaning."

During the ceremony, Idaho Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna told the crowd of about 150 people. "Every generation is obligated to make sure that the generation behind them is properly educated." Because junior-high priorities are often lost between elementary and high school, Luna said the State Department of Education is working toward "making sure middle schools are rigorous and relevant."

Luna also discussed school safety. "Students will never be free to learn until they're free from intimidation and bullying and violence," he said.

Rick Ames, the project's construction manager, asked students and future students of the facility to stand up. "If we have any pregnant people here — hopefully, they're women — please stand up." Ames then asked for their favorite things about the new school. One person said, "The

Please see DEDICATION, Page A5

Magicvalley.com

See video of the speeches and music that helped dedicate the new middle school.

## FROSTY MORNING



Iceicles form on plants along Falls Avenue in Twin Falls Monday morning. The cold front that swept through Twin Falls over the weekend had some lingering effects Monday. Today's forecast for the Magic Valley is partly sunny conditions with a high of 63.

## State probes Cassia County on Jackson decision

AG's looks into possible  
open meeting violations

By Sven Berg  
Staff writer

BURLEY — The Idaho Attorney General's office is investigating claims Cassia County commissioners in November 2006 broke state laws governing public meetings when they voted to change address coordinates in the Jackson area to fit Cassia County's grid.

County Attorney Al Hurrus said Deputy Attorney General Karin Jones interviewed commissioners Paul Christensen, Dennis Crane and Clay Handy separately by phone Monday morning in response to allegations raised by Jackson residents. A spokeswoman for the attorney general said the Jackson allegations are being investigated, but declined to comment further.

Jackson resident Stan Buckley also declined to comment Monday on details of the case, except to confirm Jackson residents had submitted paperwork to the attorney general's office requesting the investigation. County officials denied any wrongdoing.

Addressing in Jackson has long been a source of contention between residents of the area and county authorities. Prior to 2007, coordinates in Jackson — the area of Cassia County located north of Interstate 84 and south of the Snake River — corresponded to the Minidoka County grid.

In 2006, Cassia County emergency services providers complained of confusion stemming from Jackson callers reporting Minidoka County coordinates to Cassia County dispatchers; they proposed switching Jackson addresses to Cassia County coordinates. Jackson residents protested in a near-unanimous saying there has been much less confusion when Minidoka County handled dispatching for the Jackson area.

Hurrus said Jackson residents have made several complaints in calling for the attorney general's investigation, including reference to a comment Handy made following an October 2006 meeting of the county's Planning and Zoning Commission. At that meeting, planning and zoning commissioners recommended allowing Jackson residents to continue using Minidoka County coordinates. Buckley said, following planning and zoning's vote, Handy said, "I don't care what they say, your addresses are going to change."

Handy has acknowledged making the comment, but he says it was not an indication county commissioners had already made up their minds to change Jackson's coordinates.

Buckley confirmed Monday that Handy's comment was among Jackson residents' allegations of improper procedure. In November 2006, county commissioners went against the P&Z recommendation and voted to change Jackson coordinates. Several months later, residents requested incorporation of the area as a city. County commissioners denied that request.

Jackson residents have complained emergency services have not improved since their address change took effect in fall of 2007. Commissioners and emergency service providers in Cassia County say more training and time to adjust to the change will clear up confusion.

Sven Berg may be reached at 208-677-8764 or sberg@southidahopress.com.

## T.F. Filer residents face Cassia County drug charges

By Sven Berg  
Staff writer

BURLEY — A Filer woman and two Twin Falls residents have been charged in Cassia County with trafficking heroin and other drug-related offenses.

The charges against Dawn Johnson, 55, and Tina and Darrell Sweet, both 27, stem from a Jan. 26 incident in which employees of Fidal's Truck Stop in Malta reported finding a bag containing suspicious items.

According to an affidavit filed by Idaho State Police Trooper Andy Hitt, who responded to Fidal's, the contents of the bag included 50 "brightly-colored pea-sized balloons" later determined to contain 6.62 grams of heroin.

Supervisor Handy Kidd said the street value of 6.62 ounces of heroin would be about \$1,300. If convicted of trafficking heroin, all three defendants would face mandatory minimum sentences of three years in prison and \$10,000 in fines. Maximum penalties for trafficking 2 to 7 ounces of heroin are life in prison and a \$100,000 fine.

The bag found at the truck stop also contained a smaller amount of cocaine, Hitt's affidavit states.

According to Hitt's affidavit, one female clerk at Fidal's told him she had seen only one person, a woman, enter the bathroom in the past several hours. She said the woman was with a man and the couple had left in a brown car.

After interviewing the employees of Fidal's, Hitt staked out the

truck stop. Several hours later, a car matching the clerk's description arrived. A man got out and briefly searched the ground with a flashlight.

As the car pulled away again, Hitt stopped it. The driver identified himself as Megan Leonetti, but her name was later determined to be Tina Sweet. Darrell Sweet was one of the passengers. Johnson, who matched the description the Fidal's clerk gave of the woman who entered the truck stop's bathroom, was lying in the back seat, apparently ill.

After calling for backup, Hitt searched the car and found a tourniquet, as well as 10 syringes, cotton swabs, scissors, a shot glass and a single balloon similar to those discovered by the employees of Fidal's.

"These items," when found

together with the tourniquet, are consistent with intravenous drug use," Hitt wrote in his affidavit.

All three suspects have been arrested and charged with trafficking. Tina Sweet's case has been bound over to Cassia County's Fifth District Court. Johnson and Darrell Sweet have been arraigned in county magistrate court and are awaiting preliminary hearings to determine if their cases will be bound over to district court.

Cassia County Deputy Prosecutor Blaine Cannon said, even though only one batch of heroin was found, all three suspects can be charged with trafficking it.

"It's kind of an ailing and abetting theory. If you help somebody commit a crime, you're responsible for the crime yourself," he said.



EDITORIAL

It's time to get tougher on mercury

You'd better have second thoughts about eating fish caught in Salmon Falls Creek Reservoir and nine other Idaho lakes and streams, including Blaine County's pristine Silver Creek.

Mercury levels in the water — and in the fish — are high enough to pose a health risk. So the Idaho's largest environmental group thinks the state should do more to safeguard residents.

The Boise-based Idaho Conservation League has petitioned the state Board of Environmental Quality to expand regulation of mercury emissions to include the toxic metal in watersheds.

As it stands, Idaho's mercury emission rules focus on inhalation of the metal used in thermometers, rather than methylmercury, a more toxic form in water.

Mercury in water is transformed by bacteria into methylmercury, which is ingested by fish.

ICL program director Justin Hayes said the request is an attempt to focus on bi-state emissions after making progress on mercury from Nevada mines.

There's a substantial body of evidence that local sources of mercury pose a big health risk. According to the federal Environmental Protection Agency, the largest single source of mercury contamination in Idaho is the Monsanto Company's P4 Production phosphate facility near Soda Springs.

EPA research has shown that in Soda Springs Reservoir on the Bear River, two-thirds of the mercury comes from the P4 plant.

The environmental group wants the state to at least temporarily block new or expanded mercury-emitting facilities seeking to release more than five pounds of the element per year into the air.

Meanwhile, the Department of Environmental Quality would catalog all possible mercury emitters in Idaho and require all facilities emitting anything above state minimums to achieve the lowest possible emission rate.

It's a reasonable request, DEQ has plenty to do in assessing mercury hazards to Idahoans, but the ICL proposal would protect Idahoans until the scope of the mercury threat is clear.

Our view: Out-of-state mines and processing plants aren't the sole threat to Idahoans from airborne mercury pollution.

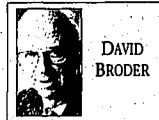
What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.

The trouble with mercury

In humans, mercury damages the central nervous system, endocrine system and kidneys. Exposure can result in brain damage and, in some cases, death. Mercury and its compounds are especially toxic to fetuses and infants; pregnant women exposed to mercury have given birth to children with serious birth defects.

Like the nation, Pennsylvania hasn't decided yet

UPPER DUBLIN, Pa. — For 40 of his 65 years, ever since he first registered, Martin Greenblatt has been voting Republican in this Philadelphia suburb. Through much of the past winter, the retired teacher considered himself a supporter of Rudy Giuliani. But when the former New York mayor quit the race without a single primary victory, Greenblatt made a radical decision.



DAVID BRODER

I re-registered as a Democrat so he could vote for Hillary Clinton over Barack Obama in today's Pennsylvania primary. His vote will be counted along with thousands of others to be cast in the Philadelphia suburbs, traditionally the vote that anchor the winner in Pennsylvania contests.

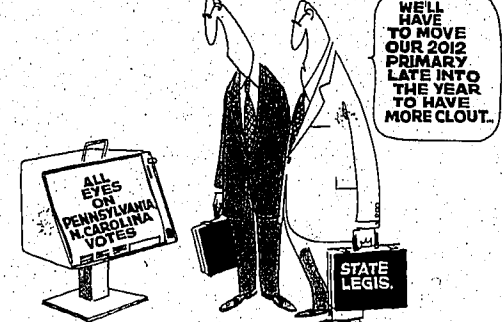
In a day of interviewing outside the library in this Montgomery County community last week, Greenblatt's story was just one of many describing the strange journeys they have taken to their current positions — and the disquiet some of them feel about the votes they are about to cast.

While Clinton had more supporters in these interviews than Obama (Republican John McCain), it is obvious that all the campaign-fueled doubts than enthusiasm.

Greenblatt is typical. Asked about McCain, this longtime Republican said, "I do like his (Iraq) war policy. I supported the war at the beginning, but I'm increasingly disillusioned with it. McCain just seems to want to keep it going."

Obama has little appeal to Greenblatt. "He hasn't had the experience," Greenblatt said, in a comment I heard many times from other voters. "Two years in the Senate, and one of them he spent running for president. And I'm not happy with Rev. (Jeremiah) Wright," Obama's controversial pastor.

SKILL THE TIMES-PIONEER



The road to the White House

Delegates still needed to secure the Democratic presidential nomination: 381 Barack Obama 527 Hillary Clinton

- Upcoming Democratic and Republican presidential primaries and caucuses: Today — Pennsylvania; May 6 — Indiana, North Carolina; May 13 — Nebraska (Republicans only), West Virginia (Democrats only); May 19 — Hawaii (Republicans only); May 20 — Oregon, Kentucky; May 27 — Idaho (Republicans only)

Clinton faces better in Greenblatt's view. "She is a tough lady," he said. "Lots of good team." Still, Greenblatt admits, "my father hated Clinton and he hated her."

Sharm herself is equivocal about Obama and McCain, and says she is "halfway between" their opposing views on Iraq — with Obama urging an immediate start on a pullout and McCain

Anyone who thinks most of these voters are settled in their choices does not hear what they're saying.

saying the U.S. should remain in force until Iraq is stable. Sharm describes her own position on the war as "wisely-washy" and, while her disaffection of Clinton "out of respect for my father" dictates a vote for Obama in the primary, she says "it's Obama vs. McCain, I'll have to consider what to do in November. Obama has made some gains among these voters, with one crediting the Illinois senator's ads the last two weeks for a shift from a certain-for-Clinton ballot to undecided. But many others said they remain uncertain about Obama's specific policies and skeptical about his short resume.

But none of that deters the youngest voter in our sample, 26-year-old stage manager Francis Sapienza of Fort Washington. "It's Obama for sure," he said. "It may be idealistic, but I really like his emphasis on change."

As for McCain, some Republicans noted the doubts among conservatives about his policy views.

Larry Duerr of Ambler, a 66-year-old retired municipal employee, said he is disillusioned with the spending habits of Republicans in Congress and sees President Bush as "ignorant," so he will cast a protest vote for liberal-

arian-minded Rep. Ron Paul in today's primary. In November, he said, "I'll vote for McCain," because "the Democrats are too far left." Another retiree, 76-year-old Frank McMahon of Upper Dublin, has doubts about McCain, in part because of his age "but would probably vote for him in November if he picked someone like Mitt Romney as his running mate — a younger and more conventional conservative.

Kathleen Brichter of Dresher, a retired office worker in an electronics plant, clings to her Republican identity despite the fact she "can't stand" either Bush or Vice President Cheney. She has ruled out Obama, in part because he professed to be unaware of Wright's political views despite 20 years of attending his services.

But she — along with many Democrats — wishes "McCain weren't so strong for the center," and she might vote for Clinton if she were to win the nomination.

Anyone who thinks most of these voters are settled in their choices does not hear what they're saying.

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

Times-News

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Get in your two cents

ONLINE: At Magivalley.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@magivalley.com.

All public schools accountable for spending

Recent media reports have questioned whether virtual charter schools are held accountable for how they spend taxpayer dollars.

As the director of public school finance in Idaho for more than a decade, let me set the record straight: All state funds distributed to public school districts and charter schools have been reported and accounted for.

We know this because all public schools, including Idaho's three virtual charter schools, are required by law to report how they spend public money to the State Department of Education each year.

Idaho's public charter schools are subject to the same reporting requirements as traditional public schools. And like traditional public schools, charter schools have multiple layers

READER COMMENT Tim Hill

of accountability. At the local level, the school board oversees the financial activity of the school district or charter school. Idaho is a local-control state so the locally elected school district board or charter school board of directors is tasked with making decisions regarding how a school or district spends its money. At the state level, the State Department of Education publishes reports on how every school district and charter school has spent taxpayer dollars. Idaho law requires the school districts and charter schools to give

... let me set the record straight: All state funds distributed to public school districts and charter schools have been reported and accounted for.

the Department a detailed financial accounting of all revenues and expenditures annually. This publication, titled "Financial Summaries," is available to the public at http://www.sde.idaho.gov/SI/atlspic/default.asp.

In addition to this reporting, districts and charter schools are also required to have their financial reports audited by an independent auditor and to then submit a copy of that audit report to the State Department of Education. We make sure that the financial information that schools submit to us reconciles with the data in

the financial audits. If this is not the case, we find out why.

When the Idaho Legislature passed Idaho's charter school law in the late 1990s, lawmakers decided to make all charter schools, including virtual charter schools, subject to these reporting requirements.

Clearly, the legislature has created a strong system of accountability at the state and local level for all public schools — traditional and charter schools alike.

Tim Hill is deputy superintendent of finance for the Idaho Department of Education.

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

Doonesbury



Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



# We're running out of planet to exploit

Nine years ago *The Economist* ran a big story on oil, which was then selling for \$10 a barrel. The magazine warned that this might not be good. Instead, it suggested, oil might well fall to \$5 a barrel.



PAUL KRUGMAN

In any case, *The Economist* asserted, the world faced "the prospect of cheap, plentiful oil for the foreseeable future."

Last week, oil hit \$117. It's not just oil that has defied the complacency of a few years back. Food prices have also soared, as have the prices of basic metals. And the global surge in commodity prices is raising a question we haven't heard much since the 1970s: Will limited supplies of natural resources pose an obstacle to future world economic growth?

How you answer this question depends largely on what you believe is driving the rise in resource prices. Broadly speaking, there are three competing views.

The first is that it's mainly speculation — that investors, looking for high returns at a time of low interest rates,

have piled into commodity futures, driving up prices. On this view, someday soon the bubble will burst and high resource prices will go the way of Pets.com.

The second view is that soaring resource prices do, in fact, have a basis in fundamentals — especially rapidly growing demand from newly emerging, car-driving, Chinese — but that given time we'll drill more wells, plant more acres, and increased supply will push prices right back down again.

