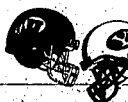


NATIONAL NOTICE

Forbes hails Quale's as small business success.

BUSINESS, C5



FOOTBALL FIX

Preseason preview of Utah, BYU, ISU and Utah State.

SPORTS, B1

COOL

Not a return

HAPPY 4TH OF JULY

FRIDAY

July 4, 2008

MagickValley.com

Idaho unemployment rate rises for fourth straight month

Biggest ever May-to-June increase in state history

By Joshua Palmer
Staff writer

State officials are calling it the largest May-to-June unemployment rate increase on record.

A stagnant job market and escalating costs drove June's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate up for the fourth straight month as the number of Idaho workers with jobs

fell more than 11,000 below the June 2007 mark.

The unemployment rate in the Twin Falls metropolitan area edged up five-tenths of a percentage point to 3.3 since May. The Burley metropolitan area reported an increase of eight-tenths of a percentage point to 3.9 percent.

Idaho's unemployment rate jumped two-tenths from May

to 3.8 percent.

Although June was the 37th consecutive month the state's rate has been below the 4-percent mark most economists consider full employment, the rate was 1.1 percentage points higher than a year earlier. Normally the unemployment rate remains unchanged in June.

Nationally, unemployment remained unchanged at 5.5 percent, the 81st month that Idaho's rate has been lower than the national average.

BY THE NUMBERS

3.3 percent	3.9 percent	3.8 percent	5.5 percent
Unemployment rate in Twin Falls metropolitan	Unemployment rate in Burley metropolitan	Idaho's unemployment rate	National unemployment rate

The labor force declined by 2,500 for the first month in over 20 years. Analysts speculated the decline reflected people dropping out of the labor force because of difficulty find-

ing a good-paying job and coping with the higher expenses, especially in fuel, of taking a low-paying job.

Please see **UNEMPLOYMENT**, Page A3

"J2 is probably as good a kid as you'll ever want to know."

—Jim Meeks, a friend of the family

(J)2 TOUGH



J2 Bridges, a 16-year-old rodeo cowboy, demonstrates how he was able to participate in the high school state rodeo finals while wearing a cast that was rigged to slip in and out of his stirrups. Bridges broke his right leg during his fourth rodeo of the season. Despite his injury he had amassed enough points to compete in the state competition.

Area rodeo star J2 Bridges rides on despite major injury

By Cassidy Friedman
Staff writer

With a bolt in his right knee, a screw in his right ankle and a rod and two wrecked bones running between the two, J2 Bridges, at age 16, reached Idaho's high school state rodeo finals June 14. His right leg was encased in medical walking boot, wedged in a stirrup jury-rigged by his dad to hook onto the boot.

"It wasn't pretty, Bridges admits.

"But this haggard image of Bridges in a Pocahontas ring capped off a heroic tale of the Valley High School junior's outstanding performance in the 2008 season — a season in which by the fourth rodeo on April 26 he led the 5th District standings in overall points.

"That evening, while at least one of several college scouts watched from the bleachers, a bull Bridges drew sent him hurtling to the ground on his final event — just as the eight-second horn sounded. The bull stomped on his



See a photo gallery of rodeo cowboy J2 Bridges.

right leg, bending his shin, shattering his tibia and breaking his fibula.

Many had assumed Bridges, the 12-school district's top all-around cowboy at the time, would sail through to the state finals in all events but calf roping. Come June though, it appeared he was done for at least the remainder of the season, possibly through his senior year.

"It just about killed him," said Holly Hall, 5th District high school rodeo president and the rodeo club advisor at Valley High School in Hazelton. "He was not in a happy camper. I was pretty disappointed once I came to realize that I wasn't going to be able to rodeo."

"I was in top all-around," Bridges recalls. "I was pretty disappointed once I came to realize that I wasn't going to be able to rodeo."

J2 was named Joe II at birth, but his older brother

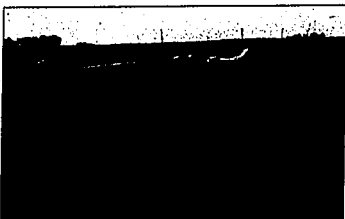
when he was an infant could not say Joe II. So he called him "J2."

"It just kind of stuck, I guess," said Hall. Bridges was raised in a family of horsemen who have broken their bones on and off horses so many times his father, Joe Bridges, calls it the "family gene." The elder

Bridges, 48, who has a plate in his leg, knew the moment he saw his son's compound fracture that it was destined to be life-altering. As bad as he wanted glory in the ring for his son, he reminded him not to rush back too quickly and risk seeing the break heal improperly.

"I'm sure that this leg was a bad enough deal that if it heals up it probably won't be a right," Joe said. "That was a

Please see **TOUGH**, Page A3



Bridges tries to round up his rodeo horse, Sassy. He wears a walking cast due to an injury he received in April.

Public prompts changes on Idaho's roadless plan

By Jessie Bonner
Associated Press writer

BOISE — Nearly 140,000 people have weighed in since January on a proposed rule for managing the more than 9.3 million acres of roadless backcountry in Idaho and the U.S. Forest Service says the comments have prompted it to make changes in the proposal.

The Forest Service released Thursday of public comments collected during a four-month period that ended in April. It's all part of the lengthy process of

deciding how Idaho's roadless areas and other untouched lands will be managed, preserved or opened to logging and other uses.

Changes to the proposed rule, stemming from public concerns, include better definitions of where road construction and tree removal is allowed in the case of threatening fire activity, said Brad Gilbert, the Forest Service's team leader on the proposed Idaho roadless plan.

Other changes included

Please see **PLAN**, Page A3

Judge Stoker allows new evidence in fatal fire case

By Andrea Jackson
Staff writer

A young mother charged with involuntary manslaughter following a February house fire that killed one of her three children allegedly left them home alone a year before the fatal incident in a potentially fire-prone situation.

Inna Gorbenko-Kutran, 28, and her then-fiance, Stephan Kutran, 31, were both charged with involuntary manslaughter and have since married. They have both pleaded not guilty to the allegations.

The pair's 27-month-old daughter, Jasmine Gorbenko, died of burns and/or

smoke inhalation after a Feb. 19 house fire at 441 Gardner Ave. in Twin Falls. The child was found alone at the home with her 12-month-old brother and suffered third-degree burns over 85 percent of her body, records show.

Twin Falls Deputy Prosecutor Julie Sturgill told the 5th Judicial District Court Thursday it wasn't the first time Gorbenko-Kutran, left her young children at home by themselves.

Sturgill asserted Gorbenko-Kutran left her two younger children in the care of her oldest, a 7-year-old daughter, at least once

Please see **CASE**, Page A3

Utah's new motto: TGIT

State going to 4-day workweek to save energy

By Mike Stark
Associated Press writer

SALT LAKE CITY — Starting next month, it will be "TGIT" for Utah state employees. As in: "Thank God It's Thursday."

In a yearlong experiment aimed at reducing the state's energy costs and commuters' gasoline expenses, Utah is about to become the first state to switch to a four-day workweek for thousands of government employees.

They will put in 10-hour days, Monday through Thursday, and have Fridays off, freeing them to golf, shop, spend time with the kids or do anything else that strikes their fancy. They will get paid the same as before.

"One of the jokes is that one of the biggest benefits will be for golf courses," said Ryan Walker, 49, an information technology director. He said he is looking forward to tackling items on his long-neglected "honey-do" list: camping and traveling more around the state.

The order issued by Republican Gov. Jon Huntsman will affect about 17,000 out of 24,000

Please see **UTAH**, Page A3



At Your Service directory	E9	Comics	C7	Jumble	E8	Obituaries	C2
Bridge	E2	Crossword	E3	Magie Valley	C1	Opinion	A6-7
Calendar	A2	Dear Abby	B4	Movies	C3-4	Su/Jo/Ku	E2
Classifieds	E1-10	Horoscope	A2	Mutual Funds	C6	Weather	B4

High 93 Low 62
Not as hot. Details B4 and live at magickvalley.com/weather

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association (IOTFA) in performance during Scout Breakfast, 9 to 11 a.m., Hollister City Park, 735-1590.
Fourth of July Antique Show, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., NexStage Theatre, Ketchum, 720-5547.
'The Phantom of the Opera' presented by ML Harrison Heritage Foundation, 2 p.m. matinee and 8 p.m. performance, Wilson Theatre, Rupert, \$7 for adults and \$3 for children, 878-6868.
Fourth on Fourth Celebration concert, with Muzzle Braun and Reddies Kelly, 4 p.m., downtown Ketchum Town Plaza, no cost, 726-3423.
'Bluegrass and Strawberries,' Strings Attache Bluegrass Band and homemade ice cream with strawberries, 6 p.m., Pioneer Park-Jarblidge, Nev., (775) 488-2358.
'Dinner Show' in 'Memoriam,' comedy murder mystery presented by Historic Opera Theatre, 6:30 p.m. dinner and 7:45 p.m. show, Historic Opera Theatre, 208 E. Idaho Ave., \$17, \$22.50 for reservations-only dinner and show, and \$7 general admission, \$6 for senior citizens and children under age 12 for show-only tickets, 366-7408 or 366-2744.
Brian Crowley's and Jeanine Teasdale's musical 'Violent,' presented by Company of Fools, 7 p.m., Liberty Theatre, 110 N. Main St., Halley, \$25 for adults, \$18 for senior citizens (62 and over) and \$15 for students (18 and under), 578-9122.
Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association (IOTFA) in performance during Scout Breakfast celebration, 7 to 9 p.m., McCluskey Park, pavilion, Buhl, bring lawn chairs, 735-1550.
Lighthouse Christian Fellowship Praise Band concert, includes games for kids and free root beer floss, 8 p.m., on the grassy area west of the Horrett Center for Arts and Science, College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, no cost, 737-4667.
Opening Night Sun Valley Ice Show, featuring world-class and Olympic skating stars, beginning at dusk, Outdoor Ice Rink, behind the Sun Valley Lodge, Sun Valley, tickets: (208) 622-2135 or 886-622-2108.

BENEFITS AND FUNDRAISERS

Hagerman Senior and Community Center parking lot fundraiser, includes bake sale and yard sale, 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. and \$4 barbecue: choice of hamburgers, hot dogs or bratwurst served with beans, chips, watermelon and \$1 beverage, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 140 E. Lake St., Hagerman, 837-6120.

FESTIVALS AND CELEBRATIONS

'Split of America' Sage Brush Days, with Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast, 7 to 10 a.m., West End Senior Center, 1010 Main St., Buhl, \$5 adults and \$3 ages 12 and under; 7 a.m. registration for Buhl Fun Run, Furniture Room parking lot, and 8 a.m. Fun Run; 10:15 a.m. opening ceremonies, 10:30 a.m. parade with vendors in Eastman Park, family activities; games, competitions and live entertainment to follow on swimming all day, Buhl pool; and animal firing and fireworks, dusk, North Park, Buhl, 543-6682.
Aibon Hometown Holiday Fourth of July Celebration, with breakfast from 7 to 10 a.m. at the Senior Center; 10 a.m. on Main Street parade; 1:45 a.m. flag ceremony in city park; 11 a.m. speaker; Sue Keller; 11:10 a.m. Air Force Fly-over with food booths, children's games, horse shoe tournaments, lawn mower races and entertainment in the park to follow; and fireworks, dark, Albion Airport, 673-5352.
Bliss Fourth of July Bash and Street Race, 10:30 a.m. parade, 11 a.m. mud volleyball (\$20 per team), 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. fire Department barbecue; 1 to 3 p.m. fireman's challenge; 3 p.m. lawn mower race, 4:45 p.m. Cow Plunk, 5 to 7 p.m. chamber dinner (\$6 each or \$20 family of 5), 7 to 9 p.m. ATV Poker run (\$20 per ATV), 8 to 10 p.m. fire department barbecue, 9:30 a.m. flag ceremony, 10:30 a.m. fireworks with street dance following and kids activities in Lower Park all day, 352-1176.
Hansen Fourth of July Celebration, 11 a.m. parade with family activities following, 5 p.m. barbecue (bring two side dishes, utensils and chairs) and 10 p.m. fireworks, Hansen City Park, no cost, 423-5158.
Jerome's 2nd annual Independence Day Celebration, includes patriotic kick-off, live entertainment, raffles, food, crafters, exhibits, games, sports and fireworks at dusk from Jerome High School, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., North and South City Park, no admission, 324-2711.
Rupert's 82nd annual patriotic event 'Hokey for the Red, White and Blue,' with 11 a.m. parade, food and vendor booths on the Square, carnival at Mindoka County Fairgrounds and 6 p.m. patriotic concert and fireworks at dusk, 436-9500.
Haller Fourth of July Main St. Parade, 7 to 9 p.m. parade.
Gooding Fourth of July Celebration, includes \$6 pulled-pork or beef barbecue at noon with family entertainment, hot rod car show, children's games following, Gooding Fairgrounds, and 10 p.m. fireworks from Gooding Middle School, 934-8183.
Haller Fourth of July Main St. Parade, 7 to 9 p.m. parade and lemonade and live, 'folkadella' music, 1 to 3 p.m., Sun Valley Center for the Arts, 52nd and Pine streets, 726-9491.
Independence Day Extravaganza family event, featuring Marcus Meek, special performances by Electric Snake and Redline, 6 to 9:30 p.m., amphitheater (across from 208ers) and fireworks, dark, Burley Golf Course Marina, Heyburn, (208) 678-6000.
Twin Falls annual Independence Day Celebration, with Twin Falls Municipal Band annual patriotic concert, 8 p.m., north of Student Union building; and fireworks, about 10 p.m., College of Southern Idaho, people bring lawn chairs, blankets and American flags but not pets, 734-2787.
Burley Fourth of July fireworks, dark, Burley Boat Docks, 878-2224.

CORRECTION

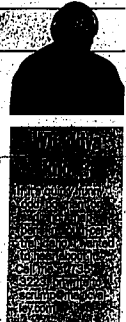
Twin Falls Cowboys play. Zak Slotten scored the winning run in his team's 4-1 win over the Triple Play Heroes of Seattle Wednesday at the Cowboy Classic baseball tournament in Twin Falls. Slotten was misidentified in Thursday's edition. The Times-News regrets the error.

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MORNING BRIEFING

Nobody parties quite like Bliss



There are much larger, flashier Fourth of July celebrations elsewhere, but nobody really holds a Roman candle to Bliss ... Yeah, that Bliss ... Population 255 ... The Bliss of the five-year Independence Day parade ... Actually it may be a little bigger than that this year. Organizer Sophie Pruett is expecting a few more entries when the parade lines up along U.S. Highway 30 across the street from Ziggy's at 10 a.m. ... And, no, it's not one of those front-of-the-parade-turns-around-and-becomes-the-back-of-the-parade deals. "We only go around once," Pruett explained ... Actually, that would make a pretty good motto for Bliss' Fourth of July party, which has been a pretty good one for years ... There's a mud volleyball tournament at noon, a fireman's challenge, at 1 p.m. (hint: Expect to get wet), lawn mower races at 3 p.m. and, best of all, "cow plunk" at 4:45 p.m. ... "It's kind of a redneck thing," Pruett said ... Imagine a dairy herder standing in a 100-foot square ... Now imagine that each of those square feet is marked off ... Chances are sold for each of them ... Chances, of course, that Bossy will select that particular square upon

which to answer a call of nature ... It's a \$250 pot ... If the urn, the merchandise lands on 'two spots,' their owners share the wealth ... "I'm really not looking forward to arbitrating it," Pruett confessed ... Before the 10 p.m. fireworks, there will be the Chamber of Commerce Dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. in the park, with entertainment by the Old-Time Fiddlers, and from 8 to 10 p.m. a barbecue dinner at the Bliss Fire Department ... After the pyrotechnics, at about 10:30 p.m., a street dance is scheduled for the fire department ... And if you don't get enough to eat, you're not trying ... In addition to the two evening meals, there's a barbecue lunch served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the fire department ... Also, there will be kids' games and activities in the lower city park all day, an ATV poker run from 7 to 9 p.m. and a flag ceremony in front of the post office at 9:30 a.m. ... All proceeds go to buy fireworks, according to Pruett ... "Everybody has a pretty good time" ...

ing gift items bearing a photograph of Twin Falls environmentalist Dr. Peter Rickards will be given away to those being arrested in Glens Ferry on June 16 ... Rickards was charged with trespassing and battery at an information meeting sponsored by Alternet Energy Holdings, the company that wants to build a nuclear power plant near Mountain Home ... On offer are a T-shirt for \$19.95, a mouse pad for \$15, a 15-ounce white ceramic picture mug for \$17, a large photo magnet for \$14, a commemorative plaque for \$45 and both matte and glossy photo prints in a variety of sizes ... Actually, the News makes the same offer with many of the photos it publishes, not just Rickards' ... For more information, go to http://www.mountainhome news.com ... Steve Crump is the Times-News opinion editor.

DO YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLY! The Mountain Home News, the weekly paper in Elmore County, is sell-

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is Friday, July 4, the 186th day of 2008. There are 180 days left in the year. This is Independence Day. TODAY'S HIGHLIGHT: On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence. ON THIS DATE: In 1802, the United States Military Academy officially opened at West Point, N.Y. In 1807, soldier-statesman Giuseppe Garibaldi, who played a key role in Italy's unification during the 19th century, was born in Nice.

In 1826, 50 years to the day after the Declaration of Independence was adopted, former presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson both died. In 1861, the fifth president of the United States, James Monroe, died in New York City. In 1862, English mathematician and clergyman Charles L. Dodgson ("Lewis Carroll") began devising the story of "Alice in Wonderland" for his young friend Alice Pleasance Liddell during a boating trip.

In 1872, the 30th president of the United States, Calvin Coolidge, was born in Plymouth, Vt. In 1917, during a ceremony in Paris honoring the French hero of the American Revolution, U.S. Lt. Col. Charles E. Stanton declared, "Lafayette, we are here!" In 1939, baseball's "Iron Horse," Lou Gehrig, said farewell to his fans at New York's Yankee Stadium. In 1966, President Johnson signed the Freedom of Information Act, which went into effect the following year.

In 1976, Ismail commandos raided Entebbe airport in Uganda, rescuing almost all of the passengers and crew of an Air France jetliner seized by pro-Palestinian hijackers. Ten years ago, Japan launched its Nazami probe to Mars. The mission was abandoned in December 2003 after space officials failed to get the off-target probe back on course. One year ago, NBC reporter Alan Johnson, seized by the Army of Islam in the Gaza Strip the previous March, was released.

HOROSCOPE BY JERALDINE SAUNDERS

IF JULY 4 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You can be carefree and happy-go-lucky throughout most of the summer — especially if you make key business decisions this month. Your extravaganza can cause you extra work in August. In September and early October you must buckle down and take on debt responsibilities and obligations. You may be on cloud nine in October because of a new romance or enthusiasm, but should not make permanent commitments until February or early March when your judgment is better and you will have advantageous advice to rely upon. BRIES (March 21-April 19): You can't always be the star. Avoid being sensitive to perceived slights and keep a positive outlook. The real fireworks may come later this evening during intimate moments with a significant other.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): If it looks like an apple and tastes like an apple, it's an apple. Don't let suspicious cloud your judgment or misperceive key matters to be different than they actually are. Relax and enjoy the holiday spirit. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): The things as they come. Make no plans let the day unfold naturally so you can go with the flow. Show compassion for your true friends by lending a friendly ear and listening to their problems. CANCER (June 21-July 21): Lead the pack. You are primed to be the life of the party even when those around you are paged down in turmoil. Let your whimsical nature take over and those around you will share in the fun. LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You deserve to have only the very best. Take time to enjoy the finer things and share them with those in your inner circle.

Look toward new and exciting adventures and avoid falling into past routines. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Own up to your mistakes. If you are in error, you would be wise to admit it rather than create a more volatile situation by fabricating a falsehood. It's not the end of the world if you must disclose mistakes. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Avoid being unyielding or offering ultimatums to those in close connection. Misunderstandings and conflict could result. You may enjoy a spur of the moment activity or unusual experience. SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Love is on today's menu. Your sex appeal will draw the notice of an admirer and eventually could blossom into something much more. Avoid entering into any binding agreements or quick deals. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-

Dec. 21): Remain true to the rules — even if it rubs someone the wrong way. High spirits during the holiday may make someone think that anything goes, but you must champion the voice of reason. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Heed the message, don't shoot the messenger. Friendly criticism should be taken to heart; don't let it become an issue. Keep a positive outlook and avoid offering your own critiques in response. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19): Freedom for all means tolerance for all as well. On this day keep an open mind as to the way others go about their daily business. You may not agree with their way, but it is not your place to criticize. PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Enjoy community activities with loved ones. Do not start another revolution by taking offense to off-hand comments made without forethought. Avoid making waves.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 10:30 to 11:30 a.m., Ageless Senior Citizens, Inc., 301 Main St., Kimberly, no cost, 737-5986. Fit and Fall Proof Exercise Class, 11 to 11:45 a.m., Oakley Fire Station, 315 E. Main St., Oakley, no cost, 737-5988. Celebrate Recovery, based on the 12 steps and eight biblical principles, 6 p.m., Cafe Agape, Lighthouse Christian Fellowship, 259 Main Ave. E., Twin Falls, 737-4667. Al-Anon/Alateen family groups, to help friends and families of alcoholics, hotline: (866) 592-3198.

MUSEUMS AND PARKS

Feldner Planetarium "Planet Patrol: Solar System Stakes Out!" at 2 p.m., "Blown Away: The Wild World of Weather" at 8:15 p.m., and "Altruistic Rock" at 8:15 p.m., Herrett Center for Arts and Science, north end of College of Southern Idaho campus, Twin Falls, \$4 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, \$2 for students and \$9 for families, 732-6655. Sawtooth Forum and Lecture Series, Clark

Heglar: "Them-Were-the-Days," by the Oldest Man in Idaho, 2 p.m., at Stanley museum and 8:30 p.m. campfire presentations at Redfish Lake Amphitheater, Sawtooth National Recreation area, five miles south of Stanley, no cost, (208) 608-8741 or vjw@stanley.com.

SPORTS

The 2008 Cowboy Classic American Legion Baseball tournament, with games 10 a.m., 12:30, 3:30 and 6:30 p.m., Walker Field, College of Southern Idaho campus, tickets \$5 for adults, \$3 for senior citizens, and \$2 for teens ages 13-19; tournament pass tickets: \$15 for individuals and \$35 for a family, snack bar available, 736-7677. Tony Danz Memorial Bull Riding, 7 p.m., Buhl Rodeo Grounds, 543-8682. Rupert PBR Enterprise Tour of professional bull riders, 8 p.m., Mindoka County Fairgrounds, 436-9420, 431-5478 or 431-4564. Halley Days of the Old West Rodeo, 7:30 p.m., Halley Fairgrounds, general admission: \$10, \$5 for children ages 2-12, and \$15 reserved seating, 309-2235.

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.

Times-News
PUBLISHER: David L. ...
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CIRCULATION: ...

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Tough

Continued from page A1

pretty bad break aid he'll probably walk with a pretty bad limp on it."

But six rodeos later, with the district's season headed to its finals in Jerome, something unthinkable happened.

Bridges' outstanding point earnings in the first four rodeos were enough to place him third in the all-around standings for the season, even though he missed the last half of the season due to injury. Even better, Bridges was healing well, his doctor told him.

The doctor agreed to sign off on a form allowing Bridges to compete only in team roping. He would get his chance to compete after all. His dad, with a bit of ingenuity with Bridges' right stirrup, would see to it that his son stayed on his horse.

Rick Hall, Bridges' coach, said it was difficult to "figure out ways to keep him in his saddle."

