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TIMES-NEWS

Thursday, September 18, 2008

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Market mess: Dow down 450 points

Government bailout of AIG has investors worried financial crisis spiraling out of control

By Ellen Simon
Associated Press writer

NEW YORK — The stock market took another nose-dive Wednesday as the American banking system appeared even shakier and investors worried that the financial crisis is spinning so

far out of control that even government rescues can't stop it. The Dow Jones industrial average, which only two days earlier had suffered its steepest drop since the days after the Sept. 11 attacks, lost another 450 points. About \$700 billion in

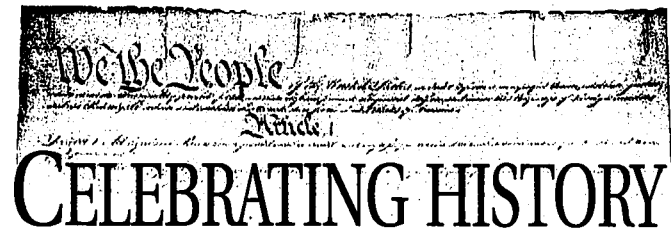
investments vanished. One day after the Federal Reserve stepped in with an emergency loan to keep American International Group Inc., one of the world's largest insurers, from going under, Wall Street wondered which companies might be the next to falter.

A major investor iniling Washington Mutual Inc. removed a potential obstacle to a sale of the bank, and stock in two investment banks, Morgan Stanley and Goldman Sachs, was pummeled. It was the fourth consecutive day of extraordinary turmoil for the American financial system, beginning with news on Sunday that another venerable investment house, Lehman Brothers, would be forced to file for bankruptcy.

The 4 percent drop Wednesday in the Dow reflected the stock market's first chance to digest the Fed's decision to issue an \$85 billion taxpayer loan to AIG, which it could convert into a majority stake in the company. AIG is important because it has essentially become a primary source of insurance for the entire financial industry. As the stock market

More on the market
Bailout of AIG largest in Fed's history. See page B1.
Washington Mutual in better position to get reprieve or rescue from financial woes. See page B1.
How the market's recent meltdown affects commercial banks in south-central Idaho. See page B1.
Financial crisis to linger in lending. See page B3.
Small firms see financing harder to get. See page B3.

Please see MARKET, Page A2



Jerome High School band member Tyson Corwell, right, is applauded Wednesday by his fellow band members and hundreds of elementary students during a Constitution Day performance. To purchase reprints please go to <http://gallery.pictopia.com/mag/cvralley/>

Jerome marks Constitution Day with musical tributes

By Ben Bolkin
Times-News writer

For Jerome School District students, patriotic music marked their celebration of Constitution Day. Students from the district's three elementary schools filled the bleachers of Jerome High School's football field on Wednesday for a presentation

from Jerome High School's "Ambush of Tigers" Marching Unit. Constitution Day has been celebrated since 1997 and falls on the anniversary of when the U.S. Constitution was signed in 1787. The students in Jerome heard more than music. Gordon Smith, the director of bands, also gave the students

a lesson in the historical roots of the national anthem. "One of the most important ways we recognize ourselves as a country is the national anthem," Smith said. Smith told the students about Francis Scott Key, who wrote "The Star-Spangled Banner." As the story goes, Key wrote the now-famous words after watching the

British bombard Fort M'Henry in Baltimore during the War of 1812. "He knew that if that fort fell, so did the United States," Smith said. After that battle, which took place in 1814, Key saw the flag still flying, a reminder that the United States — and

Please see HISTORY, Page A2

Otter warns of budget shortfall

By Todd Dvorak
Associated Press writer

BY THE NUMBERS

\$174.3 million

Amount state's general fund is short.

\$2.766 billion

Current projected state revenue for fiscal year 2009.

\$2.94 billion

Initial projection for state revenue, 5.9 percent more than currently anticipated.

BOISE — Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter on Wednesday ordered top state administrators and department heads to revisit their 2009 budgets and find ways to save money to offset a nearly 6 percent projected shortfall in state revenue.

In a letter to the administrators, Otter said the revisions are necessary because of the downturn in the state and national economies that have left Idaho's general fund with \$174.3 million less than anticipated.

By next Wednesday, Otter wants each state agency and department to submit three new versions of their fiscal year 2009 budgets for review. The revised spending plans should account for cuts, or holdbacks, of 1 percent, 2 percent and 2½ percent, according to the letter, which was also sent to state lawmakers.

"If we stay on our forecast, we're going to be short

of making the state budget," Budget Director Wayne Hammon told The Associated Press. "I don't see Idaho falling off the edge of the Earth, either. But if things continue to go the way they are trending, we are going to have to make some cuts to stay on budget."

The Department of Financial Management projects revenue for the remainder of fiscal year 2009, which began July 1, at \$2.766 billion, down 5.9 percent from the \$2.94 billion projected in February.

Please see OTTER, Page A3

Obama pledges reform in third visit to Elko

By Al Helguth
and John Seitz
Elko Daily Free Press



ELKO, Nev. — A self-described "honorary Elk-konan," Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama told a crowd of more than 1,500 people Wednesday there's a reason he keeps coming back to Elko, Nev. — Elko's problems are the nation's problems, and he has a plan to help fix them.

"There's a reason we keep coming to Elko, you know, because in the past presi-

For more local and national election news, go to MagValley.com and hit the Elections 2008 button.

denial candidates don't come up here ... their attitude is if you're a Democrat you go down to Vegas, if you're a Republican, I guess you just don't show up," Obama said.

Please see OBAMA, Page A2



Democratic presidential nominee Barack Obama speaks to a swelling crowd Wednesday during a campaign stop in Elko's Main City Park.

State officials, activists digest news of wolf reversal

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

Idaho officials and advocates on both sides of the wolf debate were still digesting the news on Wednesday that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service intends to temporarily reverse course on delisting the predator. Ed Bangs, the agency's wolf recovery coordinator,

said Tuesday that the agency expects to withdraw and revise its Feb. 21 rule removing Canadian gray wolves from the endangered species list. The move, prompted by concerns brought up by a federal judge, ends for now the government's attempt to hand wolf management over to the states. As part of an appeal of the delisting by a number of

environmental groups, U.S. District Judge Donald Molloy temporarily returned wolves to the list on July 18, arguing that animals in Idaho, Montana and Wyoming weren't able to genetically mix with each other and noting several concerns about Wyoming's state management plan in particular. At the time, officials with the Idaho Department of

Fish and Game protested the injunction. On Tuesday, state officials deferred comment to the Idaho attorney general's office. Kris Elvens Cloyd, with the AG's office, said officials there have no comment until federal attorneys file court documents on the matter. U.S. Department of Justice

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Service directory.....E11	Classifieds.....E1-14	Crossword.....E10	Jumble.....E8	Opinion.....A8-9
Bridge.....E13	Comics.....C9	Dear Abby.....E9	Movies.....A7	Sudoku.....E7
Business.....B1-3	Community.....C4-5	Dr. Gott.....C4	Nation/World.....C7-8	Today in History.....E9
Calendar.....A2	Commodities.....B2	Horoscope.....E9	Obituaries.....C6-7	Weather.....B4

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Cause of Ketchum fire still unknown

Businesses, city pick up after costly blaze

By Nate Poppino
Times-News writer

Business owners and Ketchum officials are still picking up from the Monday fire that destroyed two buildings, as the investigation continues into its cause.

Reported shortly after 3 a.m. by a passerby who saw smoke, the fire started in the former Dirty Little Roddy's building and spread to Whiskey Jacques' and the Sawtooth Club before it was extinguished by fire crews from across the region. Both Roddy's and Whiskey Jacques' were destroyed.

Speaking while touring the Sawtooth Club with insurance adjusters midday Wednesday, Ketchum city spokeswoman Kim Rogers said investigators are still examining the site of the fire.

They're also sifting through "tons" of photos and other recordings of the early-morning blaze for clues to how it started, she said.

"They're burning through the film," Rogers said. "It's still not clear what started the blaze. Ketchum Fire Chief Mike Elle told business owners on Monday that the investigation and cleanup could be a "long, long process."

Damages for the two collapsed buildings are estimated at least \$2.1 million, said Rogers and Bronwyn Patterson, public relations manager for the Sun Valley Ketchum Chamber and Visitors Bureau. Rogers said estimates came in at \$1.2 million for each building.

The Sawtooth Club suffered significant smoke and water damage, Patterson said, as well as damage from the fire itself. It could reopen in December.

Sotheby's International Realty, the building on the north side of Roddy's, suffered smoke and water damage as well, Patterson said.

But no flames reached inside the building, and the business could be back open again in just one or two weeks, Rogers said.

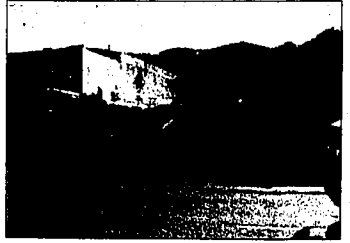
Whiskey Jacques' general manager Kristin Derrig said bar owner Karin Martin is already moving forward with ways to clear off the land and rebuild. Martin has also approached one Main Street business seeking a place to hold live music on the weekends until the bar is rebuilt, Derrig said.

The city is backing the bar staff's efforts, Derrig said, and will "fast-track" the rebuilding process. In the meantime, bands scheduled to appear live at the venue have just been cancelled for the immediate future, Patterson said.

The building is now demolished and the remains are being closely examined by fire investigators. Bar staff are also eager to get closer, Derrig said, so they can search for memorabilia such as the bar's disco ball — which appeared to have survived intact.

"It's not even dirty," she said.

Outside of the buildings, business has returned to as close to normal as possible for the rest of downtown Ketchum. Businesses on the east side of Main Street can now be reached on foot, Patterson said, as can Sushi on Second and others near the burn site. Smokey Mountain Pizza and other businesses to the west of the fire now have power again and are open, she said.



The demolished structure of what was Whiskey Jacques' is pushed into a pile by work crews after Monday's fire in Ketchum. Photo courtesy BRONWYN PATTERSON

Nate Poppino may be reached at 208-735-3237.

Otter

Continued from page A1

Agency economists attribute the decline to factors typical during prolonged economic slumps, such as people spending less, job layoffs and stagnant corporate earnings.

In its August report, agency economists cited softening sales tax and individual income tax receipts. But the report also points to tax declines tied to the grocery tax credit and other tax relief bills approved by lawmakers last session.

State law gives the governor the authority to impose temporary, midyear reductions in general fund spending.

Hammom said there is no target date for Otter to issue an executive order should cuts be deemed necessary. A review of the department budgets could begin as early as next week.

The letter does not offer department administrators specific guidance in how to draw up their revised budget proposals, though they will be expected to target areas that can lead to ongoing savings.

"We haven't identified areas to trim. They are the experts," said Jon Harlan, Otter's spokesman. "The idea here is we're preparing for the worst and hoping for the best. We're hopeful we won't have to do this, but if these projections run true, we're at least ready."

Some departments will not be affected by the cuts because they operate independently of the general fund, including the Transportation Department and Fish and Game. Otter said cuts will not directly affect public schools because any funding dropped from that budget would be offset with money drawn from a separate Public Education Stabilization Fund, created by lawmakers in 2003 and bolstered with \$100 million during a special session two years ago.

Idaho is not alone among states struggling to make ends meet.

Last week, Hawaii Gov.

Linda Lingle issued emergency orders for the state to cut spending to balance a deficit that could reach \$1 billion by June 2010.

Ohio Gov. Ted Strickland, facing an estimated \$940 mil-

lion shortfall, ordered budget cuts last week that could lead to layoffs of hundreds of state workers, the closure of two state mental hospitals and the expansion into new forms of gambling.

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Burley citizen accuses city council members of collusion against mayor

By Damos Hunzaker
Times-News writer

Before the Burley City Council even got to the agenda at Tuesday night's meeting, tension developed. Mayor Jon Anderson allows five-minute non-agenda items to be discussed and Burley resident Tony Hart took advantage of the time — plus several additional minutes.

He lamented division among the council and said that it's inappropriate for members to conduct their battles in the newspaper — specifically referring to the three who took office in January: Steve McGill, Vaughn Egan, and Jay Lenkersdorfer.

"It seems like the three new council members have some sort of agenda against the city administration, and it seems to me it's against Mark Mitton (city administrator) and (Mayor) Jon Anderson," Hart said.

He accused McGill of dishonestly saying that he could smell the Pacific Ethanol stench for three months.

"It had only been operational for 56 days at that time," Hart said.

"So I was off by a month," McGill responded.

"A month is a big deal — maybe not to you," Hart said.

"That man has no idea what I was smelling," McGill said Wednesday evening.

Hart suggested Lenkersdorfer, who publishes the "Weekly Mailer," has fomented discontent in order to increase his advertising revenue.

Hart said that morale among administration staff is low and that Egan likes to micromanage city employees "for whatever reason."

Anderson quickly cut off the description of Egan's management style.

Hart further said, of fellow citizen John Walsh, that he has been in collusion with the three new members and added, "Mr. Walsh seems to have an agenda to get rid of (council member) Denny Curtis. Mr. Curtis has always been in favor of the little guy."

One person in the audience applauded. Then Walsh addressed the council and pointed out that Hart was allowed 12 minutes to speak.

Walsh said that none of the three new members have "colluded with me on anything I've done. I back things up and I investigate things."

He told the council that two other elected officials have provided him with confidential information and that, if necessary, he would testify and provide names, referring to an attorney-gen-

"It seems like the three new council members have some sort of agenda against the city administration, and it seems to me it's against Mark Mitton (city administrator) and (Mayor) Jon Anderson."

— Burley resident Tony Hart

eral investigation about an alleged violation of the Idaho Open Meeting Law.

"They (the two officials) sat there last night and allowed Tony Hart to malign the three new members," Walsh said Wednesday.

"What he did was exactly what he accused the new members of the council of doing — he caused divisiveness."

Lenkersdorfer said Wednesday, "I don't have any comment on Tony Hart."

He then commented, "He's entitled to say whatever he wants. He obviously has his own agenda, whatever it is. I was disappointed that the mayor allowed him 12 minutes to just ramble on without offering anything constructive ... If Tony Hart had as much to vocalize about the city administrator and the mayor, would the mayor have allowed him to go on that long?"

Lenkersdorfer added that Anderson keeps a kitchen

timer in front of him to limit the five-minute discussions and didn't start it until Hart had spoken for seven minutes.

"I just didn't turn it on," Anderson said. "I was in error, but I'm also the mayor and control the meeting ... I don't think it was 12 minutes, though."

Regardless, Anderson said, Walsh has had plenty of opportunities in the past to speak beyond the five-minute normally allotted, emphasizing that, if the comments are important, he allows people to finish their thoughts.

"Also, if I had been vindictive and trying to prove something, I would have allowed Mr. Hart to attack Mr. Egan personally," Anderson said, "but I stopped it."

Damos Hunzaker may be reached at 208-672-6764 or dhunzaker@magicvalley.com.

T.F. water dept. to lease building

City didn't know who owned the building but trusts realty agent

By Jared S. Hopkins
Times-News writer

Before the Twin Falls City Council agreed Monday to enter a one-year lease for office space for its water department, no one asked who owned the building.

That might've been because no one in the room knew.

Until Wednesday, city officials said they had no idea Gus Bowman owned the Thursday's building at 702 Fairfield St. W. and simply trusted their real estate agent, Jerry McCurdy.

On Monday night, City Manager Tom Courtney said he wasn't sure of the owner. And it wasn't until Wednesday that City Management Assistant Gretchen Scott, who led the project, said she knew Bowman owned it.

She said she called McCurdy Tuesday night to find out.

Renting the second-floor office space will cost \$5,000 annually, but, according to a staff report, there will be \$14,000 for communications

upgrades — \$9,900 is recoverable — which would put the overall cost at \$10,100.

The water department needs a new office because its current building has drastic mold problems.

The 5-2 council vote came after council members asked if it was the most fiscally responsible option — about \$20,000 is budgeted for the cost, Scott said.

The council agreed to add a renewal clause option to the lease, but those dissenting — Trip Craig and Greg Lanting — wondered if it'd be cheaper to either renovate the existing building or purchase a portable trailer that can be used in the future, two options Scott said city staff had reviewed.

"We're spending money on something that isn't ours," Lanting said after the meeting. "I've got a feeling it's going to cost more than \$5,000 and we're going to be there for more than a year."

Lanting hopes the city will find a way for a new public works building to serve the water, streets and golf maintenance departments. One scenario from earlier this year died due to legal concerns.

McCurdy said city staff approached his company, Red Door Realty, to help find new office space in downtown with ample parking for its trucks. Scott said they approached the agency

because his offices are nearby City Hall. Eventually, McCurdy found the second floor of the Thursday's building.

McCurdy said the property was on the market, but Bowman said that's not the case. He's had some unresolvable tenants in the past and is more cautious about who can lease things.

"No, I wasn't trying to lease it," Bowman said. "It's on the market if the right guy comes along," he said.

McCurdy said he wasn't surprised the city asked him; he said his company, particularly his son, Jason, has developed a relationship with the city for other properties. For example, Scott said they had been involved in the early stages of acquiring the Hansen Street building.

"We're not any better than anyone else," McCurdy said. "McCurdy and Scott said the city is not paying him for finding the property. McCurdy, citing his community involvement, said it was simply a gesture of good will."

Jared S. Hopkins may be reached at 208-735-3204 or jhopkins@magicvalley.com.

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5TH DISTRICT COURT NEWS

Twin Falls County

SEPT. 16 ARRAIGNMENTS
Kris May, 34, Burley; possession of a controlled substance; \$1,000 bond; preliminary hearing Sept. 26; public defender appointed.

Denise Caldwell, 42, Burley; possession of paraphernalia, driving without privileges; \$300 bond; not guilty plea entered; Oct. 28 pretrial.

Cole Harris, 22, Jerome; driving without privileges; pretrial Oct. 28; not guilty plea entered; public defender appointed.

Alan Perez, 16, Twin Falls; no proof of insurance, driving without privileges, inattentive driving; public defender appointed; Oct. 28 pretrial; released on own recognizance; pleaded not guilty.

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Gov't: Salmon disaster money on its way

By Matthew Daly
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration Wednesday released \$100 million in disaster relief to West Coast salmon fishermen — \$70 million less than the amount Congress approved to help those hurt by the sudden collapse of the Pacific Coast salmon industry.

The collapse left thousands of fishermen and dependent businesses struggling to make ends meet, said Commerce Secretary Carlos Gutierrez, adding: "This disaster aid package of \$100 million will help them get back on their feet."

Of the initial \$100 million, about \$63 million will go to California, \$25 million to Oregon and \$12 million to Washington state, officials said. The breakdown is based on the projected economic impacts of the fishing shutdown in each state.

But salmon advocates and congressional Democrats complained that the Bush administration was short-changing fishermen in the three states by \$70 million. Congress approved \$170 million in disaster relief as part of the recent farm bill.

Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., accused the Bush administration of "trying to steal money from salmon fishermen to give it to an incompetent defense contractor" that is overseeing the 2010 census.

The Bush administration announced in June that it wants to divert \$70 million from the salmon relief fund to help pay for higher-than-expected costs of the conducting the census. The Commerce Department oversees the Census Bureau and NOAA Fisheries, the federal agency responsible for salmon recovery and planning.

Bob Lohn, northwest administrator of NOAA Fisheries, said the salmon money was not being diverted, but merely delayed until the new budget year begins in October.

"The full \$100 million is available now," Lohn said, adding that based on current applications for federal assistance filed in the three states, the money being released "is certainly enough to cover the immediate need and then some."

Over the next few months, the remaining money will be made available to fishermen as they apply for assistance, Lohn said. He denied that the administration was engaged in any accounting tricks or attempts to shortchange fishermen.

"Will the money be there when the people apply for it? The answer is yes," he told reporters on a conference call Wednesday.

The fishery failure stemmed from the sudden collapse of the chinook salmon run in California's Sacramento River.

Appeals court upholds Arizona immigration law

By Jacques Billaud
Associated Press writer

PHOENIX — A federal appeals court on Wednesday upheld an Arizona law that penalizes businesses that knowingly hire illegal immigrants and requires them to verify the employment status of their workers.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decision rejected a challenge by business and civil rights groups that con-

tend that the law infringes on federal immigration powers.

Republican state Rep. Russell Pearce of Mesa, the author of the law, said the ruling is a big win for the movement to get state and local governments to crack down on illegal immigration. "Locals are just as responsible for the crisis in America in this invasion (of illegal immigrants) as the federal government," Pearce said. The law, intended to lessen

the economic incentive for immigrants to sneak into the country, imposes civil penalties on employers by suspending or revoking their business licenses when they are found to have knowingly hired illegal immigrants. A lower court upheld the law in February.

Even though no employer sanctions cases have been pressed in court, the law has prompted or contributed to an unknown number of ille-

gal immigrants leaving Arizona for their home countries or other states.

The civil rights groups are considering whether to appeal the ruling to the 9th Circuit or the U.S. Supreme Court. It's unclear whether the business groups will seek an appeal. Two lawyers representing the business groups were unavailable for comment Wednesday because they were out of the country. While it upheld the law, a

three-judge panel of the appeals court left the door open for other challenges to the law. The court said future challenges will not be controlled by its decision.

Jonathan Weissglass, an attorney for the civil rights groups, said the law and the ruling could create problems for employers who have operations in more than one state because states could have different sets of hiring rules.

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New citizen who gave all for country to receive Navy Cross

By Tony Perry
Los Angeles Times

SAN DIEGO — An immigrant from Mexico, Rafael Peralta enlisted in the Marine Corps the day he received his green card in 2000. He adorned his bedroom at his parents' home in San Diego with copies of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights and a picture of his boot camp graduation class.

As the Marine Corps headed to Iraq, Peralta re-enlisted. He recently had become a U.S. citizen and felt that going to war was a way to repay the debt he felt he owed his adopted country.

As he waited for combat in Fallujah, Peralta wrote to his teenage brother: "You should be proud of being an American. Our father came to this country because it was the right place for our family to be. If anything happens to me, just remember I've already lived my life to the fullest."

On Nov. 15, 2004, as Marines battled insurgents throughout the Iraqi city, the 25-year-old sergeant volunteered for dangerous duty: assisting an under-strength squad in clearing heavily armed insurgents from barricaded houses.

As the squad rushed into one house, Peralta was



A rosary and candle are shown next to photographs of fallen Marine Rafael Peralta, who died in Fallujah, Iraq, after diving on a grenade to save his buddies. The photo was taken in 2004 in his family's home. Peralta is to be awarded the Navy Cross.

wounded in crossfire and knocked to the ground.

An insurgent rolled a grenade toward the Marines. Peralta, who had been reached out and grabbed the grenade, using his body to shield his fellow Marines from the blast.

Fellow Marines from Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, of the Hawaii-based 3rd Division credit Peralta with saving four

Marines, maybe more, at the cost of his own life.

Wednesday, Navy Secretary Donald Winter announced that Peralta would be posthumously awarded the Navy Cross, second only to the Medal of Honor for combat bravery by Marines.

Peralta acted "without hesitation and with complete disregard for his own safety," Winter said.

Although it played no role

in the decision to award him the Navy Cross, the Marine Corps revealed Wednesday that the bullet that felled Peralta most likely was "friendly fire."

The Marines had nominated him for the Medal of Honor; no reason was given for his selection for the Navy Cross instead. Only one Marine has received the Medal of Honor for action in Iraq or Afghanistan.

Elderly Washington man denies role in Nazi crimes

SEATTLE (AP) — The lawyer for an 86-year-old suburban Seattle man accused of being part of a Nazi death squad in World War II has asked a federal judge to throw out the government's attempt to revoke his U.S. citizenship.

Robert Gibbs said in a court filing this week that his client, Peter Egner, denies any involvement in wartime mistreatment and is being accused of atrocities committed by others.

The Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations filed a lawsuit against Egner in July alleging that he lied in 1965 on immigration documents and did not elaborate on his wartime experience.

The Bellevue man is accused of being a guard and interpreter for a Nazi squad that killed thousands of Jews, Gypsies and political dissidents in Belgrade, in what now is Serbia. The OSI identified Egner's participation through Nazi documents, the complaint says.

Court documents allege Egner worked for the Nazi-run Security Police and Security Service in what was then Yugoslavia from 1941 through the fall of 1943,

when he was wounded. The documents say the police unit operated as the Belgrade Einsatzgruppe, a special mobile death unit undertaking early efforts to systematically murder Jews as part of Hitler's "final solution."

The SPSS "played a leading role" in the gassings of more than 5,200 Jewish women and children at the Semlin concentration camp near Belgrade, according to OSI officials.

Most of the prisoners were killed in specially disguised trucks rigged to pump exhaust fumes into an enclosed compartment. People would be loaded into the trucks, ostensibly to be taken to another camp, and then driven around until they died.

Gibbs, Egner's attorney, says his client served on a low level in the security police but denies participating in any persecution. Gibbs points out that the complaint never alleges that Egner participated in any SPSS atrocities. Moreover, immigration law in effect in 1966, when Egner won his citizenship, would not necessarily have barred him from becoming a citizen.



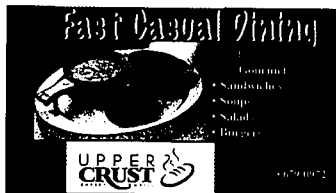
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Yellowstone tries to balance cell phones, solitude

By Matt Joyce
Associated Press writer

CHYENNE, Wyo. — Yellowstone National Park officials, attempting to balance competing demands for cell phone service and preserving the park's tranquility, have released a draft plan to guide the development of wireless services in the park. The environmental assessment proposes a limited increase in cell phone coverage in the 3,500-square-mile park while excluding cellular towers from the backcountry, park road corridors and smaller developed areas.

The plan also calls for providing cell phone service and wireless Internet in larger developed areas with hotels and stores.

"That doesn't mean there couldn't be some service outside those immediate developed areas, but it's not something we're planning, proposing or intending," park spokesman Al Nash said Tuesday.

The assessment found that Yellowstone's wireless communication plan would have negligible effects on resources such as threatened and endangered species, migratory birds and wilderness. It found a potentially moderate impact on "visitor use and experience."

Under the plan, the cellular tower located near Old Faithful geyser — the park's most visited site — would be transferred to a less visible site at a nearby water treatment plant.

Its placement within sight of Old Faithful about 10 years ago kicked-off a debate over the construction of cellular towers in the park, said Tim Stevens, program manager for National Parks Conservation Association.

He said Yellowstone's plan is key to protecting the park's natural resources. He said it would also protect public safety by providing the necessary infrastructure for park staff to communicate. It also is likely to set a precedent for other national parks, he said.

"One of the things that it comes down to in an increasingly noisy and hectic world is that it's critical that Yellowstone continue to provide the solitude and peace and quiet that our first national park has to offer," Stevens said.

John Woody, vice president of Union Telephone, said the Wyoming-based company leases space on towers constructed and owned by Alltel Corp. at Grant Village and Old Faithful. Union officials have met several times with the National Park Service regarding cell phone service inside the park, he said.

"After five years of working on this project, it is a significant step forward to finally have a plan from the Park Service that we can work from to address these critical safety and security issues," Woody said. "We are disappointed, however, that the Park Service did not include more areas where the public congregates for this extended service."

Stevens said he was worried that cell phone improvements at developed areas would result in increased wireless use in places such as the Grand Canyon of the Yellowstone and Yellowstone Lake.

"We do have concerns that that type of scenic splendor could be potentially spoiled by tens and hundreds of people placing calls along the shores of the lake in what used to be a place of solitude and contemplation," he said.



Courtesy of Lillian Barthelet/Photo Undated photo shows Metrolink engineer Robert Sanchez, holding an iPhone greyhound. Sanchez, 46, died in the commuter locomotive that slammed head-on into a freight in Los Angeles Friday.

NTSB: Train engineer didn't brake before collision

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The engineer of a commuter train ran through a red light and never hit his brakes in the final moments before last week's fatal collision with an oncoming freight train, authorities said.

As they sort through the many possible reasons why, investigators also said Tuesday that engineer Robert Sanchez was working an 11½-hour split shift at the time of the crash.

"Split schedules are something of great concern to us," said Kitty Higgins, a member of the National Transportation Safety Board, which is investigating the crash. "But whether that played a role in the accident is much too early to say."

Sanchez, who was killed in the crash, began his shift at 6 a.m. Friday, took a nap during a 3½-hour break and resumed duty at 2 p.m., officials said. His train crashed about 2½ hours later. Twenty-five people were killed and more than 135 others injured.

The findings followed tests by the National Transportation Safety Board that showed the two trains were only in each other's view four to five seconds before the collision. Investigators said the engineer from the Union Pacific freight train used his brakes about two seconds before the collision but was still going nearly as fast as the commuter train.

The NTSB has found the signals and tracks were working properly, and has narrowed its investigation to human error.

The agency said Wednesday night that an examination of Sanchez's cell phone records showed that he sent text messages while on duty the day of the collision — a violation of Metrolink policy but not illegal. However, the board did not say when Sanchez sent the messages or whether it thinks text messaging played a role in the collision. Calls and e-mail messages

to NTSB spokesman Terry Williams and to Metrolink spokesman Francisco Oaxaca were not immediately returned Wednesday night.

On Tuesday, investigators interviewed the Metrolink conductor about Sanchez. The conductor said Sanchez told him he took a two-hour nap during his break but was not aware of any other factors that could have caused him to overlook the red light, Higgins said.

"It was not aware of any physical ailment that a engineer had," Higgins said. "He had no issues in his time of working with the engineer on the way he operated the train."

Higgins said the conductor confirmed that he and Sanchez did not call out and confirm the fast two signals before the crash. She also said Sanchez routinely worked split shifts from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. with 3½ hours of break.

"It's a long day," Higgins said. "What the rules are and how this engineer or any crew member uses the time play a role into the accident." Hours before regular rail service resumed on the stretch of track Tuesday, investigators conducted a visibility test to determine when the engineers in the crash would have been able to see each other in the moments before the collision.

A Metrolink train and a Union Pacific locomotive were brought nose to nose on the tracks where the crash occurred. Investigators then backed the stand-in trains away from each other.

In the moments before the collision, the freight train was coming out of a tunnel, while the commuter train was rounding a bend. The test found the engineers had only seconds to react.

One test observer was Lilly Varghese, a friend of 57-year-old victim Beverly Mosley. "I came here to pay respect to where I lost her," Varghese said. "She lost her soul here."

North Idaho officials warn of algae blooms

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — Officials in northern Idaho are warning swimmers and pet owners to avoid areas where blue-green algae is present.

The Panhandle Health District and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality issued the warning this week for the algae blooms that occur naturally from late summer until the end of fall.

"This is the time of year we see these blooms," Tom Herron, DEQ regional water quality supervisor, told the Coeur d'Alene Press. "It's a natural progression and fall is when blue-green algae tends to dominate. Any place where accumulated clusters get blown into coves by wind or wave action" increases the potential for danger.

Skin irritation and allergic responses are possible after exposure to the algae, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. If swallowed, officials say people may experience digestive problems and even liver damage.

"You would probably never get in the lake where it's really slimy and green," said Cynthia Jaggard, Panhandle Health public information officer. "But this is also a warning for pets, who wouldn't be able to tell the difference and might still go down for a drink."

So far this year, officials said, the blooms have been seen in Hausler Lake, Fernan Lake and Lake Coccolalla.

"We generally see it in smaller lakes like around Rathdrum Prairie," Herron said.

The blooms happen in waters with high levels of phosphorus and nitrogen, pollution associated with human activities.

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A little about me

Hi I am Stephanie Figueroa and I am the Assistant District Manager. I started at the Times-News in March of this year. I enjoy working with my co-workers. I also enjoy talking to the customers and working with carriers to promote excellent newspaper delivery service.

I moved to this area in 1991 and I have loved it. I have the 3 daughters and 5 granddaughters and 6 grandsons who live in the Mini-Cassia area as well. My favorite thing to do is spending time with my family.

You can reach me at 677-8787 or stephanie.figueroa@lee.net.

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EDITORIAL

Is Otter about to endorse a med school?

Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter tossed WWAMI overboard this week.

The program that reserves spots for Idaho students at the University of Washington School of Medicine isn't up to meeting the growing need for doctors in the state, the governor told a joint interim legislative committee on medical education.

WWAMI allows students from Wyoming, Alaska, Montana and Idaho to attend the medical school in Seattle for the same tuition paid by Washington students. The program encourages graduates to choose careers in family practice medicine and to work in the Northwest.

Our view: Whether or not WWAMI is doing the job for Idaho, the state can't afford to build a medical school now. **What do you think? We welcome viewpoints from our readers on this and other issues.**

The alternative? They're not abundant, but building a medical school in Idaho would be the chief option.

Otter didn't endorse such a plan, but has in the past said Idaho should consider it.

Trouble is, spending the millions of dollars required to build a med school in Idaho has negligible support outside Bannock County. It's popular there only because Idaho State University wants to have it.

Bruce Newcomb, former Burley legislator and Boise State University's director of government affairs, argues that building a medical school would take away money it needs to support other programs.

He's right. What, after all, does Idaho really need from medical education?

It needs physicians willing to serve patients in places like Wendell, Shoshone and Rupert.

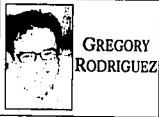
To get that kind of commitment, the state needs something to trade — perhaps a subsidy or a tax break to help physicians newly minted at a school to whittle down student loan debts, which usually start at \$100,000.

And it needs to buy more medical school seats, most likely at the University of Utah Medical School but also potentially in Colorado, Arizona, Nevada and Oregon.

Bottom line: Idaho can't afford and doesn't need a bricks-and-mortar solution to medical education right now. We need to get doctors where we can find them, and make it worth their while to stay here.

GOP turns victimhood into political artform

Do you remember that old joke about conservatives being liberals who'd been mugged by reality? Well, it was funny largely because it was true. Conservatives fancy themselves as hard-nosed realists. Unlike fluffy-headed liberals, who spend their days dreaming of a perfect world, conservatives are suspicious of utopian schemes. They know quite well that life is hard, and they disdain few things more than whining and complainers. That's why more than a handful of conservative critics — from Michael Medved to Rush Limbaugh — have condemned what they call America's destructive culture of victimhood.

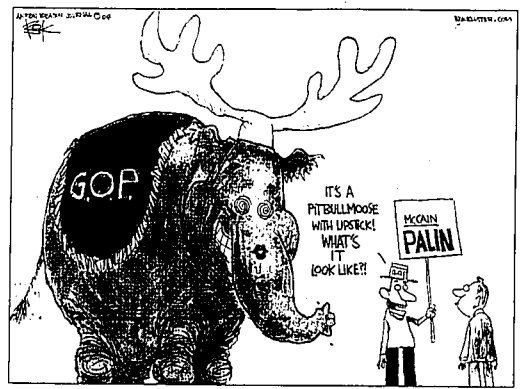


GREGORY RODRIGUEZ

But if conservatives hate victimhood so much, why then does the Republican Party encourage its base to feel so aggrieved, especially at the hands of those snooty "elites"? Whether it's complaining about lipstick on a pig or bashing Washington insiders, the media and those self-congratulating Hollywood celebrities. Republicans have turned their own kind of victimhood into a political art form.

In fairness, Republicans didn't invent victimhood, nor do they have the franchise to, but the form they engage in is particularly troublesome, not least because so many conservatives seem not to realize they're up to their eyeballs in a game they claim to despise.

When Americans go on the attack against elites, historically we think of economic populism, the kind of class warfare pushed by the left wing. This is about money, inequality and an agenda to redistribute wealth. Liberal activists rail against robber barons and



corporate fat cats. Conservative populism leverages social rather than economic cleavages. Without any real redress in mind, conservative populism is all about emotion and personal grievance, not righting any particular social or economic wrong.

Indeed, in 2003, conservative writer Brian C. Anderson argued that with technology's help, the conservative media had broken what he called "the left's near monopoly over institutions of opinion and information." Cable TV, the Internet and the emergence of conservative book publishing, he wrote in the Manhattan Institute's *Conservative*, "have injected conservative ideas right into the heart of the debate. Though commentators have noted each of these changes separately, they add up to a revolution: No longer can the left keep conservative views out of the mainstream... Everything has changed."

But everything hasn't changed. Conservatives still behaved like a battered minority. Romesh Ponnuru was a voice in the conservative wilderness when he

argued in a *National Review* blog that the GOP's response to Barack Obama's lipstick-on-a-pig comment is making Republicans look like "whiny grievance-mongers."

That's too bad, because it undermines the conservative critique of the politics of victimization, which is not a bad one. When they aren't practicing victimhood, conservatives argue that it weakens moral accountability and therefore personal responsibility. To identify yourself as a perpetual victim, they would say, tends to be a self-fulfilling prophecy that can undermine an individual's or a group's ability to improve their lot over time.

Of course, in this critique, those playing the victim card are always liberals or their fellow travelers. Just this June, Dennis Prager wrote that the "entire liberal-left (worldwide) is predicated on portraying every group in America except white, male, heterosexual Christians as oppressed. Women are oppressed by men. Blacks and Hispanics are oppressed by whites. Gays are oppressed by straights. Non-Christians are oppressed by Christians."

The mass have been surprised when, at the GOP

convention, his own champions, Sarah Palin and Rudy Giuliani, flagrantly predicated their positions on the same kind of oppression, this time of Sam's Club/Main Street Republicans by those nasty "elites."