The third view is that the era of cheap resources is over for good — that we're running out of oil, running out of land to expand food production and generally running out of planet to exploit. I find myself somewhere

between the second and third views.

There are some very smart people — not least, George Soros — who believe that we're in a commodities bubble (although Soros says that the bubble is still in its "growth phase"). My problem with this view, however, is this: Where are the inventories?

Normally, speculation drives up commodity prices by promoting hoarding. Yet there's no sign of resource hoarding in the data: Inventories of food and metals are at or near historical lows, while oil inventories are only normal.

The best argument for the second view, that the resource crunch is real but temporary, is the strong resemblance between what we're seeing now and the resource crisis of the 1970s. What Americans don't usually remember about the 1970s are soaring oil prices and lines at gas stations, but also what was also a severe global food crisis, which caused a lot of pain at the supermarket checkout line —

Don't look now, but the good times may have just stopped rolling.

remember 1974 as the year of Hamburger Helper — and, much more important, helped cause devastating famines in poorer countries.

In retrospect, the commodity boom of 1972-75 was probably the result of rapid world economic growth that outpaced supplies, combined with the effects of bad weather and Middle Eastern conflict. Eventually, the bad luck came to an end, new land was placed under cultivation, new sources of oil were found in the Gulf of Mexico and the North Sea, and resources got cheap again.

But this time may be different: concerns about what happens when an ever-growing world economy pushes up against the limits of a finite planet ring more true than they did in the 1970s. For one thing, I don't expect growth in China to

slow sharply anytime soon. That's a big contrast with what happened in the 1970s, when growth in Japan and Europe, the emerging economies of the time, downshifted — and thereby took a lot of pressure off the world's resources.

Meanwhile, resources are getting harder to find. Big oil discoveries, in particular, have become few and far between, and in the last few years oil production from new sources has been barely enough to offset declining production from established sources.

And the bad weather hitting agricultural production this time is starting to look more fundamental and permanent than El Niño and La Niña, which disrupted crops

35 years ago. Australia, in particular, is looking like the 19th century of a drought that looks more and more like a long-term manifestation of climate change.

Suppose that we really are running up against global limits. What does that mean?

Even if it turns out that we're really at or near peak world oil production, that doesn't mean that one day we'll say, "Oh my God! We just ran out of oil" and watch civilization collapse into "Mad Max" anarchy.

But rich countries will face steady pressure on their economies from rising resource prices, making it harder to raise their standard of living. And some poor countries will find themselves living dangerously close to the edge — or over it.

Don't look now, but the good times may have just stopped rolling.

Paul Krugman is a columnist for *The New York Times*.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Reader supports Howell for commissioner

I am writing this letter of reference regarding Charlie Howell and his reappointment of commissioner for Jerome County.

Charlie has served as commissioner representing the Jerome County citizens and the fair since 2004. During this period of time, he has served in multiple endeavors but, most importantly, he has been the consistent and guiding force and instrumental factor in maintaining, developing and improving the Jerome County Fair and Fairgrounds for our guests and residents.

Additionally, he not only attends the board meetings without fail but also lends his endeavors to the fair and non-fair events and consistently contributes to the short- and long-range plans of the fairgrounds and the development.

Charlie has and continues to be an asset to the fair, surrounding communities, county, to the board and staff by his dedication, support, assistance sound advice, levelness and fairness to all that may have contact with him.

Subsequently, it's without hesitation that myself and others of the Jerome County Fair wholeheartedly support and recommend the reappointment of Charlie Howell to the position of Jerome County commissioner.

JIM PIERCE  
Jerome

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### About election letters to the editor

The *Times-News* welcomes letters to the editor from and on behalf of candidates for the May 20 school board elections — especially rapidly growing demand from newly emerging, car-driving, Chinese — but that given time we'll drill more wells, plant more acres, and increased supply will push prices right back down again.

Deadline for school board election letters is Thursday, May 15, at 5 p.m., and deadline for primary election letters is Wednesday, May 21, at 5 p.m. Election letters received after those dates will not be published.

Letters must be 300 words or less, and the *Times-News* will publish one letter from each writer in April and one in May. The *Times-News* will not publish extended, 600-word read-

County Fair Board.)

### Take time to thank lab workers this week

The week of April 20-26 is National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week. Our theme this year is "Delivering Today's Results for a Healthier Tomorrow." So take some time to thank the laboratory professionals and support staff in your area. We are dedicated to performing

your lab tests accurately and precisely so that, along with your physician, you can make positive lifestyle changes to live healthier tomorrow.

MARY JOHANSEN  
Jerome  
(Editor's note: Mary Johansen is a medical technologist at St. Luke's Magic Valley Medical Center.)

### Where's the income hike?

I read in today's *Times-*

News (April 16) that Idaho Power asked the Public Utilities Commission for a rate raise to cover the cost of fuel, which, in turn, will cost the average customer \$6.80. I also noticed that the price of groceries has doubled.

I'm an 86-year-old veteran living on a fixed income. My wife is 84. I wonder who we could petition to get a raise in Social Security of \$6.80 for fuel a month, plus at least \$100 a month for groceries.

If someone knows of a department to whom I can plead my case, please let me know.

EARL THOMPSON  
Buhl

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**Orpheum Theatre**  
120 S. Main St. • 733-2222  
Forgetting Sarah Marshall • 100 9 30

**Jerome Cinema 4**  
100 S. Main St. • 733-2222

Step Up 2: The Streets • 7:00 9 15  
Nim's Island • 1:00 9 15  
Horton Hears a Who • 7:30 9 30  
Never Back Down • 11:10 9 30

**Clovissey Theatre**  
120 S. Main St. • 733-2222

Juniper • 7:00 9 15  
Superhero Movie • 7:30 9 45  
10,000 BC • 1:00 9 15  
Street Kings • 11:15 9 45  
The Rules • 7:10 9 30  
Twenty One • 11:10 9 30

**Twin Cinema 12**  
120 S. Main St. • 733-2222

Footloose • 7:00 9 15  
The Bucket List • 7:00 9 15  
Step Lasso • 11:15 9 45  
Prom Night • 11:00 9 15  
Nim's Island • 1:00 9 15  
Drillbit Taylor • 7:00 9 15  
Miss Pettigrew • 7:30 9 45  
The Rocker • 11:10 9 30  
Expelled • 10:15 9 45  
Forbidden Kingdom • 7:00 9 30  
Leatherheads • 11:10 9 30  
Horton Hears a Who • 7:30 9 45

**ASB5 CENTER OF EXCELLENCE**  
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**Excellent:**  
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Salt Lake Regional Medical Center has earned the ASB5 Center of Excellence Certification for its surgical weight loss program. This recognition comes as a result of the exceptional programs and care offered by the hospital-owned Surgical Weight Loss Center of Utah.

The Surgical Weight Loss Center of Utah is currently offering FREE Surgical Weight Loss Seminars in Idaho. These seminars are designed to educate and inspire individuals considering surgical weight loss as an option. The Surgical Weight Loss Center of Utah is directed by Dr. Daniel Cottam and Dr. Christina Richards.

**TWIN FALLS**  
Thursday, April 24  
6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Shilo Inn Suites Hotel  
1586 Blue Lakes Blvd  
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

**POCATELLO**  
Friday, April 25  
1:00-2:30 p.m. or 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
Best Western Cottonwood Inn  
1415 Bench Road  
Pocatello, Idaho 83201

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# Debtors feeling the heat are setting property on fire

By Ken Bensinger  
Los Angeles Times

Some folks celebrate their last home mortgage payment by setting fire to their hand agreement. Lately, people behind on their mortgages are simply setting fire to their homes.

In what appears to be the latest symptom of the U.S. mortgage meltdown and credit crisis, insurers, law enforcement and state agencies nationwide have reported a jump in home and automobile fires in the past year set by owners unable to pay their debts. The numbers are small, but they're leading the insurance industry to scrutinize more closely what seem to be routine blazes.

"We've seen a dramatic increase in this kind of fraud," said Dan Baker, director of fraud investigations at Mercury Insurance. "People upside down on their house with variable interest-rate loans, or upside down on their cars, are pretty quick to burn

their property right now."

Last week, a Sacramento, Calif., area couple was arrested on charges that they burned their Jeep and drove their Nissan pickup into a river, then filed fraudulent insurance claims. According to investigators, the wife admitted she was trying to escape her \$600 monthly car payment.

The fires are keeping fraud investigators such as Anne Luce occupied. "I'm busier now than a one-armed paper hanger," said Luce, who works on auto cases for Bristol West Insurance's special-investigations unit. "What is happening is terrifically economically driven."

This month, insurers say they are meeting with California investigators to discuss potential fraud during last fall's wildfires — including the prospect that some of the 2,000 burned homes were in fact cases of opportunist arson by owners looking to escape their mortgages.

Insurance Commissioner Steve Poltner acknowledged his agency was investigating a number of such cases but would not provide further details.

Indebted owners sometimes seek out help. Last year, the Fresno County, Calif., district attorney charged 12 people with running a ring that burned cars for clients; late last month a Department of Insurance investigation led to the arrest of three suspects who allegedly arranged for the transport of a woman's Nissan Armada to Mexico, where it was disassembled and sold for parts. The owner was behind on payments.

The more serious problem, because of the costs involved, are home fires. Classic signs of an owner-involved arson include removing expensive electronics and pets before the blaze. But lately, investigators say their first step is a call to the bank to ask about the status of the mortgage.

## Patient Spotlight

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## Heart exam, EKG advised before kids get ADHD drugs

NEW YORK (AP) — Children should be screened for heart problems with an electrocardiogram before getting drugs like Ritalin to treat hyperactivity and attention-deficit disorder, the American Heart Association recommended Monday.

Stimulant drugs can increase blood pressure and heart rate. For most children, that isn't a problem. But in those with heart conditions, it could make them more vulnerable to sudden cardiac arrest — an erratic heartbeat that causes the heart to stop pumping blood through the body — and other heart problems.

About 2.5 million American children and 1.5 million adults take medication for attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder, or ADHD, according to government estimates. Stimulant drugs, like Ritalin, Adderall and Concerta, help children with ADHD stay focused and control their behavior.

The medications already carry warnings of possible heart risks in those with heart defects or other heart problems, which some critics said were driven more by concerns of overuse of the drugs than their safety.

The heart group is now recommending a thorough exam, including a family history and an EKG, before children are put on the drugs to make sure that they don't have any undiagnosed heart issues.

The label warnings were added after a review by the Food and Drug Administration of its databases found reports of 19 sudden deaths in children treated with ADHD drugs and 26 reports of other problems including strokes and fast heart rates between 1999 and 2003.

There were also reports of heart problems in adults; the committee didn't look at adults.

An EKG can detect abnormal heart rhythms that can lead to sudden cardiac arrest. Children who are already on ADHD drugs should also be tested, Vetter said. If problems are found, the child should be sent to a pediatric cardiologist. With careful monitoring, Vetter said, children with heart problems can take the medicines if needed.

But Dr. Steven Pliszka, a child psychiatrist at the University of Texas in San Antonio, said he was baffled by the EKG recommendation. He said there's no evidence that sudden death is a bigger problem for children taking stimulants than for children who aren't taking the drugs.

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INSIDE: Boston and Montreal square off in Game 7, B2



INSIDE: Local roundup, B2 | MLB, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Auto racing, B4 | Weather & Dear Abby, B4

## Jazz, dominant at home, head back with 2-0 lead

By Chris Duncan  
Associated Press writer

HOUSTON — Tracy McGrady disappeared again in the fourth quarter and the Utah Jazz took a commanding lead in their playoff series with the Houston Rockets.

Deron Williams shrugged off an ankle injury and scored 22 points and Mehmet Okur added 16 points and 16 rebounds as the Jazz beat the Rockets 90-94 on Monday night to take a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven series.

Game 3 is Thursday night in Utah, where the Jazz went 37-4 during the regular season.

McGrady, a seven-time All-Star who has never advanced past the first round of the playoffs, had 23 points, 13 rebounds and nine assists to just miss his first postseason triple-double. But he went 0-for-4 from the field and scored only one point in the final quarter as the Rockets lost to the Jazz for the eighth

time in the last 10 meetings. McGrady scored 20 points in Game 1, but went 0-for-3 from the field in the fourth quarter of Utah's 93-92 victory.

The Rockets still had their chances to win this one. Luis Scola hit two free throws with 1:21 to go to cut Utah's lead to 85-82.

After Williams missed a driving layup, Houston's hobby Jackson hit a 3-pointer that would have tied the game but Scola was called for an offensive foul away from the ball when he pushed Andrei Kirilenko. Jackson rebounded from a 3-for-15 effort in Game 1 to score 18 points.

Kirilenko grabbed a key offensive rebound on Utah's next possession and Kyle Korver flipped in a one-handed shot as the shot clock expired to put the game out of reach with 20 seconds to go.

Carlos Boozer added 13 points and Williams had five assists for the Jazz, who closed the game with a 14-0 run.

The Jazz led most of the way and were up 64-61 when Williams appeared to twist his left ankle with 1:47 remaining in the third quarter. He limped to the locker room with a trainer.

Bonnie Price, Williams' replacement, hit a 3-pointer just before the quarter ended to give Utah a 69-67 lead. Williams got his ankle re-taped and returned to the bench before the final quarter began.

He was back on the court with 9:18 left in the game, after Aaron Brooks blew by Price for a game-tying layup. McGrady went out for a rest when Williams came back and Williams drove for a layup with 7:41 left to put the Jazz up 76-74.

McGrady returned with 7:07 remaining and was fouled on a jumper with 6:39 left. He hit a free throw to complete the three-point play and tied the game at 76-76.

Williams hit a short shot at the other end to put Utah back on top. Kirilenko stole the ball from

McGrady near the 5-minute mark and Williams made a free throw to give the Jazz an 81-76 lead. McGrady finished with five turnovers.

While the Rockets played better than they did in Game 2, they still had no answer for Williams, who hit the first three 3-pointers he attempted.

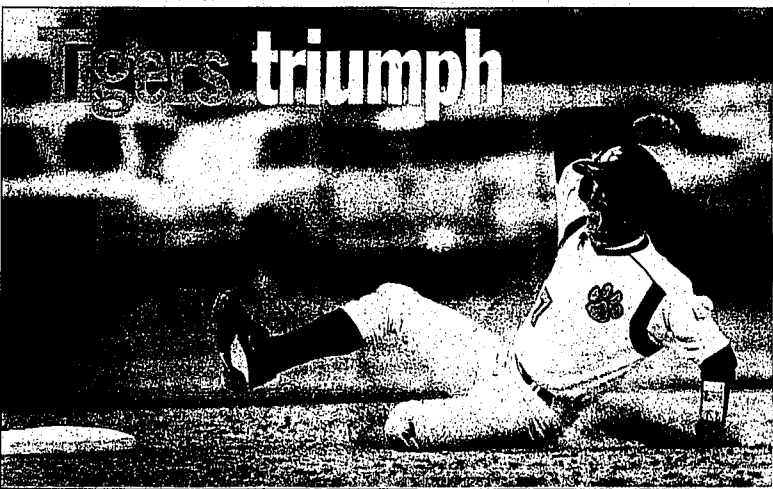
Boozer committed his second foul and went to the bench with 5:47 left in the first quarter. But the Rockets started committing careless turnovers that led to easy baskets and Utah stretched the lead to 26-17.