Bridges' speedy rebound has been marked by personal resilience, great support from his family, his coach and several women who all consider the father-reared teenager a bit like a son. During this arduous

time, the young star has excelled in academics, making the dean's list at College of Southern Idaho where he has taken dual credits.

Since Bridges first saw his father riding a bull in a rodeo, his eyes fixed on one goal: Be like dad. Become a professional rodeo cowboy he saw growing in his son. "That's been my lifetime dream," he said.

His dad, a welder who recently moved his family from Filer to east of Jerome, encouraged the ambition he saw growing in his son. But Joe also intersects fatherly advice to guide his son away from making hasty decisions.

Early on, he taught his son not to simply ride bulls, as many cowboys do, because well-rounded athletes participating in multiple events are more intriguing to college scouts. So his dad trained him to rope and ride, to be a header and a heeler, to bulldog a steer to the arena dirt and get back up, ready for the next go.

Today, Joe's advice to his son is: "You've got potential. Don't rush it."

"He's young and he's got plenty of time," Joe said. "He needs to get this deal taken care of. If he gets going too quick, this thing might not heat right."

Joe has to restrain himself, too, because his son is

also living out the rodeo dreams that were once his own.

"It's probably as good a kid as you'll ever want to know," Jim Meeks, a friend of the family, said. "He's smart. He's doing well academically ... His dad helped train him. His dad is incredible. This is not something this kid has done alone."

When he hopped back on his horse at the state finals, Bridges' hopes weren't alone either, as those who care about him saw their exuberance for their beloved young cowboy tempered with equal concern.

"His injury is not just a minor thing," Holly Hall said Tuesday. "If he were to do damage to it there won't be anything to fix. He is a typical teenager. Earlier today he was riding colts."

Holly is one of three women Bridges considers as "mother figures." Despite only knowing him a short time they care for him and cheerishes their support, he said.

"They helped me out quite a bit," Bridges said. "They say that I am a good kid and I have a lot of talent. They say that I have the ability to go a long way."

Cassidy Friedman may be reached at 208-735-3241 or cfriedman@magiclevel.com.

Unemployment

Continued from page A1

Businesses, especially small ones, continued struggling with escalating operating costs and declining consumer confidence.

Employers reported only 17,500 new hires in June, the lowest number for June in over a decade.

The economy slowed in all areas of Idaho, but the most significant drop was in metropolitan Boise. Of the 11,200 fewer people

working in June compared to a year ago, 9,100 of them lived in the five-county metro area.

The loss of construction and high-tech jobs in the last year has had a dramatic impact on not only the state's economy but the Boise economy specifically.

Although some sectors like health care reported job growth from May, it was not enough to meet the demand of people seeking work.

The number of available seasonal jobs decreased as employers limited hiring because of uncertainty over customer demand. Tourism-related industries that normally see a significant increase in summer jobs only showed modest gains, meaning fewer jobs for students.

County Clearwater reported the highest unemployment rate in Idaho for the month of June at 6.4 percent. Boundary County reported the lowest at 2.9 percent.

Case

Continued from page A1

Judge Randy Stoker decided Thursday prosecutors can bring that evidence into trial.

In that earlier alleged incident, a police officer found Gorbenko-Kutran's children at home, unattended, with a standing lamp on, covered by material hot to the touch, Sturgill told the court Wednesday.

Gorbenko-Kutran was charged with injury to a child, which prosecutors reduced to maintaining a disorderly house.

Gorbenko-Kutran was fined \$175.

She was also ordered to complete parenting classes and taught to leave children with babysitters or daycare, Sturgill told the court.

The prior incident shows Gorbenko-Kutran did not leave her kids alone on mistake, Sturgill said.

After the fatal fire, Gorbenko-Kutran allegedly said, "I've had the training," Sturgill told the court.

The fatal February fire started from smoking on a deck, Sturgill said.

Gorbenko-Kutran, who speaks Russian and lived in Italy was culturally accustomed to letting children

bathe sit each other without adult supervision, Sturgill conceded. She was also on a limited income, receiving food stamps at the time of her arrest.

Judge Stoker recently made a similar ruling in a child abuse case involving a daycare operator charged with injuring a baby. In that case, prosecutors alleged the daycare owner, Betty Bridwell, previously abused a different child — information Stoker ruled could be brought into trial. The case later ended in a plea agreement.

Gorbenko-Kutran's trial is set to begin Aug. 19.

Plan

Continued from page A1

strengthening protections on lands in the Boulder and White Clouds mountains of central Idaho, Gilbert said, as well as loosening restrictions in forests where road-building and tree removal has been allowed in the past.

"We're making quite a few modifications to the rule based on those comments," Gilbert said.

More than 50 environmental organizations earlier attacked a draft of Idaho's proposed roadless plan, saying it could set a bad precedent for roadless areas in other states. A report that

the Center for Biological Diversity released in March argued that Idaho's new rule would allow eight times more logging than a 2001 federal rule for roadless areas.

The Roadless Area Conservation Rule that former President Bill Clinton issued before leaving office in January 2001 banned development and road building on almost one-third of the nation's 192 million acres of national forest land.

The ban included road building and logging on 58 million acres of remote national forests, mostly in the West, where Idaho's 9.3 million acres of roadless area

is second only to Alaska, a state with 14.6 million acres of roadless area.

The Bush administration repealed the rule in 2005, allowing states to petition the federal government when their own management plans for individual forests. Some states, including Washington, Oregon and California, have sued to challenge the Bush administration policy. Idaho submitted a roadless plan in 2006.

At least one of the environmental groups that criticized a draft of the plan, the Idaho Conservation League, is pleased with recent changes the Forest Service has made in response to public concerns.

Utah

Continued from page A1

executive-branch employees. It will not cover state police officers, prison guards or employees of the courts or Utah's public universities. Also, state-run liquor stores will stay open on Fridays.

The compressed workweek in Utah whose motto is "Industry" and whose official symbol is the beehive, representing thrift and perseverance — could prove inconvenient to those who need to use state services and find certain offices closed on Fridays.

Also, some parents may have to rearrange their child care to accommodate their longer hours, and bus and commuter train schedules might have to be adjusted.

But many are excited about the idea.

"I'm thrilled," said Rose Kenworthy, 58, an executive secretary at the Utah Department of Environmental Quality. "Now I can do anything I want. I can have lunch with my friends, spend time with my grandchildren or just chill out."

Sheldon Wood, 48, who writes property tax software,

plans on using his three-day weekends to go into the mountains to hike and bike with his wife, also a state employee.

Turning off the lights, the heat and the air conditioning on Fridays in 1,000 of 3,000 government buildings will save about \$3 million a year out of a state budget of

\$11 billion, according to the governor's spokeswoman, Lisa Roskelley.

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'Go-arounds' are possible safety hazard

By David Porter
Associated Press writer

NEWARK, N.J. — A United Airlines jetliner was coming in for a landing at the Las Vegas airport in 2006 when the tower noticed that a smaller plane was still crossing the runway.

So the United pilot executed a "go-around," a routine maneuver in which an incoming plane pulls up at the last minute and circles around. But the jet suddenly found itself on a collision course with an American Airlines plane taking off from an intersecting runway.

The United crew took a hard right turn, the American flight veered off in the other direction, and disaster was averted. But the near-collision offered a frightening vision of what can happen during a go-around at the nation's busiest airports.

An Associated Press review of tower logs and summaries from eight of the nation's busiest airports, obtained through the Freedom of Information Act, found more than 1,500 go-arounds, during the last six months of 2007 alone.

Go-arounds haven't been blamed for any crashes or midair collisions involving commercial airliners over the past three decades, according to a review of National Transportation Safety Board records. Still, there have been some close calls, and controllers worry that without more safeguards, a deadly accident is going to happen.

"We can go 80 percent of the time and not have a problem. But it only takes one," said John Wallin, president of the air traffic controllers union at Memphis.

In a small number of cases, go-arounds are prompted by "runway incursions" — instances in which taxiing planes or ground vehicles blunder onto a runway in use. However, the vast majority of go-arounds are the result of congestion at major airports, where planes often land and depart every two minutes during peak times.

"We're trained in that maneuver, so it's not a tense situation," said Ralph Parsons, a commercial pilot for more than 20 years who now flies for Continental. "But you have to really be on

the ball; you can't be complacent about it."

Some controllers want the Federal Aviation Administration to take extra precautions such as staggering arriving flights and not using crisscross runways simultaneously.

The FAA said that it is looking at its procedures on a case-by-case basis — and has altered or abandoned some practices — but that the public is in no immediate danger.

In recent months, federal authorities have investigated go-around procedures at three of the nation's busiest hubs:

- Newark Liberty International Airport, where three runways intersect at the northeast corner of the airport and planes often have to be sent around when two of them approach intersecting runways at the same time;

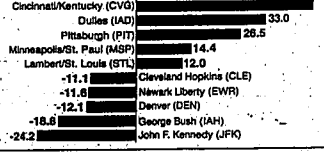
- Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport, where a go-around procedure was discontinued this spring after air traffic controllers warned it was putting planes directly into the path of planes taking off from another runway;

- Memphis International Airport, where changes were made last year after an arriving Northwest Airlines DC-9 flew close to a commuter plane that had been forced to go around because of a mechanical problem.

JFK most improved in airport traffic

Among the busiest U.S. airports, John F. Kennedy International has had the biggest decrease in traffic, while Cincinnati Northern Kentucky saw the largest increase in recent years.

Change in U.S. airport traffic, 2005-2007



SOURCE: FlightStats

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Cremated remains part of fireworks show

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — One of the fireworks bursting above the city this year will contain a bit of cremated remains — a fitting tribute, organizers say, to the man who ran the annual event for 40 years.

Meredith Smith died in February at age 74. About a half-teaspoon of his ashes will be in a fireworks shell that will create a white burst in the sky for the finale of the show, set for Thursday night.

"I can't think of a better way," said family friend Kevin Moss.

He also will be memorialized through hundreds of T-shirts referring to the tribute as "the last shot."

Smith, a school maintenance worker, was a trained pyrotechnician. His widow, Charlotte, said they started the fireworks shows as a community service and sometimes paid for them themselves.

"Meredith felt like the people in this area didn't get the opportunities that other people got, and so he wanted to give them the opportunity," she said.

The release of the ashes shouldn't harm public health, said John Althoff of the Health and Hospital Corp. of Marion County.

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Pentagon extends tour of Marines in Afghanistan

By Lofia C. Baker
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon has extended the tour of 2,200 Marines in Afghanistan, after insisting for months the unit would come home on time.

The 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit, which is doing combat operations in the volatile south, will stay an extra 30 days and come home in early November rather than October, Marine Col. David Lapan confirmed Thursday.

Military leaders as recently as Wednesday stressed the need for additional troops in Afghanistan. Adm. Mike Mullen, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, has often praised the work of the 24th MEU in fighting Taliban militants in Afghanistan.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates, however, has repeatedly said he did not intend to extend or replace the U.S. Marines in Afghanistan, calling their deployment there an extraordinary, one-time effort

to help tamp down the increasing violence in the south.

Asked about the possibility of an extension in early May, Gates said he would "be loathe to do that." He added that "no one has suggested even the possibility of extending that rotation."

Lapan said Thursday that commanders in Afghanistan asked that the Marines stay longer.

Pentagon press secretary Geoff Morrell said the longer tour does not open the door to an extension beyond the 30 days, nor to the possibility of replacing them with other U.S. troops when they come out in November. "This is a slight addition to this tour and nothing more," he said.

He added that commanders in Afghanistan "asked for 30 more days to milk the fighting season to the bitter end and cement the gains they have made in the south."

was being ordered to Afghanistan, largely because efforts to press other NATO nations to increase their troop levels at the time had failed.

At the same time, about 1,000 members of the 2nd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, which is based at Twentynine Palms, Calif., was ordered to deploy also. That unit has been used to train Afghan security forces. As a result of the MEU's extended deployment, Marines from both units are now expected to return home at about the same time.

Commanders faced with increasing violence have said they need at least 7,500 more troops in Afghanistan.

And President Bush and defense officials have said they hope to identify additional units by the end of the year that could go to

Afghanistan early next year.

The Pentagon has said that more U.S. forces cannot be sent to the Afghan fight until decisions are made to further reduce troop levels in Iraq. In the last two months, violence

in Afghanistan has led to more U.S. and coalition casualties there than in Iraq, and June was the deadliest month for U.S. troops in Afghanistan since the war began.

"The Taliban and their sup-

porters have, without question, grown more effective and more aggressive in recent weeks ... as the casualty figures clearly demonstrate," Mullen told a Pentagon press conference Wednesday.

Unauthorized snooping of passports raises alarms at State Dept.

By Paul Richter
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — A federal investigation of unauthorized snooping into government passport files has found evidence that such breaches might be far more common than previously disclosed and urged an overhaul of the program's management.

A report issued Thursday by the State Department's inspector general found "many control weaknesses" in the department's administration program, including what investigators said was a lack of sound policies on accessing the electronic records, training staff and disciplining those who broke privacy rules.

The investigation was launched in March after it was disclosed that government workers and contract employees had snooped in the files of Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Sen. Barack Obama and Sen. John McCain.

To assess the extent of the breach, investigators assembled a sample of 150 famous Americans, including athletes, politicians and entertainers, and examined how many times their files in a government database were viewed over six years. Of the 150 celebrities, the files of 85 percent were accessed at least once; the files were accessed a total of 4,148 times. Nine files were opened more than 101 times.

The report did not try to assess which of the "hits" were unauthorized, but it said that the 85 percent rate "appears to be excessive."

State Department officials did not identify the celebrities whose files were included. More than 20,500 federal and contract employees have access to the records database, including State Department staff and officials involved in investigations, security assessments and other analyses, the report said.

Five persons have been fired. Officials said they were continuing to investigate whether additional personnel had violated procedures or federal privacy laws and deserved punishment.

Michael Kirby, a senior official in the Bureau of Consular Affairs, said officials "are reviewing the circumstances under which people looked at these records, and we will take action."

The initial disclosure of the presidential candidates' files raised questions about whether administration officials might have been looking for embarrassing information for partisan political reasons. But officials say they have found no such evidence.

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EDITORIAL

Forgotten miners are T.F.'s unsung heroes

He died in darkness beneath a strange town, and we don't even know his name.

Twin Falls Canal Company records identify him only as "WVA employee, killed in tunnel accident in 1933." WVA stands for the Works Project Administration, which was a federal program instituted during the Great Depression to provide jobs to Americans who couldn't find them anywhere else.

The anonymous miner was one of at least 20 men killed digging a 21.6-mile network of tunnels under Twin Falls to drain saturated farmland.

There's nothing — no plaque, no statue, no monument — that honors their sacrifices. There ought to be.

After the completion of Milner Dam in 1905, Snake River water was diverted to irrigate crops around the townsite.

The desert bloomed, but the canal company soon learned that water couldn't drain quickly through the basalt rock under the soil. It wasn't long before farmers were losing boots trying to walk through the mud in their fields.

So the company hired more than 350 men over a quarter-century to dig 49 tunnels under the city. Diggers were paid as little as \$5 per foot. Most of the men who were killed died when explosives detonated prematurely.

Many who hired on were displaced miners from Butte, Mont., who had lost their jobs when copper prices cratered at less than a nickel a pound during the winter of 1932-33 — one-third the price it sold for just two years earlier.

The canal company lists the names of eight of the dead, although Manager Brian Olmstead says there may be more names in old records.

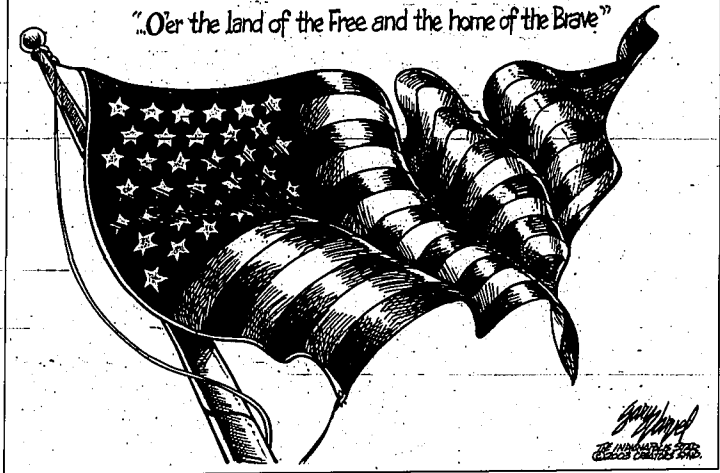
Albert Wavra and Jack Sorenson were killed in a tunnel-blasting accident in 1936, and Garland Curly died in a similar mishap two years later. In 1930, Harley Gambrel was buried in a cave-in, while Benton Reece was killed in a tunnel accident in 1942.

Two men, Fred Greason and Johnny Denardis, died in 1936 from pneumonia contracted in the damp tunnels.

Without them, Twin Falls as we know it probably wouldn't exist. Technology was primitive, mining techniques were unsuited to the challenges of the task, and local geology poorly understood.

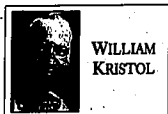
It was a dirty job done by strangers in claustrophobic conditions for almost nothing. They deserve our gratitude, and more.

The next public art erected in Twin Falls ought to be dedicated to the tunnelers. After all, they are the forgotten heroes who made I.B. Perrine's Big Idea work.



Honor and the Declaration of Independence

Half a century ago the philosopher Leo Strauss remarked that the passage in which the Declaration of Independence proclaims its self-evident truths "has frequently been quoted, but, by its weight and its elevation, it is made immune to the degrading effects of the excessive familiarity which breeds contempt and of misuse which breeds disgust."



WILLIAM KRISTOL

I've had occasion to test this claim. The last few years, we've spent July 4 at the house of friends who have had the assembled company read the entire declaration. It's a longer document than one thinks; the charges against the king take quite a while to get through.

But I can report from first-hand experience that the declaration as a whole, and not just its most famous phrases, remains remarkably immune to the degrading effects of excessive familiarity. I was doubtful at first that reading the declaration would enhance the overall beer-and-hamburger experience of the day. But the effort has proved more thought-provoking and patriotism-stirring than I expected.

So this year, perhaps pressing our luck (and patience), I'm thinking of proposing the reading of an additional text: Thomas Jefferson's letter to Roger Weightman of June 24, 1826. With regret, the 83-year-old Jefferson wrote that his ill health compelled him to

decline the invitation to travel to Washington for the celebration of the 50th anniversary of American Independence. But then, perhaps knowing this would be his final word, Jefferson sets forth in stirring prose his faith in the universal significance of the Declaration of Independence: "May it be to the world, what I believe it will be, to some parts sooner, to others later, but finally to all, the signal of arousing men to burst the chains, under which monkish ignorance and superstition had persuaded them to bind themselves, and to assume the blessings and security of self-government."

Jefferson claims his faith is based on the progress of enlightenment. He is confident that "all eyes are opened, or opening, to the rights of man." Indeed, "The general spread of the light of science has already laid open to every view, the palpable truth, that the mass of mankind has not been born with saddles on their backs, nor a favored few booted and spurred, ready to ride them legitimately, by the grace of God."

overtly sanguine that the spread of the light of science would necessarily strengthen the cause of human rights. But even the optimistic Jefferson was well aware that the enemies of liberty and equality could regroup and resist — certainly abroad, perhaps even at home.

That's one reason he trusted that "the annual return of this day" would "forever refresh our recollections of these rights, and an undiminished devotion to them." Our devotion — and the sacrifices inspired by that devotion — are needed to make effectual the palpable truth of human equality.

The fate of equality, Jefferson makes clear, also depends on those who see further than, and act first on behalf of, their fellow citizens. In the letter, Jefferson pays tribute to his fellow signers — "that host of worthies, who joined with us on that day, in the bold and doubtful election we were to make for our country, between submission or the sword." He wishes he could meet with the few of that band who still survived "to have enjoyed with them the consolatory fact, that our fellow citizens, after half a century of experience and prosperity, continue to approve the choice we made."

So the signers of the declaration made the bold and doubtful choice for independence. Their fellow citizens ratified the choice. But they might have been slow to act if the worthies had not

moved first.

For, as the declaration itself notes, "all experience hath shown, that mankind are more disposed to suffer, while evils are sufferable, than to right themselves by abolishing the forms to which they are accustomed." The people are conservative. Liberty sometimes requires the bold leadership of a few individuals.

Perhaps that's why the representatives, who have signed on behalf of "the good people" of the colonies, "mutually pledge to each other" their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor in support of the declaration. Their pledge isn't to the people. The pledge is an individual one by the signers to one another.

And the pledge has to be supported by a sense of honor — even of sacred honor. The declaration's assertion of equal rights, one may say, is supported by what is necessarily unequal, the sense of honor of those acting on the people's behalf. Shortly after writing the letter to Weightman, Jefferson died at home in Monticello. On that very same day — the 50th anniversary of the declaration, July 4, 1826 — Quincy, Mass., Jefferson's fellow drafter and signer John Adams also died. Yet as Adams reportedly said on his deathbed, "Thomas Jefferson survives."

William Kristol is a columnist for The New York Times.

Times-News

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The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, James G. Wright, Steve Crump and Bill Blitzenburg.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Veterans groups didn't honor a fallen member

A family member passed away last week who had served as a Marine. He always stated that when he died, he wanted a 21-gun salute. We as his family wanted his wishes followed; however, the local veterans did not see it the same way. When contacted, they did agree to do the honors, but when the funeral procession arrived at Sunset Memorial Cemetery, we were informed by the last remaining veteran that they were not going

to do the 21-gun salute and flag presentation because they got tired of waiting and had already left. One remaining veteran stayed long enough to inform us, then left, refusing to assist. The funeral did not start until 1 p.m. We arrived at the cemetery at about 2:30 p.m. Sunset Memorial Cemetery did have plenty of shade, water and chairs available for the veterans. The staff of Sunset and White's Mortuary went above and beyond to take care of the whole family. Dustin, of White Mortuary,

was professional enough that he and Rod, of Sunset, did the flag presentation and did a wonderful job. They should never have been put in the position to do the presentation. Shame on the local veterans. Herb would never have left anyone of you behind; in fact, he would have died trying to save you. But I guess that same dedication doesn't exist in everyone. I do have a request: My mother is very upset, not only at the loss of her husband but with the actions of the local veterans, and I am

requesting that anyone interested in giving Herb his last rights, a 21-gun salute and flag presentation, please contact us. He deserves it, as does every member of the United States Armed Forces. RAMONA BARNSWORTH Flter
Veterans do their best when it comes to funerals
This letter is in response to the letter written about "Blatant disrespect for one who fought for the nation" by Ms. Rhonda Clark of

Zillah, Wash. First off, I am a retired veteran, serving 23 years for my country. I am a paid-up member of the American Legion Post 41 in Wendell. My first question to Ms. Clark is, was her stepfather a member of a veterans organization? If he was, I'm sure she would have had a better response. Our organization has about 800 members, but we only have about 15 members who do all the work. While we do have funerals for all veterans, we are more enthusiastic when they are members.

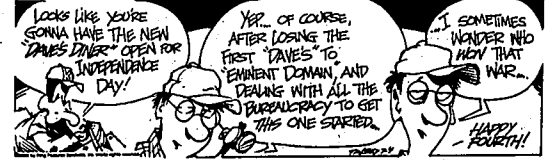
While I sympathize with Ms. Clark for the loss of her stepfather and am not excusing what happened in her case, she needs to know that we are expected to do military honors in all kinds of weather and, most of the time, we do not receive a donation to our veterans organization and, more often than not, do not even receive a "Thank You." I am 70 years old and most of our members are older than that. Enough said. JAMES F. CROUSON Wendell

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

Doonesbury



Mallard Fillmore



By Garry Trudeau

By Bruce Tinsley

How can an immigrant nation lose its identity?