But who really cares about fairness and consistent thinking when politics are in play? Like the minority activist groups that conservatives abhor, the Republicans know very well that crying out against a foe is one sure way to rally the troops. And it works particularly well when your side is in a political or ideological disarray. If you can't inspire your base with a coherent vision of the future, then you might as well utilize it with the promise to stand up against the hooeyman.

In the end, conservatives are right, we have become a nation of victims, but surely it's getting more difficult for them to blame it all on the liberals.

Gregory Rodriguez, a columnist for the *Los Angeles Times* opinion pages, is director of the California Fellows Program at the New America Foundation. Write to him at gridro@latimes.com.

Times-News

Brad Hurd... publisher Steve Crump... Opinion editor.

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Brad Hurd, James G. Wight, Steve Crump, Bill Bitzenburg and Ruth S. Pierce.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Hunt Camp not needed

Just maybe the Hunt Camp is deemed from the start. And why? From the smell being generated by the people wanting this ill-proposed project and not the McFarland's confined feeding operation proposal. And why? To pay homage to those who were kept there and who weren't tortured or treated bad, like all our prisoners in the South Pacific were and will never be forgotten. Thank you, thank you to folks who lost their lives to protect all of us — even those of the so-called people that want this. This project was

created for people that work off of taxpayers' dollars: this is not needed.

Another bureaucrat being sent down our throats: let's stop this right now. Wake up, Magic Valley, and think about this. Hurrah for McFarland and the new owners: never sell or let up on your proposal. What happened there happened in World War II. Let's forget about spending taxpayers' money on this and get going with other worthwhile projects, like roads for our state and other educational projects.

BYRD GOLAY
Kimberly

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why are paved streets turned into gravel ones?

Is there anyone out there who can tell me why the Twin Falls Highway Department takes a step back in time and turns our paved streets into gravel streets every summer? I know that this is done in many cities, counties and states. What I don't know is why. When it's all over and done with and the gravel is swept up, I can't find any improvements, and I've looked. All the flaws are still there. The bumps, cracks, ruts, dips and holes didn't magically disappear. The only differences I see are the newly painted lines and the pavement is now a lighter shade of grey. Oh, there is another difference — a lot of cars now have chipped paint and damaged windshields.

Now if this improves the street surface, that's great, but why isn't it visible to the naked eye and why is my ride not smoother now? If it doesn't improve the street surface, why are our tax dol-

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ONLINE: Register at magicvalley.com, and respond to any of the local opinions or stories in today's edition.

ON PAPER: The *Times-News* welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Please limit letters to 300 words. Include your signature, mailing address and phone number. Writers who sign letters with false names will be permanently barred from publication. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office, mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or e-mailed to letters@magicvalley.com.

lars wasted on this nonsense when there are so many streets in town that really need repairs yet are constantly ignored?

I kept picturing a sleazy character that kind of looks like Louie DePalma from "Taxi," selling this idea to some Department of Transportation official that kind of looks like Gomer Pyle and then laughing all the way to the bank.

If I spill some oil on the street, 37 governmental agencies will respond. I will be arrested, fined, charged for the cleanup and the expense of the 37 responding governmental agencies. My picture will be placed on

the enemies of the Environment Web site, and I'll never be allowed to fly on a commercial jet or vote again. The highway department, however, can apparently squirt oil anywhere it pleases. Maybe his oil is environmentally safe — you think?

KEN WHITE
Twin Falls

Curtis should resign from Burley City Council

A number of weeks ago, our dearly departed *South Idaho News* published a letter of mine about Burley City Councilman Dennis R. Curtis' very questionable

maneuver to remain on the City Council by having his half of a luxurious duplex annexed to the city.

On July 28, I attended Burley's public meeting concerning budgets. During the meeting, Curtis' cell phone rang six separate times. Four times, Curtis unprofessionally extricated himself from his semi-lounging position on the dais and removed himself to a position just slightly down the hallway. There, in a disturbingly loud voice, he conducted his personal business.

Twice, Curtis gave up on extricating himself and, in a voice loud enough for me to catch snatches of his conversation while at the same time city department heads were addressing him and the other city officials, talked away on his cell.

At the end of the meeting, Curtis had the chooms and the chophop to say that the meeting had been a great one (how could he have possibly know?). Curtis should resign.

JOHN WALSH
Burley

THE LIGHTER SIDE OF POLITICS

Doodlesbury



Mallard Fillmore



OTHER VIEWS

What Idaho newspapers are saying about ...

... what local control?

Post Register, Idaho Falls

It's a new day in Ammon. When the eastern Idaho city's population doubled to more than 12,000 residents, this famously frugal community was confronted with new demands for services. That meant a 70 percent increase in the number of people City Hall hired to run parks, streets and sanitation.



As long as the city's tax base grows even faster, it worked out. But growth slowed from 20 percent in 2006 to 10.5 percent last year. Then inflation — higher fuel, health care and employee pay — kicked in. Tax collections fell short of covering the bills, so property taxes are rising about 1.3 percent. If a 10.5 percent growth rate means higher property taxes in Ammon, imagine what this year's slowed economy will do. And what happens then tells you something about the predicament facing Idaho's cities and counties.

They can turn to the dreaded property tax. But lawmakers long ago limited property tax spending to a 3 percent yearly increase. If costs exceed that amount, locals could cut discretionary programs such as parks and recreation. Or they could stretch services such as law enforcement even more thinly.

Although local governments can cover their sewer and water system costs through fees, they can't use that money anywhere else. There's a limited local option tax for such things as courts, jails, but that provision expires next year.

Changing impact fees on new development is one option, provided cities and counties can jump through costly administrative hoops. Idaho's politicians like to say government closest to the people governs best. Now that growth has fizzled out, state lawmakers ought to prove it ...

... surprising Gov. Otter

Lewiston Tribune

For a guy who doesn't want anyone in Idaho's state

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Jaquet a advocate for citizens she represents

I am writing this letter in support of Wendy Jaquet's bid for re-election to the Idaho State House of Representatives for District 25.

Wendy is a great advocate for the citizens she represents. She always returns your calls and answers your questions and concerns. Her experience in the Statehouse has always benefited her constituents and shows her willingness to listen to our problems.

As minority leader in the House, she has many committee assignments on key issues to deal with every day. As a politician, Wendy is always interested in our schools, tax problems for small businesses, economic opportunities and quality of life for all citizens. The seven terms Wendy has spent as our representative has given her a good insight for what can be accomplished each term to benefit her constituents.

Please get out and vote in November and let Rep. Jaquet continue her work for the citizens of District 25. HUGH KOONCE AFTON KOONCE Fairfield



government to surprise him, Gov. Butch Otter has yet to learn legislators feel the same way. When Otter recently changed some rules affecting disabled state employees and those taking time off for doctor visits, he didn't bother informing legislators who he knew would be interested.

Legislators like Sen. John Anderson of Boise. Anderson is chairman of the Senate Commerce and Human Resources Committee ...

When Otter cut in half the time between when state workers become disabled and when they are laid off from their jobs without telling him, Anderson was less than pleased. Another change takes away workers' ability to visit doctors during work hours for up to two hours with pay ...

For now, forgetting the relative wisdom of laying off a disabled worker in 12 weeks rather than six months, which Division of Human Resources Administrator Judie Wright says will enable departments and agencies to fill critical vacancies more quickly. Even if it's a good idea, why would Otter not share his intention with the Legislature controlled by his own party?

One of the Legislature's most influential Republicans, Sen. Dean Cameron of Rupert, learned about the changes not from the governor's office, but from reporter Russell. "I'm a little bit surprised, and I guess I'm more than surprised — I'm a little bit shocked," said Cameron, co-

chairman of the Legislature's joint budget committee. "This is the first I've heard of it."

Cameron noted that the Legislature's right to review and approve executive branch rules, which Otter bypassed by calling his changes temporary, "was hard-fought and won in court."

And this is the same governor, remember, whose communications director put all state workers on notice they were not to talk to the press without clearing it with him first ...

... Luna's education budget

Idaho Press-Tribune, Nampa

... the public schools budget request outlined by State Superintendent of Public Instruction Tom Luna is smart and specific.

... he targets specific, defensible programs in the classroom and doesn't push for increased bureaucracy at the state level.

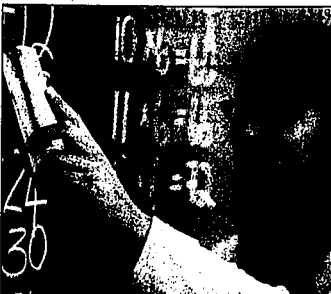
Consider these much-needed requests: • \$5.3 million for his Idaho Math Initiative. Luna seeks a \$1.3 million increase from the present year's budget to better help students who struggle with math as well as high-achieving students who need advanced opportunities. The program builds upon efforts already under way to help improve Idaho students' math performance.

• \$3.5 million to implement a statewide dual-credit program to allow high school juniors and seniors to take up to 12 college or professional-technical credits in their final two years of high school. Luna notes that Idaho has — one of the lowest rates of graduates who go on to college. A dual-credit program would let high school students get their foot in the door at a more-affordable cost ...

Luna also wants to try again with a teacher pay plan that includes some pay-for-performance component. He's requested an average 3.5 percent increase in teacher pay, a third of which

would increase the base pay for teachers and raise the minimum teacher salary. He wants the remaining two-thirds to go into a merit pay system, which he says is needed to reward high-performing teachers.

The schools chief believes the lack of merit pay holds teacher pay back in the Legislature. He noted that state employees, who do have merit pay, received average pay increases of 5.6 percent in 2006 and 3 percent in 2007, compared to 3 percent and 2.4 percent respectively for teachers. It would be good for all parties to come up with a plan that would work ...



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... surprising Gov. Otter

Lewiston Tribune

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Senate committee grills FBI chief Mueller on handling of anthrax probe

By David Willman
Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee on Wednesday vigorously challenged FBI Director Robert S. Mueller III on the bureau's handling of the anthrax mailings investigation, signaling the case has been solved.

Both the panel's Democratic chairman and its most senior Republican said that, based on what evidence they have seen, the FBI has not proved that the mailings were perpetrated solely by Bruce E. Ivins, the now-deceased Army scientist who law-enforcement officials allege committed the crimes.



Mueller

The anthrax-laced letters were mailed in September 2001 and October 2001 and killed five people. Two of the letters were addressed to members of Congress, including Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., chairman of the Judiciary Committee. Leahy, who shouted with emotion at times during the three-hour hearing, said that, if Ivins "is the one who sent the letter, I do not believe in any way, shape or manner that he is the only person involved in this attack on Congress and the American people."

Leahy added, "I believe there are others involved, either as accessories before or accessories after the fact. I believe that there are others out there. I believe there are others who can be charged with murder."

Leahy did not provide the basis for his assertions. Afterward, an aide said the senator would not elaborate. "Based on the complexity of this case and the anthrax that

was used, Senator Leahy still has lingering questions," the aide said.

Leahy's Republican counterpart on the committee, Sen. Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania, blasted Mueller for not opening more investigative details for review — and he chided the FBI director about the case rolled out so far against Ivins.

"I've looked over a good bit of the evidence on the anthrax case, just to contrast prosecutors' opinions," Specter said, apparently referring to his and Mueller's former jobs as prosecutors. "And I have grave doubts about sufficiency of evidence for proof beyond a reasonable doubt."

The hearing was held in a room of the Hart Senate Office Building, which was closed from October 2001 to January 2002 after spores from one of the letters, addressed to then-Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., contaminated the structure.

For his part, Mueller did not waver, testifying that, based on his personal review of the evidence, he believed prosecutors could have proved beyond a jury's reasonable doubt that Ivins, alone, perpetrated the deadly mailings. Mueller offered to privately brief the senators with additional technical details about the anthrax used in the mailings.

Ivins, 62, died of suicide July 29 this year. His former lawyers have said they would have won acquittal at trial.

Another committee member, Sen. Charles E. Grassley, R-Iowa, pressed Mueller on three fronts: the FBI's delay in examining access records showing Ivins' late nights and weekends spent in a special biocatalant lab, where he worked with anthrax; the FBI's misplaced focus from 2002 to 2006 on a former Army virologist, Steven J. Hatfill; and an outside review Mueller announced this week.

"I believe there are others involved, either as accessories before or accessories after the fact. I believe that there are others out there."

— Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt.

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81012 (PL 300W) white

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66⁰⁹

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1/2" x 60"	1/2" thick wall	\$2.90
3/4" x 60"	1/2" thick wall	\$2.94
1" x 60"	1/2" thick wall	\$2.98
1 1/2" x 60"	3/4" thick wall	\$2.78
3 1/2" x 70"	3/4" thick wall	\$4.45
1" x 110"	3/4" thick wall	\$2.39

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MPV5CMCQ 175W 8.52	LUS40ED 35W 18.29	ARQUOMUED 50W 21.57
MPV5CMCQ 250W 11.57	LUS40ED 50W 18.29	ARQUOMUED 70W 21.59
MPV5CMCQ 400W 11.27	LUS40ED 70W 18.29	ARQUOMUED 100W 21.59
	LUS40ED 100W 18.29	ARQUOMUED 150W 21.59
	LUS40ED 150W 18.29	ARQUOMUED 200W 21.59
	LUS40MG 70W 11.39	ARQUOMUED 250W 21.59
	LUS40MG 100W 8.89	ARQUOMUED 300W 21.59
	LUS40MG 400W 28.34	ARQUOMUED 1020W 21.59
	LUS204MG 100W 8.89	
	LUS204MG 100W 8.89	
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200AMP1500C. Includes 8 breakers (8 15-amp and 2 240-amp). 200 amp main breaker and combination cover. Indoor panel.

10200

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GLACIER FLEX® heavy-duty all-weather vinyl extension cords provide superior performance and outstanding resistance to moisture, cracking and wear.

1150205	14-3	25'	\$18.12
1150300	14-3	50'	\$31.90
1150305	14-3	100'	\$58.11

Stocks tumble after AIG bailout

(AP) Wall Street plunged again Wednesday as anxieties about the financial system ran high after the government's bailout of insurer American International Group Inc. and left investors with little confidence in many banking stocks.

Dow Jones Industrials
-449.38
10,609.66

Nasdaq composite
-109.05
2,098.85

Standard & Poor's 500
-57.21
1,156.39

Russell 2000
-34.27
676.38

For a complete stock listing, go to MagicValley.com/business

BUSINESS

TIMES-NEWS • BUSINESS EDITOR JOSHUA PALMER: (208) 735-3231 JPALMER@MAGICVALLEY.COM

INSIDE: Like victims turned away in attempt to return to Galveston, B4



B

THURSDAY

SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

INSIDE: Stocks and commodities, B2 | Weather, B4

CHANGING FACE OF WALL STREET

Government pulls off largest bail out in history with \$85B loan to AIG

By Jeannine Aversa, Ieva M. Augstums and Stephen Bernard
Associated Press writers

Another day, but not just another bailout. This one's a stunning government takeover.

In the most far-reaching intervention into the private sector ever for the Federal Reserve, the government stepped in Tuesday to rescue American International Group Inc. with an \$85 billion injection of taxpayer money. Under the deal, the government will get a 79.9 percent stake in one of the world's largest insurers and the right to remove senior management.

AIG's chief executive, Robert Willumstad, is expected to be replaced by Edward Liddy, the former head of insurer Allstate Corp., according to The Wall Street Journal, citing a person it did not name. Willumstad had been at the helm of

Fallout from bailouts and market downturns:

• Financial crisis to linger in lending: The crisis in the financial markets could make it more difficult for consumers to get loans to buy cars or houses. See B3.

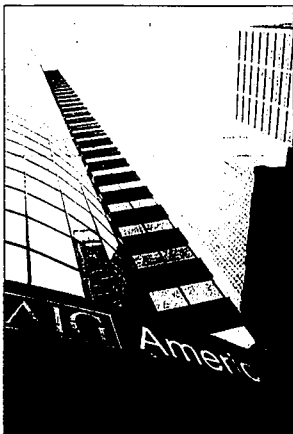
• Small firms see financing harder to get: The financial crisis is the latest blow to small businesses, which face more stringent lending standards. See B3.

AIG since June.

A call to AIG to confirm the executive change was not immediately returned.

It was the second time this month the feds put taxpayer money on the hook to rescue a private financial company, saying its failure would

Please see AIG, Page B2



AIG offices in New York City at 175 Water St.

AP photo

The Federal Reserve is planning an \$85 billion rescue for global insurer American International Group. AIG is in a precarious position in part because of concerns about its recently lowered credit ratings and how those downgrades affect its large portfolio of credit default swaps. The health of AIG matters because the company is so deeply woven into the financial fabric that a bankruptcy could cause turmoil in other institutions worldwide.

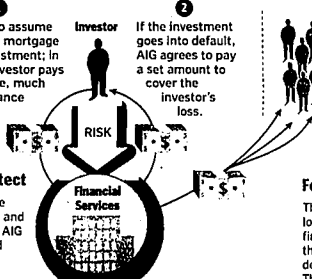
How Credit Default Swaps Put AIG at Risk...

A credit default swap is similar to an insurance contract, providing an investor with protection against risks associated with their investments: defaults, bankruptcies and credit-rating downgrades.

1 AIG agrees to assume the risk for a mortgage or other investment; in return the investor pays a periodic fee, much like an insurance premium.

Investor
If the investment goes into default, AIG agrees to pay a set amount to cover the investor's loss.

The Crisis
In the past three quarters, as subprime mortgage defaults have skyrocketed, AIG has had to pay out more than \$25 billion.



AIG serves 100 million customers worldwide with operations in 130 countries and jurisdictions. It has 116,000 employees and more than 700,000 agents, brokers and sales representatives.

...And Other AIG Services It Hopes to Protect

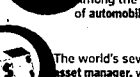
AIG's individual insurance subsidiaries appear to be healthy and should be able to pay claims to people and businesses who hold policies with the company. If AIG had been forced into bankruptcy, these arms could have continued to function, or they could have been sold off. AIG is one of the largest international insurance and financial services organizations in the world. It is:

Second only to State Farm in direct premiums written for property/casualty coverage in the U.S.,* with 7.6 percent of the share at \$37.9 billion.



AIG

Among the top 10 writers of automobile insurance.



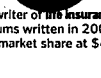
The operator of the largest aircraft leasing business, with a fleet of more than 900 passenger jets.



The world's seventh-largest asset manager, with operations in 45 cities.



The leading writer of life insurance based on direct premiums written in 2006,* with an 8.2 percent market share at \$44.8 billion.



*Most recent year for which these statistics are available.
SOURCES: AIG annual report, National Association of Insurance Commissioners

BY BRUNA MALONEY AND LARAL STATION — THE WASHINGTON POST

WaMu investor positions thrift for reprieve

Banking customers not likely to be affected

By Michael Liedtke and Sara Lepro
Associated Press writers

SAN FRANCISCO — Ailing Washington Mutual Inc. moved into a better position to find a reprieve or rescue from its mounting loan problems Wednesday after a major investor removed a potential stumbling block to a sale or another infusion of capital.