Houston shot and rebounded better than it did in the first half of Game 1, but trailed by exactly the same score of the break, 47-41. Okur, who scored only four points in the opener, had 10 in the first half on Monday, including two 3-pointers in the final 35 seconds.

The Rockets scored mostly inside in the first half, but went 0-for-7 from 3-point range.



Utah Jazz's Kyle Korver, right, celebrates with teammate Andrei Kirilenko (47) during Monday's win over the Houston Rockets in Houston.



Jerome center fielder Brett Walcott slides ahead of the throw into second base during the Tigers' 9-2 conference victory over Wood River in Jerome on Monday.

## Jerome earns conference win over Wood River

By John Derr  
Staff writer

JEROME — Jerome took advantage of its opportunities Monday and earned a victory.

Despite being outlit by Wood River, the Tigers got the more timely hitting to heat the Wolverines 9-2 in Great Basin Conference West baseball action. Wood River tallied 12 hits compared to nine for Jerome, but stranded 10 runners.

Northwest Nazarene University-bound Nate Bobrowski slapped a pair of two-run singles to lead the Tigers.

Jerome starting pitcher Logan Parker started things off with a single then scored on one of two Wolverine throwing errors in the inning. Kris Bos added a hit then came home on a single by

Cameron Stauffer as the Tigers (11-8, 2-3 GBCW) took the early 3-0 lead.

The Wolverines (0-5, 6-13) responded in the second inning when Bryan Bray and Pat Patterson smacked a pair of singles while Jimmy Inague and Tyler Israel added RBI singles. But that was the last time Wood River would score.

With the bases loaded in the fourth, Bobrowski stroked a shut down the first base line that scored a pair. A throwing error added another run, putting the Tigers up 7-2.

There were less than two outs and I just tried to put the ball on the ground. I hope everything keeps falling for me," said Bobrowski.

The Wolverines kept hitting, tallying a pair in the (third and

fourth innings, but could not break through.

Nolan McDonald came on in relief in the sixth inning with two on and no outs. He recorded a strike out, then the defense came up with the nice 6-4-3 double play.

McDonald, one of several sophomores on a young Tigers squad this season, showed a senior's poise in getting out of trouble.

"That was better than usual. There is a lot of pressure, but after today's game I feel a lot more confident," said McDonald, who didn't allow a hit and struck out two. Bobrowski was at it again in the sixth. After Keenan Allen and Parker got free passes and McDonald moved them over with a sacrifice bunt, he belted a single to right to provide the final margin for what he called an improving young team.

"We have a lot of young players and they just need to relax. We are starting to come around, I'm looking forward to districts," he said.

Wood River coach Matt Nelson said his team is getting closer to said his good results, despite losing.

"We were hitting the ball hard, but stranded a lot of runners and couldn't get them across," said Nelson, whose team has suffered through difficult weather this season. "We are right on the cusp of breaking out."

The teams will meet again today in Haley then both head off to a tournament this weekend in Preston, as they prepare for the district tournament.

Jerome 9, Wood River 2  
Wood River 02-000 - 2-12 3  
Jerome 200-022 - 9-1-0  
Sean Bence and Zach Seibert: Logan Parker, Nolan McDonald, Brian Herrera, Mike Pappas, Kyle Boswell, Eric Laska, Ben -28 Wood River, Micahie Bruner.

## Spurs' Ginobili earns NBA Sixth Man of the Year award

By Elizabeth White  
Associated Press writer

SAN ANTONIO — San Antonio Spurs guard Manu Ginobili — good enough to be a starter on any team — won the NBA's sixth man award given to the league's best reserve on Monday.

Ginobili led the Spurs in scoring, averaging a career-high 19.5 points to go with 4.8 rebounds and 4.5 assists. Ginobili came off the bench in 51 of the 74 games he played this season.

"I really don't care about coming from the bench if that helps the team to win a championship," Ginobili said.

The Spurs have a 1-0 lead over the Phoenix Suns in their best-of-seven first-round playoff series. Suns guard Leandro Barbosa won the award last year.

"He's one of the better players in the NBA, who just happens to come off the bench," said Spurs

starting guard Michael Finley. "Any other team in the league, he'd probably be starting, but for him to come off the bench and put his ego aside it just shows what kind of team we have, and more importantly what kind of player and all-star he is."

Ginobili got 123 of 124 first-place votes for 615 points. Barbosa came in second with 283 points and the Dallas Mavericks' Jason Terry was third with 44.

"It was no race, just like when (is) going to happen," said Spurs point guard Tony Parker. "He was our best player all year long."

The 6-foot-6 guard who gives the team a boost of energy off the bench. He was drafted by the Spurs in 1999 in the second round (is) to go to happen," said Spurs point guard Tony Parker. "He was our best player all year long."

remember when I retire, the rings I have," Ginobili said. "Not the fact I played 28 minutes or 33 or my name being called in the starting lineup. That's not going to make the difference in 10 to 15 years."

Ginobili enters the game, usually about midway through the first quarter, to huge roars from the crowd when the Spurs announcer yells points. "Here comes Manu!"

"I just consider myself a player, a team player," Ginobili said. "So this year he (Spurs coach Gregg Popovich) thought it was more important for me to come from the bench, so I just try to do it the best way I can."

Popovich gave all the credit to Ginobili, who is the first Spurs player to win the award.

"Manu is a person who's much more concerned with the group than he is about himself,"

Popovich said. "He got over himself a long time ago... I don't think there are too many All-Stars that coaches in this league can go to and say, 'You've been great. Now you're going to come off the bench.' So I'm very fortunate."

Ginobili shot better than 40 percent from 3-point range in his sixth regular NBA season and when he drives the lane — routinely picking up bumps and bruises along the way — he's known for putting the ball in from seemingly impossible angles.

"Before I got here I used to think these shots that he made were luck, and what we called, when I was growing up, 'flake shots,'" Finley said. "Now that I'm his teammate and I see him on a daily basis, that's his game."

Ginobili hit the game winning layup in the Spurs' Game 1 win over the Suns on Saturday with 1.8 seconds on the clock in double overtime.

## Once upon a time, NFL Draft was a sleeper

By David Wharton  
Los Angeles Times

There were no television cameras watching, no plethora of Web sites providing instant analysis, as the 1985 NFL draft stretched late into the night.

A young scout back then, Pat Kirwan was sitting at the Tampa Bay Buccaneers table, taking calls from team headquarters and relaying picks to the podium, when the telephone rang with a strange voice on the line.

"It was the Buffalo Bills.

"Are you sitting next to our table?" the caller asked. "Is our guy there?"

The Bills' representative had dozed off. With the clock ticking down, Kirwan had to jolt him awake and start filling out Buffalo's card.

"That was before all the hype," Kirwan said.

"Before the draft got a life of its own."

More than 20 years later, NFL draft, who decades later, as the league's 32 teams assemble in New York City this week-end, no one can afford to fall asleep at the switch.

Front-office types will pore over computer databases and financial spreadsheets, accounting for Wonderlic test results and each team of a second in each 40-yard dash. Fans and the media will scrutinize every pick.

In other words, draft day has come a long way.

The change has been unbelievable, said Rich McKay, president of the Atlanta Falcons. "No question it used to be a more laid-back atmosphere."

In the very early years, the NFL had no draft — players simply went to the highest bidders. With rich teams hoarding talent, Peter Seitz's Eagles owner and future commissioner Bert Bell suggested a change.

The league held its first draft at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel in Philadelphia in 1936. The No. 1 pick, Heisman Trophy winner Jay Berwanger, decided that pro football did not pay enough and never played a down.

Bill Stryker's Eagles owner and future Redskins, became the first drafted player in the NFL.

Scouting could be haphazard in those days. In 1946, the Washington Redskins made UCLA back Cal Rossi their first pick, unaware that he was a junior. They selected Billy Smith in 1947 but had neglected to check with him — he had no intentions of playing pro ball.

Teams needed to get more serious in the 1950s and '60s as the Canadian Football League, and then the championship American Football League, began cherry-picking talent.

The NFL scheduled early drafts in November and December to get a jump on the competition. Later, according to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, teams gathered for secret drafts and "kidnaped" college prospects, hiding them in hotel rooms until they were selected.

Still, draft day remained informal. Gil Brandt, the longtime Dallas Cowboy executive who now writes for NFL.com, recalls the teams sitting around tables in a ballroom in 1961. Red Hickey, the San Francisco 49ers coach, walked over to Billings Callis' Couch Weeb. Ewbank and said: "I've got two pretty good tight ends,

# Hudson pitches, swings Braves to win over Nats

ATLANTA — Tim Hudson pitched six scoreless innings before firing and drove in two runs, leading the Braves past the Washington Nationals 7-0 on Monday night for Atlanta's fifth straight win.

Washington keeps falling farther and farther back in the NL East race. The Nationals lost their third in a row and have dropped 15 of 17 since starting the season with three straight wins.

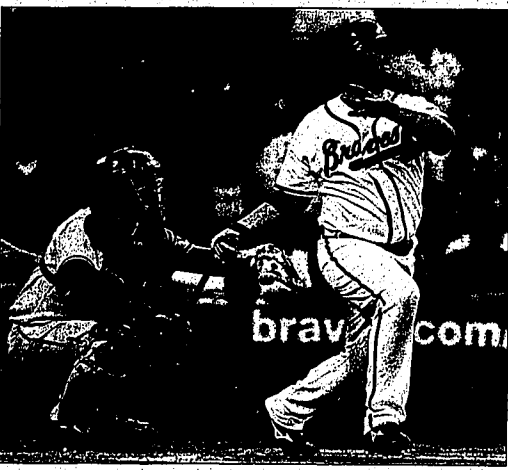
Hudson (3-1) went to the seventh with a 7-0 lead, but the Nationals touched him for a couple of runs. He might have gotten a hit through it for an error by first baseman Mark Teixeira, who dropped a routine throw and gave Washington an unearned run.

**CUBS 7, METS 1**  
CHICAGO — Carlos Zambrano pitched seven strong innings, and Aramis Ramirez and Felix Pie homered as the surging Chicago Cubs won for the 12th time in 15 games.

Zambrano (3-1) allowed five hits and a run with two walks and four strikeouts. Cubs ace was backed by four double plays, including one in the sixth started by shortstop Ryno Cedereno that kept the Mets from scoring.

Ramirez homered to left-center after Derek Lee led off the fourth with a single off John Maine (1-2). The Cubs added five runs in the eighth, including three on Pie's first homer off Jorge Sosa.

**CARDINALS 4, BREWERS 3**  
MILWAUKEE — Skip



Atlanta Braves catcher Brian McCann, right, and Washington Nationals catcher Johnny Estrada watch McCann's home run in the second inning of Monday's game in Atlanta.

Schumaker doubled in the go-ahead run in the ninth and St. Louis overcame a fielding blunder in the eighth to beat Milwaukee in the opener of a two-game set.

Brian Barton, who pinch hit for reliever Ryan Franklin, doubled off embattled Brewers reliever Derrick Turnbow (0-1) to start the inning and Schumaker drove him in with a double to the wall after a sacrifice bunt.

Franklin (1-1) got the win despite giving up an unearned run by limiting the damage in the eighth and Jason Irthinghouse earned his seventh save in eight chances with a perfect ninth.

**DIAMONDBACKS 4, GIANTS 2**  
PHOENIX — Eric Byrnes hit the go-ahead two-run homer, and Micah Owings became the season's third four-game winner.

Mark Reynolds and Orlando Hudson hit solo home runs as the Diamondbacks improved their major league-best record to 14-5. Arizona is 13-3 against NL West foes.

**ASTROS 10, PADRES 3**  
HOUSTON — Roy Oswalt won consecutive starts for the first time since August, and Miguel Tejada and Lance Berkman drove in three runs

each to lead Houston over San Diego.

Oswalt (2-3) allowed three runs and six hits in seven innings as the Astros won their second straight following a three-game losing streak.

Oswalt was 6-0 over eight starts from July 20 to Sept. 3, then went 0-4 in six starts before winning at Philadelphia on April 16.

**DOGGERS 9, REDS 3**  
CINCINNATI — Nomar Garciaparra hit his first home run since Sept. 14 and drove in three runs, Brad Penny stayed perfect at Great American Ball Park and Los Angeles beat Cincinnati.

Rafael Furcal also homered, and James Loney added three RBIs for the Dodgers, who equalled their season high with 15 hits after scoring one run in each of their three losses at Atlanta last weekend.

Andrew Jones was dropped to eighth in the starting batting order for the first time since Aug. 22, 1998. He went 0-for-4, lowering the five-time All-Star's average to .159.

**MARLINS 10, PIRATES 3**  
PITTSBURGH — Hanley Ramirez, Josh Willingham and Dan Uggla homered and Mark Hendrickson, normally one of the majors' worst hitters, had two hits while pitching eight innings in Florida's win over slumping Pittsburgh.

Ramirez hit a two-run homer during a four-run second-inning against Matt Lincecum (0-3), and Uggla homered in two games. Willingham added a two-run

drive as Florida scored three more times in the third to make it 7-2.

**PHILLIES 9, ROCKIES 5**  
DENVER — Now that there's no playoff pressure, the Philadelphia Phillies beat the Colorado Rockies with relative ease.

Chase Utley homered for the fifth straight game, Jason Werth hit an inside-the-park home run and Philadelphia rallied for a win in the first meeting between the teams since the Rockies' first-round sweep last October.

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**  
**RED SOX 8, BRANGERS 3**  
BOSTON — Clay Buchholz pitched six shutout innings. David Ortiz drove in three runs with a pair of doubles and the Boston Red Sox completed a four-game sweep of the Texas Rangers.

Julio Lugo went 4-for-4 and the Red Sox scored at least five runs for the ninth straight game. Boston has won nine of 10 overall.

The annual game on Patriots Day — a holiday commemorating Revere's ride and the battles of Lexington and Concord in 1775 — began at 11:05 a.m.

**TIGERS 5, BLUE JAYS 1**  
TORONTO — Rookie Armando Galarraga won his second straight start, Edgar Renteria homered and the Detroit Tigers beat the Toronto Blue Jays.

Ivan Rodriguez had four hits and the Tigers scored twice for the Tigers.

## LeBron, Cavs rout Wizards for 2-0 lead

CLEVELAND (AP) — Maybe Gilbert Arenas was talking about some other Cavaliers.

The Cleveland team he and the Washington Wizards faced Monday night doesn't look so beatable.

LeBron James scored 30 points, Zydrunas Ilgauskas added a big lining for Cleveland and the Cavs played their best game in months, blowing out Arenas and Co. 116-86 to take a 2-0 lead in an opening-round playoff series oozing with victory.

The 40-point margin of victory was the largest in Cleveland's postseason history. The Cavs were playing in their 12th playoff game.

James scored 14 points in the third quarter when the Cavs opened with a 25-point lead over the Wizards, whose defensive scheme coming into their third series in as many years with Cleveland was to slow James by roughing him up with hard fouls.

The Wizards hardly bothered James, who finished with 12 assists and nine rebounds to barely missed his third career postseason triple-double. James went to the bench with 5:12 left at that point, the Cavaliers were leading by 24 points and coach Mike Brown inserted seldom-used reserves Dwyane Jones and Damon Jones.

Wally Szczerbiak added 15 points for the defending Eastern Conference champions, who have struggled since a big trade in February changed their roster. As the playoffs neared, Arenas called the Cavs out, saying, "I think everybody wants Cleveland to first round" and "We don't think they can beat us in the playoffs three years straight."