WASHINGTON — Just in time for Independence Day, a conservative think tank has delivered a controversial report that questions whether America's national identity is eroding under the pressure of population diversity and educational slackness.



DAVID BRODER

The threat outlined by the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation in its report, "E Pluribus Unum" strikes me as a bit exaggerated. But at a time when Barack Obama and John McCain find themselves debating the "patriotism issue," having a coherent discussion of this matter — and this short pamphlet is admirably written and well-researched — is a useful contribution.

The takeoff point for the argument is an observation about the uniqueness of America that was made by Thomas Jefferson — and by myriad other worthies in the centuries since then. They all have drawn attention to the fact that, unlike other countries, America's national identity rests "not on a common ethnicity, but on a set of ideas."

And so, the Bradley scholars say "knowing that America stands for is not a genetic inheritance. It must be learned, both by the next generation and by those who come to this country. In this way, a nation founded on an idea is inherently fragile."

The ideas that define this country are found in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution, as amplified by Supreme Court decisions and statutes in subsequent years. Those ideas have been tested in crisis and in war, and the leaders who steered the nation through those testing times are the heroes whose legacy we celebrate — Washington, Lincoln, the two Roosevelts. What disturbs the Bradley scholars is the evidence that our generation is failing to educate the next one on the essentials of the American experiment. "On the 2006 National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) Civics Test," the report notes, "the majority of eighth graders could not explain the purpose of the Declaration of Independence. Only 5 percent of seniors could accurately describe the way presidential power can be checked by Congress and the Supreme Court." The authors

also decry the fact that most colleges and universities allow students to graduate without ever taking a comprehensive course in American history and government.

On this point, I think they have plenty of company — all across the political spectrum. But they have many other critics and a variety of suggestions. Some are trivial, such as scrapping Presidents' Day and bringing back Washington's and Lincoln's Birthday holidays. Others are sweeping and controversial, such as telling all colleges and universities to open their campuses to the ROTC.

When it comes to the treatment of immigrants, the Bradley team sees a real threat in such things as multilingual ballots and bilingual classes.

Such accommodations to the growing diversity of the population could lead to many Americas, or even no America at all, they maintain. "Historical ignorance, civic neglect and social fragmentation might achieve what a foreign invader could not."

That degree of pessimism seems unwarranted. The authorities quoted in this report, most of them drawn from conservative academia, manage to overlook the evi-

dence that there is still plenty of vitality in the American system.

Young people may not know the Constitution as well as we would like, but they found their way to the polling places in record numbers this year and joined enthusiastically in many campaigns. And they volunteered for all kinds of good works in their communities.

"I have not worried about the fundamental commitment of the American people since 1974. In that year, they were confronted with the stunning evidence that their president had conducted a criminal conspiracy out of the Oval Office. In response, the American people reminded Richard Nixon, the man they had just re-elected, that they were not to be abused. To a second term, that in this country, no one, not even the president, is above the law. And they required him to yield the office."

That is not the sign of a nation that has lost its sense of values or forgotten the principles on which this system rests. And that is something worth celebrating, not more than the fourth of July.

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

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Vet organization did fail in its duty to soldier

In response to the honor guard letter submitted July 3:

I received a call from Mr. Sorenson's grandson the day my letter was submitted. I encouraged him to write a letter to explain his side of why such had happened. Unfortunately, the letter contained excuses and accusations different from our phone conversation. I found out after I submitted my letter and speaking to Stanley Sorenson III that Mr. Sorenson did wait for us at the cemetery and when asked if he would stay and perform the flag-folding rite, he said he would not and left, leaving the cemetery and mortuary personnel as painfully as possible. The honor guard of folding the American flag, a feat they had never previously performed.

Might I note, they did a wonderful job and by doing so had displayed more respect, honor and bravery than those veterans (for whom were provided shade, chairs and ice

water for their comfort) that left a "fallen soldier" without an honorable military burial.

I never once implied in my letter disrespect to our American veterans or imply that I did not appreciate what every veteran had and has endured, so that we may have our frustrations and our disappointment and frustration toward local "organizations" of military services in disrespecting my stepfather and his family in refusing to help, even after obvious misunderstandings, as you did when refusing to stay and fold the American flag, which represents the freedoms you speak about during the burial ceremony.

Please refrain from adding insult to the injury coming today. I did imply arrogance as you have in your reply. Your organization did fail my stepdad, and nothing you say excuses such actions.

Regardless, my stepfather will be honored on the fourth of July.
RHONDA CLARK
Zillah, Wash.

www.magicvalley.com

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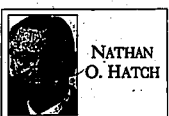
The Kimberly Lions Club invite your entry for the 2008 Good Neighbor Day Parade or Financial Support for the Benefit Dinner
Please visit www.kimberlylions.com for more info and registrations forms

For more information call Lion Dave at 731-5588

Time to deemphasize the make-or-break SAT

The College Board amended its policy on reporting SAT scores this month in an effort to reduce stress on student test takers. While all scores are currently reported to colleges, students apply to, starting with the Class of 2010 students who take college entrance examination multiple times will be able to control which of their scores admissions officers see. Even then, the policy change means that students who want to attend Wake Forest University won't have to worry quite so much about the exam that most universities rely on so heavily.

lated with family income but not with college grades. In fact, the SAT was the poorest predictor of college performance when compared with high school grades and performance on subject tests. Other studies have found that such factors as high school class ranking, the strength of the high school course load are better predictors. A 2007 analysis of national data sets, for example, showed that colleges can attain both academic excellence and social diversity if they base admissions on high school grade-point average and class rank but not if they depend on SAT scores.



NATHAN O. HATCH

and evaluated the essays, and weighed a range of factors. But we thought that our SAT requirement sent students the opposite message — that in the end what counted was performance on a standardized test.

So, starting with the coming year's admission cycle, a standardized test score will no longer be mandatory for admission to Wake Forest. Instead, we will be adding more personalized elements, including a recommended personal interview and additional opportunities to demonstrate individuality. Students can send us their SAT scores if they want them to be considered in the evaluation process, but they will not be required.

This step aligns our admission policies with our mission as a university. By opening doors even wider to qualified students from all backgrounds and circumstances, we believe we are sending a powerful message of inclusion and advocating for democracy of access to higher education. We also hope it will advance the emerging

national discussion of equal opportunity, quality and the SAT, and perhaps renew higher education's role in achieving the American dream.

Nathan O. Hatch is president of Wake Forest University. He wrote this commentary for The Washington Post.

Last month, Wake Forest dropped the SAT and ACT as an entrance requirement, becoming the only top-30 national university to test-optional policy. This step away from standardized tests will help us and other institutions of higher education move closer to the goals of better education, quality and opportunity.

Our decision to re-evaluate our admissions policy grew out of a close look at the state of higher education and some long, hard thinking about the kind of university we want Wake Forest to be. For several years, a growing body of research has made clear that American colleges and universities are doing a poor job of helping some young people realize a critical part of the American dream: that anyone, regardless of where he or she begins in life, has the chance to rise to the top.

For all of these reasons, some of the nation's top small liberal arts colleges — Bates, Hamilton, Holy Cross, Middlebury and Bowdoin — have moved away from the SAT and achieved greater diversity and quality in their student bodies. By making the SAT optional at Wake Forest University, we hope to encourage the momentum for change among the nation's most selective institutions.

Above all, however, we want to ensure that Wake Forest is true to its ideals and mission. We are well prepared, because this is a place that prizes its commitment to opportunity. We have always reviewed every application to Wake Forest, read

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TWIN FALLS OK AUTO SYSTEMS 883 BLUE LAKES RD. LYNNWOOD MALL 1147 FILER AVE. E. JIFFY LUBE 1598 BLUE LAKES BLVD. NEXT TO SWEHWART GROCERY OUTLET (TEXT) SWENSON'S 801 WASHINGTON SOUTH MASSING TEMPLE (TEXT) CORNER BLUE LAKES & FALLS

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AMERICANS: Have you ever read the book 'A Tree Grows In Brooklyn'? Of no relation to endless human strife in Brooklyn, here in Twin Falls a small green, tenacious KCCilia weed has been growing for six weeks dead-center of the Fourth-Ave. and Elm St. Intersection.

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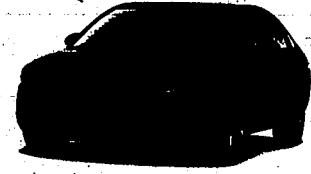


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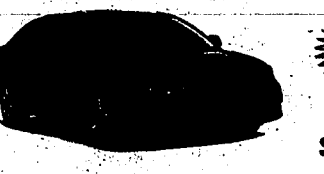


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INSIDE: Local roundup, B2 | Scoreboard, B3 | Golf, B4 | Weather & Dear Abby, B4

PIGSKIN PROGNOSTICATIONS: PART I

REGIONAL COLLEGE FOOTBALL

A look at what preview magazines are saying about BYU, Utah, Utah State and Idaho State



BYU

There's no doubt that Cougar fans expect something close to a perfect season in 2008, with all of last season's unexpected offensive stars returning and a schedule that's just challenging enough for BYU to have a realistic BCS opportunity ... (If defensive questions are answered) BYU should win another MWC title and, this time, find itself in the BCS mix.

—Athlon

Non-conference games against Washington and UCLA will go a long way in determining whether BYU draws the BCS berth grabbed by unbeaten WAC teams in the past two seasons ... The conference title — and a BCS berth — might rest on the season-ender at rival Utah. BYU has the talent to get it done, though.

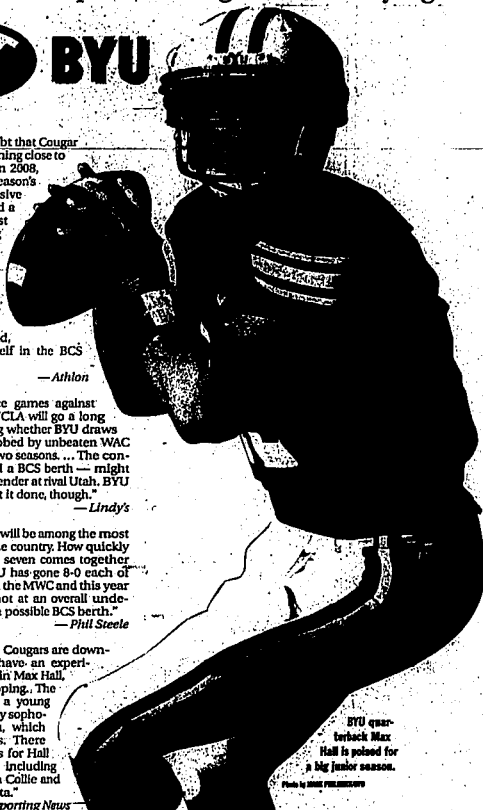
—Lindy's

The Cougars ... will be among the most potent attacks in the country. How quickly the defensive back seven comes together will be the key. BYU has gone 8-0 each of the last two years in the MWC and this year has a legitimate shot at an overall undefeated season and a possible BCS berth.

—Phil Steele

Offensively, the Cougars are downright scary. They have an experienced quarterback in Max Hall, who is still developing. The Cougars also have a young running game, led by sophomore Harvey Unga, which pounds opponents. There are plenty of targets for Hall to play catch with, including wide receiver Austin Collie and tight end Dennis Pitta.

—Sporting News



BYU quarterback Max Hall is poised for a big junior season.



UTAH

Under coach Kyle Whittingham, the Utah Utes have proven they can finish strong. This year, the Utes want to start fast and keep going ... With a veteran offense and a young, but fast and talented defense ... the Utes believe they can put everything together this season from start to finish.

—Athlon

In the conference, there is absolutely no reason why Utah won't be in the title hunt until the final gun in the season-finales against BYU. This should be Whittingham's best team.

—Lindy's

Four of my eight sets of power ratings call for Utah to go unbeaten as they have the talent and the schedule to possibly get back to a BCS bowl.

—Phil Steele



Utah running back Darrell Mack is ready for a big senior season.

Courtesy: University of Utah

Quarterback Brian Johnson figures to be a target of every opposing defense and will have to prove he has the durability to make it through an entire campaign without mishap. If he can, Utah is good enough to challenge BYU for the top spot in the Mountain West.

—Sporting News

How they pick 'em

Preseason predictions from each magazine for regional teams. BYU, Utah and Utah State with each team's projected conference finish and national ranking in parentheses. BYU and Utah play in the Mountain West Conference with Utah State competing in the Western Athletic Conference.

Team	BYU	Utah	Utah State
Athlon	1 (4)	2 (3)	3 (17)
Lindy's	1 (12)	2 (3)	3 (11)
Phil Steele	1 (1)	2 (2)	3 (16)

Coming Saturday



Coming Sunday



USU

The fact the Aggies have won only three games over the past two seasons has the dwindling faithful restless. It will not get any easier for Utah State, as another tough schedule awaits with seven opponents that made it to bowl games a year ago.

—Athlon

Brent Guy is on the hot seat as he enters his fourth season ... The Aggies should be better this year, but the schedule and the strength of the WAC's upper echelon likely will relegate them to another lower-third finish.

—Lindy's

The Aggies will field by far their best defense yet under Guy, but do play a tough schedule with conference games versus Oregon, Utah, and BYU and appear headed for another losing season.

—Phil Steele

The Aggies showed signs of improvement by winning their final two games last fall, and optimism is high in the Cache Valley with the return of 15 starters, including nine on defense, and nearly 100 players showing up for spring workouts.

—Sporting News



Utah State linebacker Jake Hattson looks to lead the Aggies in 2008.



ISU

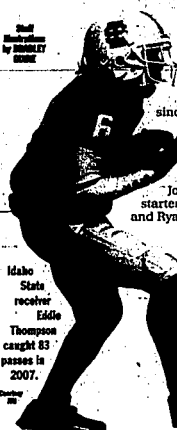


Idaho State hasn't had a winning season since 2003 but returns eight starters on offense, including Eddie Thompson, who caught 83 passes for 907 yards and earned an honorable mention to the All-America team. The Bengals will miss All-Big Sky running back Josh Barnett, but they have six defensive starters returning, led by linebackers Brad Rife and Ryan Phipps and cornerback D.J. Clark.

—Sporting News

How they pick the Bengals and the Big Sky

Only Lindy's and Sporting News offer predictions for Football Championship Series (formerly Division I-AA) teams. Both magazines pick Idaho State to wind up seventh in the Big Sky Conference. Montana and Eastern Washington are expected to vie for the Big Sky crown, with Montana State the best of the rest. Weber State is picked fifth by Sporting News and eighth by Lindy's.



Idaho State receiver Eddie Thompson caught 83 passes in 2007.

'Super' holiday on the track at M.V. Speedway

By Linda Brittain
Correspondent



TWIN FALLS — It has been three years since the Super Modifieds have ignited the one-third mile track, but the high horsepower open wheel vehicles will be ready for blast-off this evening at Magic Valley Speedway.

Rick Venstra, who retired at the end of last season from the series, put on a demonstration last Saturday to spark the interest of the fans in the stands who may never

have witnessed what the cars are capable of on the asphalt track.

"The cars are all hand-built," car owner Pat Russell of Hagerman said. "Most of the guys are running 410 cubic inch all-aluminum engines, and the speeds will get close to 130 mph here."

Please see MVS, Page B2



Twin Falls Cowboy's shortstop, Remington Pullin (12) sports in West here against the Boise Gems Thursday evening in Twin Falls.

Cowboys come back to earth

By David Bashore
Staff writer

Tim Stadelmeier said that the Twin Falls Cowboys wouldn't have sustained success in the Cowboy Classic without stepping up their pitching and defense.

Twin Falls apparently didn't heed the message, at least not on Thursday night.

For the second straight evening, the Cowboys got behind early, and this time there was no frantic comeback on the cards as they fell to the Boise Gems 8-2 at Skip Walker Field.

Boise plated five runs and sent 10 batters to the plate in the second inning to provide more than enough offensive ammunition for starter Braden Tullis, who scattered six hits and allowed a pair of runs to pick up the complete-game

win. He also helped himself out with a double, the only Gems extra-base hit of the game.

"It's always nice when a pitcher gets run support, because it helps take a bit of the weight off their shoulders," said Tullis, who picked up the Gems' second win of the day following a 1-0 win over Utah Select. "Driving down here I think affected our batting, so it was nice to get that morale booster to take with us into the rest of the tournament."

Boise played its first game in the late afternoon heat immediately before the Twin Falls game, when temperatures

Please see CLASSIC, Page B2

Cowboys earn two wins at Pepsi tourney in Boise

Staff report

The Twin Falls Cowboys Class A squad overcame an early wobble to pull and a day in the scorching heat to beat Centennial and Columbia at the Pepsi Tournament in Boise on Thursday.

After leaving town at 5 a.m., the Cowboys hammered Centennial 15-1 in a morning game before overcoming four errors to claim a 10-8 win over Columbia in a contest played at Capital High School.

Twin Falls blasted 16 hits against

Centennial. Heath Stewart, Brian Bartlett and Cody McBride each went 2-for-4 with doubles, while Zack Van Loon was 2-for-5 with a double. Jared Jordan tripled in the win. Scott Spener struck out five batters and allowed scattered five hits in a complete-game effort.

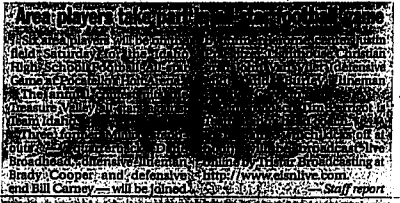
Jordan was 3-for-5 in the win over Columbia, which saw the Cowboys fall behind 5-0 after one inning. But Kyle Mealer settled down on the mound. Cy Sneed was solid in relief and Twin Falls moved to 21-5 overall.

The Cowboys play two more games

today at the tourney, beginning with an 11:45 a.m. matchup against Nampa at Capital High. Twin Falls also visits Borah for an 8 p.m. game.

Twin Falls 15, Centennial 1
Twin Falls 0:33 0:20 - 2:38 5
Cody Sneed (5) and Aaron Walker (4) pitched. Heath Stewart (2) and Zack Van Loon (2) hit home runs. Heath Stewart (2) and Zack Van Loon (2) hit home runs.

Twin Falls 10, Columbia 8
Twin Falls 0:33 0:20 - 2:38 5
Cody Sneed (5) and Aaron Walker (4) pitched. Heath Stewart (2) and Zack Van Loon (2) hit home runs.



Boys' baseball players are seen during a game at the Pepsi Tournament in Boise. (Staff report)

Super

Continued from page B1

"They are designed to be a short track car and this track is in good shape. It's a little tight, but not as tight as some of them have run on."

The driver of the No. 91 car this season is former Rocky Mountain Challenge Series competitor Bryan Wurf of Nampa, who is looking forward to racing at a track where he has collected a wealth of experience.

"I probably have more laps at Magic Valley Speedway than all the other drivers in this series combined," Wurf said. "But this class is very different than the Rocky Mountain series. The Super Modifieds don't weigh as much, have probably a third more horsepower and go around the track about two seconds faster. But I'm sure going to try and set a track record tonight."

For those interested in jumping into the Super Modified world of racing and have no concerns with funding, the news is good.

"From my experience, right now it costs in the neighborhood of about \$33,000 to build the engine and about another \$20,000 or so for the chassis," said Russell, who has been building cars in the sport for more than 30 years.

The Super Modified Racing Association is a traveling series and will visit Rocky Mountain Raceway in Salt Lake City, Madem Speedway in Northern California and Meridian Speedway, as well as putting in their single appearance at MVS this year.

"As a traveling series thing we have been tough this season with the fuel prices and all," admitted series director Ben Beval. "But Twin Falls has always supported us. The fans and the promoters have always treated us well and we like to track tracks where we have had successful shows in the past."

MVS Point Standings

- Pepsi Premier:** 1. Rob Vest 1,084, 2. Shelby Stroebel 1,034, 3. Rick Fowler 909, 4. Jonathan Gomez 854, 5. Steve Fisher 822.
- Budweiser Super Stocks:** 1. Jonathan Gomez 838, 2. Kris McKean 787, 3. John Hoogendoom 738, 4. Jerry McKean 615, 5. Willie Dalton 592.
- NAPA Pony Stocks:** 1. Josh Fitz 302, 2. Brent Anderson 300, 3. Jeff Couch 302, 4. Rando Munsch 295, 5. Kevin Grubbs 272.
- MY Pipe Thunder Stocks:** 1. Steve Edens Jr. 521, 2. Anthony Meyer 520, 3. Lane Albright 455, 4. Jenno Quele 314, 5. Ty Garibay 314.

TONIGHT AT MVS

The always-popular trailer races will be at it once again with thoughts of destruction building in their minds before they are set loose for the race finale tonight. Promoter McKean says he expects to have about 20 contracts for the event.

The Budweiser Super Stocks, NAPA Auto Parts Pony Stocks, Junior Stingers and Idaho Six Cylinders will join the Super Modifieds and trailer races at the one-third mile track. Last time out, the Junior Stingers put on an amazing show as points leader Josh Fitz met with the wall on the front stretch last Saturday after Jeff Couch landed a hard hit in Turn 4.

But both drivers are expected to have their cars ready to go this evening.

Gates open at 3 p.m., qualifying begins at 5:30 and green flag racing starts at 6, but then at the 5 p.m., time advertised.

All-Williams final set at Wimbledon

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — A spot in her seventh Wimbledon final already secured, Venus Williams headed back to Centre Court to catch the end of the next match.

Scouting? Not really. More like rooting. And when Thursday's second semifinal ended, Williams stood, smiling and applauding for the woman who won, the woman she will have to beat to earn a fifth championship at the All England Club: her younger sister, Serena.

The most unusual and, at times, uncomfortable rivalry in tennis is once more in the spotlight — the princess of the sport: Venus will play Serena in their third all-in-the-family Wimbledon final Saturday.

It's their seventh Grand Slam final — but Serena holds a 5-1 edge over her sister — but first final at any tournament since 2003.

"Our main focus is obviously both of us going to the final," Venus said. "Then, from there, it's every Williams for herself."

While there are, of course, differences in personality (Venus can herself a nerd; Serena is more extroverted) and game (Venus' serve is faster, for example, and Serena's return is considered better), the siblings note that what will be their fifth head-to-head matchup were remarkably similar.



Venus Williams, above, and Serena Williams, left, react after winning their respective semifinal matches at Wimbledon, Thursday.

Neither has lost a set in the tournament, and Venus won her semifinal 6-1, 7-6 (3) over fifth-seeded Elena Dementieva of Russia 6-1, 7-6 (3), before Serena hit 14 aces in a 6-2, 7-6 (5) victory over 133rd-ranked Zheng Li of China 6-2, 7-6 (5). Coincidentally, each Williams won 80 of the 141 points in her match.

How unsurprising were Thursday's results? Consider this: The sisters are now a combined 100-13 at Wimbledon for their careers; Dementieva and Zheng are a combined 29-13.

"We've both been working extremely hard," said Serena, who holds an 8-7 career edge over Venus. "It's just coming together."

Both have been ranked No. 1, but a combination of injuries and inactivity combined to Venus being No. 7 now, and Serena No. 6. All of the top four-seeded women were gone by the quarterfinals, the first time that ever happened at Wimbledon, which cleared the way a bit for the sisters.

Then again, they way they've been playing over these two weeks, and the way they always seem to play on grass, who's to say it would have made a difference?



Venus Williams, above, and Serena Williams, left, react after winning their respective semifinal matches at Wimbledon, Thursday.

Back on May 30, when the city was Paris and the surface clay, first Serena, then Venus, lost in the third round at the French Open.

A little more than a month later, defending champion Venus, 28, will be going for her fifth title at Wimbledon, and seventh major overall; Serena, 26, will be going for her third title at Wimbledon, and ninth major overall.

