

## Fair coverage

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Owyhee  
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County's  
proposed  
budget

Wednesday, August 17, 2005

Established 1865

# The Owyhee Avalanche

VOLUME 21, NUMBER 33

HOMEDALE, OWYHEE COUNTY, IDAHO

SEVENTY-FIVE CENTS

## Commission rejects GOP nominee for treasurer

The Owyhee County Board of Commissioners on Monday went against the recommendation of the Republican Committee and appointed Brenda Richards to replace retiring county treasurer Barbara Wright.

The Republican Committee had recommended Chief Deputy Treasurer Linda Charters to the commissioners as Wright's replacement, but the suggestion was rejected. Charters and Richards were the only people to submit applications to the committee for the job when Wright submitted a letter of retirement to commissioners several months ago.

As the committee's vice chairman, Wright said she overseen the applications, but she did not have any voting power in who was recommended.

"Both of these women are qualified for the position, but Linda has already been working in the department for many years," Wright said last week. "I think the committee felt she would have a much easier transition into the job than Brenda would."

Judging from their action at Monday's meeting in Murphy,

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## Fair delivers emotion and fun for thousands



### Ride'em cowboy

Cameron Brooks fans his horse with his hat as he excited the crowd with a 66-point ride in the ranch hand bronc riding. Photo by Gregg Garrett.

Thousands flocked to Homedale last week to enjoy the 2005 Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo. The fair and rodeo ended on Saturday, but for most who attended the final awards ceremony some of the presentations left an impression that won't soon be forgotten.

4-H and FFA children were honored with champion, reserve champion, blue and red ribbons for their yearlong efforts in raising beef, sheep, swine or showing their abilities to ride and show a horse. But several children were presented with awards that brought tears to the eyes of most who attended ceremonies on Aug. 9 and Saturday.

On Aug. 9, two such 4-H members were honored with the Ace and Marilyn Black Most Inspirational Senior Award. The award is new this year and goes to one senior boy and a senior girl for their extra effort in a horse 4-H program. Gloria King of Homedale and Josh Dygert of Melba were given those awards.

The award, sponsored by the family of Ace and Marilyn Black, came about after Ace's death earlier this year. The Owyhee County Sheriff's Office donated a buckle to each award winner. The



### Got Milk?

Kyler Landa quickly drinks a glass of milk during the Milk Drinking Contest at the 2005 Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo.

buckles are purchased with funds from the Child Safety Program.

Ace and Marilyn Black were active members of 4-H groups, and Marilyn was a horse leader for the Bruneau Sage Riders for 20 years. She also served as a superintendent for 10 of those years.

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## Inside

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## County ISAT scores bring mixed reviews

### Low enrollment hurts Marsing; Homedale puts up good numbers

The spring Idaho Standards Achievement Test numbers for Owyhee County school districts are in, and most superintendents acknowledge that despite strong, dedicated teaching staff, work is still needed.

"We aren't satisfied with

where we are, and we're trying to make a difference," Marsing superintendent Harold Shockley said.

Marsing students showed a sharp decline in their proficiency rating between the fifth- and sixth-grade test groups when the

Spring 2005 ISAT scores were released, and that has Shockley and his administrators taking a proactive stance.

In fifth-grade testing, 91.1 percent of students scored in the proficient and above categories in mathematics. In sixth-grade evaluation, that number slipped to 45.2 percent. Sixth-graders also scored lower in reading and language usage.

"At the middle school, one of the keys is Paul Webster has sat down with his staff and put together an action plan to target kids that aren't really progressing as they should," Shockley said, adding that 1-on-1 tutoring and small tutorial groups will be utilized.

Shockley also said a reading and

— to page 5A





2005-06 rodeo queen

Sarah Bass was crowned the 2005-06 Owyhee County Rodeo queen during final night ceremonies Saturday. Bass replaces retiring queen Hailey Hall.

Homedale man faces felony charges after four-hour standoff

Homedale Police Department, the Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office and a SWAT team were called to assist in a domestic violence incident last week that ended after a four-hour standoff and resulted in a Homedale man behind bars. Officers responded to a domestic battery complaint and eventually arrested Salvador Serrano, 44, of Homedale.

Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said officers were dispatched to a home in the 100 block of North 4<sup>th</sup> Street West for a domestic violence situation, possibly involving guns at about 10 p.m. on Aug. 9.