Those comments followed Cleveland's rout of Deshaun Stevenson, calling James "overrated."

Washington has lost eight straight games to Cleveland in the playoffs, and the Wizards will have to figure something out before Thursday night's Game 2 in Washington or they'll be heading off on summer vacation, again courtesy of the Cavs.



Cleveland Cavaliers guard LeBron James (23) takes an off-balance shot against Washington Wizards guard Antawn Jamison (4) during Game 2 of their NBA playoff series Monday in Cleveland.

## Buhl wins wild SCIC matchup over Filer

Staff reports

hosts Wendell today.

Three errors allowed the visiting Buhl Indians to score the tying run with two outs in the seventh and after the teams traded runs in the eighth. Buhl freshman Katherine Hunter hit a grand slam in the ninth to claim a 10-6 win over the Filer Wildcats Monday.

When Katie Williams hit a three-run homer in the bottom of the sixth to give Filer a lead over Buhl, the Wildcats thought they had done enough to secure a precious home Sawtooth Central Idaho Conference win.

Not quite. "We had chances we just didn't put it away. You get a good team down like that, you have to finish them and we didn't do it," Filer coach Bob Hansing said. "The Wildcats rebounded to take 2-11-4 and salvage a split. Filer (10-10, 3-2 SCIC)

**Game 1**  
Buhl 10, Filer 6, game lasting 2:05  
Buhl: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1, 6-1, 7-1, 8-1, 9-1  
Filer: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1, 6-1, 7-1, 8-1, 9-1  
Home runs: Katie Williams and Katherine Hunter (Buhl); Bob Hansing and Kyle Williams (Filer).  
Extra base hits: 2-3, Buhl; Landon Hunter, Mike Williams, Kyle Williams (Filer).

**Game 2**  
Filer 11, Buhl 6  
Buhl: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1, 6-1, 7-1, 8-1, 9-1  
Filer: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1, 6-1, 7-1, 8-1, 9-1  
Home runs: Katherine Hunter (Buhl) and Bob Hansing (Filer).  
Home runs: Bob Hansing, Kyle Williams, Katherine Hunter, Mike Williams, Kyle Williams (Filer).  
Extra base hits: 2-3, Buhl; Landon Hunter, Mike Williams, Kyle Williams (Filer).  
Saves: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-1, 5-1, 6-1, 7-1, 8-1, 9-1.

**LATE GOLF**  
**PETERSON WINS GOODING AMATEUR**

Nampa's Eric Peterson earned an eagle on No. 15 at Gooding Amateur on Sunday, sealing a 149 total score and a two-stroke win over J.T. Jones of Boise. The two were tied at the turn, but Jones took a two-shot double-bogey No. 14 and fell at the stage for Peterson's heroics.

## Draft

Continued from page B1

family vacations.

"Car trips," Bruce Allen said. "We go along with him from Illinois to Florida and back with stops all along the way."

Two changes to pro football laid the groundwork for the modern draft.

First came free agency. With veteran players jumping ship, finding fresh talent became essential. Teams employed scouting coordinators with a dozen or more scouts on the road year-round.

"We can all be thankful to these Braves and what he brought to pro football," former Green Bay Packers general manager Ron Wolf said of the seminal coach. "He brought scouting and full-time jobs."

Then salaries began to skyrocket. With second- and third-round picks commanding big money, teams could no longer win it. "The pressure comes from how much money is spent on these guys," said Kirwan, the former scout and New York Jets executive who is now a co-host on NFL Sirius Radio. "The public scrutiny starts ... and if you mess up, you're

going to get fired."

Teams spend from \$2 million to \$6 million a year on preparing for draft day, according to various estimates. Scouting services such as HLESTO provide statistics for every player in the country.

"Back in the old era, you pitched yourself on being able to find a sleeper," Allen said. "Between the technology and staffing you have now, there are very few sleepers or unknown prospects."

No more family scouting trips. No more snoozing in the late rounds. But Kirwan suggested that if fans look closely enough, they might still catch a glimpse of the good old draft.

In 1999, his son played at Pennsylvania with a running back named Jim Finn. As the draft wound toward a conclusion that year, no one showing interest in Finn. Kirwan started calling teams, telling them, "You really should look at this guy."

The Chicago Bears selected Finn with the first pick, making him "Mr. Irrelevant."

"Here's the funny part," Kirwan said. "He played in the NFL for nine years."

## STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS

### Habs eliminate Bruins in blowout

MONTREAL — Carey Price got his second shutout and Andrei Kostitsyn scored twice to lead the Montreal Canadiens to a 5-0 win over the Boston Bruins on Monday night in the deciding game of their first-round playoff series.

Price stopped 25 shots in the opening period. He got his first playoff shutout in a 1-0 win in Game 4.

Mike Komisarek opened the scoring 3:31 in amid one of the first of countless roars from the raucous Bell Centre crowd over the course of the evening.

The Canadiens took control of the game in the second, outshooting the Bruins 17-6 while building a three-goal lead on superb goal by Mark Streit midway through the period and Kostitsyn's second goal of the series at 15:13.

Kostitsyn punctuated the win with his second of the game, a power-play goal with 2:02 remaining in the third.

with 7:3 seconds remaining. Top-seeded Montreal will face Philadelphia in the second round, if the Flyers win their Eastern Conference quarterfinal against Washington. Otherwise, the Canadiens will face the New York Rangers.

The Canadiens stopped 30 shots for Boston, which fell short in its bid to overcome both 2-0 and 3-1 series deficits for the first time in team history.

**CAPITALS 4, FLYERS 2**  
PHILADELPHIA — Held without a goal for four straight games, Alex Ovechkin scored twice in the third period to lift the Capitals to a win over the Flyers and send the series back to Washington for a decisive Game 7.

The Capitals have rallied back from a 3-1 hole and have a chance to win only the second Game 7 in franchise history Tuesday night. The other one should be painfully familiar to the Flyers faithful: Dale Hunter scored an overtime goal that

led Washington past Philadelphia 20 years ago this month.

The Caps have a shot to end the home ice thanks to Ovechkin's timely goals. They are trying to become the 21st team in league history to come back from a 3-1 deficit and win a best-of-seven series.

Ovechkin never seemed overly concerned that he hadn't scored a goal since the Game 1 winner. The Flyers had stymied and frustrated the NHL's leading scorer so much that he was 23 much of a factor the last four games.

After the Caps erased a 2-0 deficit late in the second period, Ovechkin made the Flyers pay early in the third.

— The Associated Press

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SPORTS

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Table with columns for American League All-Time Record, National League All-Time Record, and various team statistics.

Table with columns for various baseball teams and their statistics, including batting averages and fielding percentages.

GAME PLAN

LOCAL
HIGH SCHOOL
Jerome at Wood River, 4:30 p.m.

TV SCHEDULE

NBA BASKETBALL
NHL HOCKEY
VERSUS - playoffs, conference quarterfinals, Philadelphia at Washington, Game 7

FOOTBALL

Table with columns for various football teams and their statistics, including wins, losses, and ties.

NBA DEVELOPMENTAL

PLAYOFFS
ATLANTA THUNDER
ATLANTA THUNDER vs. MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES

FOOTBALL

Table with columns for various football teams and their statistics, including wins, losses, and ties.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Table with columns for various National League teams and their statistics.

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Table with columns for various American League teams and their statistics.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns for various Western Conference teams and their statistics.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Table with columns for various Eastern Conference teams and their statistics.

ATP MONTREAL MASTERS

Table with columns for various tennis players and their statistics.

PGA TOUR

Table with columns for various PGA TOUR players and their statistics.

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Table with columns for various PGA TOUR players and their statistics.

Cheruyot cruises, Tune wins thriller at 2008 Boston Marathon

BOSTON — Robert Cheruyot is well-versed in the Boston Marathon course, with four victories in five trips from Hopkinton to the Back Bay. Cheruyot pulled away from Bourdain and they entered the Newton Hills, reaching the crest of Heartbreak Hill with a 27-second lead and continuing to the sixth-fastest time in Boston Marathon history.

The No. 1 defense and the No. 2 offense — tune, 31-17, before an appreciative crowd of 5,100 at the Kibbie Dome. Thurman reinstated to NFL. CINCINNATI — Cincinnati Bengals linebacker Orlan Thurman has been reinstated by the NFL after being suspended for the first two seasons.

PAID TO PLAY. The 42-year-old Skiles brings extensive NHA head coaching experience and a disciplinary approach to Milwaukee — something the Bucks didn't necessarily get from their previous coaches, Krystkowiak and Terry Stotts. Drake hires Arizona State assistant T.F. holds softball observation.

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls County Youth Baseball will hold its annual 14U and 16U Baseball Youth Softball League at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 26 at Harmon Park. Any players age 13-14 are welcome to participate.

FOOTBALL

Silver squad wins U of Scrimgame. MOSCOW — The University of Idaho football team celebrated the end of spring drills with a raucous intrasquad game that featured big plays in every facet of the competition.

BASKETBALL

Skiles takes over as Bucks coach. MILWAUKEE — The Milwaukee Bucks moved quickly to find their new coach, signing Steve Skiles to a two-year deal and introducing him at a news conference Monday.

BASKETBALL

Drake hires Arizona State assistant T.F. holds softball observation. TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls County Youth Baseball will hold its annual 14U and 16U Baseball Youth Softball League at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 26 at Harmon Park.

BASKETBALL

T.F. holds softball observation. TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls County Youth Baseball will hold its annual 14U and 16U Baseball Youth Softball League at 10 a.m. Saturday, April 26 at Harmon Park.

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Scattered clouds. Highs, 60s.
Tonight: A few clouds overhead, otherwise dry and quiet.
Lows near 40.
Tomorrow: Increasing clouds, but most precipitation will likely stay off of the immediate area. Highs, 50s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Partly to mostly cloudy. Highs near 60.
Tonight: Mostly cloudy. Lows, 30s.
Tomorrow: A possible light shower or two. Highs, 50s.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

SUN VALLEY SURROUNDING MTS.

It will be a fairly nice spring day in the high country.
Another cold front is scheduled to move in on Wednesday. Most showers to wet snow is once again expected Wednesday into Thursday morning.

BOISE: It will be partly to nice today over the next two to three days.
On Wednesday a cold front will bring in more clouds and what looks to be a fairly good chance for a spring shower.

NORTHERN UTILITY

It will be a partly cloudy, rather pleasant day in the area. A cold front will bring in more clouds and what looks to be a fairly good chance for a spring shower Wednesday.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 7 columns: Today, Tonight, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High/Low).

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 2 columns: City, High/Low. Lists weather for various cities like Boise, Burley, etc.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

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

Moon Phases

Table with 4 columns: Last, First, Full, New. Shows moon phases for April 2008.

Moonrise and Moonset

Table with 2 columns: Moonrise, Moonset. Lists times for Twin Falls.

U.V. INDEX

Table with 2 columns: Index, Description. Shows UV index for Twin Falls.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for cities like Boise, Idaho Falls, etc.

NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for major US cities.

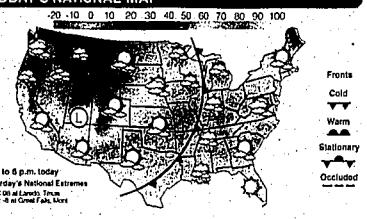
WORLD FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for international cities.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 4 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Canadian cities.

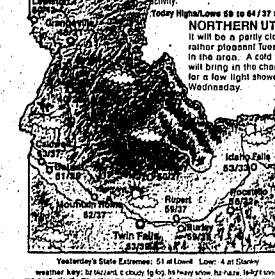
TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



REGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY

"As I twin, he makes a difference. It does."

William James, Psychologist and Author



Dale Earnhardt Jr., stands next to his car prior to his qualifying laps for the NASCAR Subway Fresh Fit 500 auto race at Phoenix International Raceway in Avondale, Ariz., on April 10.

Earnhardt hoping to end long skid

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — It's been 70 long races — almost two full years — since Dale Earnhardt Jr. won a race that mattered.
That's very likely about to change.
As NASCAR's biggest star quietly puts together a solid start to his first season at Hendrick Motorsports, he has in prime position to end his drought.
First up is Talladega Superspeedway, the place he dominated from 2001 through 2004. Earnhardt didn't finish lower than second in a span of seven consecutive races there, and also included five victories, but struggled.



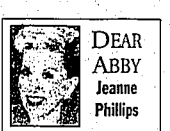
Dale Earnhardt Jr., stands next to his car prior to his qualifying laps for the NASCAR Subway Fresh Fit 500 auto race at Phoenix International Raceway in Avondale, Ariz., on April 10.

It was also the last time Earnhardt won a legitimate race at Talladega. He's had just one top-10 finish in the six races since, and that includes a pair of 40th-place finishes.
So as he heads back to Talladega this weekend, where he'll make his 100th career start on Sunday, Earnhardt could use his mystery of the track to make a long-awaited return to Victory Lane.
"It's a fitting race track to have a 100th start," he said. "I have going to Talladega strictly because of my fan base there — there are so many people telling you all weekend good things about it, and I'm pumped up. We're going to run up front as much as possible at that track because the fans just will when I take the lead. It's amazing to see as a driver."
And should his win not come Sunday in front of that pro-Earnhardt crowd, he'll head back to the drawing board on May 3 at Richmond. Earnhardt could use his mystery of the track to make a long-awaited return to Victory Lane.

Problem is, he hasn't made it back since — and the frustration has grown when he decided last May to leave his late father's race team.
After being shut out of title contention in two of the four Chase years, Earnhardt learned it's much harder than he thought.
"Sho he's taking nothing for granted right now, intent on locking down his spot in the 12-man field as soon as possible. That focus builds confidence that often leads to victories, and he and his crew now head to Talladega confident their time is about to come.
Batal won on the street circuit earlier this month in St. Petersburg, Fla., becoming the youngest winner of a major open-wheel race. Andretti, the top IndyCar rookie in 2006, has shown signs of snapping out of a years-long slump.
Now, Patrick, who three years ago ignited a national ease of "DanicaMania" by leading laps and finishing fourth in the Indianapolis 500, is a winner.
Although it would have been nice for Patrick's first win to come on home turf in America — and in prime time — there should be no more comparisons to tennis' Anna Kournikova, who built a reputation based on glamour but never won a title, despite coming tantalizingly close.
But now Patrick's not just another driver trying to find her niche. "I'm definitely just part of a wave of women that are doing different things, great things, outside of the

Boy should bond with Dad at home, not hunting

DEAR ABBY: I am writing in response to the letter from "Concerned Grandpa" (Feb. 11), regarding his son-in-law taking his 4-year-old grandson hunting. I'll be you were inundated with mail from both sides of this issue.



DEAR ABBY Jeanne Phillips

The gentle, studious, most people's children, most of hunting, but the bullies would talk at length about killing, guns and blood. It affected their emotional stability and ideas about death.

I fail to see how a 4-year-old can comprehend the safe use of a firearm, or navigate through the terrain to locate prey and return safely home.
Before the industrialized age, people were forced to hunt to put food on their tables. Today, whether they consume the meat or not, the majority of hunters (I use the term very loosely) are not "hunting." They are camouflage, hiding in blinds or in trees and waiting for the prey to wander by. Some even put out bait to lure the animals to their location.