"They've both going to show up, and they both want it," said David Witt, Venus' hitting partner, who also has worked with Serena. "So it's special."

One interested party who won't be here Saturday: Richard Williams, the architect of the greatest one-family dynasty in tennis history.

The father and coach who decided to teach his daughters how to swing rackets in Cotton, Calif., and has seen them grace the game's greatest stages, hates seeing them slug it out against each other. So he's flying home to the United States. Work even follow the match on TV.

"I can't stand to watch them play," he said between puffs of a victory cigarillo after the semifinals were over. "I can never do that. It makes me nervous."

Classic

Continued from page B1

filled with the century mark. But the Cowboys had to prepare for the final day, which amounted to a wash in Stadelmeier's eyes.

"This tournament's been going on for 15 or 20 years, and there have been plenty of good Twin Falls teams that have had to tend the field all day, and have won the tournament," said Stadelmeier.

"Tonight it was the same thing as (Wednesday) when we had trouble throwing strikes. Jacob (Coats) was amped up to start and tried to overthrow it, and you can't do that. When you're behind in the count all the time, the defense kind of falls asleep a little and when the ball's hit to them, they panic a little and we have a couple miscues."

Shortstop Remington Pullin had a pair of doubles and scored both runs for the Cowboys (17-14), but they couldn't muster much else in the way of offense. But Pullin said it wasn't for a lack of good pitches to hit, instead the team was being far too patient at the plate.

"I was just getting after the fastball," Pullin said of his pair of two-baggers. "But we let a lot of fastballs go by tonight. And they never let up, not going into the end."

The postgame team talk centered around forgetfulness and intensity.

2008 Cowboy Classic

Wednesday's Game
At Skip Walker Field
Twin Falls 5, Trip Play 4, final
Innings

Thursday's Game
At Bill Ingram Field
Trip Play 5, Uab 2
At Skip Walker Field
Lethbridge 9, Eagle 4
Boise 11, Uah 0
Boise 2, Twin Falls 2
Friday's game
At Skip Walker Field
Eagle vs. Utah 10 am.

Coats and the Cowboys will need both going into the final two games of pool play, particularly with just one fresh pitcher remaining — Mitchell Dame, who will likely start tonight's game against a Lethbridge team that already has established itself as perhaps the team to beat in the Classic.

"It just wasn't our night. But that's tonight, and the thing with baseball is that there's always the next day," Stadelmeier said. "The biggest thing I want is for them to come out with more intensity, and I think they will. Usually when I challenge them they respond."

Boise 8, Twin Falls 2
Boise 2, Twin Falls 2
Boise 11, Uah 0
Boise 2, Twin Falls 2
Friday's game
At Skip Walker Field
Eagle vs. Utah 10 am.

TRAGEDY PULLS COLORADO KHAKOS FROM CLASSIC
The Colorado Khaks baseball team withdrew from the

Cowboy Classic and returned to Denver after the father of one of the players reportedly died early Thursday morning from injuries sustained in a Wednesday evening accident.

Stadelmeier was unable to provide details, saying that he had received the information via text message and had not been in phone contact with anyone from the Khaks.

"It's very unfortunate to have something happen like that," Stadelmeier said of the reported death. "Obviously we feel for the program and for the families involved, if that indeeds the case."

David Bashore may be reached at 1-800-658-3883, ext. 230, or david.bashore@lee.net.



Rick Veestra demonstrates the speed of the Super Modifieds June 28 at Magic Valley Speedway. At nearly 130 mph, the winged cars are the fastest vehicles to take on Magic Valley Speedway.

Thrives 3 on 3 Basketball showdown
Registration
held at Shoshone old gym on July 12th & 13
Pregistration begins at 10am to 12 Noon.
Games start at 1pm on both days
\$400.00 shopping spree to
winner of each division
Age Group (Circle one): 12-14 15-18 or Adult

Showdown Team cost \$60.00
early registration ends at 12 Noon on July 7th
any team after that will be \$70.00

Team Name: _____

Player 1: _____ Shirt Size: _____
Player 2: _____ Shirt Size: _____
Player 3: _____ Shirt Size: _____
Player 4: _____ Shirt Size: _____

Payment Type: Cash _____ Check _____
Please make check or money orders out to
Oasis Christian Fellowship
Please mail registration form to:
Jim Egersdorf, 509 6th Ave. E. Shoshone, ID 83352

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SCOTT AL. CRANDLER
800 N. CEDAR BLVD.
JEROME, ID 83338

Explosions of Speed
write IIIV ATH RACE

ARIO LOTT TRUCKING PRESENTS:
Independence Day Trailer Race at Destruction Super Modifieds
Budweiser Super Stocks • Napa Auto Parts Pony Stocks
Qualte Electronics Jr. Stingers • Idaho Super Stocks
Friday, July 4
Gates Open **AT 2:00**
Green Flag Fall **AT 6:00 p.m.**
Ticket prices
\$25, \$250 (6-11)
SAVE \$2
Special pre-registered
Admission **ADULT \$10.00**
Children **\$5.00**
Favorite **Cash Stop N Go**
See You **AT THE RACE**
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Just how close 'friends' are Madonna and A-Rod?



Madonna

NEW YORK (AP)—A-Rod and the Material Girl? That's a lot of hits. Reports that Yankees superstar Alex Rodriguez and Madonna have become close just as their marriages are disintegrating have both the celebrity gossip industry and the sporting world — each a chatty bunch — buzzing with questions about the two "friends."

A third boldface name was added to the saga when Rodriguez's wife

fled from New York to the Paris home of rocker Lenny Kravitz, who denied anything improper had happened. Rodriguez remained mum. He signed a couple of autographs before Thursday's game at Yankee Stadium against Boston, but didn't take questions from a pack of reporters.

The whole story began last week amid tabloid stories that Madonna, who is married to the British filmmaker Guy Ritchie, had consulted a

high-profile London divorce attorney. On Tuesday her publicist issued a statement saying Madonna's marriage was not in jeopardy. Then the Weekly magazine reported that Rodriguez, 32, has been making late-night visits to the Manhattan apartment of Madonna, 49.

Janet Min, editor-in-chief of *U.S. Weekly*, said the magazine was "100 percent" confident in its story, which she said was based on many sources.

Min said *U.S. Weekly* has been careful not to overstate what's known of the relationship, which the latest issue labels a "three-year fling."

"The facts are that he comes to her apartment late at night, that they have a friendship, that she had never been photographed at a Yankees game until she was photographed in A-Rod's seats," Min said. "A lot of people would infer that something more is going on."



Rodriguez

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

ATLANTA BRUINS

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

NEW YORK METS

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

DETROIT TIGERS

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

LOS ANGELES ANGELS

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

ST. LOUIS CARDINALS

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

CHICAGO CUBS

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

MINNESOTA TWINS

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

NEW YORK YANKEES

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

TEXAS RANGERS

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

PITTSBURGH PIRATES

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

BOSTON RED SOX

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

CLEVELAND INDIANS

W	L	T
1	1	0

Atlanta 4-2
Boston 2-0
Chicago 1-0
Cleveland 1-0
Detroit 1-0
Houston 0-0
Los Angeles 1-0
Miami 1-0
Milwaukee 1-0
Minnesota 1-0
New York 2-0
Philadelphia 1-0
Pittsburgh 1-0
St. Louis 1-0
Texas 1-0
Toronto 1-0

GAME PLAN

AMERICAN LEAGUE BASEBALL

ATLANTA BRUINS vs. **ST. LOUIS CARDINALS** (4:05 p.m.)
DETROIT TIGERS vs. **CHICAGO CUBS** (7:05 p.m.)
LOS ANGELES ANGELS vs. **MILWAUKEE BREWERS** (8:10 p.m.)
MINNESOTA TWINS vs. **PITTSBURGH PIRATES** (8:10 p.m.)
NEW YORK YANKEES vs. **TEXAS RANGERS** (8:10 p.m.)

NATIONAL LEAGUE BASEBALL

BOSTON RED SOX vs. **CLEVELAND INDIANS** (7:05 p.m.)
PHILADELPHIA PHILLIES vs. **ATLANTA BRUINS** (7:05 p.m.)
PITTSBURGH PIRATES vs. **ST. LOUIS CARDINALS** (7:05 p.m.)

TV SCHEDULE

LOCAL
8 p.m. — **ESPN2** — Nascar Nationwide Series, pole qualifying for **Winn-Dixie 250**, 2 p.m.
8 p.m. — **ESPN2** — Nascar Sprint Cup, pole qualifying for **Coke Zero 400**, 2 p.m.
8 p.m. — **ESPN2** — Nascar Nationwide Series, Winn-Dixie 250

GOLF

TGC - European PGA Tour, European Open, second round
TGC - Champions, Sporting Goods Open, first round, at Endicott, N.Y.
TGC - PGA Tour, AT&T National, second round
MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL, 6:05 p.m.
WGN - Chicago Cubs at St. Louis

SWIMMING

8 p.m. — **NBC** — U.S. Olympic Trials

TRACK & FIELD

8 p.m. — **NBC** — The Championships, men's singles and doubles semifinals
8 p.m. — **ESPN2** — The Championships, men's singles and doubles semifinals

TRANSACTIONS

AMERICAN LEAGUE
Boston Red Sox traded Mike Timlin from the 15-day DL to Oakland for Eric Byrnes.
Philadelphia Phillies traded Ryan Howard from the 15-day DL to Oakland for Eric Byrnes.
Pittsburgh Pirates traded Derrek Lee from the 15-day DL to Oakland for Eric Byrnes.
New York Yankees traded Tim Lincecum from the 15-day DL to Oakland for Eric Byrnes.
Texas Rangers traded Matt Kemp from the 15-day DL to Oakland for Eric Byrnes.
Chicago Cubs traded Alfonso Soriano from the 15-day DL to Oakland for Eric Byrnes.
Detroit Tigers traded Justin Verlander from the 15-day DL to Oakland for Eric Byrnes.
Los Angeles Angels traded Matt Kemp from the 15-day DL to Oakland for Eric Byrnes.
Minnesota Twins traded Matt Kemp from the 15-day DL to Oakland for Eric Byrnes.
St. Louis Cardinals traded Matt Kemp from the 15-day DL to Oakland for Eric Byrnes.

Hansen fails to make Olympics in 200 breast, finishing fourth

— OMAHA, Neb. — Brendan Hansen clung to the lane rope, glaring at the scoreboard. No matter how long he stared, the shocking result just wouldn't go away.

"He wasn't first — or even second. — "I wasn't swimming one of his signature events at the Beijing Olympics.

"In the first major stunner of the U.S. swimming trials, Hansen failed to make the Olympic team in the 200-meter breaststroke Thursday night. The world recordholder less than a month ago was knocked out by a fourth-place showing, laboring to the finish in the wake of three countrymen.

"Hansen's only solace: He still has a spot in the 100 breast and, most likely, the 400 medley relay.

"— "I did my best," said Hansen, the last of the eight finalists to leave the pool deck. "I gave everything in the pool tonight. I left it all out there. It just wasn't there. It wasn't my day."

Michael Phelps had a relatively easy night, posting the second-fastest time in the series of the 200 individual medley. He moved on to another showdown Friday with rival Ryan

Lochte, who had the top time.

Merritt upsets Wariner at trials

EUGENE, Ore. — Jeremy Wariner isn't invincible anymore — a point Ashton Merritt proved once again Thursday night.

Merritt pulled his second upset of the year over the world's supposed fastest 400-meter runner, pulling away from Wariner in the final 150 meters to win the U.S. Olympic track and field trials.

Merritt finished in 44 seconds flat, defeating Wariner by 0.20. Earning the third spot was national indoor champion David Neville.

The women's 400 went much more to form, with Sanya Richards winning and Mary Wineberg and Dee Dee Trotter capturing the other two spots.

GOLF

PGA AT&T NATIONAL
At Congressional Country Club, Miss Beaumont
First round
Pete Dinklage 73-74-83-71 (293)
Yonathan Haneke 74-77-78-75 (304)

TENNIS

AT THE ALI ENGLISH YOUNG MEN'S OLYMPIC CAMP
Pete Dinklage 73-74-83-71 (293)
Yonathan Haneke 74-77-78-75 (304)

Sports Shorts

Day Fun Run/Walk will be held Saturday, July 2. The race begins at 7 a.m. in the Kimberly City Park, with registration at 6:30. A 5K run and one-mile run will be offered. The cost is \$10 per person and includes a T-shirt. Proceeds benefit the Kimberly Sports Complex. Call 423-4234 or 423-4369 for more details.

Robert Stuart soccer tryouts
TWIN FALLS — Robert Stuart Junior High will hold boys soccer tryouts for grades 7-8 on Aug. 11. Parents of interested players are invited to call Coach Parker at 420-7326 to get on the list of potential participants.

Cassia County X-Camp planned
BURLY — Cassia County cross country camp will be held July 1-11. The camp is open to runners in grades 8-12. For more information, call 436-8884.

Jerome to hold Co-ed tourney
JEROME — The Jerome Recreation District is holding registration for the Summer District Co-ed Softball Tournament will be July 12-13. Team fees are \$180 with a three-game guarantee. Registration is due by July 7. Call the JRD at 324-3369 for more information.

Ray Nelson invite news
HAILEY — The 37th Annual Ray Nelson Invitational Tournament for U12 and U10 teams will be held July 18-19 in Hailey. The tournament guarantees four games per teams and includes a barbecue and live music on July 18. Visit http://woodriverbaseball.com for information.

MAGIC VALLEY
Kimberly Fun Run announced
KIMBERLY — The Kimberly Good Neighbor

MAGIC VALLEY
Kimberly Fun Run announced
KIMBERLY — The Kimberly Good Neighbor

TWIN FALLS 4-DAY FORECAST

Today: Not as hot, but still very warm. Highs low 80s.
Tonight: Partially clear and mild. Lows low 60s.
Tomorrow: Partly sunny and more comfortable. Highs upper 80s.

MOBILE WEATHER FORECAST

Today: Cooling will be negligible. Breezy at times and mainly dry. Highs upper 80s.
Tonight: Partly cloudy and breezy at times. Lows upper 50s.
Tomorrow: A persistent breeze will increase air concerns. Highs low to middle 80s.

IDAHO FORECAST

SUN VALLEY, SURROUNDING MTS. Any cooling today will be barely noticeable. There is a chance of rain in the forecast, but most activity will occur farther north into the panhandle. The weekend looks to be dry and pleasant.

BOISE Although temperatures are expected to be slightly cooler today, July Fourth is still going to be a scorcher. Conditions will be good for those with plans to see fireworks tonight.

NORTHERN UTAH Today's warm despite a light breeze and possible refreshing late day showers. Conditions warm and mostly dry all weekend.

Table with columns: City, Today, Tomorrow, Sunday. Lists cities like Bonanza Ferry, Cheate, etc.

Yesterday's State Extremes: 102 at Lewiston, Low: 36 at Shary. Weather kept us clear, 4-60 to 102, no heavy rain. No hot, no heavy rain, no heavy rain, no heavy rain, no heavy rain, no heavy rain.

MAGGIE MOLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY. Includes a photo of Maggie Molekauff and her quote.

TWIN FALLS 5-DAY FORECAST

Forecast table for Twin Falls with icons for Today, Tonight, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, Tuesday. Highs: 93, 92, 87/61, 90/82, 95/84, 98/80.

ALMANAC TWIN FALLS

Table with columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity, Barometric Pressure, Sunrise and Sunset, Pollen Count.

Yesterday's Low: 66 Months to Date: 0.00" Yesterday's Maximum: 92A Yesterday: 58.25 in. Saturday: Sunrise: 6:07 AM Sunset: 8:12 PM Green, Pine, Plantain. Record High: 97 in 1996 Year to Date: 7.66" Today's Minimum: 59A Monday: Sunrise: 6:08 AM Sunset: 8:11 PM Clouds: Sporadic, Breeze.

Moon Phases: Jul 10 First Q, Jul 18 Full Moon, Jul 25 Last Q, Aug 1 New Moon. Moonrise and Moonset: Saturday: Moonrise: 4:50 AM Moonset: 11:19 PM.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Regional forecast table for cities like Cheate, Cheate, etc.

NATIONAL FORECAST

National forecast table for cities like Albany, Albany, etc.

U.V. INDEX

The higher the index the more your skin is exposed to the sun's rays.

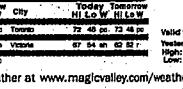
WORLD FORECAST

World forecast table for cities like Albany, Albany, etc.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Canadian forecast table for cities like Albany, Albany, etc.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



Weather icons: Fronts, Cold, Warm, Stationary, Occluded.

More Magic Valley weather at www.magvalley.com/weather/

GOLF ROUNDUP Marino dials up 1-shot lead at AT&T

BETHESDA, Md. — Steve Marino used to consider it a treat the few times he played Congressional as a teenager. It was a thrill on Thursday to play bogey-free in the first round of the AT&T National and shoot 5-under 65 for a one-shot lead.

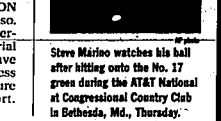
Marino, who grew up in Fairfax, Va., birdied three of his opening four holes, never had a par putt longer than 5 feet and finished off his round with an 8-foot birdie to be in the lead after any round for only the second time in his career.

National made its debut. ROSE GARCIA TRAIL AT EUROPEAN OPEN ASH, England — England's Ross Fisher had 10 birdies in a course-record 9-under 63 to take a two-stroke lead over Graeme McDowell and David Frost after the first round of the European Open.

After his death we moved the collage to a place of honor in my parents' home, where it continues to remind us all of the wonderful life that was my father's. I'm so grateful to my dear sister-in-law for her stroke of brilliance. It provided immeasurable comfort to Dad during his last days, and continues to bring joy to our family.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a high school student in the top 2 percent of my class. I'm heavily involved in extracurricular activities. I don't give my mom much to worry about, but she is always "concerned."

DEAR ABBY: I hope so. By summing up her father-in-law's life in that "pictorial essay," in a sense she gave back to him what his illness had stolen away. And I'm sure it brought him comfort. Thank you for sharing.



Steve Marino watches his ball after hitting onto the No. 17 green during the AT&T National at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md., Thursday.

HIGHEST FUEL EFFICIENCY AVAILABLE! vespa PIAGGIO Scooter Store to open in Twin Falls SOON!!!! Call now for Early Orders 208-420-6047

CSI 3 ON 3 GOLDEN EAGLE CHALLENGE. Sponsored by SWIRE Coca-Cola. Magic Valley BANK. July 12, 2008 Double Elimination Southeast parking lots at College of Southern Idaho. Divisions offered include: Boys 8-18, Girls 8-18, Women's Open (19+) and Men's Open (19+). Cost is \$50 per team. Entry forms are available at the CSI Gym main office or at www.csi.edu/athletics.

DEAR ABBY: Six years before my father was diagnosed with bone cancer, he suffered a severe stroke that left him barely able to communicate. He had always been extremely social, so his inability to talk had been hard on him, but the pain from the bone cancer made it far worse. He no longer enjoyed his favorite music and television shows, and he was frustrated by his inability to communicate. Even visits

Police find 42 pot plants in house

By Andrew Jackson
Staff writer

Twin Falls Police narcotics officers seized about 42 marijuana plants Wednesday at a residence where children were living, court records show.

The home's 28-year-old resident, Timothy Higley, was arraigned Thursday in 5th Judicial District Court on charges of manufacturing and possessing a controlled substance.

Police searched Higley's home at 394 Knottingham Drive, with a warrant

obtained after a confidential informant allegedly bought marijuana from Higley twice in mid-June, court records show.

The records say police found 12 pot plants in a crawl space at the home, along with six small plants in a raspberry bush, and 24 small plants in a garage. Police also allegedly found meth residue in a canister, and rooms occupied by three children, according to the documents.

Higley told the court in the records that he makes a significant income of \$4,500 a

month at a carpentry business. He has not entered a plea yet, was denied a public defender, and his next hearing is set for July 11.

In other court news: A Boise man was arraigned Wednesday in Twin Falls on charges of burglary, enhanced aggravated battery and first-degree kidnapping in connection to a local attack on April 27 involving brass knuckles.

The alleged beating at 1630 Highland Ave. East was so severe the victim defecated himself, records show, and the incident left his home ran-

sacked, robbed and bloody. Chad Loren Wahl, 40, and another man went to the victim's house and asked for "white boy bob," which the victim said was himself, according to records.

Wahl, who told the court he doesn't have a job, was arrested in Washington County, Nev., on June 28, on a warrant issued May 13 out of Twin Falls County. His bond was set at \$100,000 and is set for July 11 preliminary hearing.

Andrew Jackson may be reached at 208-735-3380 or ajackson@magicvalley.com.

A frigid Fourth? Not quite...

Staff report

That Independence Day ice bucket is in for a fight. Today's Twin Falls forecast calls for a high of 93 degrees, offering only a slight reprieve from Thursday's record high of 101.

"It's going to be cooler," Les Collin, meteorologist with the National Weather Service's Boise office said Thursday. "The hottest part of the air mass is passing through, and it will cool off about seven degrees." Further cooling is expected to help make fireworks displays around the Magic

Valley enjoyable, as Collin said the temperature for the 10 p.m. start to Twin Falls' display at the College of Southern Idaho campus should be between 80 and 85 degrees.

By 4 p.m. Thursday, the temperature at Jostin Field, Magic Valley Regional Airport equaled Twin Falls' previous record high of 99 degrees, set in 1967, Collin said. It eclipsed that mark shortly thereafter.

Today's Twin Falls record high of 103, set in 1942, is likely safe. "That one's not going to happen," Collin said.

Heading west Local firefighters to aid California

By Damon Hunzeker
Staff writer

BURLEY — California is burning in about 1,500 areas, and the state has asked the Burley Fire Department for help.

Various states, such as Idaho and California, have mutual-aid agreements.

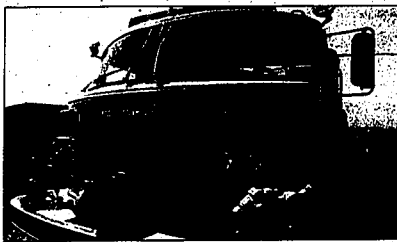
Because of the program, California requested assistance from the Idaho Department of Lands, which relayed the request to Burley Fire Chief Steven Hamilton, who assembled a small group of firemen to take one engine to California.

"They're one of nine structural-protection engines traveling from south-central Idaho, many staffed by volunteers," said Sky Buffin, fire information officer for the Bureau of Land Management. Besides Burley, engines are being provided by rural and city fire departments from across the region, including the city of Halley, West End Rural Fire Department and Rock Creek Rural Fire Department.

The firefighters traveled to California on Thursday, their trucks towed by privately owned Magic Valley companies. The volunteers are taking personal vacation time for their two-week deployment, Buffin said.

Speaking earlier this week, the Burley firefighters were eager to help.

"Everything's ready to go," Hamilton said. "We're just waiting on the call. I've got some itching guys. They're excited because they want to return the favor to



A fire engine from the Halley Fire Department is shown Wednesday as firefighters from other rural Magic Valley communities gather at the Bureau of Land Management Office in Jerome before heading to help fight the California wildfires.

California for helping Idaho out with our fires last year."

Once in California, the group will provide structural-fire protection to a section of inland California that needs help.

"I think we'll be deployed in Stockton but I won't know until we get the call," Hamilton said. "All I know is that, when we do, we're heading to California."

Three men from the department are going: Captain Ryan Taylor, Senior Firefighter Henry Munoz, and Firefighter Eryie Juarez.