The concession by the private equity group TPG came as government regulators tried to arrange a sale of the nation's largest thrift, reflecting their worries about another possible bank failure that would drain the already depleted Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

TPG could have stymied that process because of protection that it got as part of a \$7 billion investment made in April. A clause in its investment agreement could have required a buyer or another major investor to pay TPG hundreds of millions, if not billions, of dollars in addition to whatever money was injected into WaMu.

But TPG agreed to waive its anti-dilution clause, according to a Securities and Exchange Commission filing, potentially making it easier for WaMu to raise more money or for nervous banking regulators to push for a sale of the Seattle-based company.

"It became clear that it would be in the best interests of Washington Mutual and our investors to waive the ... provisions," Fort Worth, Texas-based TPG said in a statement. "Our goal is to maximize the bank's flexibility in this difficult market environment."

The government's efforts to find a buyer, though, are being complicated by uncertainty about the magnitude of losses still lurking in Washington Mutual's home loan portfolio. "No one knows what's in their books," said a person briefed on the talks between regulators and banks. The person spoke Wednesday on the condition of anonymity because of the sensitivity on the matter.

Citing unidentified sources, the New York Post said the potential buyers include JPMorgan Chase & Co., Wells Fargo & Co., HSBC Holdings PLC.

The banks all declined to comment.

Please see WAMU, Page B2



AP photo

A WaMu branch office is shown in New York. The U.S. government has been reaching out to large banks in an effort to organize a buyout of the beleaguered Washington Mutual Inc., according to a person briefed on the talks between regulators and banks.

FDIC: Customers not likely to see many changes at commercial banks

It's no understatement when analysts say Wall Street will never be the same again, however, not all of these changes are reaching communities such as those in south-central Idaho.

Nevertheless, anyone with money in the bank is asking how the market meltdown will affect them.



BIZ BITES
Josh Palmer

Hopefully, the following column will answer a few of their questions.

Q. How does the fall of Lehman Brothers and other large investment banks affect me and my business here in south-central Idaho?

A. You're not likely to feel the effects of what is happening on Wall Street over the short-term, say officials with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). "Consumers and small busi-

ness owners deal primarily with commercial banks," said Dan Burr, spokesman with the FDIC. "There is a substantial difference between commercial banks and investment banks."

He said commercial banks take less risk, while investment banks take greater risks because "they have the capital to do so."

Investors who bought into risky loans and mortgages from investment banks, as well as the banks themselves, are feeling the initial impact of the bank failures.

Commercial banks and their customers will not likely notice much of a difference. However, Burr said there could be concerns over the long term for people seeking loans.

"The real concern lies in what regulations will come from the fallout of the big bank failures," Burr said. "If lending requirements become so severe that it makes it more difficult to receive a loan, business owners and consumers will likely feel the brunt of it."

Please see PALMER, Page B2

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Con Agra	19.17	▼ .38	Dell Inc.	16.19	▲ .21	Idacorp	29.12	▼ .65
Lithia Mo.	4.55	▼ .51	Micron	3.90	▼ .10	Supervalu	21.57	▼ 1.52

COMMODITIES

For more see page B2

Live cattle	102.6	▼ .15	Oct. oil	96.86	▲ 5.71
Oct. gold	859.2	▲ 82.1	Sept. silver	11.97	▲ 1.5

Today in business

WASHINGTON — Labor Department releases weekly jobless claims.

WASHINGTON — House Financial Services Committee hearing on auction rate securities markets.

NEW YORK — The Conference Board releases leading indicators for August.

MARKET SUMMARY

BUSINESS

Table with columns: NYSE, MOST ACTIVE, AMEX, NASDAQ, GAINERS, LOSERS, DIARY. Lists stock symbols, prices, and changes.

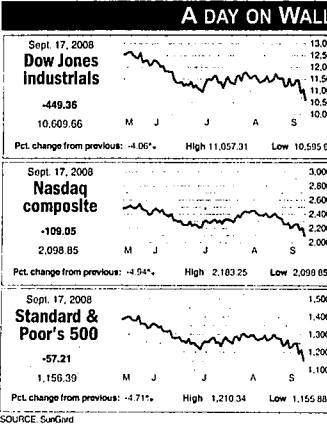
Table with columns: INDEXES, STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST. Lists market indices and local stock prices.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT
Name: Company as listed alphabetically by the company's last name (not its ticker). Company names made up of initials appear as follows...

Table with columns: DIARY, Advanced, Devised, Expanded, Refinanced, New High, New Low. Lists dairy-related financial data.

For a complete listing of stocks and mutual funds, go to
McGraw-Hill.com/businesstimes. All stocks are reported in real-time, as well as the latest news on issues affecting the market.

Stock Footnotes: C = Call greater than 99, D = Down less than 12.00, d = New 52-week low during trading period...



The Dow fell 448.36, or 4.06 percent, to 10,609.66, finishing not far off its lows of the session. On Monday, the Dow lost 504 points, the largest tumble since its drop following the September 2001 terrorist attacks...

Table with columns: CLOSING FUTURES, CHEESE, POTATOES, LIVESTOCK. Lists prices for various commodities.

Table with columns: LOCAL BUSINESS DATA, Bankruptcies, WIN FALLS COUNTY, Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000.

Table with columns: LOCAL BUSINESS DATA, Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$100,000 to \$500,000, Francisco Gal and Margarita Gal.

Table with columns: LOCAL BUSINESS DATA, Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, Daniel M. Moore, 200 Maple.

AIG

Continued from page B1
Further disrupt markets and threaten the already fragile economy...

delicate financial markets and the economy.
It also could be used to substantially higher borrowing costs, reduced household wealth and materially weaker economic performance...

the alternatives are much worse," said Sen. Charles Schumer, D-N.Y.
"His statement late Tuesday, AIG's board of directors said the loan will protect all AIG policy holders, address concerns of rating agencies and buy the company time to sell off assets..."

Palmer

Continued from page B1
Q. Is my money at risk if my bank fails?
A. No. Commercial banks are insured up to \$100,000 through the FDIC and other insurance providers...

WaMu

Continued from page B1
After losing \$6.3 billion in the past three quarters, Washington Mutual believes it is slowly healing under a new chief executive, Alan Hogen...

Continued from page B1
Q. Are things on Wall Street likely to get worse?
A. "I can't say it's that this is a time of reckoning for some bad bets," Burr said.

Continued from page B1
Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter to the Idaho House of Representatives, announced that he will step down as executive director of Business Plan...

TWIN FALLS FORECAST

Today: Partly sunny and pleasant. Highs low to middle 60s. Tonight: Fair skies, and dry weather expected. Lows low 50s. Tomorrow: It's a change in the weather for one more day. Highs 50s-60s.

BURLEY/RUPERT FORECAST

Today: Partly sunny with sunny periods. Highs upper 60. Tonight: Partly cloudy, and comfortable. Lows upper 40s. Tomorrow: A mix of sun and clouds. Highs upper 70s to low 80s.

TWIN FALLS FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Table with 5 columns: Today, Tonight, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday. Includes weather icons and temperature ranges (High 63, Low 53).

Yesterday's Weather

Table with 3 columns: City, HI, Low. Lists weather for Boise, Burley, Coeur d'Alene, etc.

IDAHO'S FORECAST

Map of Idaho with weather forecasts for various regions like Boise, NORTHERN IDAHO, and SOUTHERN IDAHO.

ALMANAC - TWIN FALLS

Table with 3 columns: Temperature, Precipitation, Humidity. Includes monthly and yearly statistics.

Barometric Pressure

Table with 3 columns: Today, Friday, Saturday. Shows barometric pressure and moonrise/moonset times.

Sunrise and Sunset

Table with 3 columns: Today, Friday, Saturday. Shows sunrise and sunset times.

Pollen Count

Table with 3 columns: Today, Friday, Saturday. Shows pollen counts for various types.

REGIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for Boise, Burley, Coeur d'Alene, etc.

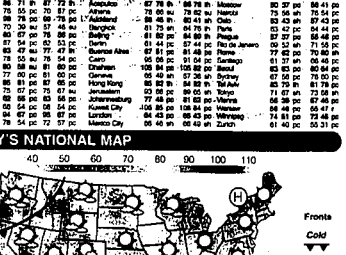
NATIONAL FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for various US cities.

WORLD FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for various world cities.

TODAY'S NATIONAL MAP



REGG MIDDLEKAUFF'S QUOTE OF THE DAY

You don't get to choose how you're Or when. You can only decide how you're live.

CANADIAN FORECAST

Table with 3 columns: City, Today, Tomorrow. Lists forecasts for various Canadian cities.

Magical Valley weather

More Magical Valley weather at www.magicalvalley.com/weather/

Officials turn away people trying to return to Galveston

By Jon Cambrell Associated Press writer

GALVESTON, Texas — Residents of this hurricane-wrecked island city launched an ill-advised attempt to return to their crippled hometown Wednesday, but instead found in hours of gridlocked traffic only to be turned away at the bridge. Traffic backed up for 20 miles along Interstate 45, the one route onto Galveston Island, jockeying for position with utility workers, repair crews and police trying to begin repairs to the city wrecked by Hurricane Ike five days ago. The city announced Tuesday that people could briefly return under a new "hunk and leave" plan, causing evacuees all over the state to pack up and head for the coast. Hours later, it abruptly halted the policy out of fear

of just the sort of roadway chaos occurring on Wednesday. Some people in the long line angrily complained that they'd never heard the policy was rescinded. "I don't understand this," Carlos Azucena said Wednesday, muttering toward repair workers after waiting in the three hours before he was rejected in his third try to go home. "You see those other people. They don't even live here; I live in Galveston." Ike's death toll in the U.S. climbed past 50 Wednesday and appeared to level off in Texas, where search teams pulled out of Galveston having searched the entire island for survivors. The task force had checked on almost 6,000 people and performed more than 3,500 rescues since Friday. Seventeen people have died in the state.

Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff was reviewing damage during his second stop in the state since Ike. In Houston, the nation's fourth-largest city where power was still out and people were still lining up at dozens of distribution centers for basic needs, Chertoff said distribution of food and water were going smoothly. "I'm happy to see that things are moving there," said Chertoff, who also reviewed operations at FEMA's primary distribution center. "We will continue to make sure the flow to the (centers) works uninterrupted." His appearance comes a day after local officials complained that supplies were slow in getting to distribution points, and that the entire process had glitches. Chertoff also said the fed-



A helicopter flies overhead as Pat Sanders boils water in front of his home in Galveston, Texas, Wednesday. Officials are urging residents to leave the island hit by hurricane Ike but Sanders, a life long resident, had vowed to stay put with his family. Sanders is cooking the meat from his freezer as it thaws and has stored supplies and water to last for weeks.

eral government was working to help restore electricity to Houston, where nearly 1.4 million people were without power, probably until next week. Emergency crews working

to restore power in Galveston were among the long line straggling toward Galveston. The crowd of residents was only delaying repairs, officials said. "It's not a good scenario,"

said Raquel Lewis, a Texas Department of Transportation spokeswoman. Lewis pleaded with Galveston residents not to waste scarce available fuel by trying to head home.

WaMu advertisement for 8-Month CD and Money Market Savings. Features interest rates of 4.25% APY and 3.75% APY, and includes the slogan 'Who hoo!'.

OUTDOORS

TIMES-NEWS • OUTDOORS EDITOR ANDREW WEEKS: (208) 735-3233 AWEEKS@MAGICVALLEY.COM

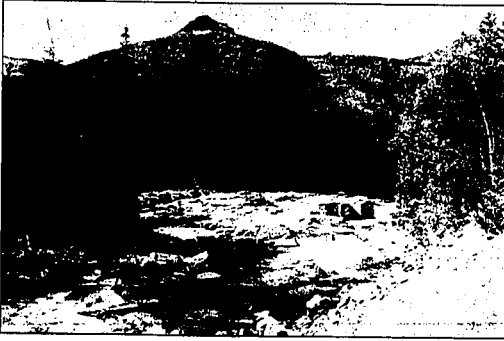
OUTDOOR
SNAPSHOTS:
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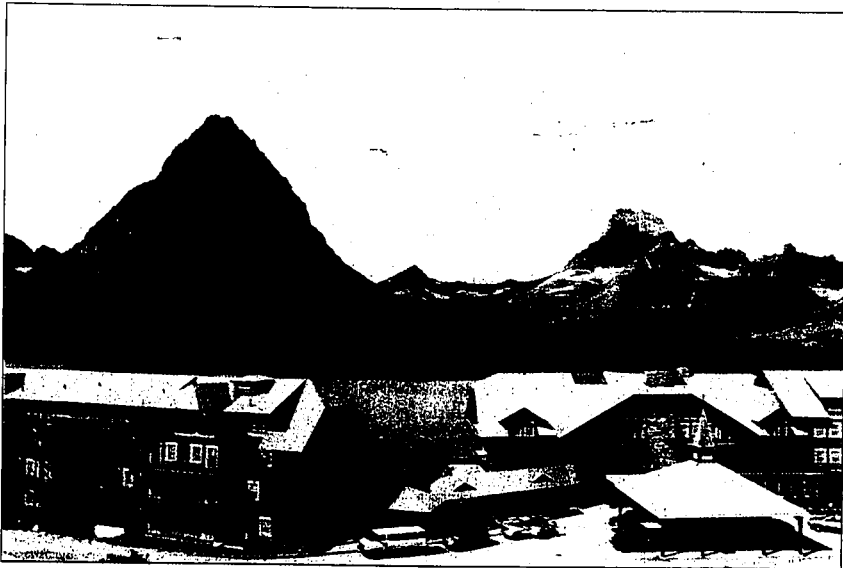
THURSDAY
SEPTEMBER 18, 2008

INSIDE: Skywatch, C2 | Outdoor brief, C3 | Community, C4-5 | Obituaries, C6 | Nation/World, C7-8, C10 | Comics, C9



The aqua-blue waters are a refreshing sight at Glacier National Park.

Glorious Glacier



The Many Glacier area of Glacier National Park is a draw for visitors interested in great hikes and active wildlife.

Photos by KARLA BARNES

Northern Montana hosts one of the country's most scenic national parks

BY KARLA BARNES
Times-News correspondent

For many, the goal to visit every national park in the United States is alive and well.

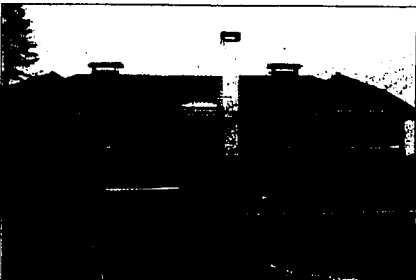
Take, for instance, Phil and Jill Adams, an elderly couple from Texas. The Adams' toured the country this summer with the goal to see as many parks as possible.

"We are thrilled to be here and having the time of our life," said Jill Adams, while on an evening cruise on Lake McDonald in Glacier National Park in northern Montana.

If you're anything like the Adams family, Glacier is one park you don't want to miss.



Glacier National Park in northern Montana is perhaps one of the country's most scenic destination spots. Jackson Glacier, shown here, can still be seen at the park. Visitors can view it at a popular stop on the Going to the Sun Road.



Red tour buses are a popular way to see Glacier National Park. The 25-foot long buses were brought to the park in the 1930s and continue to be a draw with park guests.

A scenic wonderland

The brilliant landscapes of northern Montana and along the borders of the Canadian Provinces of Alberta and British Columbia have always been sacred to the Blackfeet, Salish and Kootenai peoples. They knew this country as "The Backbone of the World." These tribes literally have lived in the shadows of these mountains for more than 10,000 years.

Many of the trails that draw thousands of hikers to the slopes of Glacier today are the same trails once used by native American tribes.

Through the years, the face of Glacier has changed dramatically. Visionaries such as George Bird Grinnell and Henry Stimson had grand ideas for the future of this region. It wasn't long before their

On the Web

For more information about Glacier National Park: www.nps.gov/glac

Ideas came to fruition in a big way. The roadways and railways came in the 1920s and '30s, and, not long afterward, came the large crowds.

Today, trains, planes and automobiles bring visitors in by the thousands each year to experience more than 1,500 square miles of seemingly endless scenic wilderness. Many travelers choose to stay in historic hotels while in Glacier; others opt to camp out for an unforgettable experience in one of more than 1,000 campsites. A few fortunate visitors to

Please see GLACIER, Page C2

Peanut butter snacks in the outdoors

In the old days of sports nutrition, before athletic gels became a de facto food for aerobic types and endurance athletes on the move, there was an original quick calorie boost called peanut butter. Spoon up a dollop, put it on your tongue, and you're into a couple hundred calories and a serving of carbs quicker than you can say Skippy and Jif.



THE GEAR
JUNKIE
Stephen
Regenold

On events ranging from mountain climbs to cross-country ski races, peanut butter has fueled me for years, mostly spread on bread and stuffed in a back-pack though also spouted onto pita with apple slices and — on more than one occasion — squeezed alone from the depths of a plastic baggie to eat plain and pure. As a nut-butter aficionado — as well as a boy raised on PB&Js — the salty sustenance gave a nutritional boost and served psychologically as comfort food in times of athletic duress, be it on the face of Mount Rainier

Please see GEAR, Page C3



Unique Niagara Springs pose challenges for managers

By Rob Morris
Times-News correspondent

Just a little more than six miles south of Wendell lies more than 1,000 acres of scenic public land, known as the Niagara Springs Wildlife Management Area.

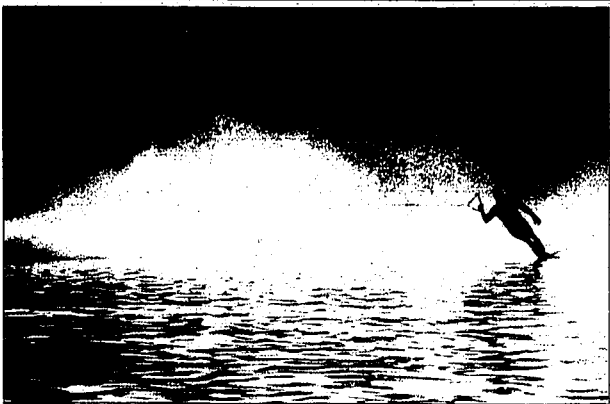
Here you'll find river-front access for waterfowl hunting and bird watching, two trout ponds with a wild, self-sustaining population of rainbow trout, and plenty of native shrub/steppe uplands. As such, the location is popular with waterfowl and upland bird hunters, equestrian enthusiasts, hikers, mountain bikers, dog trainers and others.

Purchased in 1972 to preserve the area from potential development, this scenic outdoors spot presents a number of challenges for those charged with its management.

Please see NIAGARA, Page C2

Outdoor snapshots

We hope you'll enjoy these photos that were submitted for the *Times-News'* summer photo contest. Though these photos never placed in the contest, they are worthy of recognition. Because these photos are the more outdoorsy-type, they've found a place here in the Outdoors section.