DEAR ABBY: I started hunting with my dad at the age of 4. I forged a bond between us that lasted until their deaths. Learning to be a hunter is also learning responsibility, specifically gun safety, game laws, and a deep respect for the animals and nature.

PLEASE YOUNG MAN, please remember: You are not a game animal. Habitat and proper management assure a healthier game population and the survival of many species through conservation efforts. Always be schooled in the safe handling of firearms at an early age aren't as likely to be involved in gun violence.

There is no skill in hiding, waiting for an animal to wander by to be shot. These people are not hunters. A true hunter would stalk prey using a bow and arrow for the kill. That son-in-law would better serve his son by staying home with him and teaching him real life skills.
— WALTER M. IN FLORIDA
DEAR WALTER M.: You are correct that my office was inundated with letters from readers on both sides of this issue. The comments ranged from child endangerment and cruelty to animals to the proper use of guns. Read on:

Even though you referred to hunting as "killing for sport," please remember: You are not a game animal. Habitat and proper management assure a healthier game population and the survival of many species through conservation efforts. Always be schooled in the safe handling of firearms at an early age aren't as likely to be involved in gun violence.
— CARING HUNTER, WALTERS, OKLA.
DEAR ABBY: I was a preschooler for several years, and the children who were the biggest bullies and least socialized were always — and I mean ALWAYS — the ones graphically exposed to the killing of animals. These children were aged from 3 to 5, the same age as the grandson in South Carolina.

DEAR ABBY: If the boy's parents are responsible hunters, they will be teaching their son about nature and wildlife conservation during these expeditions. Grandpa should thank his lucky stars that the boy has a father who cares enough about his son to spend time with him. Many fathers just can't be bothered.
— GAL HUNTER IN N.Y. STATE
DEAR ABBY: We can't trust our political leaders not to lie in the stands while we Howdy do you trust a 4-year-old to abide by the rules and understand the consequences of breaking them? I can't even get my 4-year-old son to wash his hands after he goes to the bathroom.
— CONCERNED MOM, MARSHALLVILLE, OHIO

Patrick setting sights on series title after long-awaited first win

LONG BEACH, Calif. (AP) — When Danica Patrick finally got her first win, it was late on a Saturday night back home in the United States — not exactly ideal timing for one of the most historic victories in open-wheel racing.
And although the victory came an ocean away, in Japan, the 26-year-old Patrick wasn't complaining.
"I was excited for a little while, shocked for a little bit and mostly just relieved to get that done," Patrick said Monday. "Series, and she's still at Twin Ring Motegi, the first victory by a woman in major open-wheel racing. "I'm not mashing it aside, but I'm definitely glad that one is over."
The win came in her fourth full season and 50th career start in the IndyCar Series, and she had shed much of her race time before this answering questions about when she'd earn her first victory.
"Any more.
"I don't let people dictate how I'm supposed to feel or how I'm supposed to do," she said Monday in a teleconference. "But it's nice not to have to answer any questions about when and how and why."
They say the first win is the hardest to get, which is true, especially for a woman. It's even more realistic now with having a win, and hopefully more will come now."
Patrick, who had a relatively sleepless 12-hour flight Sunday from Japan and watched the last half of the Champ Car race on the streets of Long Beach, is part of the newly minted open-wheel series. She, along with fellow Americans Graham Rahal and Memo Andretti — both drivers from great racing families with loads of potential — carry its hopes.
"People are finding out about IndyCar more," she said. "I feel like people are affected, it's not just me. I hope it's growing, and that's the idea. We're all working hard to capitalize on the great moments happening in the league, and this week it's

supposed to feel or how I'm supposed to do," she said Monday in a teleconference. "But it's nice not to have to answer any questions about when and how and why."
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normal flow," she said. "I don't think it's just me. I think it's just showing we're capable of anything, and vice versa. There's so much more career crossover now than there ever has been. So I really just believe that I'm part of a really big picture."
Patrick said she has taken to heart a lot of advice from former teammates such as Danica Franchitti, last year's Indy 500 and IndyCar champion, and current teammates Andretti and Tony Kanaan.
"I think the biggest thing that I've gained from my teammates, besides the obvious fact of great competition and always pushing me to a new level ... was the positive attitude," Patrick said. "My teammates always said things like, 'When you win your first race, when you win, this is what we're going to do.' And they always put that in my head."
"While I always believed it, it was nice to hear from guys like Tony Kanaan and Danica Franchitti."
Patrick finished a career-best seventh in the standings last year, her first with Andretti Green. Now, with her win, Patrick is third in the standings heading to Kansas Speedway next weekend, thoughts of a championship swirling in her head.
"I've always believed that it's victories that I needed to get really in championship contention. I'm a consistent driver by nature, so consistency is one of those things that wins you championships."
"By you don't win championships without winning some races. So, hopefully, we can do that this year, win some more and have a shot at it."
Nobody will convince her it can't be done.

**Stocks mixed following Bank of America short**

(AP) Wall Street started the week with a mixed performance Monday, as investors regained a cautious stance in response to a weaker-than-expected profit report from Bank of America Corp.

Dow Jones Industrials	24,825.02	Nasdaq composite	2,408.04	Standard & Poor's 500	1,388.17	Russell 2000	3,077.00
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For a complete stock listing, go to [MagicValley.com](http://MagicValley.com)

# BUSINESS

TIMES-NEWS • BUSINESS EDITOR JOSHUA PALMER: 735-3231 JPALMER@MAGICVALLEY.COM

INSIDE: Look today's cross-word up and down, C7

15	16
18	19
21	22

**C**  
TUESDAY  
APRIL 22, 2008

INSIDE: Mutual funds and commodities, C2 | Classifieds, C3-8 | Jumble, C5 | Sudoku, C4

## Fuel prices continue climb, national average at \$3.50 a gallon

### Retail gas hits record \$3.50 a gallon as oil marches higher

Times-News staff and wire reports

Rising gasoline prices tightened the squeeze on drivers Monday, jumping to an average \$3.50 a gallon at filling stations across the country.

Diesel prices at the pump also set a record high, of \$4.20 a gallon, according to

AAA and the Oil Price Information Service, putting pressure on truckers and other shippers who rely on the fuel to transport goods to market.

The average price in southern Idaho was \$3.30 per gallon of regular grade gasoline and about \$4.20 per gallon of diesel fuel.

Prices are expected to keep climbing as they trace the path of crude, which has surged to new records for six trading sessions in a row. Oil prices are rising along with a host of commodities, from

corn and wheat to gold and platinum, that are enticing speculators seeking hedges against a weakening dollar.

Nationally, retail gas prices jumped more than a nickel over the weekend, and are up 23 percent from a year earlier. Drivers are paying the lowest prices in New Jersey and the most in California, where a gallon of regular is now averaging \$3.86 for a gallon.

For motorists, the worst may be still to come. That is because the summer driving season, when demand is at

### Magic Valley fuel prices as of Monday

Regular-grade gasoline:  
Average Low \$3.25 / Average High \$3.35

Diesel fuel:  
Average Low \$4.09 / Average High \$4.20

Its greatest, has yet to begin. The Energy Department predicted earlier this month that monthly average gasoline price will peak at over

\$3.60 per gallon in June and could possibly reach the \$4 threshold.

Energy Department data show gasoline consumption fell more than 1 percent during the four weeks ended April 11, compared with the same period a year ago. Americans will continue to drive, but some may change a summer vacation destination as gasoline costs continue to make a bigger dent in their pocketbooks, Gurfinkel said.

Crude prices came under increased pressure Monday

after the 150,000-ton tanker Takayama was struck off the coast of Yemen as it headed for Saudi Arabia, his Japanese operator, Nippon Yusen K.K., said in a statement posted on its Web site.

Adding to the worries were claims Monday from the main militant group in Nigeria's restive south that it had launched a more active attack on oil pipelines in the region. Comments over the weekend by an OPEC official that the group was not likely to increase production also supported prices Monday.

## Economy hits revenues at Gannett, Lee Enterprises

By Seth Sidel  
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — Newspaper publishers reported more trouble from a weak economy Monday as Lee Enterprises Inc. — the parent company of the Times-News, South Idaho Press and Elko Daily Free Press — and industry leader Gannett Co. posted lower first-quarter revenues, especially in classifieds.

Gannett said the economy weakened further during the quarter, especially the latter half of March. Advertising revenues for that month dropped 12.6 percent, an even greater year-over decline than the 6.3 percent in February that was partly due to Easter coming early this year and allowing less time for related advertising.

Overall earnings at Gannett came in line with analysts' expectations, declining 9 percent to \$1.8 million, or 64 cents a share. Excluding a gain on the sale of land, earnings were 77 cents per share.

Revenue performance at Gannett reflected the broad pressure on the industry as it competes with the economy's weaknesses led by the housing sector. Gannett owns 65 U.S. daily newspapers including USA Today.

Gannett's total revenues fell 0.4 percent to \$1.68 billion, while newspaper advertising, which is the main revenue-based component's revenue, fell 10.2 percent. Classified advertising fell the most, at 16 percent.

CEO Craig Dubow told analysts on a conference call that the outlook is "especially acute" at Gannett's 11 newspapers in Arizona, California, Florida and Nevada, where real estate markets have suffered



Retired farmer Harlan Meier, of Davenport, Iowa, stands in front of a field on a friend's farm in Davenport, Iowa. Meier, 76, lived through the last two major farm economy downturns — the Depression in the 1930s and the 1980s farm crisis.

## Amid strong farm economy, some worry about increased debt

By David Pitt and Henry C. Jackson  
Associated Press writers

DES MOINES, Iowa — At a time of record agricultural profits, concerns are mounting that American farmers' crisis is not seen since the 1980s farm-economy collapse.

Soaring land values, increasing debt and a reliance on government subsidies for ethanol production have prompted economists to warn that what some describe as a golden age of agriculture could come to a sudden end. At risk are the livelihoods of thousands of farmers, the health of hundreds of banks and the vitality of an agricultural industry that has been one of the nation's few economic bright spots in recent months.

"We're in a very risky time, and yet we don't seem concerned about that risk nearly as much as we should be," said Barry L. Flinchbaugh, an agricultural economist at Kansas State University.

The potential-problem, economists said, is that strong demand for corn and other grains has caused

"We're in a very risky time, and yet we don't seem concerned about that risk nearly as much as we should be."

— Barry L. Flinchbaugh, an agricultural economist at Kansas State University

prices to reach historic highs. That has led to record farmland values and steadily increasing debt as farmers borrow money to buy more land, finance the higher costs of fertilizer and seed and upgrade their equipment.

As long as the demand remains, good times for farmers should continue. But if demand falls, they could find themselves in a situation reminiscent of the early 1980s when the farm economy largely crumbled.

Among factors that could affect demand would be a change in the federal government's policy on ethanol subsidies, now estimated at

about \$6 billion a year, revisions in the farm bill that would lower support payments or an increase in the dollar's value, which would hurt exports.

Farm economists question whether the federal backing for ethanol will continue in the face of complaints that soaring corn prices are increasing food costs. Corn is used in most animal feed and is a key ingredient in myriad other products.

"U.S. energy policy has been friendly to ethanol in the last couple of decades. The question is, will it continue to be. It's running up food prices and that's causing pressure on Congress to limit mandates for ethanol usage," said Nell Harl, an emeritus professor of economics at Iowa State University.

The farm bill appears mired in Congress as lawmakers bicker with the Bush administration, which has threatened a veto if any increases in spending are not offset by reductions elsewhere. Congress on Thursday passed a short-term extension to the 2002 farm bill that keeps programs

## BUSINESS BRIEFS

### MAGIC VALLEY

#### Hotel at Crossroads Point to hold opening

JEROME — The Jerome Chamber of Commerce will host a ribbon cutting celebration for the new Wingate by Wyndham hotel at Crossroads Point on Monday, May 5, at 4:30 p.m.

The opening event will be held at the hotel's location at 379 Crossroads Point Blvd., in Jerome.

### IDAHO

#### Idaho led nation in finding work for adults

Idaho led the nation in successfully finding jobs for low-income adult workers between mid-2006 and mid-2007.

Under Idaho's program, 299 of the 310 low-income adults who received training, 96.5 percent, secured employment. Arkansas was second with 92 percent, and the national average was only 78.2 percent.

Nine of every 10 of those adults placed in jobs was still on the job nine months later.

Idaho placed 94.1 percent of its displaced workers, 491 of 522 to receive assistance, to rank second to Puerto Rico at 94.9 percent. The national average placement rate was 83 percent.

### NATION

#### Ag futures fall sharply

CHICAGO — Agriculture futures traded lower Monday on the Chicago Board of Trade.

Wheat for May delivery fell 25.25 cents to \$3.575 a bushel; May corn slipped 19.25 cents to \$5.025 a bushel; May oats dropped 6 cents to \$3.72 a bushel; May soybeans declined 46 cents to \$13.355 a bushel.

April live cattle added 0.17 cent to 90.2 cents a pound; April cattle rose 0.05 cent to \$1.055 a pound.

— from staff and wire reports

## U.S. hybrid sales up 38 percent in 2007

By Dee-An Durbin  
Associated Press writer

DETROIT — Kim Fenske drives a bus in Colorado by day, but when he's not working, he zooms around the mountains in a 2007 Toyota Prius. Fenske, an attorney, is training who has also worked as a forest ranger, was an environmentalist long before hybrid cars like the Prius hit the market. In the early 1990s, he ran unsuccessfully for the Wisconsin state legislature on a renewable ener-

gy platform. But he recently decided to go one step further and make an environmental statement with his car.

"My decision is a very political decision. I want to get people in this country off their dependency on foreign oil," said Fenske, 48, who lives at the Copper Mountain ski resort near Frisco.

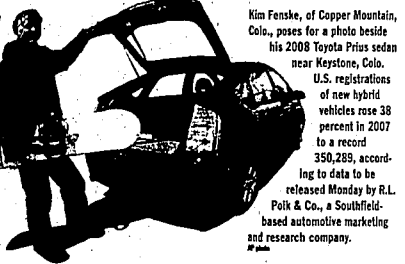
A growing number of buyers feel like Fenske. U.S. registrations of new hybrid vehicles rose 38 percent in 2007 to a record 350,289, according

to data to be released Monday by R.L. Polk & Co., a Southfield-based automotive marketing and research company.

Hybrids made up just 2.2 percent of the U.S. market share for the year, but they were growing steadily even as overall sales declined 3 percent.

Lionnie Miller, director of Industry

Please see HYBRIDS, Page C2



Kim Fenske, of Copper Mountain, Colo., poses for a photo beside his 2007 Toyota Prius sedan near Keystone, Colo.

U.S. registrations of new hybrid vehicles rose 38 percent in 2007 to a record 350,289, according to data to be released Monday by R.L. Polk & Co., a Southfield-based automotive marketing and research company.

## STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	24.19	▲ .14	Deil Inc.	19.56	▲ .09	Idacorp	31.98	▼ .50
Lithia Mo.	8.49	▼ .13	Micron	7.40	—	Supervalu	30.33	▼ .56

## COMMODITIES

For more see page C2

Live cattle	90.02	▲ .47	May Oil	117.48	▲ .79
May gold	915.2	▲ 2.4	May Silver	17.44	▼ .38

What to expect today in business

• No reports are scheduled for release today.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance with columns for Name, Last Chg, and various fund categories like AMEX, NASDAQ, NYSE, and Gainers.

COMMODITIES REPORT

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

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities like Wheat, Corn, and Soybeans.