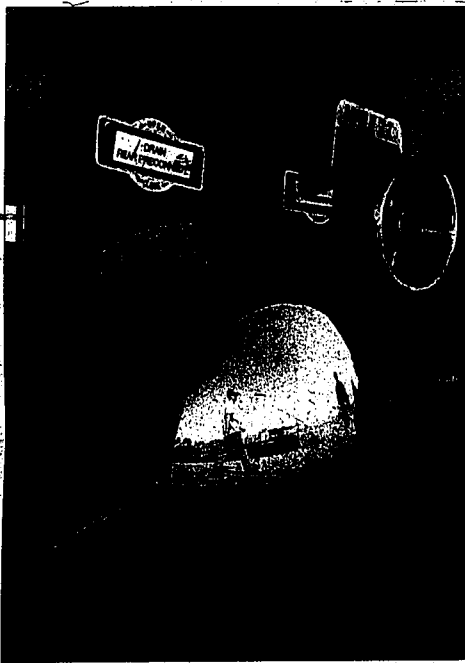
"Their job will be to protect the homes in subdivisions near fires, to keep the fires out of the homes," Hamilton said. "But they won't put their lives in danger. If it gets bad enough, if a fire can't be contained

or extinguished, they will leave the area."

If they aren't in danger, the local firefighters will remove flammable material from houses, as well as trees and bushes from property. They'll also keep the ground wet. If a fire approaches a home, they'll spray it with high-powered, flame-retardant foam.

For the city, it's more than a humanitarian enterprise. Burley will incur some tangible benefits, as California will pay the city \$2,271 per day over the course of two weeks.

Damon Hunzeker can be reached at 208-420-4697 or dhunzeker@magicvalley.com. Staff writer Nate Poppino contributed to this report.



A firefighter with the Rock Creek Fire Department is reflected in equipment on one of nine fire engines that are being shipped to help combat the California wildfires. Three firefighters from one of nine rural departments in the area will also head to the fires. The buses that are bedeviling California took another ominous turn Thursday as one near Coletta triggered additional evacuations and authorities shut another 10 miles of Highway 1 along the flaming Big Sur coast.

Different lives, different ways to mark the Fourth

By Heather Harbaugh
Correspondent

Since the Declaration of Independence was adopted on July 4, 1776, the variety of ways to celebrate Independence Day has been as wide ranging as the number of years that has passed.

"In 1778, it was widely reported that George Washington allowed his army troops a double ration of rum and ordered an artillery salute to mark the occasion. Today, the Fourth of July is usually celebrated with picnics, fireworks and parades that often share the theme of acknowledging American rights and freedoms.

Walt Mueller, 78, of Twin Falls, has been a member of the American Legion for more than 15 years. The recently-named American Legion commander said that to him, the holiday means, "Freedom first of all."

He said that being stationed in Germany with the U.S. Army from 1953-55 caused his take on the July 4 holiday to evolve. Differences in lifestyles in other countries made him realize just how great America is to its citizens, he said.



To celebrate this year's holiday, Mueller is planning a trip to the Midwest.

"It'll be a family gathering but the Fourth of July will be observed," he said.

Bryan Slusher, 31, is a pastor at the Calvary Chapel North Valley in Jerome.

"He has been a pastor for eight years and has been at his present church in Jerome for more than two years. Like Mueller, the holiday brings up thoughts of a fighting spirit for Slusher. "The willingness of troops to fight for our freedoms,"

Slusher said, is first thing he thinks of when explaining what Independence Day means to him.

Slusher also reflected on the holiday's importance on his daily life and vocation, adding,

"We are blessed by God to be in a nation that can worship without fear," he said.

For another Magic Valley resident, the holiday is transforming. William Kingsland Jr., 40, of Jerome has spent 17 years of his life in prison. His charges ranged from property crimes

to drug crimes and many indiscretions in between.

Since his most recent release from jail in November of 2005, Kingsland's life has changed as noticeably as the seasons. This is the longest period of time in his adult life that he has gone without returning to prison, Kingsland said.

"In prison, everything that goes on in real life you get to see on TV," he said. "Like the New Year's ball dropping or the fireworks and parades. It's more like a fantasy because you aren't there and you won't be anytime soon." He remembers a time when this holiday meant nothing to him.

Now the freedoms he once took for granted are more appreciated. Today, with his nearly nine-month-old daughter and family, he will spend the Fourth of July going to family barbecues before heading to the Jerome High School to watch the fireworks display.

"Day to day you don't think about how far we've come," William says, "But I do."

Heather Harbaugh may be reached at tj-town@hat-mail.com.

Fourth of July events in the Magic Valley

TWIN FALLS

- Lighthouse Christian Fellowship will host a Praise Band concert, games for kids and free root beer floss at 8 p.m. on the grassy area west of the Harrett Center for Arts and Science on the College of Southern Idaho campus. The event will be held before the fireworks at CSI. Information: 737-4667.
- The Twin Falls Municipal Band will present its annual patriotic concert beginning at 8 p.m., just north of the Student Union Building on the College of Southern Idaho campus, and then when the sky is dark enough — about 10 p.m. — Twin Falls will be illuminated by an awesome fireworks display. Free admission. Bring your family, lawn chairs, blankets and American flags to wave, but remember to leave your four-legged friends and fireworks at home (law enforcement will patrol to discourage use of consumer fireworks). There will be no First Friday events in downtown Twin Falls. Due to construction on campus, parking is limited, so organizers encourage parking off-campus and walking.

HANSEN

- A Free Fourth of July celebration will be held at Hansen City Park. The parade will be at 11 a.m., followed by activities starting at noon at the park. A barbecue will be at 5 p.m.; bring two side dishes, utensils and chairs. Fireworks begin at 10 p.m. Information: 423-5158.

JEROME

- The Second Annual Community Freedom Celebration begins at 11 a.m. at North and South City Parks. Activities include a patriotic kickoff, live entertainment, food vendors, crafts, exhibits and raffles. There will be a Battle of the Bands at 6 p.m. Fireworks will be at dusk at Jerome High School. Free admission.

JULY FOURTH EVENTS

Heyburn

Independence Day Extravaganza. There will be a free stage show featuring Marcus Meek, and special performances by Electric Snack and Redline 8-9:30 p.m. at the amphitheater across from Gossner's, followed by fireworks. It is a family event; no alcoholic beverages are allowed in the park. Bring lawn chairs, as seating is unavailable at the amphitheater. Following the concert, the Burley Fire Department will do fireworks at dusk from the Burley Golf Course Marina.

Gooding

The City of Gooding's Fourth of July Celebration will feature a barbecue at noon at the Gooding fairgrounds, including pulled pork or beef sandwich, baked beans, cole slaw, cake and punch for \$6 a plate. There will be family entertainment including The Singing Janitor, Tom Thompson, a hot rod car show and classic games provided by Helping Hearts & Hands; all at the fairgrounds. Fireworks will follow at 10 p.m., launched from Gooding Middle School.

Rupert

The 82nd annual Fourth of July Celebration, titled "Hooray for the Red, White and Blue," continues. There is a free carnival at the Minidoka County Fairgrounds, with classic games. Free programs will be held at the city park on Rupert Square. The parade begins at 11 a.m., entries are twin floats; at First Federal Bank in Rupert. From 1-4 p.m. will be entertainment in the park. At 7:30 p.m., the melodrama "Phantom of the Opera" is shown at the Wilson Theatre. Tickets, \$7 for adults and \$3

for children, are available at 879-8888 or at the dock; for group rates: 219-1683. At 8 p.m. the Rupert PBR Enterprises Tour Event (bull riding) will be held at the fairgrounds. Reserved tickets are \$25; Sheryl, 436-9429 or 431-5478.

Burley

Fourth of July fireworks will be held at dusk at the Burley boat docks. Information: 878-2224.

Buhl

Sagobush Days, themed "Spirit of America." There will be merchant sidewalk sales in Eastman Park all day following the parade, and free swimming at the Buhl pool. From 7:30 a.m. is the Kiwanis merchant sidewalk sales in Senior Center. Adults, \$5; children 12 and under, \$3. Register for the Buhl Fun Run at the Furniture-Room parking lot starting at 7 a.m.; the run begins at 8 a.m. At 10:30 a.m., the parade begins, featuring volunteer EMIs and firefighters as the grand marshals. Competitions throughout the day include a trout scramble, duck scramble and fire hose competition, as well as Concrete Rodeo Skateboarding at the Buhl Skate Park. From 1-4 p.m. will be live entertainment by the Copper Heads in Eastman Park, followed by live entertainment by the Idaho Old Time Fiddlers Association beginning at 7 p.m. at the McClusky Park band shell. The Tony Davis Memorial Bull Riding event begins at 7 a.m. at the Buhl Rodeo Grounds. At dusk will be an air firing and fireworks at North Park. The Schaeppner Show, a Carnival will be in town through July 5, with tickets available at



the Buhl Chamber of Commerce; 10 tickets for \$5. Information: 543-6882.

Bliss

Fourth of July Bash and Street Dance, put on by the Bliss Chamber of Commerce. There will be kids activities in the lower park all day, and a discount for those wishing to participate in all activities will be available at the kiosk. Vendors may contact Sophie Pruetz at 352-1176. A parade, themed "Party With Bliss," starts at 10:30 a.m., with participants lining up at 10 a.m. on U.S. Highway 30 across from Ziggy's. Information: Pruetz, 352-1176. Mud Volley Ball begins at noon; sign up after the parade, at the kiosk in the lower park, or for early sign-up call Amy Boyer at 539-9141. Entry fee is \$20 per team. From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., will be a barbecue lunch at the Bliss Fire Department. From 2-3 p.m., will be the Fireman's Challenge at the

lower park. Entry fee is \$1 per person. There will be lawn mower races in the lower park at 3 p.m.; sign up by 2:45 p.m. A "Cow Plunk" will be held at 4:45 a.m. at the lower park. Tickets are \$5 per square or five for \$20. From 5-7 p.m., the Chamber Dinner will be held in the upper park, and Fiddlers Inc. will perform. Tickets are \$6 per person or \$20 for a family (up to six people). An ATV Poker Run will be held 7-9 p.m. Meet at the kiosk at 6:45 p.m. to sign up, or for early sign-up contact Pruetz at 352-1176. \$20 per ATV. From 8-10 p.m. will be a barbecue dinner at the Bliss Fire Department. At 9:30 p.m., a flag ceremony will be held in front of the Bliss Post Office. Starting at 10:30 p.m. after the fireworks, a street dance will be held at the fire department.

Albion

Homestown Holiday Fourth of July Celebration. Start with breakfast from 7:10 a.m. at the senior center, followed by a parade at 10 a.m. on Main Street, a flag ceremony at 10:45 a.m. at the city park, and speaker Sue Keller at 11 a.m. At 11:10 a.m., the U.S. Air Force will fly over, followed in the park by children's games, food booths, horse-shoe tournaments, lawn mower races and entertainment. Fireworks from Albion Airport will close the evening at dusk. Information: 673-5352.

Hailey

Hailey Days of the Old West Rodeo. Enjoy an old-fashioned rodeo at 7:30 p.m. at the Hailey Fairgrounds. General admission \$10; kids \$5 (2-

12); reserved seating \$15. Information: 308-4235. Company of Fools Summer Festival. Company of Fools, a local theater company, will present "Violent," a powerful story with an energetic, toe-tapping gospel, rock, country and rhythm and blues score. It is one of three plays put on during the Company of Fools Summer Festival. Show is at 7 p.m. at the Liberty Theatre in downtown Hailey. Tickets: \$15-\$25. Information: 578-9122. Fourth of July parade. Free parade starts at noon, and goes down Main Street in Hailey. Information: 788-2700. After the parade, stroll over to the Sun Valley Center for the Arts at Second and Pine streets for an old-fashioned ice cream social with ice cream, cake and lemonade, 1-3 p.m. There will be live "folkstyle" music from Dr. Tom's Alchemy. Information: 726-9491.

Fourth on Fourth Celebration. With popular band Rockies Kelly and opening act Muzzie Braun, the free concert starts at 4 p.m. at the downtown Ketchum Town Plaza. Information: 726-3423.

Sun Valley

The Fourth of July summer ice show will feature Kurt Browning, four-time world champion, and Rachel Flatt, 2008 World Junior Champion, on the outdoor ice rink. Admission to the 8 p.m. show at Sun Valley Lodge varies. Information: 622-2135.

Jarvis, Nev.

"Strawberries and Bluegrass" concert, featuring Twin Falls bluegrass band Strings Attached, will be at 6 p.m. at Pioneer Park. Homemade ice cream with strawberries will be available during intermission. Admission is by donation. The event is sponsored by Jarbidge Arts-Council-Information: Penny Eggen, 775-488-2358. There will also be an all-day bake sale, bingo, barbecue, live music and Vintage Theatre Parade at Pioneer Park. Information: (775) 488-2358.

Advertisement for Century Stadium 5 & Burley Theatre in Burley. It lists various events including Hancock (2:00-4:00), Get Smart (2:00-4:18), Wall-E (2:00-4:00), Kung Fu Panda (2:00-4:00), and Burley Theatre (7:00-9:00). There is also a 'WANTED' sign for a missing person.

FIFTH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

Twin Falls County

FELONY DISMISSALS: Kimberly J. Laughlin, 38, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; dismissed by prosecutor; plea negotiations. Paul S. Hyc, 21, Twin Falls; medical expenses not covered by insurance; dismissed by prosecutor. Dan S. Bayley, 20, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; dismissed by prosecutor; plea negotiations. Kevin A. Terrene, 20, Twin Falls; three counts level contact with a minor under 16; dismissed by prosecutor due to superseding grand jury indictment. Jason Ochs-Love, 62, Twin Falls; possession of a controlled substance; dismissed with prejudice by prosecutor.

FELONY ACQUITTALS

Gary D. Gerner, 41, Pauli; grand theft; found innocent.

CIVIL FILINGS

Susan Brown, doing business as Rainbow Lounge vs. Leslie Finance Group LLC, Wholesale Merchant Services, SPC Inc. doing business as First National Merchant Solutions. Plaintiff seeking judgment against the defendants for special and general damages in an amount in excess of \$10,000, to be proven at trial. Plaintiff's fees and costs. Plaintiff states that she leased a credit card machine from defendants for her business. Plaintiff alleges that said machine was faulty and she sent it for repair and was never given a replacement. Plaintiff further alleges that she received months of threatening phone calls regarding collection of nonpayment for the faulty machine causing her to sustain emotional distress.

CHILD SUPPORT CASES

The State of Idaho, Department of Health and Welfare, Child Support Services have filed claims against the following: Phillip L. Jenkins. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$173 monthly support plus 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$1,000.32 and \$692 for foster care and child support costs. Kristin M. Jenkins. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$173 monthly support plus 81 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$1,060.32 and \$692 for foster care and child support costs. Carmen Mulvane. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$222 monthly support plus 54 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$2,318.33 for uncovered medical costs; \$955 for public assistance and child support costs. Andrew W. Stutz. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$202 monthly support plus 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$651.54 for uncovered medical costs. Helen R. Amador Magare. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$173 monthly support plus 50 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$5,022.56 for uncovered medical costs. Timothy J. Henington-Kyle. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$283 monthly support plus 74 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$3,895.02 for uncovered medical costs. Christopher D. Wilder. Seeking establishment of paternity; \$256 monthly support plus 56 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide medical insurance; \$768 for public assistance and child support costs.

DIVORCES FILED

Connie R. Bell vs. Keith A. Bell. Carol J. Frazier vs. Casey G. Frazier. Robert G. Alaniz vs. Jodi L. Sebia. Derek R. Remaly vs. Amy H. Remaly. Shilka M. Morris vs. Richard A. Morris. Carolyn M. Wright vs. Jon A. Wright. David J. Smith vs. Doretta Smith.

PETITION FOR ANNUITY

Diane E. Miller vs. William R. Miller.

Large advertisement for Everton Mattresses. Features '4th of July Apartment Sale' and 'NOW THRU SUNDAY' promotions. Lists various mattress models like 'Banana Chairs' and 'New Two-Sided Beds' with prices starting from \$399. Includes contact information for Everton Mattresses at 347 Pole Line Road, Twin Falls, ID.

Advertisement for the 'Rupert July 4 Celebration'. Promotes a 'Miniidoka Fairgrounds, Rupert' event from July 3-5, 2008. Features a 'RIDE FOR ONLY \$19.00 WITH \$3.00 COUPON' and 'AVAILABLE ONLY AT RUPERT'. Includes the Everton Mattresses logo.

9th Circuit Court: Judges shouldn't act as scientists

By John Miller
Associated Press writer

BOISE — An 11-judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has ruled it's improper for federal judges to act as scientists when weighing in on disputed U.S. Forest Service timber projects.

Timber industry lobbyists and Forest Service officials called the unanimous ruling overturning a challenge to a northern Idaho logging sale significant, partly because it emerged from a court often seen as favorable to environmental groups.

In the ruling released Wednesday, the judges dumped a July 2007 decision by a three-judge 9th Circuit panel that halted the Mission Brush timber sale in the Idaho Panhandle National Forest.

Environmental groups in Lands Council, based in Spokane, Wash., and the Wild West Institute, in Missoula, Mont., contended the Forest Service's logging plan exceeded what was needed to restore the forest's historic character and claimed logging would harm the region's ecosystem for species including small, migratory owls.

The ruling also overturns a 2005 9th Circuit decision in which judges concluded the Forest Service's approval of logging in blurred areas of western Montana's Lolo

National Forest was based on an arbitrary and capricious environmental analysis.

U.S. Agriculture Department Undersecretary Mark Roy, who oversees the Forest Service, called this "the most important decision involving a Forest Service environmental case in the last two decades," saying it restores the ability of federal agencies, not meddling judges, to exercise discretion over timber sales.

"The judges established a much more limited framework for judicial review of Forest Service decisions — a framework that's much more consistent with the standard use by other circuits," Roy told The Associated Press on Thursday. "The court says its role is not to act as a panel of scientists. They wanted to move back to a more appropriate role."

Timber industry representatives said this will help stop judges from asserting their opinions over the decisions of Forest Service managers. "We think it's a landmark case," said Tom Partin, president of the Portland, Ore.-based American Forest Resource Council.

"It speaks volumes that 11 judges out of the 9th Circuit came up with this decision ... saying that the panel screwed up and that the judges aren't supposed to second-guess the

forest managers."

Earth Justice, a nonprofit environmental law firm that monitored this case but didn't represent the plaintiffs, contends claims by logging advocates and Roy are premature that this decision will radically shift the balance of power toward the agency and away from environmental groups.

"I don't know that it changes the law at all, frankly," said Todd True, from the group's Seattle office. "Environmental groups or anyone else asking the courts to review government action have always had the burden to show that the government acted arbitrarily and that it failed to consider some factor that's important. I don't think this decision says that these agency scientists get a free pass and can do whatever they want to, and the courts have to accept it."

The logging projects on 3,829 acres in the Bonners Ferry region will likely now move forward, a victory for the cities of Bonners Ferry and Moyle Springs that had said blocking the work could hurt the region's timber-based economy. Some logging in the area had already begun before becoming entangled in the courts.

The logging is meant to bring a dense Douglas fir forest closer to its historical composition of open

ponderosa pine and Douglas fir stands and to reduce the risk of insect infestation and devastating wildfire.

Environmentalists had asked the court to act as a panel of scientists that instructs the Forest Service how to validate its hypotheses regarding wildlife viability choices among scientific studies — in determining whether the Forest Service has complied with the underlying Forest Plan, and orders the agency to explain every possible scientific uncertainty, Judge Milan D. Smith, Jr. wrote. "This is not a proper role for a federal appellate court."

Smith was on the three-member panel last July that overturned Lodge's original decision, but wrote then he did so only reluctantly because he was bound by the precedent of the 2005 Montana ruling.

That case, Ecology Center v. Austin, was an example of an "over-broad court injunction" that had ignored well-established standards that governed the court's limited role in reviewing laws and slashed employment in logging communities in the Pacific Northwest, he wrote then, adding he'd gladly overturn it if the occasion arose.

"Today, we correct these errors," Smith wrote this week, concluding that wildlife

viability isn't the Forest Service's only consideration when developing logging plans for public land. Other considerations are outdoor recreation, range, timber and

watershed protection — and federal law doesn't dictate just what methodology the agency must use when doing its environmental analysis, Smith wrote.

Intestate Announcement Inc.
Movies July 4 - 10, 2008
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Angelic Julia is Wanted (13)
Daily 7:00 8:30 Fri - Sun 2:00 7:00 8:30

Kung Fu Panda (PG)
Daily 7:00 8:15
Fri - Sun 12:30 2:45 7:00 8:15
Hawaii Waikiki on Daily 7:00 8:20
Thurs - Sun 12:10 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20
Hancock (13) Daily 7:15 9:45
Fri - Sun 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:45
Wanted on Daily 7:15 9:40
Fri - Sun 12:00 4:00 7:15 9:40

Summer Matinee #7 - Fri 7/11
Even and the City on Daily 8:45 9:20
Thurs 11:30 1:15 8:30 - All Seats \$1.50
Without Summer Matinee Ticket

Happens in Vegas (PG) Daily 7:00 8:15
Fri - Sun 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 8:15
201 KiteRider: an American GHI on
Daily 7:00 8:15
Fri - Sun 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 8:15
Sea and the City on Daily 8:45 9:20
Fri - Sun 12:30 3:00 6:45 9:30
The Love Guru (13) Daily 7:30 9:45
Fri - Sun 12:45 3:00 6:15 7:30 9:45
You Don't Mess with the Zohan (13)
Daily 7:15 9:45
Fri - Sun 1:15 4:15 7:15 9:45
Mon - Thurs 11:00 1:15 8:30 - All Seats \$1.50
Fri - Sun 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30

From Men (13) 12:15 2:00 6:45 8:20
Chronicles of Martin: Prince Casparan (13) 12:45 2:45 6:45 9:45
Indiana Jones: Kingdom of the Crystal Skull (13) 1:00 4:00 7:25 9:30
Kung Fu Panda (PG)
Daily 7:00 8:15
Fri - Sun 12:30 2:45 7:00 8:15
Hancock (13) 12:15 12:45 2:30 5:00 4:45
8:15 7:00 8:15 9:45

WALL-E
Daily 7:00 8:15
Fri - Sun 12:15 2:30 2:20 3:00
The Incredible Hulk (13) on Tues 12:00 1:00 3:30 4:00 7:00 7:25 8:30 8:50
Happening on 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 8:15
Summer Matinee #6 - Sun 11 - from the
A.M. & Chaperone on Fri Sarah Landon on
Mon - Thurs 11:00 1:15 8:30 - All Seats \$1.50
Without Summer Matinee Ticket

Kung Fu Panda (PG)
Shows Friday to Sunday 8:30 Plus
Indiana Jones: Kingdom of Crystal Skull (13) at 10:30

Get Smart (13)
Shows Friday to Sunday 8:30 Plus
The Incredible Hulk (13) at 10:30

Dam turbines in E. Idaho draw support

ST. ANTHONY (AP) — A plant to install power-generating turbines at Chester Dam this fall is being supported by conservation groups, who say the move will also benefit trout populations in a prime sport fishing area.

The 457-foot-long dam, built in 1938, is located on Henry's Fork of the Snake River between Ashton and St. Anthony in eastern Idaho. Symbolics LLC, with offices in Rigby and Boise, has proposed adding two turbines to generate 3.3 megawatts of electricity as well as a fish ladder.

Once the project is completed, cold water from deep pools behind the dam would be passed through the turbines and into the river below. Trout do better in colder water than in the warmer water now released over the top of the dam.

"With us, water temperature is everything," said Eric Campbell, a fishing guide at Three Rivers Ranch.

"Overall, this project is a great benefit to the Henry's Fork," Scott Christensen of the Greater Yellowstone Coalition, a conservation group.

Other groups backing the plan include Trout Unlimited and the Henry's Fork Foundation.