A water skier is silhouetted in this June photo while trying his hand on the Snake River in Twin Falls.

Photo by MONICA STEPHENS

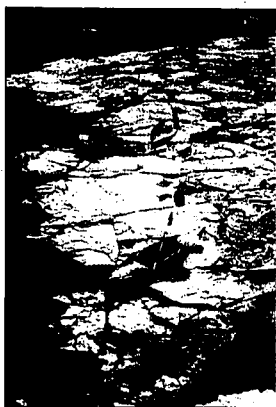


Photo by JASON CARLSON

Puzzle pieces? No, kayaks on the rocks about two miles below the Twin Falls dam on the Snake River. This August photo was taken from the cliffs that overlook the river.



Photo by JESSICA CLARK

'Quick, take the picture. He's trying to get away.' Darin Palmer, 2, holds a fish after catching it at the Wood River.



Photo by TRACEY WILLIAMS

K.C. Williams takes a day off from farming to fish with his son Telf. Here father and son enjoy time together in June while waiting for the 'big one' on the Richfield Canal.

If you'd like to share your outdoor photos with other *Times-News* readers, send them to Outdoors Editor Andrew Weeks at aweeks@magicvalley.com.

OUTDOOR BRIEF

Learn about handgun safety CSI M-C

BUHLBY — College of Southern Idaho's Mini-Cassia Enrichment is sponsoring a Handgun Safety and Handling class from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. this Saturday at the Cassia County Sheriff's

Office. The course covers one of the requirements for a concealed weapons permit.

Certified firearms instructors Wayne Whitmer and Kevin Herak will cover care and cleaning weapons, fundamentals of marksmanship, handgun safety and handling and lethal force.

The class includes four hours of classroom instruction before moving to the firing range for weapons and skill practice.

Participants will need to bring a holster, handgun, hearing and eye protection and ammunition. No ammunition is allowed in

the classroom. Class is limited to the first 12 applicants; cost is \$50.

For more information: 678-1400.

— staff report

Gear

Continued from page C1

or at the verge of a bonk during the American Birkebeiner ski race.

So imagine my intrigue upon sampling Justin's Nut Butter Squeeze Packs last month. These 32-gram packages are made to be carried in a pocket while outdoors or on the go. You tear them open and squeeze out the contents to eat just like an athletic gel.

But unlike the formulations found in a common sports gel, Justin's Nut Butter (www.justinanutbutter.com), a small Boulder, Colo., company, foregoes sodium benzoate, histidine, ornithine alpha-ketoglutarate and other lab-engineered enhancers. Indeed, the full ingredient list for Justin's Classic Peanut Butter Squeeze Pack includes just two items: dry-roasted peanuts and organic palm fruit oil.

This natural mix produces

an energy boost with 190 calories, seven grams of carbohydrates, and seven grams of protein — similar to the nutritional specs seen in mass market athletic gels.

But the Squeeze Packs — which come in plain, honey- and cinnamon flavors as well as an almond-butter-based variety — have much higher fat content. The Classic Peanut Butter packs in 17 grams of fat, which makes this mixture too heavy for many athletic scenarios where a CLIF Shot or PowerBar Gel can do wonders.

I've come to prefer the Squeeze Packs during endurance events like ultra races or for meal replacement during a long hike. You can eat the nut butter squeezed straight from the package or apply it to bread brought along to make a

quick meal.

Justin's Nut Butter makes a high-quality product, banking on natural and organic ingredients. Like both the peanut- and almond-butter varieties, though during activity the peanut-based product goes down much easier. The almond butter is too dry to eat without several sips of water.

The packs — which sell for about \$1 apiece at grocery stores like Whole Foods Market and at some Starbucks Coffee shops — are burst-resistant and strong. They won't go bad without refrigeration, staying fresh in air-tight packaging for weeks before being squeezed and eaten, natural energy and a nutty, buttery rushing forth.

Stephen Regnold writes a daily blog on outdoors gear at www.gearjunkie.com.

Fish of the Week



Sookeye

Science name: *Oncorhynchus nerka*

Also known as: Red salmon, blueback salmon, kokanee, koka, red fish and silver trout

Habitat: coastal, stream, lake

Range: western North America

Water temp: 50 to 55 degrees

Tackle: light tackle, casting, fly

State record: 6 pounds 9.5 ounces, 24.5 inches long, caught in 1975 by Jerry Verge, Priest Lake

World record: 15 pounds 3 ounces, Alaska

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QUESTION: Both wives: "This week I talked to 2 different lawyers about filing a bankruptcy. They kept talking about "chapter 7" and "chapter 13" cases. I'm confused; what's the difference?"

ANSWER: In a chapter 7 bankruptcy you receive a "discharge" from your debts without any requirement of repayment, although you may voluntarily repay any debt you wish, such as your mortgage or car loan. In a chapter 13 bankruptcy, you are required to repay at least some of your debts by making a monthly payment to the Bankruptcy Trustee who in turn distributes the money to your creditors. You do not receive a discharge from your remaining debts until after you have made all your payments to the Trustee. Chapter 13 plans can run from 36 to 60 months. Most people prefer a chapter 7 to avoid making plan payments for 3 to 5 years. Debtors whose household income exceed the state median income for the same size family are required to file a chapter 13. Some debtors prefer a chapter 13 because the chapter 13 "plan" can be structured to stop foreclosures, remove judicial liens, remove 2nd mortgages, stop garnishments for back taxes and/or back child support, and lower the interest rate on certain secured debts, like car loans. An experienced bankruptcy attorney can quickly determine which chapter is best for you.

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Reconstruction junction



A section of the torn-up South Lincoln Street sidewalk in Jerome awaits reconstruction as Gordon Paving workers Robert Hanson, left, and John Kober, operating a CAT backhoe, work to remove old piping from the site. Work is underway to reconstruct falling areas of sidewalk on both South Lincoln Street and Main Street.

Jerome's downtown streets seeing improvements

By Eric Larsen
Times-News writer

Downtown Jerome was awash in fluorescent yellows and oranges Tuesday as work to reconstruct a handful of highly-visible sections of falling sidewalk hit high gear.

Jerome Public Works officials and crews from Gordon Paving are tackling spots along six blocks of Main Street and South Lincoln Street through Oct. 31, repairing curbs and sidewalks on both streets, laying a two-block strip of asphalt on South Lincoln, and installing new streetlights and landscaping.

Scott Bybee, project supervisor, said the reconstruction is the result of two concurrent-running projects. The four-block Main Street project runs along a similar tract of land that a \$2 million beautification project covered in 1999. Bybee said that the mixture used at the time caused the side-

walk to expand, eventually breaking off the top of the curb.

"What we're doing is replacing that, and that phenomenon was one of the first projects in the state of Idaho that showed up on," Bybee said. "I wouldn't say there's any fault with either the state, the contractor or the city. It was just a new phenomenon with the add mixture of the concrete."

Since then, Bybee said, the problem has been solved and a different concrete mixture is used. A two-block strip of South Lincoln immediately south of Main expands south of 1999 project and addresses an area where the age of the road and infrastructure is "well past its normal life," Bybee said.

Funding for both projects comes from the Idaho Transportation Department, Bybee said. Funding totals weren't immediately available Tuesday. Recent ITD funding issues have limited

the scope of the South Lincoln project. "I think ITD is really scratching for dollars around the state, so the project was originally bigger than that," Bybee said. "But because of the increase of material costs and the scarcity of material funds, we scaled back to just two blocks."

New City Administrator Ben Marchant, currently serving his third week on the job, said support for the project has been high, even with the typical headaches that come with construction on two busy thoroughfares.

"It represents the core of the city and there's a lot of support for it," he said. "We're going to go through some growing pains as some residents and businesses are inconvenienced, but that's the cost of progress. Everybody is very supportive and excited about this project. It's a big improvement."

Bybee echoed that sentiment, citing that 30 people attended a preconstruction conference last Thursday to cover the job from start to finish. City officials will be on-site to inspect the reconstruction which will follow a design the city hired a consultant to formulate. Gordon Paving is contracted to do the work after gaining the publicly-bid job, Bybee said.

Both Bybee and Marchant said that the projects will hopefully aid growth in downtown Jerome as officials look to revitalize the city's center.

"Hopefully in the future, as ITD funds become available, we're going to go after them and just continue to start up from here on out," Bybee said. "Like Ben says, this is just one more step. As we take more steps in the future, we'll build on the steps we took in the past."

Eric Larsen may be reached at 208-735-3220 or elarsen@magicvalley.com.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Jerome County sheriff's race debate planned

Citizens Protecting Resources Invites area residents to a Jerome County Sheriff's race debate held at 7 p.m., Oct. 7 at the Jerome Public Library, 100 First Ave. E. in Jerome.

Candidates include Nunnally Don McFar and Jerry Martinez will participate. The candidates will field questions from the public. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend and take advantage of this opportunity to engage the candidates. Information: Carl Nellis, 324-3202.

Magie Valley Christian holds Fall Festival

Magie Valley Christian School will hold its inaugural Fall Festival from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at 500 S. Lincoln St. in Jerome. There will be food booths, a potting zone, an arts and crafts show, a yard sale and various game booths. Tickets can be purchased at the festival.

Elks hold fish fry in Jerome

The Snake River Elks will hold a fish fry from 6 to 9 p.m. Sept. 24 at 412 E. 200 S. in Jerome (by 93 Golf Ranch). Cost is \$5 per person and is all you can eat with coleslaw, baked potatoes and rolls. Information: Gail Quinn at 324-7238 or Elks Lodge at 420-0200.

Jerome pinocle winners announced

The Jerome Senior Center announced recent pinocle winners for: Sept. 8: Angelica Daniels, Ross Logos, Betty Ohlenschläger; Sept. 10: Betty Page, Janet Ray, Betty Page; Sept. 12: Betty Mahan, Loretta Bird, Lorraine Randall, Glennys Paulson.

Toastmasters hold Speech Craft event

A Speech Craft event operated by the local Toastmasters Club will be held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. Mondays, Sept. 22 to Nov. 17 at the Jerome Public Library, 100 First Ave. E. The event is for the entire family and the cost is \$35. Participants will learn leadership, communication and speaking skills and have fun

In the process. To make your reservations or for more information: Elsa Tolman at 324-6440 or class@toastmasters, please put Toastmasters in the subject line.

Nofziger to retire from Buhl Public Library

Louise Nofziger, director of children's and technical services at the Buhl Public Library, is retiring on Sept. 30 after 24 years of community service. The library is hosting an open house with refreshments from 7 to 9 p.m. Thursday at the library. A special library story hour with refreshments will be held for children from 10 to 11 a.m. Sept. 24 at the library where Nofziger will share some of her favorite stories and visit with the children.

M-C Democrats meet tonight

The Mini-Cassia Democrats will meet today at 7 p.m. at the Paul Fire Hall. Discussion will cover absentee balloting, voter registration and the upcoming town hall meeting. Information: Bill Rice, 436-9361.

CSI holds online math college for teachers

College of Southern Idaho Education announces a professional development online course for teachers called Singapore Math Strategies: Model Drawing for Grades 1-6. Singapore has led the world in student math performance for over a decade, and this new professional development course offers all teachers a chance to learn one of the key ingredients to that country's recipe for educational success. After completion of this course, teachers can earn one CSI credit towards their teaching certificate for a \$30 fee by contacting Dave Makings at 732-6858 or dmakings@csi.edu.

This course is part of CSI Community Education's growing catalog of more than 300 instructor-facilitated online courses. Through well-crafted lessons, expert online instruction, and interaction with fellow students, participants in these courses gain valuable knowledge at their convenience. New sessions in each course begin

Please see COMMUNITY, Page C5

Jerome hosts 'Save the Races' meeting

The Jerome County Fair Board is considering the fate of horse racing at the County Fairgrounds and will hold a meeting at the fairgrounds in the Messersmith Building at 7 p.m. Sept. 25.

The Jerome Horse Racing Association was taken over by the fair board two seasons ago. The races run annually for three days in June. There is pari-mutual betting and horses from all over the western states come to compete. In 2008, total purse money

paid out to contestants total over \$37,000.

"The biggest problem with the races is there is not any help," Fair Manager Kathleen Diedrich said in a Tuesday release. "The fair board does most of it, and with the races being just a month prior to Fair."

"This is taking away from our fair-time efforts. The horse races, themselves, make no additional income

Please see MEETING, Page C5

Wagon Days Parade winners

A full number of entries participated in this year's Wagon Days Parade held Aug. 30 in Ketchum.

Almost 100 parade entries traveled to Ketchum for the annual Wagon Days Celebration, which highlights the largest non-motorized parade in the Pacific Northwest. With three high school marching bands, numerous wagons, carriages, riding clubs and more from all over the state and the Northwest, there were nearly 1,000 participants in the parade.

An estimated 18,500 spectators filled Ketchum's streets Saturday afternoon for a bigger than ever Wagon Days Parade celebration.

Parade winners include: New Wagons: 1. Paula Knickerbocker Foundation and Benjamin Prohaska of Cour d'Alone, 2. Swiniston Family Chuck Wagon of Richfield, 3. Double D Construction, Phil Lung of Kamas, Utah.

Authentic/Restored: 1. Bob Fosnot, Montana Mountain Express of Falls, Mont.

Wagons: 1. Black Jack Ketchum Shoot-out Gang of

Halley, 2. Fred and Penny Hodges of Buhl, 3. Somyside Clydesdales/Mahoney's Bar and Grill of Clyde Park, Mont.

Coaches: 1. Gordon Rock-Concord Stage of Ketchum, 2. Gordon Rock-Mud Wagon of Ketchum, 3. Gordon Rock-SW Wagon of Ketchum.

Carriages: 1. Dr. Tom Beck of Boise, 2. Senior Connection of Halley.

Riding Clubs: 1. Americans of Rexburg, 2. High Country Peruvian of Sun Valley, 3. Sara Weekes of Meridan.

Floats: 1. Blaine County

Democrats of Ketchum, 2. Louis Cant, Buhl Cant of Albion, 3. Ketchum and Sun Valley Historical Society of Ketchum.

Open: 1. Jose Campos, Jose's Dancing Horses of Nampa, 2. Carolyn Phillips of Buhl, 3. Independent Free Trappers of Sun Valley.

Two-wheeled Carts: 1. field Flood, Silver Bell Ranch of Sun Valley, 2. LeeAnn and Emer Ball of Menan, 3. Louis Cant of Middleton.

The Kimberly Rhoads People's Choice Award: Dr. Tom Beck of Boise.

Irritable Bowel Syndrome treatment starts with modified diet

DEAR DR. GOTT: My husband has been diagnosed with Irritable Bowel Syndrome by his physician. He's extremely uncomfortable and isn't getting a lot of relief. What are his options?
DEAR READER: IBS is a common disorder of the large and small intestines. It affects up to 15 percent of North Americans, mostly women. Symptoms include



ASK DR. GOTT
Dr. Peter Gott

gas, bloating, diarrhea, constipation or a combination thereof. It can appear at any

age, but it is often found in younger people. Previous studies indicated IBS was caused by stress, but the condition is now thought to be a malfunction of the movement of the colon. Whatever the cause, it is uncomfortable for those who suffer from the condition.

For starters, your husband might modify his diet. It should include high-fiber

foods such as bran, whole-grain bread, beans, fruits and vegetables. Remember to add the fiber gradually since a major change to the dietary intake can cause gas that, in turn, will trigger symptoms — the very thing he wants to avoid.

Perhaps he already knows what brings on an attack, but generally speaking, he should avoid fried foods, fat-

fine, alcohol, chocolate and some dairy products. If he doesn't know what initiates symptoms, he might keep a diary of what he eats (and when), so when symptoms occur, he can narrow down the list to foods that trigger an attack. If he takes the list of trigger foods to his physician, they can work out a diet together. In any event, his meals should not be

large. He might consider four or five smaller meals throughout the day.

While I said that stress was previously thought to be the cause of IBS but later found not to be, it can trigger an attack. He should find ways to reduce his stress level as an additional means of control.

Please see DR. GOTT, Page C5

Kid's literacy conference held

The College of Southern Idaho Early Childhood Education Department and the Snake River Association for the Education of Young Children will hold their one-day fall conference titled Let's Leap into Literacy and Make Language Fun from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 4 in rooms 276/277 of the Taylor building on the College of Southern Idaho campus in Twin Falls.

The keynote speaker for the conference will be Jane Kitson, also known as Mother Goose and the author of more than 350 original songs and finger plays that have been shared with more than 60,000 early childhood professionals throughout the United States and Canada. Kitson has taught and consulted in the education of young children for 25 years.

Registration fees are \$50 for SRAEYC member, \$60 for non-members, and \$70 for those who register after Sept. 26. The registration fee includes lunch and all supplies for the make and take session at the end of the conference.

For more information: Evin Fox at 732-6872 or at cfox@csledu.org or Gena Anderson at 736-0073 or Anderson_0073@msn.com.

Pageant applications now accepted

Applications are now being accepted for the title of Mrs. Idaho, Miss Idaho, Miss Teen Twin Falls and Magic Valley Idaho International 2009, an official preliminary to the Mrs., Miss, and Miss Teen Idaho International Pageant which will be held in March 2009 at the Nampa Civic Center in Nampa.

The woman selected as Mrs. Idaho, Miss Idaho and Miss Teen Idaho International 2009 will

become an ambassador for Idaho and continues on to compete in the Mrs., Miss and Miss Teen International pageant in Chicago, Ill. in July of 2009.

The winners will also receive an official Mrs. Idaho, Miss Idaho and Miss Teen Idaho International sash and crown - along with many other prizes and gifts.

For more information: Autumn Short at 208-283-8718 or email mrsida-

hopageant@yahoo.com, or visit www.idahopageants.net.



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Meeting

Continued from page C4

for the fairgrounds, and cause scheduling conflicts with other interim events. It would be a shame for the races to leave Jerome. They have been here a long time, but if we have no more interest than the past two years, we will have to let it go.

According to Idaho Wins, Inc. An association dedicated to saving horse racing in Idaho, horse racing in Idaho has been on a steady decline for nearly two decades. In 1981, the state's "handle" — a fixed percentage of the total amount wagered that is dedicated to operating expenses, purses and state and local taxes — was \$116.755.

In 1988, a year before the state lottery was introduced, the racing handle still was at \$5,747,914. By 2007, the handle had fallen to just over \$3.1 million.

This decline was accelerated by the growth of gaming in surrounding states and parts of Idaho. Idaho Wins, Inc. claims that even non-racing fans should care about saving horse racing in Idaho because revenues to the state from horse racing help support a variety of important services, including education and other programs the state funds, adding that a strong horse racing industry also will provide many permanent jobs for Idahoans.

Community

Continued from page C4

every six weeks. The courses are entirely Web-based with comprehensive lessons, quizzes, and assignments.