COMMODITIES REPORT

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

NYSE

Table of NYSE market activity including Most Active, Gainers, and Losers.

AMEX

Table of AMEX market activity including Most Active, Gainers, and Losers.

NASDAQ

Table of NASDAQ market activity including Most Active, Gainers, and Losers.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table of market indices including NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, and various commodity indices.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Explanatory text for the Market Report, detailing how to interpret the data and understand market movements.

Hybrids

Continued from page C1. Analysis of the hybrid market, discussing the impact of rising gas prices and the performance of various hybrid vehicles.

Going hybrid

Registrations of hybrid vehicles rose to a record 530,289 in 2007. Analysis of the reasons for the increase and the impact on the automotive market.

Debt

Continued from page C1. Discussion of the agricultural economy's struggles, particularly regarding debt and the impact of commodity price fluctuations.

Debt

Continued from page C1. Further analysis of the agricultural economy's challenges, focusing on the impact of debt on farmers and the broader industry.

Debt

Continued from page C1. Final part of the analysis on the agricultural economy's debt issues, discussing potential solutions and the role of government and industry.

Newspapers

Continued from page C1. Analysis of the newspaper industry's performance, including circulation figures and the impact of digital media.

Newspapers

Continued from page C1. Further analysis of the newspaper industry, focusing on the challenges of advertising and the impact of economic conditions.

Newspapers

Continued from page C1. Analysis of the newspaper industry's financial health, including revenue trends and the impact of subscription changes.

Newspapers

Continued from page C1. Final part of the newspaper industry analysis, discussing the future outlook and the role of traditional print media.

Newspapers

Continued from page C1. Analysis of the newspaper industry's market position, including the impact of competition from digital news sources.

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NOTICE OF SPECIAL SUPPLEMENTAL LEVY ELECTION

Public Notice is hereby given according to law, and the requisite action of the Board of Trustees of Richfield School District No. 316, Lincoln County Idaho, that a special supplemental levy election will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of said District their vote and determination on a supplemental tax levy.

The polls will be open from 12 pm until 8 pm at the following locations:

Richfield School Cafeteria 555 North Tiger Drive Richfield, Idaho 83349

An elector must be a registered voter who has resided in this state and in this school district at least thirty (30) days preceding the election.

OFFICIAL BALLOT TO AUTHORIZE AND EMPower the BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF RICHFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 316 LINCOLN COUNTY IDAHO, TO LEVY A SUPPLEMENTAL LEVY

QUESTION:

"Shall the Board of Trustees of Richfield School District No. 316, Lincoln County, Idaho, be authorized and empowered to levy a supplemental levy, as permitted by law, in the amount of \$125,000, one hundred twenty-five dollars, for the purpose of paying all lawful expenses of maintaining and operating the schools of the District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2008, and ending June 30, 2010?"

For supplemental levy of \$ 125,000 YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

The voter may express his/her vote by marking an "X" opposite the word in his/her ballot which expresses his/her choice.

Qualified electors who expect to be absent from the District on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, or who will be unable, because of physical disability or blindness, to go to the polling place, may vote by absentee ballot. Written application for an absentee ballot may be made to the Clerk of the Board of Trustees on a form made available at the Richfield School District Office, 265 North Main Street, Richfield, Idaho 83349 on Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 4 pm. Such application must be made no later than 5:00 pm, Monday, May 19, 2008. Electors applying in person may obtain their ballots starting Tuesday, April 22, 2008. Electors applying by mail should submit their requests as soon as possible. The absentee ballot must be received by the Clerk no later than 8 pm on the day of the election.

By Order of the Board of Director Clerk.

NOTICE OF SCHOOL PLANT FACILITY LEVY ELECTION

Public Notice is hereby given according to law, and the requisite action of the Board of Trustees of Richfield School District No. 316, Lincoln County Idaho, that a School Plant Facilities Reserve Fund levy election will be held on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, for the purpose of submitting to the qualified electors of said District their vote and determination on a school plant facilities reserve fund tax levy.

The polls will be open from 12 pm until 8 pm at the following locations: Richfield School Cafeteria 555 North Tiger Drive Richfield, Idaho 83349

An elector must be a registered voter who has resided in this state and in this school district at least thirty (30) days preceding the election.

OFFICIAL BALLOT TO AUTHORIZE AND EMPower the BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF RICHFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 316 LINCOLN COUNTY IDAHO, TO LEVY A SUPPLEMENTAL LEVY

QUESTION:

"Shall the Board of Trustees of Richfield School District No. 316, Lincoln County, Idaho, be authorized and empowered to levy a School Plant Facilities Reserve Fund levy, as permitted by law, in the amount of \$139,000, One hundred thirty-nine thousand dollars, for the purpose of allowing the District to acquire, purchase or improve school site or sites; to accumulate funds for and to build a school house or school houses or other building or buildings; to demolish or remove school buildings; to add to, remodel or repair and existing building; to furnish and equip any building or buildings, including but not limited to, heating, ventilation and sanitation facilities and appliances necessary to maintain and operate its buildings of the District; to purchase school buses; for lease and lease purchase agreements; to go to the polling place, may vote by absentee ballot. Written application for an absentee ballot may be made to the Clerk of the Board of Trustees on a form made available at the Richfield School Office, 555 North Tiger Drive, Richfield, Idaho 83349 on Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 4 pm. Such application must be made no later than 4:00 pm, Monday, May 19, 2008. Electors applying in person may obtain their ballots starting Tuesday, April 22, 2008. Electors applying by mail should submit their requests as soon as possible. The absentee ballot must be received by the Clerk no later than 8 pm on the day of the election.

For School Plant Facilities Reserve Fund levy of \$139,000 YES \_\_\_ NO \_\_\_

The voter may express his/her vote by marking an "X" opposite the word on his/her ballot which expresses his/her choice.

Qualified electors who expect to be absent from the District on Tuesday, May 20, 2008, or who will be unable, because of physical disability or blindness, to go to the polling place, may vote by absentee ballot. Written application for an absentee ballot may be made to the Clerk of the Board of Trustees on a form made available at the Richfield School Office, 555 North Tiger Drive, Richfield, Idaho 83349 on Monday through Friday, from 8 am to 4 pm. Such application must be made no later than 4:00 pm, Monday, May 19, 2008. Electors applying in person may obtain their ballots starting Tuesday, April 22, 2008. Electors applying by mail should submit their requests as soon as possible. The absentee ballot must be received by the Clerk no later than 8 pm on the day of the election.

By Order of the Board of Directors Clerk.

Need to place a classified? No time to call or stop by? Log on to www.magicvalley.com 1. Find the ad owl button 2. Click 3. Follow the steps Easy as 1, 2, 3 and convenient! www.magicvalley.com



NOTICE OF BID

The City of Eden is taking bids on removal of a redwood water storage tank. High bidder must be licensed and insured. Job site must be cleaned up when finished. Tank 32x 16' and 21' diameter. Tank can be located at the end of South Main Street. Bid must be in writing. Bids will be opened May 12, 2008 at 7:00 PM. Contact City Clerk, Edna, ID 8325-5776, City Maintenance, John, Edna, ID 539-5010 or Mayor Larry Craig, 825-5348.

PUBLISH: April 10 through April 23, 2008

PUBLIC NOTICE Actions planned and taken by your government are contained in public notices. They are open to your right to know and to be informed of what your government is doing.

IMPORTANT LEGAL ADVERTISING TO: THE TIMES-NEWS

Deadlines for legal ads: 3 days prior to publication, noon on Wednesday for Sunday, noon on Thursday for Monday, noon on Friday for Tuesday and Wednesday, noon on Monday for Thursday and noon on Tuesday for Friday and Saturday. Holiday deadlines may vary. If you have any questions call Ruby, legal clerk, at 208-733-3324.

101 Lost and Found LOST Min Pin, lost on 4116 Main, black & tan 19 lbs. Lost in Bull on Clear Lakes Rd. 5200 Reward. 208-961-1273 LOST Mini Schnauzers in Jerome Wendell area, 2 males, gray. REWARD! Call 288-1245 or 208-910-0160 or 324-8174 LOST Pug puppies (2) 1 is 3 years and 1 is 5 years. Both females, no collars. Lost in Wincingh Way area. REWARD. They are mixed very much. 208-4789 or 733-6544

101 Lost and Found LOST dog, small and brown at Canyon Springs Golf Course. Call 293-7955 FOUND Red Heeler, Golden, male. Was wearing a collar. It was found at CA-84-8052, leave a message if you see it home. Call 208-423-0209

104 Personals FANTASY FOTO Very affordable. Family Portraits \$29.95. Call 208-234-4752 HEART STRINGS Now to the singles! Meet singles! Call 208-234-4752

107 Pregnancy Alternatives Pregnant? Worried? Free Pregnancy Tests only \$29.95. Call 208-734-7472

110 HOME/HEALTH CARE HEALTHCARE PT help needed to care for elderly gentleman. Flexible hrs. Need to be honest, caring, dependable with good driving skills. Call 208-731-8660 from 8:30am-3:30pm

113 Child Care Services CHILDCARE Need 10 infants plus toddlers. Currently need 2-3 3/4 year olds. Lots of crawling space and open floor plan. All employees have current background checks. CPR, 1st Aid, ICCP Certified. Check us out at 677 Washington N. Lots of off street parking. For more information call 734-0963. Same school pick-up.

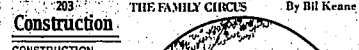
113 Child Care Services BO PEEP DAYCARE and Preschool, now accepting new children. Sinto licensed and CPR certified. 830-6pm. 733-5097 CHILDCARE Licensed childcare days and evenings. Lunches and snacks, all apps. ICCP accepted. References: 735-4193

200 Employment 200 Employment 201 Accounting 201 Accounting 201 Accounting

201 Accounting ACCOUNTING CONSULTER Comprehensive Fed Mill is looking for someone with proficient ability in multiple collars, research, maintain all office, accounting & bookkeeping systems, and staff. Bachelor of Science in Accounting, 2 years of finance/business required. Fast learner, detail oriented, 2nd shift methods. Integrity and team player a must! Competitive Salary and Benefits. Send Resume to PO Box 83, Wendell ID 83355. Please no phone calls.

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CONSTRUCTION

Immediate opening for Experienced Directional Bore Operator. Must possess current Class A CDL. Top pay and benefit package. Apply in person at Best Electric 212 Highland, Twin Falls or call 208-739-9976

205 Dairy DAIRY Experienced Worker for outside. Hoisting equipment. 300-2522 or 280-3163

206 Drivers DRIVERS Local/Inland No CDL required with train. Call 324-2600

206 Drivers DRIVER Class A Driver to haul farm machinery & ag. Equip. Locally. Call 324-7148

Franklin Franklin Building Supply is taking applications for CDL Driver/Yard haul. We offer full benefits package including Medical, Dental, Vision etc. Apply in person at 1390 Highland Ave. E. Twin Falls. NO PHONE CALLS

208 Farm DRIVER Looking for a FT job working mornings & afternoons? We have the perfect job for you! Now hiring Bus Drivers. Paid Training. Western States Bus. Call 208-733-8003

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209 General DRIVERS Gem State Drywall is seeking a CDL Driver/Sloaker \$12.50 per hr. No experience necessary. Heavy lifting, stocking. Excellent benefits and flexible work schedule. Apply at 2290 Wright Ave. Twin Falls

209 General DRIVERS Hired over the road Drivers, 2 years experience needed. Medical insurance or call offered, vacation after 1 year. \$35 per mile. 45 S. 200 E. Jerome, Idaho 208-234-2145 Gilmer Milk Transportation

209 General DRIVERS Local drivers for the Butte/Boyer and Magic Valley areas. OTR routes also available. Salary is very competitive. Excellent pkg. Apply at Rich Thompson Trucking Inc 322 West Nw Percie in Jerome or call 208-232-3511

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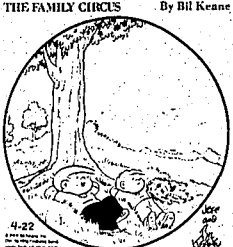
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"This is my favorite learning place - Schoolhouse Earth."

206 Drivers DRIVERS Local/Inland No CDL required with train. Call 324-2600

207 Education EDUCATION Rich School District is accepting applications for a High School Mathematics Teacher qualified to teach mathematics at all levels. Closing date for this position will be open until filed. The salary is according to the negotiated salary schedule. Applications may be obtained at the Rich School District office, 700 S Stevens Ave, Filer, ID 83328 or by calling 328-5981

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# COUNTRY ROADS

YOUR LANDSCAPE • YOUR LIVESTOCK • YOUR LIFESTYLE  
TIMES-NEWS • FEATURES EDITOR VIRGINIA HUTCHINS: 735-3242 VIRGINIA.HUTCHINS@LEE.NET

INSIDE:  
Recommended  
reading for  
garden lovers,  
D3



**D**  
**TUESDAY**  
APRIL 22, 2008

INSIDE: Comics, D2 | Tip of the Week, D3 | Gardening bloggers, D4



High school rodeo participants ride during a rodeo in Buhl in early April. Sure, rodeo is popular in southern Idaho, but riding clubs provide many other ways, too, to enjoy your equine companions.

# ANY WAY YOU'D LIKE TO RIDE

South-central Idaho home to many equine clubs



Rocky playfully pushes on the stomach of his owner, 12-year-old Jenna Adkins, before they begin their warm-up Saturday at the Magic Valley Pony Club in Jerome. In southern Idaho, equine activities bring together all ages, and many groups are specifically for youth.

By Ariel Hansen  
Staff writer

The feet of bunched-up muscles beneath you as you ride, the soft muzzle of your pony's muzzle, the scent of fresh alfalfa. Add in the quiet freedom of a long trail ride or the blue ribbon from a show, and it's easy to see why south-central Idahoans love horses.

You can ride rodeo, harness draft horses and mules, lead miniature horses, post in an English saddle or wander the backcountry for days, and you can do all these things with others — there are local groups for nearly any equine interest. Area riders say trails are improving, arenas are being built, and there is a rising interest in all things horse.

If those whinnies from your back pasture are inspiring you to take your horse out, but you want some company, check out these groups to find like-minded riders. The list may not be complete, but it will give you several places to start to find fellow horse-lovers.

Ariel Hansen may be reached at [ariel.hansen@lee.net](mailto:ariel.hansen@lee.net) or 208-735-3376.

## YOUTH GROUPS

### Horse 4-H

Horse 4-H clubs are run by the University of Idaho Extension offices of each county, so contact your local office for more information about the clubs near you. Children must be between 8 and 18 to fully participate in all 4-H activities, including horse clubs, although younger children may join for limited participation. The program's goal is to develop citizenship, leadership and life skills of youth through mostly experiential learning programs. Clubs are available for working with full-sized and miniature horses.

Information in Twin Falls: Extension office, 734-9590, [twinfalls@uidaho.edu](mailto:twinfalls@uidaho.edu) or [extension.ag.uidaho.edu/twinfalls](mailto:extension.ag.uidaho.edu/twinfalls). Click "The 4-H program" link on the left.

### Magic Valley Pony Club/Sawtooth Pony Club

Magic Valley Pony Club, which meets at a Jerome ranch, and Sawtooth Pony Club, which meets in Bellevue, are part of a national organization founded in 1954 that has more than 630 clubs across the country. The Magic Valley group currently has 18 members, while the Sawtooth group has nine.