“Serrano was arrested for felony domestic battery and obstruct and delay after he refused to speak to officers or remove himself from the house,” Eidemiller said. “We tried to call him out, but he refused to answer the phone or speak to us. We were not certain if he had any weapons or what the



Salvador Serrano

situation was.”

The SWAT team was called to the scene. Eidemiller said officers finally got Serrano to answer the door and he was immediately taken into custody.

Guns were located in the home at the time of Serrano’s arrest.

— CAB

Teachers hired; schools prepared for new year

Most of the teachers have been hired in schools throughout Owyhee County, and most officials say they are ready for the new school year.

At the beginning of the summer, hopes for a full staff for the Homedale School District did not look promising as many positions came open for a variety of reasons. But as of the last board meeting, nearly every teacher and coach needed to begin the year had been approved.

In the elementary school, two new teachers will join the staff, including Randee Garrett as the elementary school counselor and Marcie Coffman as an elementary school teacher.

The middle school will add two new teachers to its staff, including Brent Meiser as a counselor and Craig Sanderson as a seventh- and eighth-grade math teacher.

Sanderson has 17 years of teaching experience, and a Bachelor of Science degree in education from the University of Arizona.

The high school had most positions open heading into the summer with 11 openings. Six coaching positions were filled and five positions within the school were also approved.

Adrienne Yoder joins the staff for high school math, Linda Alder in English and world literature,

Kelly DeWitt as the high school counselor, Jose Melendez will teach English as a Second Language, and Dave Hart is a new health and physical education instructor.

Yoder has 33 years of experience and a Bachelor’s degree from Kent State University, a Master’s in education from Northwest Nazarene University and a Master’s in Library Science from the University of Arizona.

Alder has 23 years of teaching experience and a Bachelor’s and an Master’s in education from the University of Central Oklahoma.

In Marsing, five positions were filled in the three schools. Chris Carey replaced Vicki Scaggs in high school English, Brandy Grimm replaced the retired Shirley Olen, Ken Price was hired as the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Grant Director, which is a new program in the district, and Jennifer Schwartz replaced Lisa McGuire at the high school as family consumer science teacher.

Greer is a fifth-grade teacher and grew up in Parma. She graduated from Greenleaf Friends Academy, received a bachelor’s degree in history and elementary education degree from Northwest Nazarene College, and is a former member of the U.S. Army. This is her first year teaching.

Carey is the high school English teacher and has a bachelor’s degree in secondary education from Northern Montana College. She has been teaching English, speech and drama for 10 years, including the past five at Wilder High School.

Grimm, who joins the high school in Business Education, has a bachelor’s degree in computer technology and administrative science from the University of Montana. She just completed her master’s degree in business education through the University of Idaho and will start as a first-year teacher. She comes to the district from Salmon, where she has been employed by the Salmon and Challis school districts.

Schwartz, the high school’s new family and consumer science teacher, has a bachelor’s degree in home economic education from Idaho State University. This is her first year teaching.

Price worked extensively with the modern pentathlon programs for the past three Olympic Games and also has created and coordinated Boys and Girls Club Programs.

The new hires for the Bruneau-Grand View district were not made available at press time.

— CAB

Reward offered for info on burglary

A local businessman is offering a \$200 reward for the return of four tires and rims stolen from a car dealership last weekend. Adil Zydeh, owner of J and Z Auto in Homedale said he has been burglarized approximately four times this year and hopes the reward will bring someone to justice.

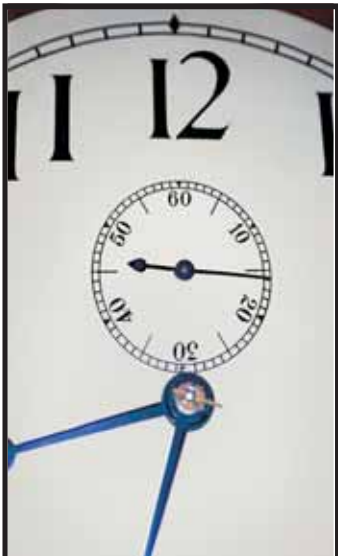
Homedale Police Chief Jeff Eidemiller said a person, or persons, removed the window from a garage located at the business and apparently took the

tires through it. Zydeh said he hopes someone may have seen something and be able to identify the suspects.