The conservation groups are paying the estimated \$350,000 cost of the fish ladder, which Christensen said will likely improve diversity by allowing fish to migrate above and below the dam.

Kim Goodman of Trout Unlimited said the conservation groups agreed to pay for the fish ladder because they didn't think the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission would require Symbolics to cover the cost.

Herrett Center for Arts and Science The College of Southern Idaho

Faulkner Planetarium Adults ... \$4 Students ... \$2
Seniors ... \$3

WSKY: Radio Station of the Stars 11:30-12:00 AM
Blown Away: The Wild World of Weather 7:00-7:30 PM
Planet Dance Show System Scale Out Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7:00 PM
Altrageous Rock Fridays at 8:15 PM
Greatest Wonders of the Universe Saturdays at 8:15 PM
Pink Floyd: Dark Side of the Moon Saturdays at 8:15 PM

SUMMER SOLAR SESSIONS
Free, weekly telescope viewing of the sun 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Each WEDNESDAY (weather permitting)

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Planned Parenthood
of Idaho

Stocks end mixed following jobs report

(AP) Wall Street capped a shortened trading week with a mixed finish Thursday after some uneven economic data: news of a contraction in the nation's services sector and a tame reading on employment. But stocks still had their third dismal week in a row.

Dow Jones Industrials 11,283.54

Nasdaq Composite 2,245.38

Standard & Poor's 500 1,282.90

Russell 2000 665.78

For a complete stock listing, go to MagicValley.com

FRIDAY
July 4, 2008

BUSINESS C5

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

Sidewalk slump Buhl's traditional sale struggles in return

By Blair Koch
Correspondent

BUHL — In decades past the Buhl's Sagebrush Days sidewalk sales was a big event for the small south-central Idaho community. Downtown stores used the annual sale to unload a year's worth of unsold merchandise while vendors came from near and far to peddle their wares. The several blocks of downtown's Main Street transformed into a festival of fajitas, snow cones, hula hogs and gar-

"It sure isn't the same event as it was years and years ago but things have changed a lot since then. I think with the economy the way it is that people just wouldn't be coming out to shop anyway."

— Carolyn Hillis, a vendor at Buhl's Sagebrush Days

den hoses — all for sale. After seasons of declining participation by vendors and attendees the Buhl Chamber of Commerce last year made the tough decision to pull the plug on the sales. Thursday saw the sales return from their year-long hiatus, although as one of the smallest venues ever,

said Carolyn Hillis, who was selling Sagebrush Days T-shirts with the Beta Sigma Phi sorority. "It sure isn't the same event as it was years and years ago but things have changed a lot since then," Hillis said. "I think with the economy the way it is that people just wouldn't be

coming out to shop anyway." Hillis pointed out that since big box retailers have descended upon Twin Falls the business environment in nearby Buhl has declined. "I do think that has something to do with it," she said. Small business just can't compete with that.

The Buhl Chamber of

Commerce decided to bring the sidewalk sales back this year after feedback from the community indicated it wanted and would support the event.

"It's a hard event to figure out," said Sagebrush Days Chairwoman Holly Langdon. "A quick walk along Buhl's Main Street quickly reveals many empty storefronts. Some businesses have recently gone out of business."

Please see **BUHL**, Page C6

BUSINESS BRIEFS

MAGIC VALLEY

Ad federation hosts media meeting

The Magic Valley Advertising Federation and KTFF 38 Idaho's News Channel/BEO Interactive will present Tony Courtwright, corporate director of Interactive sales for News-Press Gazette Company, who will discuss strategies and tactics to use local media Web sites in reaching your Internet goals. Join them on

The presentation will be held July 17 at the Twin Falls Shilo Inn.

Check-in will start at 11:15 with Courtwright's presentation starting at 11:45 a.m.

Call Melissa Crane at 208-308-0488 or RSVP via e-mail at Melissa.Crane@cableone.net.

IDAHO

Audit to focus on downtown Boise

BOISE — An auditor has been hired to dig into the finances and dealings of the agency guiding urban renewal projects in Idaho's capital city.

The external audit will focus on the Capital City Development Corp., the group that for years has coordinated the economic resurgence in downtown Boise.

It has its own bond and is financed through a complex taxing process that allows it to borrow money and repay debt with bonds backed by property taxes.

The agency has agreed to hire and pay for the review, scheduled to be completed in 60 days.

Critics claim the agency is no longer relevant given the health of Boise's downtown.

But some city officials see an expanded role for the group as the city takes on other downtown revitalization projects.

NATION

Nebraska Beef recall expands to 5.3 million pounds

OMAHA, Neb. — Nebraska Beef Ltd. is expanding a recall announced earlier this week to include all 5.3 million pounds of meat produced for ground beef between May 16 and June 26.

Federal investigators have linked Nebraska Beef's products to an outbreak of E. coli illnesses that has sickened 40 people in Michigan and Ohio.

The USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service said in a statement Thursday that these products may have been produced "under unsanitary conditions."

— Wire reports

The bourbon boom

Bourbon producers see amber-colored future

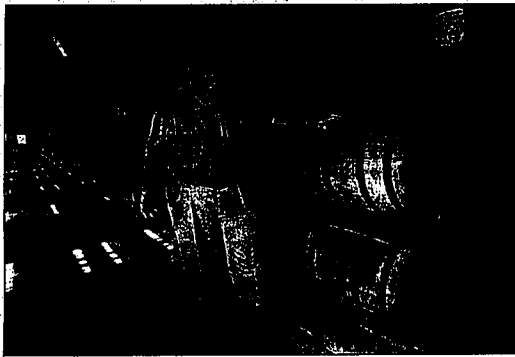
By Bruce Schreiber
Associated Press writer

LAWRENCEBURG, Ky. — To Wild Turkey master distiller Jimmy Russell, the piercing sounds of a warehouse rising in the Kentucky countryside are the sounds of prosperity.

"As long as you see work going on — and the construction, and increasing your size — you know your business is doing well," said Russell, who started working for the bourbon maker in 1954.

Distillers are expanding their bourbon production and storage and dispatching sales teams around the world, bullish for a traditionally Southern beverage gaining popularity worldwide. Surging exports, the weak U.S. dollar and rising popularity among younger Americans are driving the boom.

"It's an exciting time to be in the bourbon business," said Max L. Shapiro, president of Heaven Hill Distilleries Inc., a family-owned liquor company based in Bardonia. "Most of the time that I've been in the business — up until about the last 10 years — everybody was trying to consign the bourbon category to that great liquor store in the sky."



Wild Turkey master distiller Jimmy Russell talks about bourbon making as he stands in a warehouse in Lawrenceburg, Ky.

"It's an exciting time to be in the bourbon business. Most of the time that I've been in the business everybody was trying to consign the bourbon category to that great liquor store in the sky."

— Max L. Shapiro, president of Heaven Hill Distilleries Inc.

Heaven Hill recently spent nearly \$4 million boosting capacity 50 percent at its distillery in Louisville, where it makes Evan Williams and Elijah Craig bourbons. Wild Turkey, part of beverage company Pernod Ricard SA, based in France, sold more than 1 million cases worldwide last year for the first time. Its \$36 million expansion near Lawrenceburg will nearly double its production. The distillery at

Jack Daniels Tennessee Whiskey in Lynchburg, Tenn., is about to undergo a nearly \$6 million addition to install nine more fermenters.

Maker's Mark is preparing for a second expansion. And Jim Beam, the world's biggest bourbon maker, is in the midst of a \$70 million expansion in Kentucky. Beam and Maker's are part of Fortune Brands Inc.

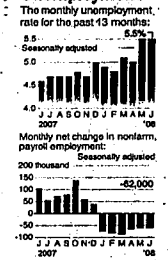
International expansion

In this quintessentially American segment is more than offsetting the pinch of rising grains and fuel costs. Grain accounts for a fraction of the overall cost of making bourbon, even though it's made from a mix that must be at least 51 percent corn.

Eric Schmidt, research director at Beverage Information Group, formerly known as Adams Beverage

Please see **BOOM**, Page C6

Unemployment



SOURCE: Department of Labor

62,000 jobs lost, off nearly half-million for year

By Jeanine Aversa
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The nation lost jobs for a sixth month in a row in June, a storm of pink slips drenching this year's July Fourth holiday for more than 60,000 Americans and leaving thousands more worried about the future.

With more job cuts expected in coming months, there's growing concern that many people will pull back on their spending later this year when the bracing effect of the tax rebates fades, leading a dangerous setback to the shaky economy. These worries are rekindling recession fears.

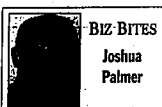
"The deteriorating jobs climate will dampen many a barbecue this weekend. It's hard to celebrate when you are out of a job," said Richard Yamarone, economist at Argus Research. In June alone, employers got rid of 62,000 jobs, bringing total losses so far this year close to a staggering half-million — 438,000, according to the Labor Department's report released Thursday. The economy needs to generate more than 100,000 new jobs a month for employment to remain stable. Just in the past few days, Chrysler LLC said it would close a plant and Starbucks Corp. said it would shut some 600 stores in the next year.

Please see **JOB5**, Page C6

Forbes hails Quale's as small business success; RVs and realtors keep Twin Falls fireworks show booming

Forbes turns to Quale's in its search for a small-business success story. Forbes magazine found Bruce Quale, owner of Quale's Electronics, located at 1730 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls.

In an edition published June 18, the business magazine highlighted the electronics store's ability to go up against big names such as Best Buy.



BIZ BITES

Joshua Palmer

Quale told Forbes that he increases his profit margins by providing installation services, which most stores

outsource — along with the revenue that it generates. He also cuts costs by sourcing inventory through a buying cooperative, which increases his margins about 10 percent.

Jenulme Beauty: Jennifer Bingham didn't wait to graduate from college before she started her own business. Bingham, who began creating her own line of pure

mineral makeup products, is launching her business right here in south-central Idaho.

She is in negotiations with businesses such as Meridia's Natural Foods, at 1511 Fillmore in Twin Falls, to sell her product.

For those who can't wait for negotiations to reach an agreement, Jenulme Beauty

Please see **BITES**, Page C6

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	19.43	▲ .01	Dell Inc.	22.81	▼ .11	Idacorp	28.29	▲ .13
Lithia Mo.	4.71	▲ .01	Micron	5.77	▲ .14	Supervalu	30.70	▼ .36

COMMODITIES

For more see page C6

Live cattle	103.80	▼ .20	Aug. oil	145.29	▲ 1.72
July gold	931.90	▼ 12.9	July silver	18.28	▼ .05

Coming Monday in business WASHINGTON — Treasury bill auction.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table of mutual fund performance data including fund names, shares, and returns.

Table of mutual fund performance data including fund names, shares, and returns.

COMMODITIES REPORT

Table of commodity futures prices including wheat, corn, soybeans, and other grains.

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

MARKET SUMMARY

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

INDEXES

Summary of major market indexes including Dow Jones, S&P 500, and others.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table of local stock market activity including company names and prices.

Buhl

Continued from page C5. Others have moved to new locations. "We just don't have many businesses down here and that's why it looks so sparse," Langdon said.

to see the event back. "I think when they decided to just quit the event people got discouraged but I'm glad it's back," he said.

Bites

Continued from page C5. products are available by calling 208-316-3662. Golf course construction: Golfers teeing off at the Twin Falls Municipal Golf Course on Grandview Drive.

RVs, realtors keep show booming. It seems appropriate to recognize the Greater Twin Falls Association of Realtors and Blisk's RV for co-sponsoring The Freedom Celebration Fireworks Display.

Microsoft and Yahoo rise on deal talks report

The Associated Press. NEW YORK — Yahoo Inc. shares rose more than 5 percent Wednesday as a new Wall Street Journal report said Microsoft Corp. has talked to other media companies about teaming up to buy

the liquor industry. 14.7 million 9-liter cases of straight whiskey sold in the United States last year. Up about 1 percent from 2006, the figure still lags behind vodka and rum in sales and percentage growth but is outpacing Scotch whiskey, the firm said.

Microsoft has spoken to News Corp., Time Warner Inc. and others about a way to complete the proposed deal, which the software maker has been exploring since withdrawing a \$47.5

billion bid to buy Yahoo in its entirety in May. Microsoft had previously proposed buying Yahoo's proposed operating divisions for \$1 billion and investing an additional \$8 billion for a 16 percent stake in Yahoo's remaining busi-

Boom

Continued from page C5. Group, said much of the sales growth has been in higher-priced small-batch and single-barrel products. "Younger consumers are interested in drinks that were, you might say, their grandfathers' drinks," Shapiro said.

and owner of e-events reg.com, a small New Jersey firm that handles registration and check-ins for trade shows. There were 8.5 million unemployed people as of June, up from 7 million a year earlier. Other economic news revealed more weak spots: • The number of newly

laid off people signing up for unemployment insurance rose sharply last week. New applications jumped by 16,000 to 404,000, the highest level since late March. • The nation's service sector — generally an engine for the economy — contracted in June. The Institute for Supply

Management's index of the service sector fell to 48.2 in June from 51.7 in May. A reading below 50 signals activity is shrinking while a reading above that suggests activity is expanding. "The economy will get worse before it gets better," said Steve Wozniak, an economist, professor at the California State University.

Jobs

Continued from page C5. meaning more lost jobs ahead, American Airlines recently said it may cut flight attendant jobs. When companies do have openings, job hunters are in for more competition. "I get resumes upon resumes when I put up job postings," said Jeff Posner, president

of another e-events reg.com, a small New Jersey firm that handles registration and check-ins for trade shows. There were 8.5 million unemployed people as of June, up from 7 million a year earlier. Other economic news revealed more weak spots: • The number of newly

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B.C. By Johnny Hart

YOU KNOW, YOU'VE BEEN SENDING ME MIXED MESSAGES ALL DAY.

I HAVE HYPERACTIVE GLANDS.

DRINK DEW!
DRINK DEW!
DRINK DEW!

Baby Blues By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott

IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERING, I'M PRACTICING TO BE AN OPERA SINGER.

I WAS GOING TO GUESS "SINGING DETECTOR."

Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker

WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? IT'S PAST YOUR CURFEW! I'VE BEEN WORRIED SICK!!

WE DIDN'T KNOW YOU CARED!

I DON'T, BUT I PROMISED YOUR MOTHERS I'D TRY TO BE CONCERNED.

Blondie By Dean Young & Stan Drake

BLONDIE DON'T YOU DARE THROW THOSE FIRECRACKERS UNDER MR. D'S HANNOCK!

HOW COULD YOU EVEN THINK OF DOING SUCH A THING?

ACTUALLY, IT WASN'T MY IDEA.

Dilbert By Scott Adams

I'M THE ANTIMATTER DILBERT. IF MY THIN FILM OF MATTERSCREEN WASHED OFF, I WOULD COME IN CONTACT WITH WATER AND BE ANNIHILATED.

ONCE AGAIN, MY FIRST INSTINCT WASN'T THE BEST.

The Elderberries By Phil Frank and Joe Troise

What a pleasant afternoon, Mr. Winters.

Why thank you, Miss Q.

Um... Dussy?

See? One doesn't need illegal firecrackers for a fun July Fourth!

Dussy. What is it, Dussy?

We have a problem.

Please tell me my office did not just explode!

Well, actually, the fire is gonna make it fine in five to ten minutes, but the fire is for very long.

For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

IF WOMEN RESIST THEIR FORTUNE, THEY HAVE ONLY THEMSELVES TO BLAME.

IF MEN WERE ONLY AS RESPONSIBLE AS WOMEN DO THEMSELVES DO THIS PROBLEM WOULDNT EXIST.

HEY MOM... COULD YOU GET ME A GLASS OF MILK?

SURE, MAKE... AS COON AS I GET YOUR ROOM CLEANED UP.

Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

FLOSSING MOUNT RUSHMORE

Garfield By Jim Davis

LOOKS LIKE RAIN.

WUP

WUP

WUP

WUP

WUP

WUP

WUP

AND THEY SAY THE ART OF CONVERSATION IS DEAD.

Hagar the Horrible By Chris Browne

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU! YOU NEVER THOUGHT ANYTHING OUT!

HOLD IT! WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THAT WAGE MATTER GAVE US IT?

Hi and Lois By Chance Browne

EVERY YEAR AMERICANS TRY TO RECREATE THE BIRTH OF OUR NATION.

...BASED ON THE "BIG BANG THEORY."

KA BOOM

Luann By Greg Evans

WHY BOAD AT THE STATION, I'S LIKE A STAND-IN BROTHER.

I'LL DO THE "DIE" (DIE) MARCH.

WOW, A STAND-IN WITH SUCH MANNERS.

WHAT'S THIS "STREY" DISH, ST?

WELL, SO'S NOT TO COOK AND BURN YOUR HOUSE DOWN, MADE BLUEBERRY CUMBLE PAPAY.

HAHAHA! WHA!!!

TRY THE VANILLA GUM TOPPING.

I'LL GO GET ADDITION PAPERS TOMORROW.

Classic Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz

THE LITTLE RED-HAIRED GIRL IS AT THE DOOR ASKING FOR YOU.

APRIL FOOL!

THIS IS JULY FOURTH!

WHATEVER.

Pearls Before Swine By Stephan Pastis

HEY, RAT... I'VE DRAWN A CARTOON FOR YOU. ARE YOU DOING?

WELL, SINCE I GOT A JOB WRITING CARTOONS, I THOUGHT I'D WRITE YOURS.

DO I WANT TO SEE THIS?

OH SURE, IT'S MORE COMPLEMENTARY THAN YOU PROBABLY IMAGINE.

He drew cartoons, and that is why he's now forgotten.

YOU SEEM UPSET.

Pickles By Brian Crane

I CAN'T GET OVER THAT STUDY THAT SAYS OLD PEOPLE ARE HAPPIER THAN YOUNG PEOPLE.

I THINK IT'S SOMETHING OLD PEOPLE HAVE KNOWN FOR A LONG TIME.

I SAW ANOTHER STUDY THAT SAYS MEN ARE HAPPIER THAN WOMEN. I WONDER WHAT THAT'S ALL ABOUT?

I WONDER!!

Rose is Rose By Pat Brady

I HAVE TO ADAPT IT. IT'S A BRILLIANT SOLUTION.

HE'S FOUND A WAY TO EXCLUDE ME FROM THE GLORIOUS ABAMA... BY HIDING IN HERE.

A PEPPERONI-CHEWING GUM-BREATH-INSULATOR CHAMBER!

Non Sequitur By Wiley

WELCOME BACK TO HORIZONS WITH OUR GUEST, DEPUTY WHITE HOUSE OPERATIONS, BOBBIEN OUTLINE, AND A RECORD RATE OF HOME RECESSIONS. THIS IS NOT A RECEPTION!

CALL US BOB, AND THERE'S NO RECEPTION!

WELL, NOT YET!

WHICH JUST APPEARS TO BE MACHINERY KNOWING CREATION TAKES OVER.

REALLY? WHEN, WHAT A CONSPIRACY!

Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketchum

IF IT'S UNCLE SAM'S BIRTHDAY, WHERE'S THE CAKE?

The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

SIX MONTHS AGO I ORDERED MY HUSBAND TO QUIT SMOKING.

DOES HE FEEL BETTER?

BEATS ME, I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM SINCE.

Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

SO WHAT IS IT, ZITS?

THERE'S THIS GIRL.

WAOOSH!

WAOOSH!

THE THREE MOST COMPELLING REASONS A GUY CAN SAY TO HIS MOM.

OH, I'M BREAKING UP!

Texas man freed by DNA after 15 years in prison

By Jeff Carlton
Associated Press writer

DALLAS — A Texas man who spent more than 15 years in prison after being wrongly convicted of kidnapping and robbery raised both arms skyward and collapsed in his mother's embrace Thursday after being told he was a free man.

Patrick Waller's sobs were the only sound at a crowded hearing attended by four other inmates also exonerated by DNA testing.

"It's all right, honey," Patricia Cunningham told her son. "It's over. You're out of here. You're going home."

Waller had been behind bars since 1992 for aggravated robbery and aggravated kidnapping stemming from the abduction of a Dallas couple. He was proved innocent by DNA testing late last year.

"I feel vindicated," said Waller, 38. "I feel thankful. Most of all, I feel blessed."

His release had been all but certain since last week, when the Dallas County prosecutor's office announced that DNA evidence had cleared Waller and matched the profile of another man.

That suspect identified his accomplice, and both men subsequently confessed in front of a grand jury prosecutors said. Neither man is in prison, although one is on parole, and they won't face criminal charges because the statute of limitations has expired.

Waller is the 19th man in Dallas County since 2001 shown by DNA evidence to be innocent of the crime for which he was convicted. That's more than any county in the nation, according to The Innocence Project in New York, a legal center specializing in wrongful-conviction cases.

Four former inmates who collectively served nearly 100 years in prison before being exonerated lined the back wall of the crowded courtroom. The man freed by DNA testing in Dallas County have

made a habit of showing up in court for exonerations hearings, and on Thursday they presented Waller with a prepaid cell phone as a gift.

Their exoneration stories helped Waller during his incarceration.

"All these guys I just met, I have all their clippings," Waller said. "It always gave me hope that one day it would be my turn."

Waller said he plans to ask the other exonerees about the challenges of rejoining society. He is also about 20 credit hours short of a degree.

John Sticksel, an Innocence Project of Texas board member and a professor at the University of Texas at Arlington, said he wants to help Waller enroll at the suburban Dallas school.

Waller's ordeal began in 1992 when two men kidnapped a couple and stole several hundred dollars. The men also sexually assaulted the woman after tying up the man, District Attorney Mike Ware said.

Another couple who drove up to the scene were also held at gunpoint. A security guard arrived and scared off the men, who fled in separate cars.

Three of the four people abducted picked Waller in a photo lineup. The fourth later picked him out of a live lineup, Ware said.

Waller maintained his innocence and presented an alibi at trial but was convicted and sentenced to life in prison. He also pleaded guilty to two charges of aggravated kidnapping, fearing more life sentences if he were convicted, said his lawyer, Gary Udahsen.

In 2001, Waller requested post-conviction DNA testing under a new state law. The DA's office, then under different leadership, opposed the request, and it was denied by a judge. A second attempt in 2005 was also unsuccessful.

Bill Hill, who was the district attorney when Waller requested his DNA tests, did not return a message, from The Associated Press.



Innocence Project of Texas board member John Sticksel, right, looks on as inmate Patrick Waller reacts to the announcement in court that his conviction for a crime that sent him to jail for more than 15 years was being overturned, in Criminal Court District 2 at the Frank Crowley Courts Building in Dallas, Thursday.

"All these guys I just met, I have all their clippings. It always gave me hope that one day it would be my turn."

— Patrick Waller, on four former Dallas County inmates who were exonerated before him

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Burn barrels are one of the leading causes of wildfires and structural fires in the United States. Even a burn barrel that feels cool can have live embers in the center that can ignite when the barrel is dumped. As a fire prevention measure, SSIW's Board of Directors has decided to ban ash dumping at the transfer stations, effective July 14, 2008.

For more information, please call Southern Idaho Solid Waste at 208-432-9082 or visit www.sisw.org.

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YOUR RECREATION IN IDAHO AND BEYOND
TIMES-NEWS • OUTDOORS EDITOR ANDREW WEEKS: (208) 735-3233 AWEKS@MAGICVALLEY.COM

INSIDE: Ask the Officer, D2 | Skywatch, D2 | Shooting the Bull, D3 | World, D4

A place of wonder

Cooling off in the Shoshone Indian Ice Cave



Recent visitors to the Shoshone Indian Ice Cave make their way to the cave, located in a gully not far from where gift and other shops are located. Tour guides say visitors should have good knees, heart and lungs, and be in general good health to make the hike.

Story and photos by Andrew Weeks
Staff writer

The solitude of the place can be haunting.