Membership is limited to ages 8-25. Activities are English-riding based — although Western riders are welcome — and focus on learning about horsemanship as well as sportsmanship, said Wendy Jones of the Sawtooth club. The club participates in a variety of activi-



Julia Rietdorf looks on as Magic Valley Pony Club members warm up their horses before the second session of the day Saturday at Southwind Ranch in Jerome.

ties, including polocrosse, mounted games, trail riding, jumping and cross-country events.

Dues for the Sawtooth club are \$175 for a first-year membership and \$125 for each subsequent year, which includes frequent lessons by instructor Sarah Keppner. Classes are held at her arena on Browning Lane, and the next mounted meeting is 3 p.m. Saturday. The group also has unmounted meetings, and it meets between January and November.

The Magic Valley club meets at Southwind Ranch, 72 W. 300 S. in Jerome, where the group will host a regional jumping and dressage show in late June. Meetings are 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. Saturdays during the school year (time depends on ability), and on a weekday during the summer. Dues are \$135 annually, plus a lesson fee that averages \$50 per month per rider.

"It's a great program for children, especially that really are interested in horses, because it teaches them a safe way to be around them and work with them and it's a lot of fun. The kids all get along together," Jones said.

Information, Sawtooth club: Wendy Jones, 788-4156, or Sarah Keppner, 316-1212. Magic Valley club: Julia Rietdorf, 324-1496 or [jriet@msn.com](mailto:jriet@msn.com).

### College of Southern Idaho Equestrian Team

Founded in 1998, the college's team is a student club that is part of the Equine Studies Program rather than an organized athletic group, with current membership of 20 students. Participants who compete must be full-time students in good academic standing, who practice four

Please see YOUTH, Page D3

## ADULT/FAMILY GROUPS

### Silver Spurs Equestrian Team

This group, which started two years ago, was launched to give families a place to ride together; some members had children who were aging out of youth groups, and others wanted to ride with their younger children. The club has about 25 members from Buhl, Piler, Twin Falls and Jerome and welcomes riders from other areas. They do only Western pleasure riding, mostly on trails, although there are some parade drills and campsouts each season.

"We are looking at putting together a performance team this year so we can perform at some of the rodeos," said Luann Studer, secretary.

The group meets at 6:30 p.m. Thursdays at the Twin Falls County Fairgrounds, and annual dues are \$15 per member, with family discounts available. The hosts horsemanship seminars with a trailer from northern Idaho once a quarter; the three-day seminars are \$185, and two-day seminars are \$135.

"We're not limiting this club to just riding horses," Studer said, noting that they welcome driving horses or mules.

"We're open to suggestions, we're open to new ideas for different activities to do," said member Charlene Royce. "We're pretty laid back; we're open and encouraging to anyone to come ride with us

and have fun."

Information: Luann Studer, secretary, 731-4311; Charlene Royce, 539-5804; Rochelle Shank, 731-9812.

### High Desert Backcountry Horsemen

Part of a national organization began in 1973 in Montana, the Twin Falls chapter was organized in 1992. There are also chapters in Bailey and Burley. The group advocates for the creation and maintenance of multi-use trails, and rides those trails regularly.

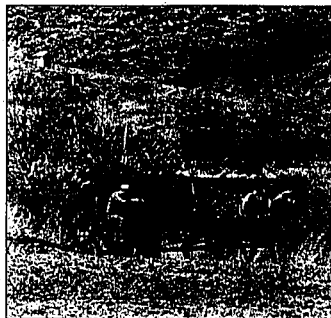
"In the early '70s the (U.S.) Forest Service was trying to restrict trails to equine use,

and (the backcountry horsemen) could see that they needed to have a working organization to watch that this didn't happen," said Kathy Kerley, secretary of the High Desert chapter and a member since it started.

"We're a working club, and we volunteer for the Forest Service and the BLM (Bureau of Land Management) to help clear trails and maintain trails."

They do an average of three summer events, including a play day jamboree that includes an arena trail-riding competition. The group meets at 6:30 p.m.

Please see ADULTS, Page D3



Members of the Southern Idaho Draft Horse and Mule Association work a field at Artec Station in the Snake River Canyon this spring. The association — which likes to share its love for these animals — was demonstrating old-fashioned farming methods with horse-drawn equipment.

**B.C.** By Johnny Hart

TIMEOUT!  
WHAT'S UP KID?  
CAN I SWITCH WITH AN OUTFIELDER FOR A WHILE?  
WHAT IN THE WORLD FOR?  
I WANT TO KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO CATCH ONE OF CLUMSY'S PITCHES!

**Baby Blues** By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

EARTH DAY IS ONE HOLIDAY THAT REALLY MAKES SENSE TO ME!  
YOU BAD IT'S JUST ONE DAY A YEAR.  
SPEAK UP YOURSELF!  
EARTH DAY IS EARTH DAY WHEN YOU HAVE A SANDBOX IN THE BACK-YARD.

**Beetle Bailey** By Mort Walker

WE'RE GOING GREEN TODAY!  
GETTING RID OF POLLUTION  
KILLER IS OUT HUGGING TREES  
WHAT GOOD WILL IT DO TO HUG TREES  
OH, SOME OF THE TREES REALLY LIKE IT

**Blonde** By Dean Young & Stan Drake

IT'S EARTH DAY, DEAR... WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP OUT?  
I THINK WE SHOULD START BY CONSERVING ENERGY ON THE HOMEFRONT  
AND, OF COURSE, WE CAN COUNT ON YOU TO DO YOUR PART  
ABSOLUTELY!

**Dilbert** By Scott Adams

ASOK, YOU MUST RETURN TO THE INDIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY TO EXPLAIN YOUR ILLEGAL USE OF TELEKINESIS.  
BUT, BUT...  
POPP!!  
VIJAY, PANTS.

**The Elderberries** By Phil Frank and Joe Troise

Okay, everyone enjoy your visit and we'll meet back here at 4pm!  
So, where to, folks?  
I'd like to hit the ecology exhibit, huh?  
Ah, think you'll enjoy an over-the-museum cafe...  
All this knowledge and all you can think of is food?  
In my Frank and Joe Troise (paraphrase you could be the road to mental now someone runs through the stomach) the man who thought with his stomach!

**For Better or For Worse** By Lynn Johnston

DO YOU REALLY KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GOING ON DO APRIL 7 CAREER-WISE?  
I THINK SO WELL, BUT I'VE GOT TO GO TO WORK. I'LL BE BACK AT 5.  
I MEAN, I CHECKED OUT WHAT I WANTED TO DO IN THE WASHINGTON AREA AND I'M INTERESTED IN THE STUFF YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT IN THAT DISCUSSION.  
Ah... who knows, if all depends on what I'm gonna give if my boss says...  
I WISH I WAS AS GOOD OF A MATHS AS YOU ARE!  
GHEIST

**Frank and Ernest** By Bob Thaves

I DID MY TAXES WRONG AND NOW I'M BEING PENALIZED! I COULDN'T UNDERSTAND THE INSTRUCTIONS... IT WAS SO CONFUSING!  
-- THAT'S WHY THEY CALL IT A "TAX CODE"!

**Garfield** By Jim Davis

SOMETHING BIT ME!  
WHAT IF IT'S POISONOUS?  
I COULD DIE!  
WHEN?!

**Hagar the Horrible** By Chris Browne

WE'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT YOUR CARBON FOOTPRINT.

**Hi and Lois** By Chance Brown

CHECK OUT MY NEW RADIO. IT RUNS ON SOLAR POWER.  
THE SON CAN TOP THAT.  
SOMEWAY THE SUN WILL BE POWERING OUR LIGHTS NEXT, EVEN CARS.  
WOW! I CAN'T WAIT.  
GET BUSY, SUNBEAM!

**Luann** By Greg Evans

I'LL CONSIDER LETTING YOU GO WHEN I VOTE.  
THANKS, BRAD. BYE, LUANN.  
SO HOW WERE YOU THAT YOU MENTION MR. RIGHT AND BAH-GANTHER SHOWS UP IN A "WRIGHT FOR YOU" SHIRT? I'M TELLING YOU SOMEBODY IT'S LIKE AN OVEN OR SOMEBODY!  
OVEN, SCHMAMEN. IT'S CONSIDERANCE, BRAD.  
THEY GANTHER SHOWED UP IN A "WRIGHT FOR YOU" SHIRT? I'M TELLING YOU SOMEBODY IT'S LIKE AN OVEN OR SOMEBODY!

**Classic Peanuts** By Charles M. Schulz

DO YOU EAT AN ALLOWANCE (CHARLE BROWN)?  
NOT REALLY... BUT I GET FIFTEEN CENTS A WEEK FOR FEEDING THE DOG.  
WELL! THAT MAKES ME FEEL KIND OF IMPORTANT...  
BY CREATING WORK, I AM HELPING TO BOLSTER OUR ECONOMY!

**Pearls Before Swine** By Stephan Pastis

WHO'S AT THE DOOR, FRED?  
THAT STUPID ARMY DUCK FROM NEXT DOOR... THE ONE THAT'S ALWAYS ON ME ABOUT NOT CUTTING OUR LAWN.  
WHAT ARE YOU GONNA DO?  
I'M GONNA OPEN THE DOOR AND DROPPICK THAT LITTLE WATERPUL CLEAR ACROSS THE STREET.  
NEVER MESS WITH A PANELLMAKING DUCK, FRED.

**Pickles** By Brian Crane

EARL, HAVE I SEEMED KIND LATELY?  
GOOD HEAVENS, NO!  
I CHEWED OUT THE LIPS MAN YESTERDAY.  
WENGE HE DE-SERVED IT.  
SO I HAVEN'T SEEMED AT ALL CRANKY TO YOU?  
ABSOLUTELY NOT!  
WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!

**Rose is Rose** By Pat Brady

I'D LIKE TO TAKE A MOMENT OF YOUR TIME TO OBTAIN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE BEEF AND THE PRODUCTION.  
THIS IS BIRD FOOD! A NUTRITIOUS BLEND OF VITAMINS AND PROTEIN YOU WILL ENJOY AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE AS OFTEN AS YOU LIKE.  
THIS IS A SPECIAL LINK OF GROSS BEEF! IT MAY APPEAR TO BE A WHOLE TREAT, BUT IT'S FOR MY LAWN!  
JUST SO WE'RE CLEAR, THIS IS PREGRIBING VICE-ENTRANCE CHICKEN FOOD!  
I'LL HAVE A LITTLE OF BOTH!

**Non Sequitur** By Wiley

THERE'S A VALUABLE LESSON IN THE ART OF COVERING YOUR TRACKS TO BE LEARNED HERE...

**Dennis the Menace** By Hank Ketchum

EARTH DAY 2008  
"MY MOM SAYS WE CAN SAVE ENERGY BY TAKIN' FEWER BATHS. MAN, I'M FOR THAT!"

**The Wizard of Id** By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

I'D LIKE A BEEF BURGER RARE.  
CERTAINLY, JUST SIGN THIS RELEASE.  
MAKE THAT A GRILLED CHEESE.

**Zits** By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

I LOVE THE CEREMONY OF EARTH DAY!  
EVERY YEAR I COME TO THE GARDEN PLACE AND PLANT A TREE IN AN EFFORT TO BRING BEAUTY TO THIS WASTED PLOT OF EARTH.  
AND EVERY YEAR THEY MAKE YOU DIG IT UP AND PATCH THE PRINCIPALS PARKING SPACE.  
STILL, IT'S THE DREAM THAT COUNTS.

COMING NEXT WEEK IN COUNTRY ROADS

Out for owls

How to spot southern Idaho's owls.



Recommended reading for garden lovers

By Joel M. Lerner
Special to The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Here are my picks for landscape-related reading this spring.
"Flowers" is a 168-page hardcover coffee-table book photographed by Christopher Beane and written by the art historian, author and curator Anthony F. Janson. It is a must-read for photographers, plant enthusiasts and those interested in how photography became accepted as legitimate art. Beane's work has been likened to the bright colors and sensual contemporary art seen in Georgia O'Keefe's paintings.
"Work is a marvel of innovation. (Artisan, \$35)



trees

"Trees: A Visual Guide," a 304-page hardcover by Tony Rodd and Jennifer Stackhouse, provides a phenomenal view of trees around the world. The color photos and high-quality graphics show a great deal of variety for trees, their tenacity and their longevity. The effects of climate and elevation and distinctions among microclimates are well explained. This book offers a complete picture of the world of trees, as we now understand them. (University of California Press, \$30)

"The Private Life of Spiders," a 168-page hardcover by Paul Hillyard, takes readers on a journey through the life of these often misunderstood and sometimes dangerous creatures. Many of the more than 100 color

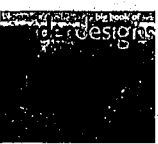
photographs are macro-lens shots that fill entire pages. Some spiders grow to less than half a millimeter; others span 11 inches and eat birds. All are predators. They hunt, spin silken traps; swing sticky webs; spit; mimic the movements of their prey; and camouflage themselves, becoming virtually impossible to find. Of the 38,000 species known to science, only about 20 live in communities, cooperating in building and caring for their young. The rest are cannibals. This is a fascinating book. (Princeton University Press, \$30)

"Landscape Planning," a 247-page paperback by Judith Adam, puts together the elements that comprise a comprehensive landscape design. Recognizing that designs occur onsite and not simply on a piece of paper, she outlines the stages of landscape design in 10 elements: personal style, planning, recognizing the bones of a garden and planting for year-round interest are among the design principles covered. Adam takes readers through the planning, site survey, drafting, permitting, surveys, utility location and other steps before work can begin. Driveways, parking areas, planting, lighting and water are discussed, along with materials, specialty plants for paving joints, shrubs and trees. Nearly 500 color photographs and illustrations will give you the confidence to improve your property. (Fitzly, \$30)

"The Garden Primer" is an 820-page paperback by gardening columnist Barbara Damrosch offers time-tested guidelines for growing vegetables, annuals, perennials, shrubs and trees. Her focus is promoted as "100% organic." The book covers the latest practices for pest control, site preparation, tools, work gear and landscape design and incorporates a generous number of black-and-white

illustrations. The greatest strength of this tome is having the information you need to garden, design and manage your landscape in a single handbook. (Workman, \$19)

"Coleus: Rainbow Follage for Containers and Gardens," a 227-page hardcover written by Ray Rogers and photographed by Richard Hartlage, traces the history of a single plant since its formal discovery in Java and introduction to Britain in 1853 by botanist and explorer Karl Blume. Coleus were popular houseplants from the Victorian era into the 1950s, then started to be used as a shade-tolerant bedding plant outdoors. The botanical name of coleus was changed taxonomically about two years ago to Solenostemon scutellarioides, but the common name of this member of the mint family remains coleus. Coleus are available in trailing varieties, standards and many leaf textures, and colors. The book includes 385 brilliant color photographs. (Timber Press, \$30)



"The Big Book of Garden Designs," a 192-page softcover by Marianne Lipanovich and Tom Willhite, includes more than 100 well-drawn landscape plans. The basic design concepts in this book are excellent stimuli for landscape design ideas, including water features, paths, perennial and shrub borders, garden rooms, grasses and sitting areas. However, before installing any of the recommended plans, investigate their performance in your region. (Sunset Books, \$20)

Following a growing drama, with many plots

By Adrian Higgins
The Washington Post

I have had fun in community gardens everywhere from the Bronx to the English Midlands, where they're called allotments, but the one I keep returning to is the Glover Park Community Garden in Washington. It is one of the largest and most vital community gardens around, a place where the soil has been cultivated since its creation as a World War II victory garden.