“We have had stereos stolen and other stuff, and no one has been arrested,” Zydeh said Monday morning. “I hope someone has some information and can help us.”

Zydeh said he would give an reward for the arrest and conviction of whomever burglarized his business.

— CAB



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# 2005 Owyhee County Fair & Rodeo



**Exceptional members**  
*Owyhee County Sheriff Gary Aman, Gloria King, Marilyn Black and Josh Dygert pose for photos after King and Dygert were presented with the Ace and Marilyn Black most inspirational award Aug. 9.*

## County 4-H/FFA members honored

MJ Usabel of Wilson Butte Wranglers was named Grand Champion Round Robin Showman during the 2005 Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo livestock show held Wednesday through Saturday last week.

MJ Usabel won the Champion Round Robin Showperson award, and her younger sister, Lacey, received runner-up. Hailee Garrett, Gloria King and Karly Bertagnolli were given awards for partipant. Novice Round Robin Showperson was given to Hailey Aberasturi, runner-up to Carlie Purdom and participant awards were given to Jordan Jones, Brittany Roberts and Kynna Bertagnolli.

- Owyhee County 2005 4-H livestock Show results**
- Beef** — Grand Champion Market Beef, Stephanie Hylton, Reserve Champion Market Beef, MJ Usabel, Champion Beef Showperson, MJ Usabel, Novice Beef Showperson, Brittany Roberts, Reserve Champion Beef Showperson, Bryce Kershner, Owyhee Cattlemen’s Association Sponsored Steer, MJ Usabel, Self-Sponsored Steer Award, Stephanie Hylton, Top Bred Heifer, Lacey Usabel and Pen of Three Steers, Marsing FFA — Wilson Butte.
- Sheep** — Grand Champion Market Lamb, Kevin Nettleton, Reserve Champion Market Lamb, Gloria King, Grand Champion Sheep Showperson, Gloria King, Novice Sheep Showperson, Hailey Aberasteri and Reserve Champion Sheep Showperson, Sarah Black.
- Swine** — Grand Champion Market Swine, Mark Williams, Reserve Grand Champion Market Swine, Hailee Garrett, Champion Swine Showperson, Hailee Garrett, Reserve Champion Swine Showperson, Josh Prow and Novice Swine Showperson, Jordan Jones.
- Dairy** — Grand Champion Dairy Showperson, Karly Bertagnolli, Reserve Champion Dairy Showperson, Megan Harper, Grand Champion Dairy Exhibitor, Steve Williams, and Reserve Champion Dairy Exhibitor, Kayla Bertagnolli.
- Goat** — Grand Champion Dairy Goat, Clayton VanderWerff, Reserve Grand Champion Dairy Goat, Garrett Prow, Grand Champion Dairy Goat Showperson, Clayton VanderWerff, and Reserve Grand Champion Dairy

- Goat Showperson, Eric Munson.
- Pygmy goat** — Grand Champion Pygmy Goat, Ashley Volkers, Reserve Grand Champion Pygmy Goat, Hailey Brisbin, Grand Champion Pygmy Goat Showperson, Hailey Brisbin, and Reserve Grand Champion Pygmy Goat Showperson, Jackie Phillips.
- Rabbit** — Champion Rabbit Showperson, Eric Munson, Reserve Champion Rabbit Showperson, Nick Munson, Rabbit Best of Show, Eric Munson, and Reserve Champion Rabbit, Nick Munson.
- Poultry** — Champion Poultry Showperson, Eric Munson, Reserve Champion Poultry Showperson , Nick Munson, Grand Champion Waterfowl, Nick Munson, Reserve Grand Champion Waterfowl, Eric Munson, and Grand Champion Turkey, Dan Profers.
- Judging** — Junior 4-H Livestock Judge, Wade Bass, Intermediate 4-H Livestock Judge, Todd Bahem, and Senior 4-H Livestock Judge, Frank Beckwith.
- Herdsman ship** — 4 - H Herdsmanship Award, Tumbleweeds, 4-H Herdsmanship Award, Reynolds Creek, 4-H Herdsmanship Award, Wilson Butte 4-H and 4-H Herdsmanship Award, Bruneau Canyon.
- Sportsmanship** — Livestock Sportsmanship Award, Emily Hegerhorst.