As wind rustles the hand-carved, wooden chimera that hang from a shopkeeper's den their effort at harmony, a discordant tapping — there are other things that make the place resemble images from a ghost town, such as the skeletal heads of cattle or the antiquies that line the walkways near wary-looking shops, which, perhaps in their own way, are antiquies themselves.

But there are enough people around, at least during the summer months, who help make the otherwise lonely place look lively.

And then there's the 1,700-foot long, naturally formed lava tube not far from the shops — known as the Shoshone Indian Ice Cave — which give people reason to visit this spot off Highway 75, about 17 miles north of Shoshone.

Touring the cave, with its calcium carbonate deposits that naturally form images on its walls to temperatures that range between 26 degrees and 33 degrees Fahrenheit, is not only instructional but a welcome respite from summer's heat.

As one descends the cave the drop in temperature but due to ghostly apparitions but the plethora of ice, mostly found on the cave's floor but also at places on its roof and walls, which give the place its name.

"There's about 300 tons of ice right now," said tour guide Clint Rhoades, a geology student at the College of Southern Idaho.

While standing on a large sheet of ice during a recent tour, Rhoades explained to his group that there was but a slim layer of surface water but that under that there was at

if you go
The Shoshone Indian Ice Cave is located at 1561 N. Highway 75, about 17 miles north of Shoshone.
Tours are from 8 a.m. to 7:15 p.m., May 1 through Sept. 30.
For more information: 208-686-2058.

least 25 feet of solid ice. "This stuff won't break," he said.

The cave, formed by the cooling of lava that flowed in the area more than 2,000 years ago, "acts like a swamp cooler on some levels," Rhoades said. There's just enough airflow through the cave that helps keep the ice from melting — though minimal melting does occur occasionally, he said, and a number of icicles form in the spring.

"It's just the right combination of insulation, airflow and temperature," said Fred Cheslik, manager and co-owner of the site and grandson of Russell Robinson, who in 1954 took strides to preserve the then-melting ice cave as an historic site. Previous to Robinson's work, the front and back ends of the cave were removed. Robinson spent 14 years re-closing the cave, so just the right airflow, coupled with the cave's insulation and temperature, would cause the ice to naturally reform.

"The best way to describe it is that it acts like a refrigerator," said Cheslik's wife Patti Cheslik, also a manager of the site.

Water used to form the ice, Rhoades said, comes from the Big Wood River.

Rhoades, who often wears shorts during tours, said he enjoys the refreshing temperature of the cave. When it's hot

Bluegill — a fish built for kids

By Kelton Hatch
For the Times-News

Want to have a fun day on the water with the family? Take the kids fishing for bluegill.

Bluegill is the perfect fish for young or seasoned anglers. Averaging between 6 to 12 inches long, the fish is easily handled on a small pole and are aggressive feeders.

Bluegill (Lepomis macrochirus) is a species of freshwater fish sometimes referred to as bream, or brim, and is a member of the sunfish family.

Of tropical sunfish body shape, the bluegill's most notable feature is the blue or black "ear" actually an extension of the gill cover called the opercular flap.

Its name, however, comes from the bright blue edging visible on its gill rakers. It can be distinguished from similar species by the vertical bars along its flanks.

Anglers in pursuit of bluegill can use a variety of baits to catch them. Live baits like a small piece of nightcrawler, mealworms, redworms or waxworms suspended from a bobber

on a hook or micro jig can bring success.

Small bead-head flies (size 16-22), a piece of hot dog, raw chicken, white bread or a corn kernel can also make an appetizing meal for the small fish.

In the Magic Valley region, some of the hot spots for bluegill include Dierkes Lake in Twin Falls; Corner Pond in Rupert; the Oster Ponds, West Pond, and the Goose Pond at the Hagerman Wildlife Management Area; Carey Lake, northeast of Carey, and the Bruneau Dunes State Park ponds.

Children 14 or older need a fishing license. There is no catch limit for bluegill, but keeping fish 10 inches or larger is recommended to ensure that the fish is large enough to easily fillet.

For more information on bluegill fishing in the Magic Valley region: Idaho Fish and Game Regional Office in Jerome, 324-4359.

Kelton Hatch, regional conservation educator for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, may be reached at 324-4359 or khatch@idfg.idaho.gov.



Photo courtesy of Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Mackenzie Ryan, 4, enjoys a recent bluegill fishing trip to Dierkes Lake.

Pampered car campers

Editor's note: This is the first in a two-part series of columns on luxury-oriented camping gear.

Toting the luxuries of modern living to the wilderness is the trend for a new breed of car campers. That's according to Hud Knight, a merchandise manager at Backcountry.com in Park City, Utah.

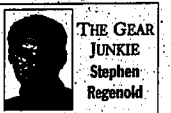
"The theme has been to bring the creature comforts of home to the campground," Knight said.

Indeed, people used to staying in motels can now put up a tent with lights, fans and power plugs. Or, want hot water on your picnic table?

Coleman has a propane-powered device that spigots instant hot liquid at the touch of a button.

Take 'em or leave them, the following five products, from the power tent to stakes topped with pink flamingos, were made to put some "pamper" into the car camper experience.

Power Tent
Plug in reading lights and recharge the iPod in the Eureka! 1310 Niergy tent, a shelter equipped with three 12v DC outlets wired to a



THE GEAR JUNKIE
Stephen Regenoold

rechargeable battery pack.

The home away from home has six windows and a 13 x 10-foot floor plan to sleep up to 10 people. \$299.90.

www.curekatents.com

2. Outback BBQ

Grill veggies or meat on a state park picnic table with this packable stove.

Powered with propane cartridges, the Primus Atle BBQ ignites at the push of a spark button and fires hot — up to 12,000 BTUs on the burner — for backcountry feasts. \$90. www.primus-camping.com

3. Hot Pipe

Hot water for cooking or cleaning can be an ultimate luxury while camping. With the Coleman Hot Water On Demand device, piping-hot H2O is easy to obtain. Press the button on this propane-powered spigot and instant hot liquid will rush forth from its tank in five seconds. \$258.49. www.coleman.com

Please see GEAR, Page D3



Tour guide Clint Rhoades instructs recent visitors before they enter the Shoshone Indian Ice Cave, located off Highway 75 about 17 miles north of Shoshone.

Story continues on page D3

Sawtooth campgrounds open over holiday weekend

A number of recreation facilities in the Sawtooth National Forest will be open to visitors this weekend, including campgrounds in the Fairfield and Minidoka Ranger districts.

But visitors are reminded that forests and fires do not mix. Fires are prohibited on National Forests and other public lands.

Forest officials urge that visitors report firework activities as well as downed trees on roads and trails or other weather conditions, according to the Forest Service. Most trails within the Ketchum Ranger District are now open.

The following trails within the Castle Rock fire area will remain closed for the season

to all uses except hiking: Crooks Creek; the West fork leg of Red Warrior or "Bots"; Warfield; Gove Gulch; and the West Fork of Warm Springs.

For more information or to make reservations: 1-877-444-6777 or <http://twofws.fs.fed.us/sawtooth/recreation/recreation>.

—Staff report

Collection crews aid restoration efforts

Question: "I saw a Fish and Game sign at several people out in the sagebrush holding large canvas baskets and beating shrubs with rackets. What on earth were they doing?"

Answer: You probably saw one of our native seed collection crews in action. Fish and Game volunteers collect seed from a variety of native plant species used to enhance wildlife habitat in the Magic Valley.

Native plants species are an essential component of good wildlife habitat. Unfortunately, habitat is lost each year due to wildfires and other causes. When possible the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, in cooperation with other state and federal agencies, restore lost habitats by seeding or by planting seedlings of native species in critical areas.

In theory, locally collected native plant seeds is best adapted to conditions and restoration sites; their parent plants having survived

scale seed collection effort. In the Magic Valley alone, 250 volunteers and Fish and Game staff collected more than 100 pounds of sagebrush seed that was seeded by aircraft onto the Murphy Complex burn.

Actual seed collection for most shrub species is rather simple, but the timing is tricky. Once seed is suitably ripe it can be stripped by hand into a large canvas hopper, like the ones our reader saw.

Another common method is to lightly tap the branches so that seed falls into the hopper. Only a gentle tap is needed so that the plants are not damaged; ripe seed will drop readily.

Because seed collection is rather simple, it makes a great volunteer activity for people of all ages. Even kids can participate by working in pairs or groups. One or two people hold the canvas hopper while another person removes the seed. In the past, 4-H clubs, scouts, stu-

denis, families and individuals have all participated in Fish and Game seed-collection projects.

Seed collection must be performed under strict state and federal guidelines and permits in order to ensure an area is not over-harvested.

It is also important to note that one must obtain permission from a landowner to collect on private lands.

This year, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and volunteers were collecting seed from several native plant species in the Magic Valley from July through December.

If you'd like to volunteer, call the Magic Valley Regional Office at (208)324-4359 and ask for Ed Papeburg, volunteer coordinator.

ASK THE OFFICER
Gary Hompland

In the same climate and soil type. For that reason, Fish and Game enlisted volunteers to help collect plant seed.

In 2007, volunteers helped the department collect more than 60 pounds of seed from antelope bitterbrush, a critical forage shrub for wintering mule deer, antelope, elk and bighorn sheep.

Hopefully, tens of thousands of seedlings will be produced from that seed, and those seedlings will be planted on Magic Valley mule deer winter ranges during the spring of 2009.

Last year's wildfires prompted a massive restoration effort. Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter called upon Idahoans to help out with a large-

Gary Hompland, a regional conservation officer with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, may be reached at 208-324-4359.

Sage grouse topic of upcoming meeting

BURLEY — The South Magic Valley Sage Grouse Local Working Group will hold a public information meeting 7 to 9 p.m. on Thursday, July 31, to present an overview of the current sage grouse situation in the South Magic Valley planning area.

The presentation will be held at the Burley Best Western Inn, 820 West Overland Ave. The meeting is open to the public, area landowners, interested organizations, agencies and anyone else interested in learning more about the sage-grouse situation.

Dave Musil, a research biologist from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game will deliver the main presentation that will cover geography, sage grouse species and physio-



management of the sage grouse, and may change the way in which sage grouse habitat is managed, potentially affecting the use of public and private lands.

The Group has recently formed for the purpose of "...maintaining and increasing the greater sage grouse populations in the South Magic Valley sage grouse planning area."

The Group is interested in broadening its participation and membership to include students and key area residents who are interested in working positively together in this effort.

For more information on the public meeting or the South Magic Valley Sage Grouse Local Working Group, contact Coordinator Justin Barrett, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, 324-4359.

gy, behavior, habitat selection, threats, Magic Valley population status and the legal status of the Endangered Species Act listing process.

Musil and members of the Group will also answer ques-

tions from the audience.

The status of the sage-grouse is currently being evaluated by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service for listing under the ESA. If listed, the associated regulations could impact the

A planet's brightness depends on several factors

While you're watching the firework tonight, look for the two brightest objects in the western sky: Saturn and slightly dimmer Mars, lying just three degrees apart. And look in the southern sky to see brilliant Jupiter. Their different brightnesses owe to five factors.

Planets shine entirely by reflected sunlight. So both the planet's distance from the Sun and its distance from Earth affect its brightness.

Light's intensity drops as the square of the distance, so a planet twice as far away appears four times dimmer; three times farther is nine times dimmer, and so on. For example, Venus is more than 13 times closer to the Sun than the most distant naked



SKYWATCHER
Chris Anderson

eye planet (Saturn), and nearly 40 times closer to Earth at its closest approach to Saturn at its farthest. Thus, sunlight at Venus is 174 times stronger than at Saturn, and dims nearly 1,500 times less on its journey to Earth.

A planet's size is critical as well. The largest planet, Jupiter, is more than 29 times wider than the smallest (Mercury). The sunlight a planet intercepts is proportional to the square of its diameter, so Jupiter's swath of sunlight is almost 960 times larger than Mercury's.

Not all the sunlight falling on a planet is reflected. Venus' planet wide blanket of white clouds reflects 65 percent of incident sunlight, the most of any planet. Mercury's dark volcanic surface only reflects 11 percent.

Finally, not all the sunlight that a planet reflects comes our way.

Mercury and Venus, being closer to the Sun, can display the full set of phases from crescent to full. The outer naked-eye planets (Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn) are always full or gibbous (nearly full). All things considered, Jupiter currently appears about 23 times brighter than

Salmon season still open this weekend on some waters

Though salmon fishing closed Tuesday on several river segments, two rivers will remain open this weekend, providing a combined 63 miles of river open to salmon fishing.

Almost 30 miles of the Upper Salmon River is open for salmon fishing, a stretch that has not been open to recreational salmon fishing in 30 years.

This year 25 miles of the South Fork Salmon River that have not been open to recreational salmon fishing for 43

years are open for salmon fishing.

In addition, the eight miles that have been open for recreational salmon fishing during open seasons since 1997 are again open this year.

Salmon fishing remains open over the Fourth of July weekend on the following waters:

Upper Salmon River on the Highway 75 Bridge over the Salmon River at milepost 213.5 (about nine miles west of Clayton) upstream to the posted boundary about 100

yards downstream of the weir at Sawtooth Hatchery south of Stanley, until further notice or Aug. 2, whichever comes first.

South Fork Salmon River from the bridge on Forest Service Road 48 Lick Creek/East Fork South Fork Road/ where it crosses the South Fork Salmon River, just upstream from the confluence with the East Fork South Fork Salmon River, upstream about 33 river miles to a posted boundary about 100 yards downstream from the Idaho Fish and Game South Fork

Salmon River weir and trap, open until further notice.

Any waters not specifically open are closed to Chinook salmon fishing.

Anglers may use only barbless hooks no larger than five-eighths inch from the point to the shank. A single hook may have up to three points.

Fishing hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset, local time.

Limits for adult Chinook salmon are two per day, six in possession and 40 for the season.

OUTDOOR BRIEFS

New Forest Service travel maps available

Motorized users looking to hit the trails this weekend are reminded that new Forest Service rules are in force restricting cross-country travel.

Users clearly access to trails, riders should pick up the new maps.

The Sawtooth National Forest released its motorized use maps to implement the travel plan/route designation the agency introduced in February.

The maps also display those routes open to motorized use in the Sawtooth National Recreation Area and those portions of the Fairfield and Minidoka Ranger Districts that were not included in route designation decisions.

National and regional rules in the national forest prohibit cross-country motorized travel on areas previously open to cross-country travel, and designate roads and trails that are open for summer use.

The maps are free and can be ordered in the Minidoka Ranger District in Burley, the forest supervisor's office in Twin Falls, the Ketchum District and Fairfield Ranger districts.

For more information: Ketchum District, 208-622-0098; Fairfield District, 208-622-3302; Minidoka District, 208-678-0403; SNRA, 208-774-3000; Sawtooth Supervisor's Office, 208-737-3200. The 300-page roadless report is available at www.roadless.fs.fed.us/idaho.shtml.

Yellowstone reports record June visitation

Y E L L O W S T O N E NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. — Visitation to Yellowstone National Park hit a new record in June, and is on a near-record pace for the first six months of the year.

Park officials say Yellowstone recorded more than 612,000 recreational visits last month.

That's up nearly 2,500 visitors from June 2007, and marks only the second time ever that the park's June visitation has topped the 600,000 mark.

For the first six months of the year, Yellowstone recorded more than 947,000 visitors.

That's a slight decrease from a year's record of 978,000 visitors.

But it's still the second-highest visitation level ever recorded for the first six months of the year.

Yellowstone had a record 3.15 million visitors in 2007. The previous record was set in 1992 at 3.14 million visitors.

The bulk of the park's visitation occurs in May through September.

For more information: National Park Service Public Information Office, <http://www.nature.nps.gov/stats/> or Yellowstone National Park, <http://www.nps.gov/yell/>.

Anderson ponds now open for fishing

HAGERMAN — Anglers anxiously awaiting the opening of the Hagerman Wildlife Management Area's four Anderson ponds, the Bass ponds, Big Bend Ditch, Goose Pond and the pond west of Highway 30 need wait no longer — it opened Tuesday.

The late opening date will protect nesting waterfowl on the WMA. The season closes Oct. 31. The ponds are open to anglers under the general fishing rules, which include limits of six bass larger than 12 inches, six trout, and use of general fishing equipment.

Anglers can catch rainbow trout, bluegill and the occasional channel catfish or white sturgeon. Fishermen are reminded that sturgeon can be harvested and that they should be released immediately. Do not remove sturgeon from the water for photos or measuring.

Motorists are not allowed on the Hagerman Wildlife Management Area, but anglers can use float tubes, pontoon boats or other small watercraft.

For more information on fishing in the Magic Valley region: Idaho Department of Fish and Game Regional Office, 324-4359.

Controlled hunt draws online results

Hunters who applied for elk, deer, antelope and bear controlled hunt tags are free to see whether they were successful. In the recent computerized drawing.

For controlled hunt drawing results: <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/apps/ch/deab.cfm>. For controlled hunt odds: <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/apps/ch/odds.cfm>.

Applicants can enter their hunting license numbers to find out instantly how they did in the drawing.

Successful applicants will be notified by mail by July 10.

Winners must buy controlled hunt tags by Aug. 1. Any permits and tags not purchased by that date will be forfeited.

After a second drawing, any leftover permits and tags will be sold over the counter.

Results of deer, elk, antelope and fall black bear controlled hunt drawings are available on the Idaho Department of Fish and Game Web site.

Hunters can buy those permits and tags at any Fish and Game office, license vendor, by telephone at 800-554-4685 or 800-824-8723, or online at <http://ids/outdoorcentral.us/>.

For information on rules and dates for specific hunts contact the regional administrator of the Fish and Game Web site.

Those who draw can use Fish and Game's Hunt Planner: <http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/HuntPlanner> to plan those fall hunts.

From staff and wire reports

Jerome Gun Club hosts shoot Saturday

The Jerome Gun Club will host a sporting days shoot on Saturday. This is a 100-target event. Cost is \$20 for adults and \$14 for juniors. There is a \$5 charge for non-members.

Sign up time is 9 a.m. and shooting begins at 10 a.m.

The club is located 11 miles north of the junction of Highway 95 and Interstate 84 at mile marker 64.

If you've never shot sporting clays at the club, your first 50 targets are discounted.

The next scheduled shoot will be Sunday, July 20. For more information: Kenny at 733-6045.

Superintendent picked for Hagerman/Minidoka monument

Wendy K. Janssen, a 19-year veteran of the National Park Service, will be the new superintendent of Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument and Minidoka National Historic Site, the agency announced on Tuesday.

Janssen replaces Neil King, who retired in January, and was selected based on her abilities and past work with nearby communities. NPS Regional Director Jonathan B. Jarvis said. She is expected to start the job in early September.

"Wendy's ability to lead in inspiring park partners and park staff," Jarvis said in a press release. "Her work in partnership with the county demonstrates how important it is to work with communities." Janssen is currently chief of interpretation and education at Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area in California. There, park officials said, she forged innovative partnerships to engage and excite park visitors. In 2007, she also became acting superintendent of Cabrillo National Monument, where she worked for four months, providing leadership and overall management.

From staff and wire reports

103 years young and still kicking: Browning's .45 ACP

It's been said that desperation is the father of inspiration. This was certainly the case with respect to the development of one of the most effective pistol cartridges of all time: the .45 ACP (Automatic Colt Pistol).

SHOOTING THE BULL
Rich Simpson

To get some sense of the social and political elements responsible for the genesis of this remarkable pistol round, let's turn back the clock more than 100 years ... back to 1898.

Compelled by public outcry over the abusive treatment of Cuban nationalists by their Spanish-backed government, the U.S. Navy ordered the battleship U.S.S. Maine to steam from Key West, Fla., to Cuba. Soon after its arrival and anchoring in Havana harbor, the battleship was rocked by a tremendous explosion. The stricken warship quickly sank to the bottom of the muddy harbor, taking many young American sailors with it. Squalidering tensions between the U.S. and Spain now erupted into full flame. With the battle cry "Remember the Maine!" echoing in their ears, the United States Congress declared war on Spain.

The Spanish-American War concluded within the year. Through treaty negotiations, Puerto Rico, Guam, and the Philippine Islands were ceded to the United States. In one fell swoop, the U.S. had exponentially increased its economic and strategic influence in the Caribbean and the Pacific. But we were soon to learn, as Spain and Britain had, the cost of expansionist policy. U.S. occupational forces in the Philippines immediately came into conflict with a people hardened by decades of Western oppression. Hostilities between the two cultures quickly erupted into the Philippine-American War, which raged from 1899 to 1902. The second phase of this conflict, known as the Moro Rebellion, waged on till 1913 and markedly demonstrated the inadequacy of American small arms. The Moro people of the southern Philippines were a feudal Islamic warrior society that had been systematically abused by the Spanish. Armed primarily with their

modified sugarcane cutting machetes or bolás, the Moros were ferocious opponents. Prior to going into battle, Moro warriors wrapped their limbs in leather, drank hallucinogenic peoaters, and performed religious rituals designed to prepare their minds and bodies for battle. In this altered state the Moro proved to be nearly unstoppable. More than one American soldier fell to the bolás' savage slice, after having first impotently emptied six shots from his .38 Long Colt revolver or several 220 grain rounds from his 30-40 Krag rifle into a Moro's body.

With these experiences fresh in their minds, Col. John T. Thompson (inventor of the Thompson sub-machine gun) of the Army Ordnance Board and Col. Louis LaGarde of the Medical Corps determined that a larger bore handgun with greater stopping power was needed. Lethality tests with cartridges of various calibers were conducted at the Nelson Morris Co. Union Stockyards in Chicago on live cattle, deer, and even human cadavers. Their conclusion: "the board was of the opinion that a bullet, which will have the shock effect and stopping effect at short ranges necessary for a military pistol or revolver, should have a caliber not less than .45."

When the Army's handgun selection trials began in 1906, American and European manufacturers were invited to submit their design specifications, along with a prototype pistol and .45 caliber cartridges for evaluation. Two designs stood out from the pack: a semi-auto from Savage Corp. and a John M. Browning-designed Colt pistol. Browning's Colt — the Model 1905 — fired a 200 grain .45 caliber bullet at 900 feet per second. Browning named his formidable round the .45 ACP.

But neither design proved entirely satisfactory and both models were returned to

their respective factories for reworking. Browning enhanced his pistol's reliability by modifying the locking lugs and altering the safeties.

In response to the Army's demand for a heavier bullet, Browning bumped up the weight of the ACP's bullet from the original 200 to a hefty 230 grains. This change resulted in a minimal reduction in velocity of only 50 fps. Nominal velocities for this bullet weight were established at a subsonic velocity of 850 fps, where it remains today for standard factory ammunition.

Both company's models were resubmitted for further testing in 1911, but only the Colt survived the trials. On March 28, 1911, Browning's newly-redesigned Colt-produced .45 Automatic pistol — the Colt 1911 — was selected as the official U.S. sidearm.

Besides being chambered in 1911 and 1911A1-sized semi autos, it has found a home in modern single shot handguns, revolvers, submachine guns, and even a custom stamped-steel single shot pistol that was produced by the thousands and dropped to arm parties and resistance forces in German-occupied Europe during World War II. Though the Colt Government .45 has been replaced by the Nieto-stamped Beretta M-9 pistol in the higher capacity 9x19mm Parabellum as the standard issue sidearm, a number of elite U.S. military units, police tactical units, and governmental agencies, still holster handguns chambered for the man-stopping .45.

At 103, today's .45 ACP is more popular than ever. If you're in the market for a powerful, reliable handgun, you'd do well to consider one chambered in .45 ACP. There's still lots of kick left in the ole War Horse.

Rich Simpson may be reached at rsimpson29@hotmail.com.

Cave

Continued from page D1
out, he said, he often finds himself leading longer tours, so he can enjoy the coolness of the cave.