More than 150 plots occupy a hillside in a wooded park. Each is draped in fencing against deer, and the effect is of a weird and slightly tattered veil. But even in early spring, in its bare and unfulfilled state, the plot is a sight to behold. The garden is so large that even the seasonal frenzy falls to yield a throng, but when I wander the narrow paths I see that many of the early birds already have done their soil preparation and winter weeding.

If you look carefully, you can see the first seedlings bursting out of the crusty soil. The other magnet, apart from the garden, is a fellow named Dino Kraniotis, whose double plot stands at a prominent corner of the garden. Like many of the gardeners, he lives in one of the neighborhood apartment buildings. The 61-year-old Kraniotis, a musician, has been growing fruit, herbs and veggies here for more than 20 years.

He is the chairman of the community garden: the guy who manages the waiting list, assigns plots to new gardeners, helps people find mulch and fencing and planking, and makes sure the spigots are in good order when the piped water is turned on in late March. He says he wants to be sure they do not become too weedy or neglected.

When you ask him questions, his responses are usually either enlightening or funny. He ribbed me about a column I wrote on how to save bank that would feed the world after Armageddon. "Who's going to plant the seeds?" he asked with a straight face. "The cockroaches?"

Kraniotis is one of the earliest to start the garden year, sowing cool-season greens and peas in mid-February. That gives him more time to deal with all the administrative issues at start-up time in



Dino Kraniotis, chairman of Washington's Glover Park Community Garden, puts a row cover over seeds sown in a whiskey barrel to keep the birds away.

March and April. The gardeners include Lisa Paoletti, a business analyst at Fannie Mae and a novice scrambling to convert Plot F-18N from an empty and weedy patch into a source of organic produce. "I never think you are able to eat the things you grow yourself, organically," said Paoletti, 33. Mark Wilkerson is a 42-year-old teacher entering his third season at Glover Park. He spent each of the past month weeding his patch, officially Plot H-3X, and is in fine shape for spring planting.

Todd and Lissie Barboza waited two years for Plot D-55. They took tenancy a year ago, but the couple kept it up through the winter, sowing spinach, arugula and other cold-hardy greens. Both are medical residents who work long hours, so the garden becomes a place to unwind and relax, if only for half an hour in the early evening. Todd Barboza is 27; his wife, 31.

Theirs is the face of a quiet revolution occurring in the gardening world as the industry, after years of steady decline, sees sales to consumers are on the rise, according to seed merchants.

"Our home garden business is up substantially this year," said Bruce Carter, general manager of Johnny's Selected Seeds in Winslow, Maine. "It was up a little last year, and that was a turnaround point from years of continual decline." People in the seed business were feeling a little like we were a fossil. Now something old is new again," said Renee Shepherd of Renee's Garden Seeds in Felton, Calif.

As the Barbozas demonstrate, I think a lot of young people are more interested in growing things for different reasons," Shepherd said. Those reasons vary from an effort to reduce one's carbon footprint by avoiding

Leave a plot

Twin Falls is no land-starved city, but community gardening has taken root here nonetheless. A couple of spaces are left for lease in the College of Southern Idaho Agriculture Department's community garden. To claim one for the season, call quickly. The garden is near Fernie Coulee, directly across North College Road from the college's Expo Center. Each 25-by-50-foot garden site is tillous, and compost is provided. Water is provided, but gardeners must control it with their own sprinklers, soaker hoses or drip systems. Gardeners also are responsible for controlling the weeds in their leased plots. The lease on each garden plot is \$40 for the entire growing season. Information: Merry Olson, 732-6401 or, molson@csi.edu; Carolee Pison, 732-6400 or cpep@csi.edu.

trucked food to concern over food safety. The downturn in the economy and the rising cost of groceries are also seen as factors.

"We have been historically in a time when people are spending less money that they turn back to more traditional home pursuits, like gardening," said Jeff Gibson of Ball Horticultural Co. in West Chicago, Ill.

Whether the trend will last is another matter. Carter has his doubts. "Gardening is wonderful for those of us who have a religious devotion to it, but the average consumer who is going to dig up 200 square feet of soil for a garden is in for a rude awakening."

But he's saying that. I'm thinking of Paoletti constructing her garden beds, and I'm hoping she won't become disillusioned by the labor.

Tip of the Week

The Washington Post

The fading flowers of daffodils can be removed, but the bulbs need the

follage for another six weeks at least to make more bulbs for next year. Clumps can be gathered with string to prevent them

from flattening. Avoid the practice of braiding and folding leaves, which impedes the plant's ability to photosynthesize.

Youth

Continued from page D1

total hours Thursday and Wednesday evenings. They compete through the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association, in both English and Western events. The school provides horses and equipment for students and other competitors, and numbers are drawn out of a hat to determine which horse a competitor will ride during that competition. Class cost includes a \$55 arena fee; each student solicits the group membership each semester. Students pay their own show entry fees.

Information about the CSI team: Julia Rietdorf, team coach, 324-1496, jrietdorf@csiedu, information@lissaline.com.

Filer Junior Riding Club

Like 4-H, the Filer club includes ages 8-18, and riders must have their own horses. The group started 66 years ago as an offshoot of the county sheriff's posse, and today it participates in parades and at the Twin Falls rodeo and fair. The club, with 10 members, is seeking riders to double its membership. Call the group membership at pm, every Tuesday at the Twin



Chloz Burwell, 10, rides Golly — an Arabian horse — around the arena during a warm-up Saturday at Magic Valley Pony Club.

Falls County Fairgrounds to practice drills and play games on horseback; members also go on a few trail rides a year. Dues are \$45 a year, which covers the cost of insurance.

Information: Karen Stoker, drill leader, 326-3377.

Other youth groups:

• Little Buckaroo Rodeo Association, based in Declo, is for ages 1-16. Its last winter rodeo will be Saturday, including such events as steer riding, goat tying, team

roping and mutton bustin'. Information: Lalyssa Tucker, 645-3176, or littlebuckaroo@comcast.net.

• 5th and 6th District National High School Rodeo associations are part of a national association based in Denver. The 6th district holds events in Twin Falls, Jerome, Gooding, Carey, Paul, Glenns Ferry, Shoshone and Bellevue; the sixth district, in Twin Falls, Filer, Rupert, Burley, Oakley and Bull. Information: Karen Warren, 745-7438, or trimiddaho@hotmail.com.

Adults

Continued from page D1

on the second Tuesday of each month at different members' homes; the next meeting is May 13. Anyone is welcome to join, and annual dues are \$20 for an individual or \$35 for a family.

"We've seen more horse use at times going to more people into horses. That's one reason we're trying to keep track of what's going on with the trails," Kerley said. "We also very much stress multi-use, the bicycles and e-bikes. All of us should use the trails together or we won't have any of them."

Information: High Desert Backcountry Horsemen (Twin Falls); Kathy Kerley, 324-4754; or Susan Lehman, 438-7766. Six-week Backcountry Horsemen (Burley); Jo Heiss, 789-3802. Cache Peak Backcountry Horsemen (Burley); Lorraine Genzmer, 436-3490.

Other adult/family groups:

• Magic Valley Reined Cowhorse Association, a division of the National Reined Cowhorse Association, is based in Twin Falls. The group promotes cow horses through competition and public education. Dues are \$25 for an individual or \$35 for a family, and membership applications may be downloaded off the group's Web site.

Information: 423-9055, ksk.cowhorses@yahoo.com or 423-9055.

• Southern Idaho Draft Horse and Mule Association hosts an annual planting and play day to introduce children and horses and mules to the public this spring's event was in April. Members also show off their teams at area fairs, and educate the public about draft horses and mules. The group has 70 members, and all ages are welcome, including people without equipment or animals. Dues are \$20 a year. Information: Betty Shriver, 420-1511.

• Grass Root Cutters, based in Twin Falls, teaches families and individuals how to cut cows from a herd. Annual dues are \$25 for an individual and \$35 for a family, and entry fees for competitions are \$45 per event. Points are awarded for performances, and awards are given at the end of each year. Established in 2002, the group has 146 members.

holds competitions approximately monthly at south-central Idaho arenas between February and October. Information: Shanna Koopman, 404-6943, koopman@csiedu.com. Holds competitions approximately monthly at south-central Idaho arenas between February and October. Information: Shanna Koopman, 404-6943, koopman@csiedu.com.

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ick3@yahoo.com or grassrootcutters.com.

• The Valley Sage Riders is an off-shoot of the High Desert Backcountry Horsemen. This no-dues group is exclusively for women. They meet every Thursday to ride trails, in hills both south and north of Twin Falls, and take their overnight rides during the summer. Information: north of the Snake River Canyon, Carol Sobotka, 324-2028; south of the canyon, Ruth Staley, 733-6192.

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Helping on horseback
Southern Idaho's equine community rallies around one of its own. Next week in Country Roads.

# Feisty women win raves for their rants

By Adrian Higgins  
The Washington Post

Sometimes it is useful to state the obvious. The invention and universal acceptance of the Internet has transformed gardening, and for the better.

One of the great boons is in finding sources of exciting new plants you might see in your travels. In the old days, that meant trying to button-hole the gardener, or thumbing blindly through mail-order catalogs or making endless phone calls. It was hit-or-miss, and usually miss. Now, type in name of the variety, and voila: \$10.95 plus shipping and handling.

The other great change is in the notion of an electronic forum where ideas and advice are shared and direct instruction debunked.

The discourse can run to dull or worse, but it is a place for gardeners to come together as fellow travelers rather than strangers and where venting one's pet peeve is private. Post an entry, and expect a load of responses, most well-meaning.

"I think that's the mystique of blogging," said Elizabeth Licata, gardener and blogger. "The people who are my friends, and they care about your garden, even though you'll never meet them and they'll never see your garden. That's kind of interesting. Astounding."

A recent member of a group of garden bloggers with an attitude, Garden Rant (www.gardenrant.com), started in mid-2006, is one of my favorites. A blend of gossip, news, critique and, yes, rant, it blows the cobwebs out of gardening's musty corners.

Licata joined Amy Stewart, Michele Owens and Susan Harris. Licata lives in Buffalo, Owens in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., Licata in Twin Falls, Park, Md., and Stewart in Eureka, Calif., but this being the Internet, their hometowns are little more than street signs in their virtual community.

The ratters have a world view encoded in a manifesto that reads thus, in part: Bored with perfect magazine gardens. Suspectants of the "horticultural industry." Turned off by any activities that involve "landscaping" with "plant materials."

Licata, 50, was recruited when the others realized they



The women behind Garden Rant — from left, Susan Harris, Michele Owens, Elizabeth Licata and Amy Stewart — have gathered only once, but they're constantly in touch.

needed an extra hand to help keep fresh entries posted on at least a daily basis. The rants come with a heavy dose of reality that is missing in a lot of gardening coverage. Recently Stewart referred to a magazine story in which the writer displays her powers of perspicacity by suggesting that pink may be coming back into vogue as a flower color.

"I just don't know what to do with the news that a particular color has gone out of style," Stewart wrote. "I can't manage to keep all the weeds pulled in my garden; I'm certainly not going to yank out all the pink or purple just because it's fallen out of favor with designers."

Stewart also once suggested people post pictures of the ugliest part of their yards, and she gets no vote by downloading a video clip from YouTube in which a pair of hens breaks up a fight between two rabbits. It's called "Chicken Police."

"I troll YouTube every now and then for odd videos related to plants, insects or garden-scale animals," she said. The blog is also full of links, including links to each of the women's personal blogs. Hey, they're not only delectably offended, they're plugged in.

Stewart, Owens, Harris and Licata may be reading (or writing) from the same page, but they bring different experiences and sensibilities to the enterprise. At 38, Stewart is the youngest and the most established, having written several critically acclaimed books. "Flower Confidential" is about the global cut-flower

trade. "The Earth Moved" dishes the dirt on earthworms.

She is also a columnist for a newspaper in California, the North Coast Journal, and owns a bookstore with her husband. She tends a city garden but in a place that allows her to raise chickens.

Harris, 58, a longtime Washington-area resident, worked most of her life as a court reporter. This is now a part-time occupation as the Garden Rant and related work have shifted the focus of her life. One of her gigs is as a gardening coach.

She lives in a cozy house with a long wooded backyard that extends to a distant stream and beyond. Old trees are festooned with bird nesting boxes and a bat house, and the rear deck is swaddled in a combination of sunny kiva. She has just converted her front yard into a decorative vegetable garden in what we take to be an embrace of the local food movement and a reaction against the idea that the American front yard must be lawn.

Owens, 47, is a former political speechwriter who has a town garden and a place in the country where she is a rabid vegetable gardener. "The key thing about the blog is the readership," Owens said. "The elche about the Internet creating communities is absolutely true." Though the women do not despise practical gardening advice, they say they get a lot of response from professional gardeners.

"It's a side gig, but a way of taking control and making your own career," said Owens, who turned to blogging after being frustrated at not getting magazine editors interested in her story ideas. "I had a lot to say that wasn't being said, certainly in the world of gardening magazines."

Ironically, the blog has gotten her noticed, and she is writing for magazines. If you are not familiar with the blogosphere, it is worth noting that the toll doesn't necessarily bring a living wage. But a blog site is cheap to set up and, with few or no advertisements to offend, you are free to speak your mind. In some cases, it gets you noticed. It leads to paying gigs and you get the satisfaction of establishing a forum for your views and creativity.

For the ratters, there's the added joy of coming to the aid of gardeners who run afoul of the petty, ill-conceived and outdated rules about gardening laid down by local governments and homeowner associations. Licata rallied to a friend in Buffalo who had been bulldozed by the city for having a front yard deemed weedsy. The woman was growing native shrubs and perennials. After Licata ranted about it, bloggers emailed the city's mayor, who paid a visit to the garden himself. The complaints were dropped.

The ratters also have rallied against local officials for requiring a Utah woman to winter her lawn and have come to the support of a group seeking to revive the use of clotheslines.

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## Extending salvias' season

By Scott Aker  
Special to The Washington Post

Q. My *Salvia* May Night has thrived, but blooms only in May (surprise, surprise). In plantings at shopping centers, along roadways, etc. see perennial salvias blooming all summer. I want to replace mine this year; what variety of *salvia* should I look for?

A. There are many salvias to choose from. The variety you are growing was developed in Germany and is also known as *Mahacht*. It can bloom from May to late summer if the fading blooms are removed or deadheaded and the plant is watered in times of drought. It needs full sunlight and may not bloom well if it gets too much shade. In my experience, *Salvia microphylla* holds the record for the longest-flowering hardy *salvia*. I have seen a red cultivated perennial *salvia* blooming all summer. I want to replace mine this year; what variety of *salvia* should I look for?

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## Cut thick trunks to control lilac growth

By Joel M. Lerner  
Special to The Washington Post

Q. We have a lilac bush that is overtaking other plants with its sprouts. We've tried cutting the suckers, covering the area with material and mulch, and using Roundup. How can

we solve our problem? A. Suckers are low lilac growths. Proper care is to cut the thickest trunks with fencing wire to the ground. Stronger suckers take the place of the thick trunks and mature to flower in following years.

The optimum lilacs

would be about six to eight feet tall with young trunks, so flowers in spring will offer maximum fragrance and access for cutting. If you maintain them in this way, you will also protect your lilacs from lilac borer, a moth that searches for old growth.

Celebrate Earth Day

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