## Owyhee County 4-H horse show awards handed out

Lacey Usabel of the Wilson Butte Wranglers was named Grand Champion in Showmanship during the 2005 Owyhee County Fair and Rodeo 4-H Horse Show held Aug. 8-9 in Homedale.

Josh Dygert of Reynolds Creek 4-H and Gloria King of the Owyhee Silver Spurs both earned the Most Inspirational Awards for a senior boy and senior girl, respectively. Each received a buckle donated by the Owyhee County Sheriff in honor of Marilyn and Asa Black.

Two competitors from Reynolds Creek — Kyler Dygert and Riley Nelson — won Sportsmanship awards.

Three members of the Dust Devils rounded out the showmanship awards, including Reserve Champion Marissa Ensley, Alternate Champion Bonnie Price and Novice Champion Carlie Purdom.



**Western riding champion**  
*Brittany Meyers rides during the western riding competition of the horse show on Aug. 9. Meyers went on to win the competition.*

- Owyhee County 2005 4-H Horse Show results**
- Alternate champion** — Bonnie Price, Dust Devils
- Reserve champion** — Marissa Ensley
- Grand champion** — Lacey Usabel
- Reining**
- Senior** — Sean Cunnigham; **Intermediate** — Kyler Dygert; **Junior** — Marissa Ensley; **Novice** — Morgan Hall
- Obstacle course**
- Senior** — Lacey Kershner, South Mountain Cowboys; **Intermediate** — Catie Kershner; **Junior** — Kate Blackstock, Wilson Butte Wranglers; **Novice** — Morgan Hall
- Senior** — M.J. Usabel; **Intermediate** — Mandy Brasher; **Junior** — Marissa Ensley; **Novice** — Sami Bachman, Bruneau Sage Riders

- Bareback Equitation**
- Senior** — M.J. Usabel; **Intermediate** — Catie Kershner; **Junior** — Marissa Ensley; **Novice** — Morgan Hall
- Horse judging**
- Senior** — 1. Alysha Bahem; 2. M.J. Usabel; 3. Lacey Kershner
- Intermediate** — 1. Carlene Hipwell, South Mountain Cowboys; 2. Randie Denton, Bruneau Sage Riders; 3. Danyel Barnard, Rusty Spurs
- Juniors** — 1. Deidrie Briggs, Poison Creek Posse; 2. Kyla Loucks, Owyhee Silver Spurs; 3. Brittany Rahier, Grandview Buckaroos
- Novice** — 1. Carlie Purdom; 2. Quincy Hall; 3. Jolene Engle, Owyhee Outlaws
- Demonstrations**
- Senior** — 1. M.J. Usabel; 2. Bonnie Price; 3. (tie) Alysha Bahem and Lacey Kershner
- Intermediate** — 1. Mandy Brasher; 2. Jesssica Engle, Owyhee Outlaws; 3. Catie Kershner

- Junior** — 1. Lacey Usabel; 2. Deidrie Briggs; 3. Kate Blackstock
- Novice** — 1. Jackie Phillips, Wilson Butte Wranglers; 2. (tie) Carlie Purdom and Morgan Hall
- Record book**
- Senior** — 1. M.J. Usabel; 2. Kinzie Reuck; 3. Bonnie Price
- Intermediate** — 1. Ariel Turner, Bruneau Sage Riders; 2. Mandy Brasher; 3. Kortney Bahem
- Junior** — 1. Lacey Usabel; 2. Deidrie Briggs; 3. Brittany Rahier
- Novice** — 1. Carlie Purdom; 2. Jackie Phillips; 3. Jolene Engle
- Other awards**
- Boxing** — Bailey Bachman, Bruneau Sage Riders
- Western riding** — 1. Brittney Meyers, Grandview Buckaroos; 2. Kate Blackstock; 3. Katie Cammack, Dust Devils
- Jim Roeser Memorial Working Cow Horse** — Bobby Jackson, Ghost Riders
- Hard Luck Award** — Deidrie Briggs

- 4-H Record Books winners**
- Beef** — Senior, Bailey Kershner, Intermediate, Bryce Kershner, Junior II, Kelsey Pease, Junior I, Tristan Hylton.
- Swine** — Senior, Hailee Garrett, Intermediate, Alex Meyers, Junior II, Deena Emry, Junior I, Esteban Lejardi
- Goat** — Intermediate, Erik Munson, Junior II, Clayton VanderWerff, Junior