A dedicated professional instructor facilitates every course: pacing learners, answering questions, giving feedback, and facilitating discussions.

For more information: 732-6442 or visit www.ed2go.com/csicc.

Safe Harbor holds

September meeting

Area non-profit groups are welcome to attend Safe Harbor's September meeting from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday at the First Christian Church, 601 Shoshone St. N. in Twin Falls (enter at the office door).

Each group is welcome to briefly share their current activi-

want your community news

Do you have a community news item you would like to have published in the Times-News? We are looking for news items from North Side, Minutemen and Twin Falls communities!

Send the information and photos if you have one, to community@timesnews.com. We will edit your "community news" subject line.

We are announcing an event please send information at least two weeks in advance.

ties. There will also be a no-charge lunch. Information: Phyllis at 735-8787.

Dr. Gott

Continued from page C4

Between diet modification, a reduction in stress levels and medication (such as over-the-counter Digestive Advantage IBS or prescription, if appropriate), he should be on the road to recovery.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report, "Irritable Bowel Syndrome." Other readers who would like a copy should send a self-addressed, stamped, No. 10 envelope and \$2 to Newsletter, PO Box 176, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 30-year-old daughter has had

eczema since birth. She has tried just about everything possible. Do you have a simple remedy like your banana skin for psoriasis?

DEAR READER: Eczema is often extremely difficult to control. It stems from a malfunction of the body's immune system. The condition is known as an itch that rashes. When the uncontrolled urge to scratch occurs, further skin irritation results, often causing rash, scaling and crusting lesions.

There are many triggers causing eczema. They include animal dander, dry skin, harsh soaps, showering too frequently, using hot

water and more. The most effective control is to keep the skin moisturized. A good moisturizing lotion with vitamin E is recommended. While I'm easier said than done, I suggest your daughter not scratch any lesions. If this is a habit she might do in her sleep, she can wear cotton gloves to bed. She should bathe in warm, not hot, water. If her home is dry, she might use a humidifier. If these suggestions don't work, she might ask her physician for a prescription medication.

Doctor Peter Gott is a retired physician and the author of the book "Dr. Gott's

No Flour, No Sugar Diet," available at most chain and independent bookstores, and the recently published "Dr. Gott's No Flour, No Sugar Cookbook."

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Transition
to Digital Broadcasting on February 17, 2009

After the transition to digital broadcasting, analog-only TVs will need a converter to get full-power, over-the-air broadcasts. Analog-only TVs shouldn't need a converter for low-power, Class A, or translator TV stations; cable and satellite TV services; or VCRs, DVD's, and video games. Contact www.DTV.gov or 1-888-OTV-2009 for more information on the DTV transition and subsidized coupons for converters.

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Rafaelia Medina Torrez

BURLLEY — Rafaelia Medina Vasquez Torrez, age 80, of Burley, died Wednesday, Sept. 17, 2008, at the St. Luke's Medical Valley Center in Twin Falls. She was born July 1, 1928, in Burley, Texas...

children, David Torrez of Rupert, George, Ruben, Daniel and Paul Torrez, all of Burley, and Zulema Esparza of Brigham City, Utah; her siblings, Minnie Frances, Minnie Anita, Johnny, Higinio Jr. and Joe; 14 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents, two sisters, two brothers and a half brother.

Anna C. Davis, 96, of Twin Falls, passed away peacefully Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2008. Anna was born Aug. 4, 1912, in Twin Falls, the daughter of Joseph and Ella Cordes. Anna lived most of her life in Twin Falls on a farm she loved. There she cooked for family and friends and took long walks in the sunshine with family pets.



places and countries throughout her long life. Anna is survived by her three children, Peggy McCaughy of St. Joseph, Mo., Patty Davis of Queen Valley, Ariz., and Kelly Davis of Twin Falls. She is also survived by her four grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents; sister, Elba Culbert; and husband, Dean Davis.

Begie Elsie Hatmaker

SHOSHONE — Begie Elsie Hatmaker, 91, a resident of Shoshone, died Thursday, Sept. 11, 2008, at BridgeView Estates in Twin Falls. Begie was born May 6, 1917, in Williamsburg, Ky. to Josie Sharp. At an early age, Begie and her mother moved to the Demory area near LaFollette, Tenn. Begie went to school at Demory and was active in the Demory Baptist Church.



supported and campaigned for many candidates and was a close friend of Sen. Church and Rep. Stalling. Begie was a member of Delta Kappa Gamma (Theta Chapter), as well as all her other activities. She was very active and held several offices. Begie is survived by her son, Robert (Earlene) Hatmaker of Island Park and their children, Pamela, Teresa, Cory, Randy and Jenny; her daughter, Joyce (Don) Worrell of Olympia, Wash., and their children, Michael, Mark, Randy, Ron, Annette, Michael, Dennis and Daniel; and four great-grandchildren.

Lonna Marie Allphin

Lonna Marie Allphin was born March 4, 1944, in St. Anthony, to Lonnie Hansen and Eva Louise Brenton. Lonna went to school in St. Anthony; in 1964, she moved to Rupert to finish school. She quit just shy of graduating, but in late 1961, she married Barry Stockham; they had two daughters, Jackie and Corina (Dennis) McLaughlin of Boise. They later divorced and then, on Oct. 11, 1970, she married Samuel Owen Allphin in Ripley, Wn. They lived in Burley, and then they lived in Twin Falls,



where Sam still lives. Lonna worked as a chef in numerous restaurants, including Frosty Mug and Shar's, among others. She was preceded in death by her parents. She is survived by her husband, Sam; her daughters, Jackie and Corina; three sisters, Naydene (Meredith) Smith of Burley, Sherma (Kevin) Farson and Ina Johnson, both of Lynnwood, Wash.; three brothers, Marlie, Rose of Lynnwood, Wash., Jesse Rose of Jerome and Lonnie Meagher of Sacramento, Calif.; four granddaughters; three grandsons; two great-granddaughters; and three great-grandchildren.

Lillie Mae Newcomb

Lillie Mae Newcomb, 77, passed away Monday, Sept. 15, 2008, at St. Luke's Medical Center with her family at bedside. Mae was born Dec. 18, 1930, at Salmon. She married Elmer Sims of Lendore, where they raised a family of five children. Elmer preceded her in death. Mae married Ross D. Newcomb at their home on the river in Rupert, and they had 21 years of a wonderful life together. Mae was very active in the Rupert Synchronist and Lady Elks of Rupert Lodge 2106. Survivors include her husband, Ross; five children, Linda (Dove) Crabtree of Coeur d'Alene, Wilma Collier of

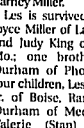


Bellevue, Wade Coates and Elaine Becker-Kamal (Virgil Siskun) of Twin Falls and James (Doddy) Sims of Hood River, Ore.; six grandchildren; and many other relatives and friends. The family wishes to thank St. Luke's Magpie Valley Medical Center staff for all the comfort and care given to Mae and her family. In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the St. Luke's Cancer Center MSTI or a charity of their preference in Mae's name. The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Sept. 20, at the Rupert United Methodist Church, with Pastor Pam Meese officiating. A viewing will be held one hour prior to the service at the church. Burial will follow at the Rupert Cemetery. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Hansen Mortuary in Rupert.

Lester Franklin Durham Sr.

MEDFORD, Ore. — Lester Franklin Durham Sr., of Medford, Ore., died Thursday, Sept. 11, 2008, at the age of 74 after a long illness. Les/Frank was born July 18, 1934, in Peoria, Ill. He grew up in many places, spending his early years in Illinois and Idaho. He often laughed about the fact that he never finished a school year in the same school he started as the family moved around following him dad wherever the work took him. Plus, they just liked seeing new places! At the age of 9, he worked for a farmer in Skunk Hollow, Ill., and lived in the bunkhouse with the rest of the farm hands.

main focus and joy of his life. He had a great time teaching his grandchildren how to fish. Les worked hard his whole life to make sure his family was well cared for. Many nights were spent playing games and cards with his friends and family, often times playing Pinochle and Nertz all night long. He loved to joke around and play practical jokes. Later in life, he liked to watch John Wayne movies and reruns of Barney Miller.



When he was 12, he worked for Larry LeMoyné on his sheep farm in Hagerman, bunking on the screened front porch of their house. He grew up hunting, fishing, farming and living off the land. He served in the U.S. Army from Sept. 26, 1953, to Feb. 22, 1956. He married the love of his life, Jacquelyne Vernelle McGowan, on Nov. 7, 1954, in Augusta, Ga. They moved to Arizona to raise their family and lived there from 1956 to 1969. While in Arizona, Les worked for the Arizona Highway Department as a systems analyst. He was involved with the Boy Scouts and was a leader for the Indian Guides and an associate pastor for the Methodist Church in Phoenix. In 1969, he moved his family to Jerome, where he was involved in car sales and real estate. During that time, he and Vern were finally able to realize their lifelong dream of living in the country on a small farm where the family could have a big garden and raise small livestock. After Vern's death in 1975, Les moved to the Twin Falls area, where he ran his own handyman business and worked as an auditor until 1996, when declining health made it necessary for him to move to Medford, Ore. to live with his son. Les enjoyed camping, hunting and fishing with his family, who was his

Joyce Miller of Laveen, Ariz., and Judy King of Versailles, Mo.; one brother, Robert Durham of Phoenix, Ariz.; four children, Lester Durham Jr. of Boise, Randy (Carol) Durham of Medford, Ore., Valerie (Stann) Chesler of Goffstown, N.H., and Kris (Dan) Scovel of Boise; 14 grandchildren; and nine great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Jacquelyne Vernelle Durham; parents, Joe and Lou Durham; sister, Joy Frances Steen; and grandchildren, Tanya Jo Hoffman and Kristen Dawn Durham. A viewing will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 18, at Summers Funeral Home, 3629 E. Ustick Road, Meridian, ID 83646. The funeral will be held at 9:30 a.m. Friday, Sept. 19, followed by burial at the Idaho State Veterans' Cemetery. Arrangements are by Summers Funeral Home, Ustick Chapel. Memorial contributions can be made to American Cancer Society or American Lung Association.

DEATH NOTICES

Ted L. Johnson

Ted Lewis Johnson, 75, of Twin Falls, died Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2008, at Bridgeview Estates. A memorial gathering (no-host event) will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 20, at Garibadi's, 645 Filler Ave. W. in Twin Falls (White Mortuary in Twin Falls).

Isidoro M. Perez

LAS VEGAS — Isidoro Martinez Perez, 57, of Las Vegas, Nev., died Tuesday, Sept. 16, 2008, at a Las Vegas, Nev., hospital. Arrangements will be announced by Serenity Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Ehsan V. Kababian

Ehsan V. Kababian, 29, of Twin Falls, died Monday, Aug. 25, 2008. Arrangements will be announced by Serenity Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

You'll find services on page C7

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AROUND THE NATION

WASHINGTON Senate passes big military spending bill

WASHINGTON — The Senate passed a massive defense bill Wednesday that includes a pay raise for military personnel, despite Republican objections to billions of dollars in special projects lawmakers had added.

Seven weeks from Election Day, blocking the measure in wartime was not a political risk many senators were willing to take. The measure passed 88-8 after negotiations on amendments failed at midday.

Refraining Sen. John Warner of Virginia led the negotiating for Republicans who objected to the added projects, called earmarks. But he, too, said he could not cast a vote that implied disrespect for soldiers fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Warner said Democrats and Republicans alike objected to parts of the bill or proposed amendments.

The bill passed Wednesday because it earlier had attained the support of 61 senators — barely clearing the required 60-vote threshold — on a test vote. Following Warner's lead, a dozen Republicans voted to advance the measure, many of them in tough re-election bids.

ILLINOIS Controversial autism study called off

CHICAGO — A government agency has dropped plans for a study of a controversial treatment for autism that critics had called an unethical experiment on children.

The National Institute of Mental Health said in a statement Wednesday that the study of the treatment — called chelation — has been abandoned. The agency decided the money would be better used testing other potential therapies for autism and related disorders, the statement said.

"It will be to parents who are disappointed," said Richard Nakamura, the scientific director of NIMH. "We recognize that for children there is a fine line for the risk-benefit ratio. You have to be pretty certain of the overall safety of the procedure."

The agency wasn't confident enough in the procedure's safety, Nakamura said. The study had been on hold because of safety concerns over an earlier study published last year linked a drug used in the treatment to lasting brain problems in rats.

TEXAS Agency says 4 dead in plane crash in Mexico

PRESIDIO — An intergovernmental agency says all four of those on board a plane that crashed in Mexico after taking off from Texas are dead.

The International Boundary and Water Commission said Wednesday that the dead included the leaders of its U.S. and Mexican branches. The agency maintains the border between the two countries.

The plane had been missing since Monday, when it took off from El Paso to check out flooding on the Rio Grande.

— The Associated Press

Taking a closer look

White House alters defense of economy's strength

By Ben Feller
Associated Press writer

WASHINGTON — The White House throttled back its description of the U.S. economy on Wednesday, labeling it resilient enough to withstand some shocks to the system but refusing to say it is fundamentally sound — in the phrase that has fueled the race for the presidency.

In defending the latest corporate rescue by the government, the White House put the country's economic state in a much more measured perspective.

Press secretary Dana Perino said "it's not clear-cut," but rather a mixed package of up-and-down economic measures, sometimes even on the same day.

"Our economy has the strength to be able to deal with these shocks," Perino said.

With the financial markets in turmoil, President Bush canceled a planned trip to Alabama and Florida today to consult with his economic advisers in Washington.

Bush had planned to attend a Republican fundraiser in Jupiter, Fla., and tour a waste facility in Huntsville, Ala. He also was to have attended another fundraiser in Huntsville. Vice President Dick Cheney will attend the Huntsville fundraiser.

White House spokesman Tony Fratto said late Wednesday that the president "will continue to work with his economic advisers on the serious challenges confronting U.S. financial markets."

Fratto said, "The president remains focused on taking action to stabilize and strengthen the markets and to restore investor confidence." The economic language that emerges from the White House is always important. It sends messages to the markets and to the masses. And it



President Bush greets Panama's President Martin Torrijos, Wednesday in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington.

is designed to find a balance of boosting consumer confidence while also being candid enough to prevent President Bush from appearing out of touch.

When Republican presidential candidate John McCain declared Monday that "the fundamentals of our economy are strong," it drew ridicule from Democratic opponent Barack Obama and his surrogates. McCain later said he meant that the fundamental strength of American worker remained strong.

In fact, the phrase and variations of it long have been a favorite of Bush's. "I believe the foundations of this economy are strong," he said on July 31.

Given the political atmosphere, Perino declined to say whether the White House still stood by the statement.

"I recognize that this issue of strength has come into the 2008 election," she said. "I'm not going to try to get involved in it."

Even when reporters asked for the president's view of the economy regardless of the

McCain-Obama race, Perino would not bite. "I know as soon as I say something you're going to turn it around and it will be a part of the 2008 campaign," she said. "I'm not going to play the game."

The last few weeks have seen enough Wall Street turmoil and corporate collapses to prompt a blitz of federal interventions under Bush's watch. It is the kind of taxpayer-supported help for the private sector that might seem at odds with Bush's conservative, free-market economic philosophy.

Colon X-ray seen as effective screening method

By Mike Stobbe
Associated Press writer

ATLANTA — A long-awaited federal study of an X-ray alternative to the dreaded colonoscopy confirms its effectiveness at spotting early colon cancers, although it was far from perfect.

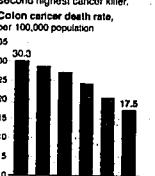
Medicare is already considering paying for this cheaper, less intrusive option that could persuade more people to get screened for colon cancer. And some experts believe the new method may boost the 50 percent screening rate for a cancer that is the country's second biggest killer.

"We're talking about for the first time having the so-called 'virtual colonoscopy' identified nine out of 10 people who had cancers and large growths seen by regular colonoscopies."

But there were flaws, too. Among them, the procedure catches sometimes miss the X-ray, leading them to spot

Rate decreases

Since 1960, the colon cancer death rate has dropped 42 percent. It is the nation's second highest cancer killer.



SOURCE: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

polyps that weren't there. That led to unnecessary follow-up testing.

The X-ray test's real value may be in showing who really needs a regular colonoscopy — it was better at ruling cancer out than it was at detecting it, suggests the report in Thursday's New England Journal of Medicine. Colorectal cancer will claim about 50,000 lives this year. The point of screening, widely recommended at age 50, is to find growths before they turn cancerous.

The gold standard is colonoscopy, in which a long, thin tube equipped with a small video camera is snaked through the large intestine to view the lining. Any growth can be removed during the procedure.

It involves sedation and a missed day of work, not to mention preparation that uses pills or liquids to clean out the bowel.

The study focused on CT colonography, also known as virtual colonoscopy. It's a super X-ray of the colon that is quicker, cheaper and easier on the patient than traditional colonoscopies.

It too requires the bowel clean-out and has a potentially serious drawback — radiation.

Colonoscopies cost up to \$3,000. The X-ray test costs \$300 to \$800; most insurers don't cover it so far, but Medicare is considering it.

Insurers likely will weigh the new study heavily in their coverage decisions, said Dr. Durardo Brooks, who oversees colorectal and prostate cancer programs at the American Cancer Society.

Preliminary, unpublished data from the new study already helped persuade the

cancer society and others to put out guidelines in March that added virtual colonoscopy and a stool DNA test to the recommended arsenal of screenings for colon cancer, Brooks said.

In the new study, both the standard colonoscopy and the X-ray test were given to 2,531 people at 15 U.S. medical centers.

The scans showed large growths in about one in six people, although some were false alarms not confirmed by colonoscopy.

Of the patients with growths "verified" by colonoscopy, 90 percent were flagged through the X-ray scans.

"That's very good news," said Dr. C. Daniel Johnson, the lead author of the study. He is a researcher at the Mayo Clinic campus in Scottsdale, Ariz., with financial ties to one virtual colonoscopy company, GE Healthcare.

Back to the false alarms — only one in four of those patients diagnosed with a growth actually had one, noted Dr. Robert Fletcher, a retired Harvard Medical School professor who wrote an editorial accompanying the study.

Candidates scramble to shift economic messages

By Tom Rasm
and Glen Johnson
Associated Press writers

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. — With economic anxiety rising, Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama scrambled Wednesday to adjust their messages to connect more directly with financially struggling voters.

Obama talks directly into the camera in a new, two-minute television ad on how he'll fix an economy in which "paychecks are flat and home values are falling." McCain and running mate Sarah Palin softened opposition to government bailouts, accepting the U.S. takeover of the nation's largest insurer as unfortunate but necessary to protect ordinary Americans.

"The shot that has been called by the Feds — it's understandable but it's very disappointing that taxpayers are called upon for another one," Palin told reporters during a visit to delicatessen in Cleveland.

Both McCain and Obama advocated cracking down on freeloading Wall Street practices and for tough new regulations on financial institutions.