The cave, which is open for tours from May 1 through Sept. 30, is a popular tourist spot for many out-of-towners. "We get people from all over the world," Rhoades said. "We seem to be world famous."

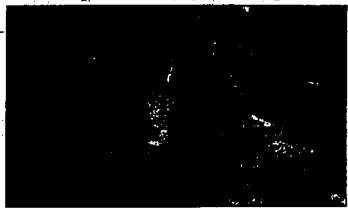
Sometimes visitors will ask about its storybook legends, which used to be part of the tour but are not anymore, such as the one about Indian Princess Edahow, who legend says was buried within the cave's ice mass. You likely won't find any human remains, but there is a pile of bear bones your tour guide might point out to you. Some claim the cave to be haunted. Chalk said, but noted that he's never seen or felt anything supernatural within the cave.

"Did you feel anything," he asked.
"Yes," I said. "It was cold."
Then he chuckled. It's the ice, of course.

Perhaps it's the solemnity of the place, when the wind blows through in this valley of nowhere, or the chills that break over one's body as he or she descends the cave. In the right frame of mind, perhaps it's that allure that helps make the place a favorite haunt for summertime enthusiasts wishing to escape the heat of out of doors.

"I liked it. It was a lot of fun," said visitor Joan Harnshaw, who toured the cave with her husband Mike Harnshaw, both of Yuma, Ariz. "It felt good. It was cool down there."

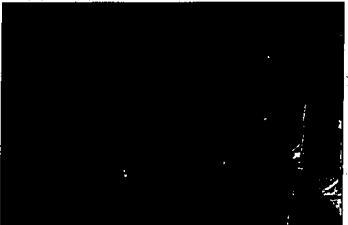
Be aware, however, if you plan to visit the ice cave this summer: At the beginning of each tour, guides warn visitors that they should reconsider the hike if they have bad knees, hurt, lings or other health ailments. Cave visitors must traverse about 170 stairs, sometimes without a handrail, and walk near the cliff overlooking a gully where the ice cave and other formations are located. A couple other caves are located nearby, but they are closed to the public.



An image formed naturally by calcium carbonate deposits resembles a bearded figure. Tour guides call the image the Guardian of the Cave.



Various kinds of ice formations can be found in the Sheshone Indian Ice Cave. Icicles form in abundance during springtime and currently about 300 tons of ice is located within the lava-formed cave.



A wooden walkway allows visitors to make their way to the end of the 1,700-foot long cave. The cave's floor is filled with ice, which in some places is 25 feet thick, according to tour guide Clint Rhoades.

In the distance, your guide will point to the area's volcano, called Black Butte, which helped form the current lava tube thousands of years ago and as current as 1973 issued gas columns 480 feet into the air. And near the cave's entrance, look for the white calcium

carbonate deposit image, naturally formed, that resembles a bearded ghost, which is that tour guides call the Guardian of the Cave.

Andrew Weeks may be reached at 208-735-3233 or aweeks@magicvalley.com.

Gear

Continued from page D1

4. Port-o-Kitchen
Kelly calls this foldable cook table a "deluxe culinary setup."

Indeed, with aluminum prep surfaces, bins, shelves and wind screens, the Basecamp Kitchen can handle up to 100 pounds of food and cooking equip-

ment on top. \$160, www.kelly.com.

5. Pack Flamingos
Add some kitsch and flair to your camp setup with a flock of Pack Flamingos. Inflatable nylon lawn ornaments that come topped on aluminum tent pegs. Campers point in these birds for support, guy line

visibility as well as a cheeky decoration. \$22 for a four-pack. www.pnccdoor.com.

Stephen Regenold writes *The Gear Junkie* column for several U.S. newspapers; see <http://www.thegearjunkie.com> for video gear reviews, a daily blog, and an archive of Regenold's work.

Father/daughter fish derby a success

Twenty-five teams of fathers and daughters entered the Fishing Derby on the day before Father's Day, June 14, at Dierkes Lake. All proceeds were matched by Modern Woodmen to benefit Jubilee House. Winners were weighed in by Joe Chapman, Fish and Game Hagerman Fish Hatchery.

The winners include:
Biggest Fish: Chelsea Reynolds of Filer — 3.25-pound rainbow trout.
1st place team: Danielle and John Mark Phillips — 14 pound total catch.
2nd place team: Donald and Shelley Yrugal — 8.45 pound total catch.
3rd place team: Randy and Gentry Brekken — 7.25 pound total catch.



Chelsea Reynolds of Filer holds the 3.25-pound rainbow trout she caught during the Father/Daughter Fish Derby, held June 14 at Dierkes Lake. She was awarded for having caught the biggest fish.

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Colombia rescue hinged on rebel disarray, payback

By Frank J. Bajak
Associated Press writer

BOGOTÁ, Colombia — The plan was nothing if not audacious: A turnout of thousands of rebels to bring together their most prized hostages and march them 90 miles through Colombia's wilderness. A month later, disgraced commanders who have had as many as 100 hostages land in a helicopter and trick the rebels into handing them over.

The mission was to rescue three U.S. military contractors, former presidential candidate Ingrid Betancourt and 11 others held captive in the Colombian jungles.

Its success hinged entirely, its planners said Thursday on a near-total breakdown in communications between the isolated guerrilla jailers and their commanders — the net result of years of interest in U.S. Colombia military cooperation that has seriously weakened Latin America's last major rebel army.

"That, and a bit of revenge."

"When I first got briefed, I said, 'This is realistic? Can this truly work?'" U.S. Ambassador William Brownfield told The Associated Press. "And obviously, the answer was yes."

Wednesday's expertly choreographed rescue had its genesis in the escape last year of a Colombian who had spent time in captivity with the three Americans and Betancourt.

But it began to gain steam only in January, when Colombian intelligence determined that the hostages were being moved, said Gen. Freddy Padilla, Colombia's armed forces chief.

The Colombians installed U.S.-provided remote-controlled video monitoring devices — which can zoom in and out — along rivers that are the only transport route through dense jungles, U.S. and Colombian officials said.

U.S. surveillance intercepted rebel radio and satellite phone conversations and employed foliage-penetrating imagery, they said.

In mid-February, a Colombian patrol spotted the three Americans — Marc Gonzales, Keith Stansell and Thomas Howes — bathing in the Apaporis River under guard, the first sight of the Americans since their surveillance plane crashed in 2003.

For four days, "We had eyes on them," Brownfield said.

But a rescue operation was deemed too risky and called off.

"The president's order was: rescue, yes, but without even a drop of blood," said a Colombian army general directly involved in the mission, speaking on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to disclose details.

The general said a disgruntled member of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, had agreed to spearhead the operation. This turnout, he said, was trusted by both the rebels' high command and by the leader of the 1st Front, which was holding the hostages.

"The FARC's communications are medieval," Padilla said. He said its command-and-control is so diminished that it sends important messages by courier.

So the turnout was the key. He convinced Gerardo Aguila Ramirez, alias Cesar, the commander of the 1st Front, that top commanders wanted the 15 hostages moved to a rallying point in the jungle.

Involved in the operation told the AP.

"The turnout was upset with the FARC because this was commander had taken a huge sum of money away from them," the general said. This was payback.

U.S. spy satellites helped track the hostages on a month-long journey that began May 31 and ended with Wednesday's rescue.

All the while, Brownfield and a team of 100 people at the U.S. Embassy who had been dedicated to securing the American hostages' release worked closely with the Colombians running the operation.

The high of the matter is, we have actually come together in a way that we rarely have in the United

"When I first got briefed, I said, 'This is realistic? Can this truly work?'"
And obviously, the answer was yes."
— U.S. Ambassador William Brownfield

States of America, except with longtime allies, principally NATO allies," Brownfield said of relations with Colombia's security forces, which have received more than \$500 million annually in military aid since 2000.

About seven times, he said, the U.S. government had to make decisions "at the highest levels" — about proceeding.

On Monday, President Alvaro Uribe gave the go-ahead, Padilla said.

On Tuesday, the two Russian-made Mi-17 helicopters left a military base in an Andean mountain valley, setting down for a nervous night in a wilderness clearing.

Aboard were four air force crewmen in civilian disguise, seven military intelligence agents and the guerrilla turnout, military officials said. Two of the agents were dressed as rebels, and the rest wore white, as if representing some sort of humanitarian mission. All had taken a week and a half of acting lessons, Padilla said.

Shortly after midday on Wednesday, the helicopter touched down at the rendezvous point.

One of the agents, posing as a cameraman, recorded video

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Friday, July 4, 2008

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2008 CHEVROLET IMPALA SEDAN

All-American Car!

RoadWorthy!
By Ken Chester, Jr.
Motor News Media Corporation

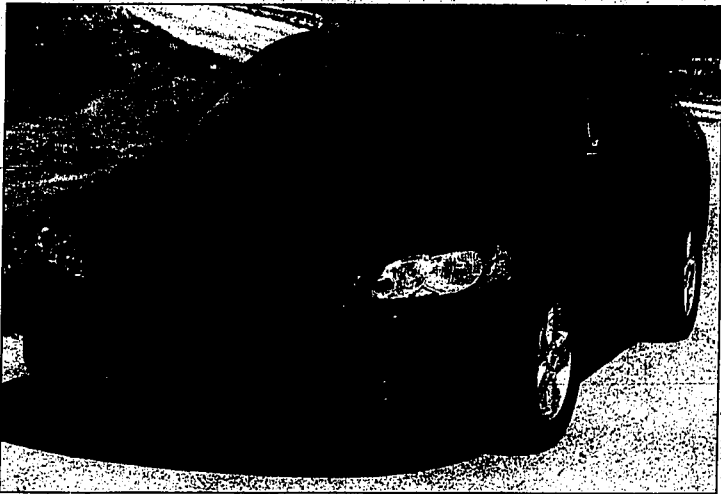
Chevrolet's popular Impala sedan continues to win customers and influence people. For 2008, the Impala reinforces the brand's value story with new features and revisions that add to its safety and efficiency.

Available in LS, LT and LTZ trim levels, base power for the front-drive Impala is provided by a sophisticated E-85 compatible 3.5L V6 engine. Upscale Impala models are propelled by a revised version of the 2.8L V6 motor which is also now E-85 compatible. This compatibility allows the engine to run on any combination of regular gasoline or E85 fuel.

Torque for all Impala engines is communicated to the pavement via a Hydra-Matic 4T65 electronic four-speed automatic transmission. Upscale LTZ and LTZ models receive SixtTrak electronic stability control as standard equipment.

On the road, the large Chevrolet sedan delivers a smooth, responsive, solid and safe performance. Ride quietness and refinement are the ride and handling traits conveyed through Impala's chassis and suspension systems. This competency includes a robust front-end structure that provides a firmer foundation to help reduce noise, vibration and harshness (NVH) while also enhancing steering and handling performance. Fully boxed upper frame rail assemblies feature a wide, deep and structurally strong upper front tie bar and a strong front-ol-deck panel is constructed of Galvalume steel which reduces resonant sound. An extruded aluminum engine cradle contributes to a vibration-free ride.

Front suspension hardware consists of an independent MacPherson strut coil-over spring setup with gas-charged struts, taller bounce bumpers and a stabilizer bar. The rear suspension uses a trailing arm, tri-link set up with gas-charged struts, coil springs and a stabilizer bar. Based on the basic front and rear



suspension designs, the Impala offers two levels of suspension tuning, each matched to the power and expected performance level of each model.

The base suspension tuning package is the FE1, which provides improved control over previous base models without compromising ride quality. It uses stiff, constant-rate front springs and variable-rate rear springs to provide higher roll rates. The Goodyear P225/60R16 Integrity radial tires are moved a 5-mm each outward (10-mm total) for a wider track.

The Impala LTZ is equipped with a FE3 performance suspension which

includes 18-inch W rated P225/50R16 performance tires. A 24-mm hollow-front stabilizer bar and 18-mm solid rear stabilizer bar combine to provide more roll control than the standard FE1 suspension. The resulting increased stiffness helps reduce body lean and contributes to greater high-speed stability.

The Chevrolet's instrument panel design is moved into the door panels and has a double-hump design reminiscent of early Corvettes. A wood-trimmed appearance is available, while a sporty, brushed-aluminum appearance trim is optional.

All of Impala's seating features clean, simple and micro-flocked appearances. Firm cushions and good lumbar support across all models provide more comfort, especially during long drives. Upscale models feature clever flip-and-fold rear seats that consist of forward-tilt rear seat cushions to create a covered storage area beneath the seat with the cushions down.

When the cushions are flipped forward, they offer convenient grocery bag hooks. The seat back also folds down to create a generous pass-through from the trunk when seat back

is folded flat -- an exclusive feature in the midsize segment.

For 2008, XM Satellite radio is standard across the Impala model line. Additionally, there is a newly available LT Luxury Edition package with a leather-trimmed interior (including a leather-wrapped steering wheel with radio controls), flip-and-fold rear seat, four-wheel anti-lock brakes with electronic traction control, rear spoiler, OnStar communications system with Turn-by-Turn navigation and one-year Directions & Connections service.

2008 Chevrolet Impala
MSRP (incl. tax, title, license)

LS \$22,200
LT \$24,200
LTZ \$28,200

LTZ with XM Satellite Radio \$30,200
LTZ with XM Satellite Radio and OnStar \$32,200

LTZ with XM Satellite Radio and OnStar and leather-trimmed interior \$34,200

LTZ with XM Satellite Radio and OnStar and leather-trimmed interior and wood-trimmed appearance trim \$36,200

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LTZ with XM Satellite Radio and OnStar and leather-trimmed interior and wood-trimmed appearance trim and SixtTrak electronic stability control and chrome wheels and OnStar \$42,200

LTZ with XM Satellite Radio and OnStar and leather-trimmed interior and wood-trimmed appearance trim and SixtTrak electronic stability control and chrome wheels and OnStar and leather-trimmed interior \$44,200

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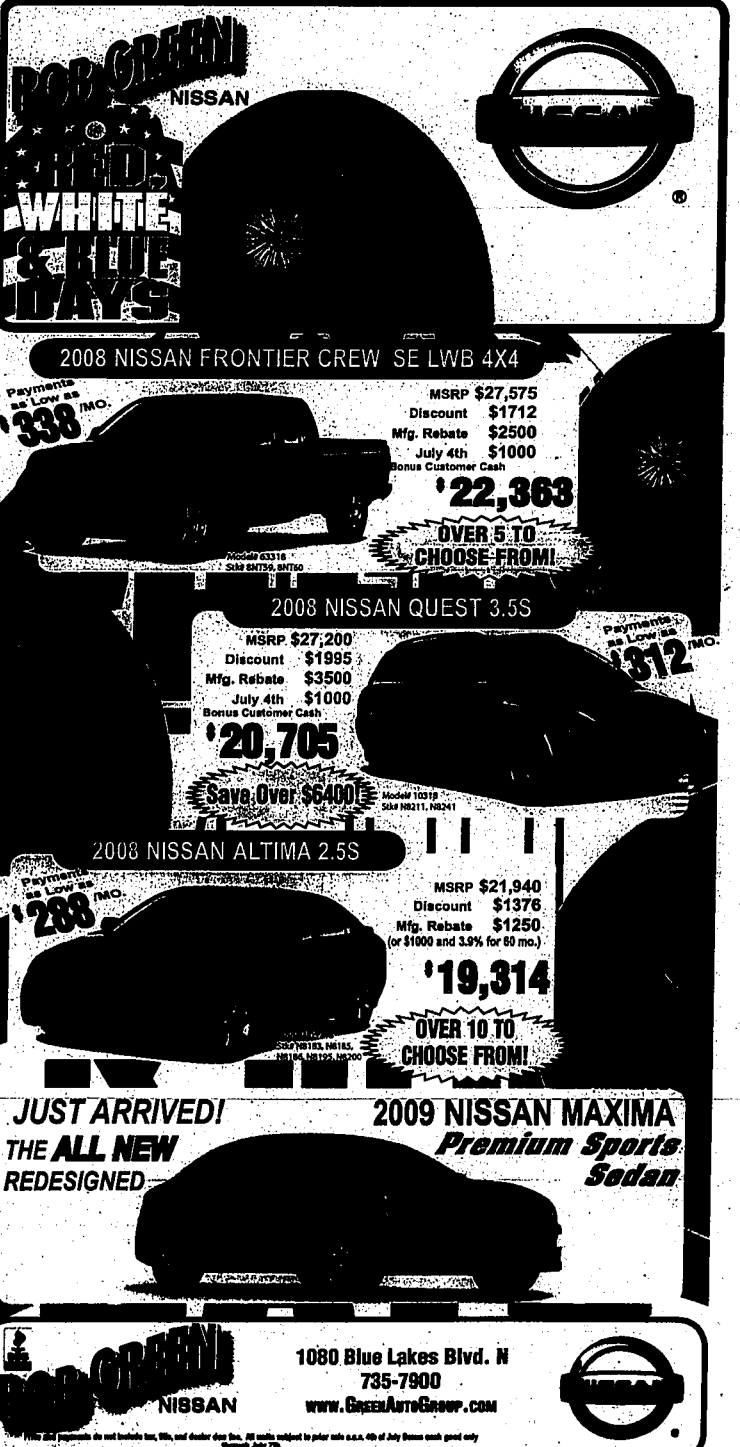
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See dealer for details. MSRP includes destination charge. Excludes tax, license, title, and dealer fees. *Offer good on new vehicle purchases only. Points are earned on new vehicle purchases only. Points are not earned on trade-in or lease programs. Points are not earned on vehicle purchases made through financing. Points are not earned on vehicle purchases made through financing. Points are not earned on vehicle purchases made through financing. Points are not earned on vehicle purchases made through financing. Points are not earned on vehicle purchases made through financing.

JUMBLE THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

By Mike Argillon and Jeff Kourse

LOFEN, KEREC, FERREP, NAUVEE word search grid



WHAT THE FELDING NEIGHBOUR HAD ON THE FOURTH OF JULY

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A

(Answers tomorrow)

Jumbles: BATON FORGO HUMBLED COWARD

Yesterday's Jumble: When the little fell on the mailman's head, he was - OUT 'COLD'

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm \$600 + \$600 199 Carway

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, central heat/AC, \$695 month

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, newly remodeled

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, new carpet, vinyl floor

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS New 3 bdrm, 2 bath, split garage

TWIN FALLS New home for rent, 3 bdrm, 2 bath

TWIN FALLS New home, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, granite

TWIN FALLS Share a large house in park

TWIN FALLS Why Pay Rent? Fresh 3 bdrm

WENDELL 2 bdrm, 1 bath, \$525 a month

JEROME Furnished studio with W/D, \$365

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 car garage

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, kitchen apt, off street parking

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, kitchen apt, off street parking

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS - WHY PAY RENT? 3 bdrm house

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, gas heat/AC

HOPING CATTLE 3 Fresh Cows

WEINER PIGS 7 weeks old \$50 each

BAY ROAN 2 yr. old about cut

CHARMAG 1/2 4-horse garage

Does your horse look lost or lonely?

DONKEYS (2) Medium tan miniature

EQUINE Paul Struchan Trimming

Farrier Service Horseshoeing and Trimming

FREE Palomino stud horse, 5 years old

GELDING 4 year old flashy bay

HORSE TRAILER '72 bumper pull

Equal Housing Opportunities advertisement

BUHL Avail until July 1st advertisement

Hear the quiet! advertisement

Gooding 1 bedroom advertisement

JEROME Immediate Move-in advertisement

JEROME Immediate Move-in advertisement

Jerome 14x70 mobile home advertisement

BURLEY Waterfront & recreation advertisement

601 Farnham Homes advertisement

605 Uhartsham Apts advertisement

606 Noble Homes advertisement

607 Office & Retail Rentals advertisement

608 Commercial Property advertisement

609 Duplex advertisement

610 Studio/warehouse advertisement

611 Single Homes advertisement

Classified Department advertisement

HANSEN 3 bdrm, 2 bath, \$550 bid advertisement

JEROME 2 bdrm/1.5 bath advertisement

JEROME 2300 sq ft completely updated advertisement

JEROME 2 bdrm, 2 bath, split garage advertisement

JEROME 2300 sq ft completely updated advertisement

JEROME 2300 sq ft completely updated advertisement

JEROME 2300 sq ft completely updated advertisement

Who can help you sell your property? advertisement

Equal Housing Opportunities advertisement

Who can help you sell your property? advertisement

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Who can help you sell your property? advertisement

CHOCOLATE LAB... Puppies, purebred... \$200-316-0582

CRITTER SITTERS... Will feed and provide companionship... \$200-324-3724

FREE abandoned, mixed breed, young dog, seems to have a good personality... \$200-678-5414

FREE cats, both female, spayed, box trained, litter box incl... \$200-678-5414

FREE Golden retriever, friendly, cute, gray... \$200-678-5414

FREE Lab, 5 years old, neutered, housebroken, loves kids... \$200-678-5414

FREE Mini Pin, female, good with other dogs and cats... \$200-678-5414

FREE Terrier cross, 4 months old, very intelligent... \$200-678-5414

FREE good indoor female, 1 year old, 1 year old, to a good home... \$200-678-5414

BULLDOG puppies, 3 males, 3 females, red/white, ready in 2 wks... \$200-431-0418

COCKER SPANIEL... all shot, tails & dewclaws removed... \$200-404-0274

DACHSHUND puppy, very idiosyncratic, 10 weeks, 1st shots, dewclawed... \$200-340-5850

FREE Border Collie/Torrie cross, neutered... \$200-316-4666

FREE German Shepherd, 3 months old, female, well behaved... \$200-316-4666

FREE Lab mix, very friendly, 1 year old, good with children... \$200-316-4666

FREE male cat, beautiful white coat, 1 year old... \$200-316-4666

GERMAN SHEPHERD, purebred, 1 year old, male... \$200-316-4666

SHIH TZU, purebred, all papers, male, 6 weeks, ready to go... \$200-316-4666

HAY... Small and large bales starting at \$165/ton... \$200-316-4666

T.S.C Hay Retrieving... Call Con on: 200-298-0299... \$200-316-4666

Twins Directory - Your local guide to professional and personal services. Contact a Times-News classified representative for our low monthly rates: 733-0931, ext. 2

Contact a Times-News classified representative for our low monthly rates: 733-0931, ext. 2

A HANDY TEAM... Reasonable Prices... \$200-411-4155

DUMP TRUCK & WELDER SERVICE... \$200-404-6663

T.E. Electric... \$200-837-9339

Salazar's Solutions... \$200-316-4666

CREATIVE TOUCH... \$200-316-4666

House Painting... \$200-316-4666

LAB PUPPIES... \$200-316-4666

IGUANAS... \$200-316-4666

SHIH TZU... \$200-316-4666

CUSTOM HAY AND STRAW... \$200-316-4666

APPROVED... \$200-316-4666

CONCRETE & CONTRACTOR... \$200-316-4666

Handyman... \$200-316-4666

STRUCTURES... \$200-316-4666

Landscaping... \$200-316-4666

LAB PUPPIES... \$200-316-4666

LAB PUPPIES... \$200-316-4666

LAB PUPPIES... \$200-316-4666

LAB PUPPIES... \$200-316-4666

LAB PUPPIES... \$200-316-4666

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MOILER... \$200-316-4666

General Home Repairs... \$200-316-4666

Handyman... \$200-316-4666

Handyman... \$200-316-4666

Handyman... \$200-316-4666

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CONCRETE... \$200-316-4666

RENOVATIONS... \$200-316-4666

Handyman... \$200-316-4666

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RENOVATIONS... \$200-316-4666

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Handyman... \$200-316-4666

FAX YOUR CLASSIFIED AD... \$200-316-4666

RENOVATIONS... \$200-316-4666

Handyman... \$200-316-4666

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