- Dairy** — Senior, Kayla Bertagnolli, Intermediate, Megan Harper, Junior II, Aubrey Nash and Junior I, Kenny Harper
- Sheep** — Senior, Trinity Jolley, Intermediate, Jackie Thurman, Junior II, Hailey Brisbin Junior I, Johanna Mori
- Overall breeding beef** — J.D. Prow

- Overall breeding sheep** — Ariel Turner
- Overall breeding swine** — Shad Jensen
- Small animals** — poultry, Nicholas Munson; pygmy goat, Ashley Volkers; cat, Rayshell Glenn; miniature horse, Carlie Purdom; and rabbit, Tiffany Moore

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# Couple dies in boating accident on C.J. Strike

A Pocatello couple was found dead after their boat struck some rocks on C.J. Strike Reservoir sometime during the night on Aug. 9 or early on the morning of Aug. 10. Owyhee County Sheriff’s Office assisted Elmore County Sheriff’s deputies in the recovery of the bodies Aug. 10, but sheriff Gary Aman said they were unable to recover the boat.

The victims were identified as Ernest Steve Williams, 53, and Rayma Jean Johnson, 43, who were killed when their boat capsized sometime during the night. Aman said Williams probably died on impact, but he said Johnson drowned. The bodies were found in the upside-down boat on some rocks at about noon on Aug. 10. Officials worked that day to turn the boat over, but were unsuccessful.

“The couple were out on a 23-foot boat and were apparently headed back to their camp when they collided into an outcropping of

rocks and the boat capsized,” Aman said. “Williams was an officer with the Pocatello Police Department.”

Aman said the boat in which Williams and Johnson were riding ran into what is called Gull Island, a jetty that sticks out into the reservoir about 150 feet. He said the boat probably went airborne and landed on the water upside-down. He said the couple was engaged to be married at the time of the accident.

“The 911 call came into Owyhee County at about 12:15 p.m.,” Aman said. “Other boaters had seen the boat there since 6:30 in the morning but no one called, so we are assuming it happened sometime during the night. I thought it was up the Bruneau Arm, so I dispatched an officer to get a boat while we got our boat going. The reporting party took us to it and, along with Idaho Power divers, we recovered the bodies. The boat was not able to be recovered.”

— CAB

# Homedale schools could feel heat if proposed gas rate hike goes through

The Intermountain Gas Co. has petitioned the Idaho Public Utilities Commission for a steep increase in the price it charges both residential and commercial customers for its services. If approved by the commission the 25.5 percent hike in commercial rates beginning in October will be the biggest since July 2003.

Residential rates could soar 27.4 percent higher, too, if the PUC gives the thumbs-up to Intermountain Gas Co.’s cost adjustment application.

“Over the past year, natural gas has more closely followed the price of crude oil, and both are now at historic highs,” William C. “Bill” Glynn, Intermountain Gas Co.’s president, said in explaining the firm's quest for a rate increase.

The proposed increase has Homedale schools superintendent Tim Rosandick thinking about his next budget. A 27.4 percent increase would mean an extra \$11,000 a year that the Homedale School District would have to spend to heat its classrooms.

“Obviously, it’s going to impact us,” Rosandick said. “We don’t

have much of a choice about whether we’re going to heat our buildings or not.”

Gene Fadness of the PUC said the average commercial customer uses between 200 therms and 2,000 therms of natural gas each month. Right now, the average commercial customer pays 87.1 cents per therm during the summer billing period and 82 cents per therm during the winter billing cycle.

Rosandick said the district paid \$42,383 during the 2004-05 school year to heat the schools.

“It will impact our budget,” Rosandick said, adding that he has yet to meet with district business manager Jim Duncan on the proposed increase. “We have been benefiting over the last few years in Southwest Idaho on having mild winters, but we can’t bank on having a mild winter when we’re drawing up our budget.”

Rosandick said while an increase would affect the budget in the future, the district could handle the extra burden.

“You have to have a comfortable environment for the teachers to teach and the students to learn,”

he said.

This hike could be the sharpest increase since rates were raised 36.2 percent (summer) and 40.1 percent (winter) in July 2003. That came on the heels of a decrease of 29 percent and 31 percent in the summer of 2002.

Intermountain Gas is asking for the increase one year after getting a raise of 10.3 (summer) and 10.8 (winter) percent in July 2004. The average commercial bill will increase by \$77.76 each month if the increase is approved.