Obama ridiculed McCain's calls for more regulation as an eleven-hour conversion for one who has long championed deregulation.

Too many in Washington and on Wall Street weren't minding the store. They sat on their hands until it was too late," Obama told angrily in Elk, Nev. He challenged McCain's vow to take on the "old boy's network...I have not taken them on for the last seven years."

The increased emphasis on the faltering economy came on a day when stocks resumed their downward plunge following Tuesday night's government takeover of American International Group Inc. with an \$85 billion two-year loan from the Federal Reserve in return for a majority stake in the company.

"The focus of any such action should be to protect the millions of Americans who hold insurance policies, retirement plans and other accounts with AIG," McCain said in a statement.

"We are not bail out the management and speculators who created this mess."

The turnaround came a day after McCain strongly opposed additional government relief and praised the government's decision not to rescue Lehman Brothers after it had intervened to help investment bank Bear Stearns and mortgage giants Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac.

His Democratic rival endorsed the AIG takeover in Elk, saying the government acted "to prevent an even larger crisis." Arguing that the U.S. housing market was "in a shambles," Obama said it was important now for the Federal Reserve to ensure that families with AIG insurance are protected.

SERVICES

Mayce "Timmons" Smith of Gooding, funeral at 10:30 a.m. today at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St.

Carl Anthony Muegerl of Kimberly, funeral at 11 a.m. today at St. Edwards Catholic

Church, 200 Seventh Ave. E. in Twin Falls (Parker's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Gezle R. Ellis, formerly of Hazelton, memorial service at 11 a.m. Friday at the Hazelton Cemetery; luncheon will follow

at Rock Creek Park in Twin Falls. Jack R. Cox of Twin Falls, celebration of life at 11 a.m. Friday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel, 2468 Addison Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Jeasle May Shappee

Sprenger of Twin Falls, funeral at 3 p.m. Friday at Farnsworth Mortuary Chapel, 1343 S. Lincoln in Jerome, visitation one hour before the funeral Friday at the mortuary.

Mary T. Eldredge of Carey, memorial service at 1:30 p.m.

Saturday at the Carey Cemetery in Carey (Wood River Chapel of Halley).

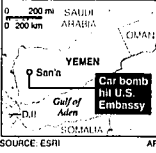
Shirley Mae Fisher of Heyburn, service at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel, 710 Sixth St.; visitation after the

service at 1630 18th St. in Heyburn.

Kirk "Conry" Lu Wetzell of Gooding, graveside memorial service at 3 p.m. Saturday at the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding (Demary Funeral Service, Gooding Chapel).

16 dead in attack at U.S. Embassy in Yemen

By Paul Schenn and Ahmed Al-Hajj
Associated Press writers



SOURCE: ESRI AP

SANA'A, Yemen — Militants linked to al-Qaida launched a heavy attack against the U.S. Embassy in the Yemeni capital Wednesday, firing automatic weapons and setting off grenades and a car bomb in a furious fusillade that failed to breach the walls but killed 16 people, including a newly wed New York woman.

It was the deadliest direct assault on a U.S. Embassy in a decade claiming the lives of six attackers, six guards and four civilians.

Yemeni security officials said civilian casualties could have been far worse. The streets were relatively empty because many people sleep late during the holy month of Ramadan when Muslims fast from sunrise to sunset. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to press.

About 9:15 a.m., multiple explosions from the car bomb and grenades shook the affluent Dhahir Himyar district, a residential area dotted with five-star hotels and other embassies. Puffs of black smoke rose over the

street, lined with modern buildings in the style of the centuries-old white-trimmed mud brick houses that are a landmark of Sana'a's Old City. Snipers hidden across the street fired on emergency personnel rushing to the scene.

The attackers, some dressed in army uniforms, were stopped short of the compound's walls by guards and massive security barriers, but civilians waiting in line for visas outside the embassy were among the casualties. Three police officers and seven civilians were injured, including children in a residential compound across the street from the embassy, home to many Westerners.

Susan Elbaneh, 18, a U.S. citizen from Lackawanna, N.Y., who was recently wed in Yemen in an arranged mar-



Yemeni soldiers take positions in front of the U.S. Embassy in Sana'a, Yemen, Wednesday, after a car bomb hit the front gate of the compound.

riage, was killed along with her Yemen husband as they stood outside the embassy, family members said Wednesday. They were apparently there to do paperwork for the husband's move to the U.S. when the attackers struck, said Elbaneh's brother, Ahmed.

Elbaneh's family was gathering at her father Ali's house Wednesday afternoon.

Two FBI agents who

arrived to speak with family member at the home would not comment beyond saying they were there to talk to the family.

Elbaneh is one of eight children in the family, which her brother described as a "huge and close-knit."

She had been in Yemen for a month for the marriage on Aug. 25.

She was excited. We threw her a shower. It wasn't like we

were worried about anything. Tragedies happen. They are innocent victims in all of this," Ahmed Elbaneh said.

President George W. Bush called the attack a reminder that we are at war with extremists who will murder innocent people to achieve their ideological objectives."

The U.S. counts Yemen as an ally in the war on terrorism. But American officials have long been frustrated

over what is seen as a "revolving door" policy toward al-Qaida militants by President Al Abdullah Saleh's government.

Yemen has let some convicted militants go free after promising to refrain from violence.

In 2006, a group of 23 militants escaped from a high-security prison, including 10 figures convicted in al-Qaida's 2000 bombing of the USS Cole destroyer in Aden harbor. There were widespread reports of security officials' collusion in the escape, and experts say Yemen's security and intelligence services are riddled with militant sympathizers.

State control is weak in the impoverished country — the ancestral homeland of Osama bin Laden — tribes are strong and many mountainous rural areas are lawless, giving ample room for militant training camps.

In separate statements, the U.N. Security Council and Secretary General Ban Ki-moon condemned the attacks and called for the perpetrators to be brought to justice.

The U.S. Embassy has been attacked four times since 2003.

Gates expresses regret for civilian deaths

By Robert Burns
AP Military Writer

KABUL, Afghanistan — Defense Secretary Robert Gates offered the people of Afghanistan his "personal regrets" Wednesday for U.S. airstrikes that have killed civilians and said he would try to improve the accuracy of air warfare, the imperfect fallback for U.S. commanders who say they don't have enough ground forces for the deepening Afghanistan war.



Gates

"I told them, I offer all Afghans my sincerest condolences and personal regrets for the recent loss of innocent life as a result of coalition airstrikes," Gates said after meeting with Afghan President Hamid Karzai. "While no military has ever done more to prevent civilian casualties, it is clear that we have to work even harder."

Gates' unusual apology followed a frank assessment from the top military commander in Afghanistan: There aren't enough U.S. ground forces in Afghanistan, so the military is relying more heavily on air power. Air power runs a greater risk of civilian deaths in a country where insurgents do not wear uniforms and they intentionally mix with the general population.

Gen. David McKiernan, the commander of international forces in Afghanistan, had said earlier that the chronic shortage of U.S. troops in Afghanistan is forcing commanders to rely more on air combat. U.S. airstrikes that kill civilians have angered and embarrassed the U.S.-backed Afghan government, and Karzai has been bitterly critical of such attacks.

Gates agreed to an Afghan proposal to establish a permanent U.S.-Afghan group to investigate all incidents involving civilian casualties. That would be a shift from the current practice of U.S., Afghan and international probes proceeding separately.

Gates said he favored "a bit of change of approach" in how U.S. military authorities react when allegations arise over unintended damage from U.S. air attacks.

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<p style="font-weight: bold;">ANTIQUES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CAMERAS • CLOCKS • GUNS 	<p style="font-weight: bold;">INDIAN ARTIFACTS</p> <p>ANTIQUE ONLY ALL BEADWORK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shirts • Leggings • Gloves • Bow & Arrow • Arrowheads • Pipes & Bags • Beaded Bags • Belts • Baskets • Knife Sheaths • Buckskin Dresses • and other items <p style="font-weight: bold;">TOP PRICES PAID</p>	<p style="font-weight: bold;">ANTIQUE GUNS</p> <p>PRE-1898</p> <p>Swords & Knives</p> <p>All Nazi Items (Guns, Swords, etc.) All Japanese Items</p>
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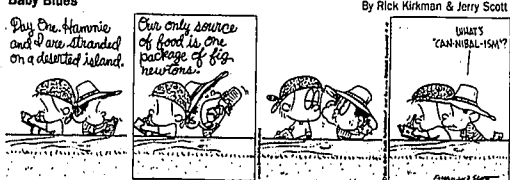
B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Baby Blues

By Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



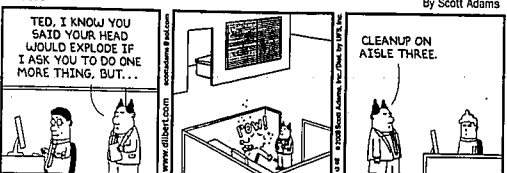
Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



The Elderberries

By Phil Frank and Joe Troise



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



Garfield

By Jim Davis



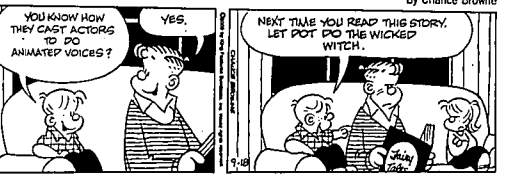
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Hi and Lois

By Chance Brown



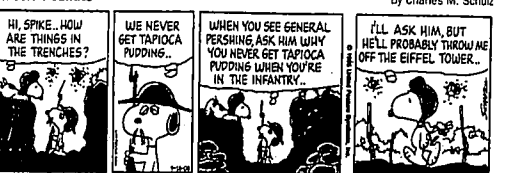
Luann

By Greg Evans



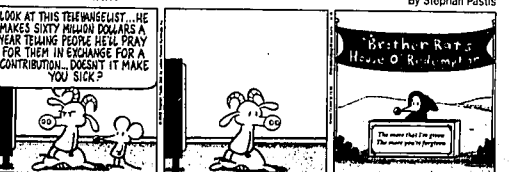
Class Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



Pearls Before Swine

By Stephan Pastis



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady

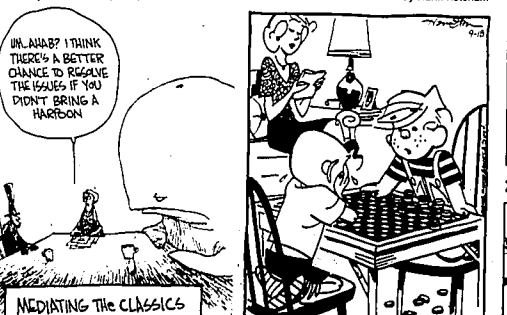


Non Sequitur

By Wiley

Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



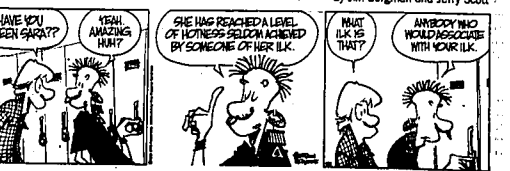
The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott





AP photo
Israeli Foreign Minister and candidate for Kadima party leadership Tzipi Livni, left, is greeted by a supporter after casting her ballot in the Kadima primary in Tel Aviv, Israel, Wednesday. TV exit polls say Livni has won a clear victory in the party primary election to replace Prime Minister Ehud Olmert.

Exit polls: Livni clear winner in Israeli primary

By Steven Gutkin
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM — Foreign Minister Tzipi Livni won the Kadima Party's primary election for its leader Wednesday. TV exit polls said, putting her in a good position to become Israel's first female leader in 34 years and sending a message that peace talks with the Palestinians will proceed.

Cheers and applause broke out at party headquarters when Israel's three networks announced their exit polls gave Livni between 47 percent and 49 percent, compared to 37 percent for her closest rival, former defense minister and military chief Shaul Mofaz.

Livni needed 40 percent of the vote to avoid a runoff next week, and her supporters hugged each other and shed tears of joy. If official results bear out the exit polls, as is likely, the 50-year-old Livni will replace Prime Minister Ehud Olmert as head of Kadima, Olmert, the target of a

career-ending corruption probe, promised to step down as soon as a new Kadima leader was chosen.

"The actual count was reflecting the exit polling. With about one-third of the votes tallied, Livni had 48 percent and to 40 percent for Mofaz, party officials told Israel Radio.

"You fought like lions ...," Livni said in a phone call late Wednesday to her headquarters to thank supporters.

"You did an amazing thing, and I just want to do all the things you fought for," she said. "I know you did it, as friends, but, like me, you did it because you want this to be a better place."

She was expected to address party activists today after vote counting was completed.

Livni will have 42 days to form a new ruling coalition. If she succeeds, she will become Israel's first female prime minister since Golda Meir. If she fails, the country will hold elections in early 2009, a year and a half ahead of schedule.

Twin bombs kill at least 8 in Baghdad

By Tina Susman
Los Angeles Times

BAGHDAD — For the second time in three days, twin bombs tore through a busy Baghdad street Wednesday, killing at least eight people and wounding dozens in a terror tactic used when sectarian violence was at its height.

Also Wednesday, Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki issued one of his toughest statements yet about Iraq-U.S. negotiations over the future of U.S. troops in Iraq. The deadline for reaching an agreement is Dec. 31, when the U.N. mandate governing U.S. forces here expires.

Al-Maliki, speaking to a meeting of satellite television executives, said that an agreement was not imminent and that the U.N. Security Council would have to extend its mandate if an accord is not reached. But he warned that an extension by the council was far from guaranteed, given Russia's sour relations with the United States.

"We would leave the Americans in a critical stage without a legal cover" to be in Iraq, said al-Maliki. "We hope there will be flexibility from the American side, because the Iraqi side

demonstrated flexibility." His comments and the day's violence were particularly biting after several weeks of relative quiet and assurances from Iraqi and U.S. officials that differences over the Status of Forces Agreement could be smoothed out.

Police said the bombs went off five minutes apart from each other in western Baghdad's Harthilya neighborhood, along a street lined with currency-exchange houses and a private hospital. Officials put the number of wounded at 20.

On Monday, two bombs went off minutes apart in eastern Baghdad on a busy avenue and killed at least 13 people.

In both cases, the bombs were placed in separate cars, parked along the streets. Multiple bombs were used frequently by insurgents last year. Often, one would go off, and the second would explode after people had rushed to the site of the blast.

Separately, the U.S. military announced that two soldiers died Wednesday of non-combat causes. At least 4,161 U.S. military personnel have died in Iraq since March 2003, according to the independent Web site casualties.org.

3 Chinese babies die, 6,200 ill from tainted milk

By Tui Tran
Associated Press Writer

BEIJING — The government was dispatching thousands of inspectors to monitor producers as officials reported Wednesday that the number of babies sick from tainted milk formula had climbed dramatically to nearly 6,200 from 1,200 a day earlier.

At least three children have died and more than 1,300 others, mostly newborns, remain hospitalized with dozens suffering from acute kidney failure.

Health Minister Chen Zhu said he expected the numbers of affected babies to increase as "more and more parents take kids to the hospital."

The head of China's quality control watchdog agency, Li Changjiang, said 5,000 inspectors will be sent out nationwide to monitor companies after government testing showed that 20 percent of the companies producing milk powder had dairy products with melamine.

The chemical additive was at the center of a pet food scandal in the United States in 2007. An estimated 1,500 dogs and cats died after ingesting a pet food ingredient manufactured in China that was laced with melamine.

The emerging crisis has raised questions about the effectiveness of tighter controls China promised after a series of food scares in recent years over contaminated

seafood, toothpaste and pet food exports.

It is also the second major case in recent years involving baby formula. In 2004, more than 200 Chinese infants suffer malnutrition and at least 12 died after being fed phenyl formula that contained no nutrients.

In a sign of the government's concern, Premier Wen Jiabao presided over a meeting Wednesday of China's Cabinet to back plans for a national inspection of milk products, according to a notice on the government's Web site.

Suppliers to the dairy companies are believed to have added the banned chemical, normally used in plastics, to watered-down milk to make it appear higher in protein. Inspectors will now start testing for melamine in all dairy products, Li said.

On Wednesday, the country's two largest dairy companies, Mengniu Dairy Co. and Yili Industrial Group Co., were among the companies forced to recall baby formula. In addition, Guangdong-based Yashili and Qingdao-based Suncare recalled their tainted milk powder, which is exported to five countries in Africa and Asia: Bangladesh, Yemen, Gabon, Burundi and Myanmar.

U.S. authorities have said formula from China is not approved for import but may be on sale in ethnic groceries, especially areas with large Chinese populations.

Inspectors are checking for contaminated formula in U.S. stores, and U.S. Food and Drug Administration spokeswoman Judy Leon said none has been found. Inspectors have checked more than 500 stores in California alone.

"So that is good news," she said.

So far, all the sick infants in China were found to have consumed milk powder produced by the company at the heart of the crisis, Sanlu Group Co., Chen said. Most developed urinary problems, including kidney stones, after consuming Sanlu milk powder for three to six months.

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Mexico looks for repentant bomber

By Tracy Carl
Associated Press Writer

MORELIA, Mexico — Police searched Wednesday for a tall, heavyset man, using a composite sketch provided by witnesses who saw him lob a grenade into an Independence Day crowd, then beg for forgiveness before slipping away.

Local officials and the U.S. ambassador insisted Mexico's warring drug cartels were behind the attack that killed seven people Monday night, but federal prosecutors who took over the case said they did not have enough evidence yet to link the attack to organized crime.

"I believe the narco-terrorists have gravely underestimated the courage, valor, and strength of the Mexican people," U.S. ambassador Tony Garza said in a statement. He added: "They have crossed a line from recklessly endangering civilians in their attacks on law-enforcement officials and rival gangs, to deliberately targeting innocent men, women, and children."

Times-News columnist Steve Crump. Now you see him . . .

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INSIDE: Local roundup, D2 | MLB, D2 | Scoreboard, D3 | Football, D4

Bruins split home tri-match

By Bradley Guba
Times-News writer

Ariel Medina took her running start, tossed the volleyball into the air, leapt and drilled it to the floor where no Minico player could reach it, the ace-ting Twin Falls lead back at 24-23. One more point and Twin Falls would win the match. Three points allowed, and Minico would force game three.

Medina took the ball back to the brick wall of Bas Gymnasium. Run, toss, leap, hit. This time, the ball clipped the white vinyl along the top of the net. Players froze in place, and the ball hit the ground ... on Minico's side, giving the Bruins the match, 25-7, 25-23.

"I thought it was going to go into the net, really, because I didn't get a good

swing on it, I'm really glad it went over," Medina said.

The aggressive play was one that could have gone either way, but Twin Falls coach B.J. Price said he would rather her continue in that manner rather than focusing on not making mistakes.

"Game point, I want her to jump serve. I want her to go for the win and do what she can do," he said. "I think that was good for her confidence."

Medina's final aces were just two of four she recorded, along with eight kills. The Spartans jumped out to a 14-5 lead during the second game, but the momentum waned. A kill from Twin Falls middle blocker Cheltzie Williams tied the game at 16-16, and from there, it was a close race to 25 points.

Twin Falls opened the first game with

four points in a row off a kill from Chelsea Reimier, an ace from Erica Coats and a block from Allie Johnson and Williams, who blocked twice more. From there, Minico allowed Twin Falls to go on runs of nine, seven and four points, respectively.

"The Minico game ... we pulled together and fixed some things. Picking up hits, blocking, passing, serving, Williams said.

The Bruins dropped the opening match against Century 25-18, 25-15. Twin Falls led early in both games, but hitting and passing errors got in the way of the Bruins' ability to sustain those leads.

Play at the net was highlighted early

Please see BRUINS, Page D2



Twin Falls junior Ariel Medina serves Wednesday night during their game with Minico. To purchase re-prints please go to <http://gallery.mtc.com/magicvalley/>



ASHLEY SMITH
Times-News

BSU senior running back Ian Johnson was

Almost a DUCK

Thanks to current Oregon star Patrick Chung, Johnson wound up a Bronco

By Dustin Lappay
Times-News correspondent

BOISE — Ian Johnson has a deep-felt link to the University of Oregon football program. He was recruited by Oregon head coach Mike Bellotti, but said it was the firm commitment of Boise State in February of 2004 that brought him to the City of Trees.

He said this week that Oregon recruiters asked him to wait until signing day before they would let him know whether or not he had a scholarship. Oregon's delay gave BSU a chance to land the tailback.

"Once I got the offer from Boise State, it felt like they wanted me as much as I wanted to play college football," Johnson said. "And I took that one right away."

Johnson had a rough go in his recruitment ordeal. He said his high school coach withheld offer sheets and ignored phone calls from prospective teams looking at the standout tailback.

The reason he is in blue and orange today, the reason he came to BSU and broke all

those records, won all those games, scored all those touchdowns ... was almost an accident. The accident forever ties him to one Oregon player, Patrick Chung. Chung, a standout free safety in his senior season for the Ducks, played an integral role in Johnson's career at Boise State.

"There is one guy I am excited to meet," Johnson said. "That's Patrick Chung. If anyone knows my story, he is the one who actually got me here to Boise State."

When Boise State recruited Chung out of California's Rancho Cucamonga High School, former BSU wide receivers coach Robert Prince (now with the NFL's Jacksonville Jaguars), paid him a visit.

Chung's squad had recently played Johnson's team.

"They put on the film of them versus me and I ran for like 200 yards and (Prince) was like 'Whoa, who's this guy? I've never even heard of him.'"

Prince asked Chung if he thought Johnson was worth checking out.

Please see JOHNSON, Page D4

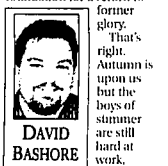


Boise State's running back Ian Johnson (41) stiff-arms Bowling Greens Jahmal Brown (24) during the first half last Saturday in Boise. Johnson will face Oregon this week, a team he nearly signed with out of high school.

Boys of... autumn?

With the attention squarely on the College of Southern Idaho volleyball team's phoenix-like rise back to national prominence, it's easy to overlook all else that's taking place, at least locally speaking, on campus.

Those who cast their eyes just a few hundred yards from the CSI gymnasium to Skip Walker Field will see that another group of Golden Eagles are laying the foundation for a return to



former glory. That's right. Autumn is upon us but the boys of summer are still hard at work, entering

the fourth week of fall practice in preparation of righting the CSI ship in the coming season, following last year's disappointing outcome.

And while there are holdovers from last year, there's an entirely different view about this edition of CSI baseball.

"I think the big thing is we've got a bunch of guys that are doing the right thing all the time," said CSI head coach Boomer Walker. "We haven't had any real problems with guys missing classes or being late to practice, and that's big for us to be able to do what we want to get done in the fall."

The usual docket: Workouts at 6:30 a.m., seven days a week. The field schedule is usually starting around 1 p.m., rotates between typical practices, weekend games, and mid-week intra-squad scrimmages.

It's only allowed for two days off since the fall practice windows opened. But it's enabled Walker and his staff to see what kind of team CSI could be in the spring. And it looks like just the kind of team Walker likes, one that needs to manufacture runs in a ballpark that yielded just one home run all last season.

To underscore Walker's point, take speedy outfielder Ryan Lay's line from a recent scrimmage: Nine strikes, five bases, eight runs scored. It's that kind of competition and performance that drives the fall season.

"I think our foot speed is one of our greatest strengths, and that allows us to play the kind of baseball I want us to play," Walker said. "The competition out there has been so good that our intra-squads are sometimes more competitive

Please see BASHORE, Page D2

Golden Eagles stay at No. 3 in NJCAA poll

By David Bashore
Times-News writer

Sometimes the status quo is just fine.

After a week which saw the College of Southern Idaho volleyball team record four wins, including an impressive victory over then-No. 7 Blinn College (Texas) and an emotional but subpar performance in a victory over arch rival Salt Lake Community College, the Golden Eagles remained at No. 3 for the third straight NJCAA Division I volleyball poll, released Wednesday.

There was some hope that CSI (21-8) would move to No. 2 after last week's top-ranked team Iowa Western lost to a Missouri State-West Plains team that otherwise had a difficult week and fell from No. 6 to No. 14. But the top three positions remained unchanged from last week's poll.

NJCAA Division I volleyball poll

Team (rank)	Record	W/L
1. Iowa Western (21-8)	21-8	1-0
2. Missouri State-West Plains (19-10)	19-10	1-0
3. College of Southern Idaho (21-8)	21-8	0-1
4. Eastern Michigan (19-10)	19-10	0-1
5. Middle Tennessee (19-10)	19-10	0-1
6. Eastern Michigan (19-10)	19-10	0-1
7. Blinn College (19-10)	19-10	0-1
8. Middle Tennessee (19-10)	19-10	0-1
9. Eastern Michigan (19-10)	19-10	0-1
10. Middle Tennessee (19-10)	19-10	0-1
11. Eastern Michigan (19-10)	19-10	0-1
12. Middle Tennessee (19-10)	19-10	0-1
13. Eastern Michigan (19-10)	19-10	0-1
14. Middle Tennessee (19-10)	19-10	0-1
15. Eastern Michigan (19-10)	19-10	0-1
16. Middle Tennessee (19-10)	19-10	0-1
17. Eastern Michigan (19-10)	19-10	0-1
18. Middle Tennessee (19-10)	19-10	0-1
19. Eastern Michigan (19-10)	19-10	0-1
20. Middle Tennessee (19-10)	19-10	0-1

"I had thought that maybe we'd get to No. 2, but No. 3 is perfectly fine," said CSI head coach Heidi Cartaris. "As long as we stay in the top 3 when we get to nationals, that's what we want."

Western Nebraska stayed at No. 2 with four wins during the schedule where the

Please see CSI, Page D2

Bengals look for a notch in the win column by defeating unbeaten N.D.

By Mark Liptak
Times-News correspondent

POCATELLO — They look like polar opposites. North Dakota is 3-0. Idaho State is 0-2.

But the playing field levels a bit considering North Dakota had just three full days to prepare for tonight's game (6:35 p.m.), while Idaho State had 10.

But when the Fighting Sioux and the Bengals look up tonight at Holt Arena, ISU head coach John Zamberlin said anything could happen.

"I've coached against them in the past," he said. "These guys were a perennial power in (NCAA) Division II, and they're not to be taken lightly."

The Sioux are moving up to Division I Football Championship Series this season, but Idaho State will be the first game on their schedule where the

N. Dakota BENGALS
at ISU
6:35 p.m.
Radio: 1270 AM, KTFI

two touchdowns as the Sioux dominated the flow of the game and the time of possession.

How they and their teammates react to their first road game of the season against a club at their level remains to be seen.

And Idaho State has issues of its own. No one expected the Bengals to win at Boise State, but the 42-27 beating they took from Idaho on Sept. 6 was cause for concern. Some thought the Bengals could win that game.

The biggest issue for Zamberlin is something that haunted the Bengals all last season. "We have got to start faster as an offense," he said. "We just can't wait until the second half to get going. We're getting killed in the second quarter of games. Defensively we

matchup figures to be even. North Dakota's other games were against Texas A&M Kingsville, St. Cloud State and Wisconsin-LaCrosse.

The Sioux had a clear advantage in each of those contests. That may not be the case tonight.

But make no mistake, they have some talent. Sophomore running back Josh Murray is compact 5-11, 210 pounds and is hard to bring down. Against Wisconsin-LaCrosse last week, he bulled his way for 180 yards and three touchdowns. Sophomore quarterback Jake Landry went 18 of 24 for 140 yards and

Please see ISU, Page D4

SCOREBOARD

BASEBALL

Table with columns for American League and National League, listing teams like Tampa Bay, Detroit, Chicago, etc., and their win/loss records.

GAME PLAN

LOCAL
Idaho falls at Twin Falls.
Jerome at Mountain Home.
Minto at Highland.
Twin Falls at Burley.

TV SCHEDULE

(All Times MT)
(Schedule subject to change and/or blackouts)
Thursday, Sept. 18
COLLEGE FOOTBALL
ESPN - West Virginia at Colorado

MAJOR LEAGUE

Table showing Major League Baseball results for various teams like New York Yankees, Boston Red Sox, etc.

FOOTBALL

Table showing NFL Injury Report for various teams like New York Jets, Washington Redskins, etc.

National League

Table with columns for National League, listing teams like Philadelphia, New York, St. Louis, etc., and their win/loss records.

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Table showing Major League Soccer results for various teams like Chicago Fire, Houston Dynamo, etc.

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Heisman winner Ernie Davis wore 'Nike's' not!

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — Ernie Davis never wore Nikes, until now.
A new statue of the first black player to win the Heisman Trophy depicts him in modern-day football gear — including Nike cleats.

removed from his athletic director title.
Even if being the guy in charge means Woodward will ultimately be taking responsibility for fixing the Huskies' downworn football program and leading the charge for a recent renovation of deteriorating Husky Stadium.

Sports Shorts

Am halfway through the 72-hole competition.
WASHINGTON — Gilbert Arenas had a third operation on his left knee Wednesday.

COLLEGE SPORTS

Woodward new A.D. at Washington
SEATTLE — As the days ticked by and Scott Woodward became more entrenched in the University of Washington athletic department, he realized he wanted the interim tag

Louisville tops Kansas State

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Freshman Victor Anderson ran for 176 yards and three touchdowns and Louisville raced by Kansas State 38-29 on Wednesday night.

GOLF

We shoots 65 at qualifying tourney
RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. — Michelle Wie shot a bogey-free 7-under 65 on Wednesday in the second round of an LPGA Tour sectional qualifying tournament, putting her in second place in a field of 64.

Times-News
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su do ku

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Grid for the 'su do ku' puzzle with numbers 2, 7, 6, 4, 9, 5, 2, 8, 7, 2, 6, 6, 1, 9, 5, 8, 1, 7, 9, 5, 7, 3, 4, 1, 6, 7.

MEDIUM # 75

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. That's all there is to it. There's no math involved.

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DRIVERS Self Motivated Exp. OTR Drivers w/ Class A CDL beneficial new equip. 208-224-6846

209 General

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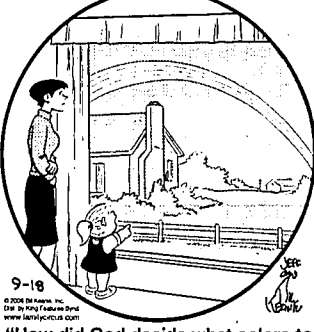
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THE FAMILY CIRCUS, By Bill Keane



"How did God decide what colors to put in the rainbow?"

101 Announcements

100 Found Border Collie, young, male, found by Salmon Dam. Call 208-735-9796.

101 Lost and Found

FOUND Dog, brown female. Back left leg bandaged. Friendly. Found on 21st Street in Hayburn. Call Dave Pena 431-2957.

FOUND Horse, young. Found in the South Hills. Call to describe. 208-420-3993

FOUND Lhasa Apso southeast of Twin Falls. 1 1/2 year old male, blonde. Call 208-420-4132

FOUND McNabb Border Collie black and white male, neutered. 1-2 yrs old if you lost him please call! He was in the Burley Animal Shelter, they picked him up on the Paul Hwy. Call 1-888-570-2879

FOUND Pit Bull cross black & white, female, lavender harness around a no. old, found on 100 block on Polk St. in Twin Falls Tim 208-761-0453

FOUND Rottweiler approx. 3 yr. old male. 300 W. 300 S. of Paul, no collar. Call to identify 208-431-8185

LOST Black Lab near Presidential St. Wearing black collar, no tags, answers to Hall. Call 420-4832

LOST Black Lab, neutered male, white spot on chest and paw. Red electronic collar. Lost just south of Burley. Call 878-1099

107 Pregnancy Alternatives

Pregnant? Worried? Free Pregnancy Tests Confidential 208-734-7472

108 Professional Services

NO TIME to clean? Want more family time? Experienced, reliable, references. Home or office. Donna 735-4559

113 Buy It! Sell It!

A TIMES-NEWS CLASSIFIED WILL FILL EVERY NEED BUY IT! SELL IT!

101 Lost and Found

LOST Cat, large neutered, black/white white paws. No collar, lost in Hayburn. If found please call 208-735-9796. REWARD, owner is devastated!

101 Lost and Found

LOST Corp/Hesler on Sept. 3rd. Last seen on Harrison Street. Buster is a neutered male, 7 years old, red and white. May be heading back home to Filer. Call 208-3068

LOST Dog, large white and gray mixed breed male, brown spot on side, 1 blue eye and 1 brown eye, has Bossa tags. \$200 reward for return. Lost in Jerome area. Call 293-6587

LOST gold ring J&C intertwined widamond on the J. Reward \$29-258 or 734-1151

LOST Pomeranian, reddish brown, pink collar, male, 'Bucky'. Lost around 10/1. Maria. REWARD 312-2392 or 312-2391.

LOST Yorkie. Blonde reddish/black female, 12 yrs. family misadventure. Large reward. 734-8090 or 734-8996

107 Pregnancy Alternatives

Pregnant? Worried? Free Pregnancy Tests Confidential 208-734-7472

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113 Buy It! Sell It!

MOM of 3 in Twin wants to help you out. Call for fun, dependable child care. 208-405-1787

NANNY NEEDED Room and board, transportation plus salary, in Twin Falls. Call 208-961-0760

SMALL IN-HOME DAYCARE has openings for 4 FT kids. Infant-4yrs. Drop in welcome. 733-5396.

200 Employment

PUBLIC SERVICE MESBA Inc. Federal Employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs. Call Career America Connection. 478-757-3000

203 Construction

CONSTRUCTION Siding installers wanted. Pay DOE call Bob 290-8658

205 Dairy

DAIRY Relief milker in Gooding, 3 shifts per week. Must be reliable. Exp. required. 420-7143

206 Drivers

DRIVER Class A CDL Driver needed. Full time position. \$11 per hr plus competitive benefits. Applications available at Milner Butte Landfill or Call 208-432-9082

209 General

AUTOMOTIVE Kim Holton Chevrolet is hiring a Full time Lube Technician. Mechanical knowledge. Benefits include medical and 401k. Apply at the Service Department 1221 W. Main, Burley

GENERAL DISC VERY Day & Swing Shift Positions Available! *No Sales Involved! *Base Pay up to \$11.00 an hour! *All Year Training! *Flexible Scheduling - You Pick the Days you Want to Work! *Shift Start Times Coincide with School Schedules! *Bonuses Offered on Monthly Basis! *Fun, Positive Work Environment Great for First Time Job or Career!

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812 Auctions/Auctioneers

Downs (209) 467-1712... Wind Auction & Appraisals

816 Miscellaneous For Sale

COUCHES, 2x, 600... ENTERTAINMENT CENTER

816 Miscellaneous For Sale

WORKSHOP... FILE CABINET... END TABLE

817 Musical Instruments

GUITAR G... Air Compressor... Organ Hammond

820 Tools & Machinery

AIR COMPRESSOR... WANTED To Buy... Variety Foods

824 Guns & Rifles

AMMUNITION 17 boxes... BERETTA 9mm

902 Motorcycles

HARLEY-Davidson... Kawasaki 900

907 Travel Trailers

FIFTH WHEEL HITCH... KIT COMPANION

814 Lawn Garden

FREE Yeager weed trees... LAWN MOWER TORO

816 Miscellaneous For Sale

BUTCHER BLOCK... RING new genuine

817 Musical Instruments

4-Justice... CLARINET Yamaha

820 Tools & Machinery

AIR COMPRESSOR... ANTIQUE drill press

824 Medical Supplies

RASCAL Heavy duty... WANTED To Buy

826 Sporting Equipment

GOLF CART 1x EZ... RUPERT Country Club

905 Motor Homes & RVs

ALLEGRO BAY 94... DODGE '77 motor home

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LOOKING FOR SANTA VACATION... BUTCHER BLOCK

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ALLEGRO BAY 94... DODGE '77 motor home



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TWIN FALLS Sat, only 8:30am-2pm... TWIN FALLS Sat, only 8:30am-2pm

TWIN FALLS Saturday 8am-1pm... TWIN FALLS Sat, only 8:30am-2pm

TRANSPORTATION... 1000 Aviation

BURLEY Fri-Sat 8-4... BURLEY Fri-Sat 8-4

TWIN FALLS Sat, only 8:30am-2pm... TWIN FALLS Sat, only 8:30am-2pm

TWIN FALLS Saturday 8-4pm... TWIN FALLS Saturday 8-4pm

TWIN FALLS Saturday 8-4pm... TWIN FALLS Saturday 8-4pm

Auto Parts & Accessories... PARTS FOR SALE

FAX YOUR AD

TWIN FALLS Fri and Sat... BURLEY Fri-Sat

TWIN FALLS Friday 8-4pm... TWIN FALLS Friday 8-4pm

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TWIN FALLS Saturday 8-4pm... TWIN FALLS Saturday 8-4pm

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TIME TO GET ORGANIZED

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32 each additional line. Private Party only. Merchandise only. Prices must be included in ad. Maximum of 4 items.

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

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ALL VANS WANTED!
 Sell your vehicle for immediate CASH TODAY!
 Buying all years, makes and models 1-800-574-1248.

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CHEVY '07 Cobalt LS 5 speed manual, alt, alloy wheels, spoiler, \$13,995. Stock #7232796C

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DOODGE '99 Intrepid ES V6, leather, air, CD, sun roof, 78,000 miles. Stock #734-8283 or 208-578-7940

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DOODGE '00 Ram Charger, 4x4, 318 V8, AT, cold AC, 18mpg, 30K actual miles, one owner, w/m 8000 lb. wind, \$2600. Call 293-5567

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