If Intermountain got its way, commercial gas bills will have increased nearly 25 percent since the 2002 decrease.

On the residential side, Intermountain gas raised its rates 33 percent in July 2003 and 10 percent a year ago. In 2002, prices were slashed by 28 percent. If the increase goes through, the average residential customer will pay as much as \$17.26 more each month.

In an e-mail to the Avalanche, Fadness said the next step in the process is hearings and a public comment period.

— JB

## Correction

Because of information supplied to The Owyhee Avalanche, the vote count and type of majority required for passage of Marsing water bond election from Aug. 2 was incorrect in Aug. 10 editions. The \$1.7 million revenue bond passed 86-62.

According to Article 8, Section

3 of the Idaho Constitution, bonds that rely on revenue from a municipal system, such as a water system, require a simple majority vote to pass, not a two-thirds majority as was reported. A two-thirds majority is needed when a bond would pledge revenue from property taxes.



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#### Letters to the editor

Friday noon the week prior to publication  
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From page 1

## √ Fair

Ann Rutan, the horse supervisor and daughter of Ace and Marilyn, announced the award on Aug. 9 in the livestock arena. She said the purpose of the award is to identify and reward the 4-H youth who show promise of being active volunteers and members of the communities and the county.

“We had many very good applicants to choose from and the final decision was very difficult,” Rutan told the crowd. “It is overwhelming to see so many of our members be so involved in

community activities and spend so much of their time wanting to help others.”

Rutan said Dygert, the son of Annette and Shawn Dygert, was nominated because he has excelled as a horse 4-H student and has become a mentor to many in his 4-H club. Rutan said Dygert was chosen because of his ability to lead his group and assist with problems that some members face.

King is the daughter of Debbie and Greg King. Rutan said she was chosen because of her years in the horse program, her continued support of the program and because she made a decision to

remove herself from the show this year after the sudden death of her relative, cowboy Daniel Dopps, in a rodeo accident in Grace.

“She made a very difficult decision after working so hard all year,” Rutan told the crowd. “She had to choose between helping family members through a tough time. Her decision was a very unselfish choice, and we are very proud of her.”

On Saturday, Greg Truesdell, son of Steve and Carmen Truesdell, was honored as the most inspirational member with his swine entry.

Greg wasn’t sure why he

received an award, but he said he was very excited. He named his York cross after the late lead singer of the rock group AC/DC, Bon Scott. He said he is a “huge” fan of the band. Greg’s swine weighed 257 pounds, and he said he didn’t win any show awards. But the award he did win was a perfect end to this year’s fair.

Soldier Ralph Rotter, on leave from Iraq, honored parade organizer Mary Tibbett and this year’s parade judges with a photograph of military personnel who are currently stationed in Iraq and a ribbon that traveled to Iraq and back. Rotter said the ribbon was given to military personnel in

2003 when they entered a truck from the Alpha Company 145<sup>th</sup> in the parade.

He said the ribbon hung in the truck in Iraq and was signed by the ammo section consisting of Brian Cook, Daniel Hightower, Misty Mitchell, Mallory Stalhe, Patrick O’Conner, the late Carrie French, Rotter and Sgt. Hansord and Tina Joseph. French of Caldwell was killed in action earlier this year.

Rotter said the soldiers in Iraq wanted to give something to the parade organizers to remember them during this year’s celebration.

— CAB

## √ ISAT

math program will be instituted this year in grades kindergarten through 5 to go along with the phonics program for the same grades that was started last year.

“We feel (the programs) will give us something very solid to work with,” Shockley said.

Homedale Superintendent Tim Rosandick had good news about his district’s ISAT progress in his report to trustees at the Aug. 8 school board meeting.

But he acknowledged that there is still work to be done in the area of mathematics.

“The overall impression was there was growth,” Rosandick said. “We’re going in the right direction.”

Homedale’s ISAT scores for Spring 2005 show that — on average — two-thirds or more of students in the tested grades were listed as proficient or better in reading and language usage.

“We’re really happy that our elementary school made (Annual Yearly Progress) again,” Rosandick said. “We should never really be surprised about how our kids perform in general.”

Homedale Elementary students shone in the spring testing for the most part. Around 80 percent of third-graders scored at or above proficient in language usage and reading. The percentage slipped to 68.5 in both categories for sixth-graders, of which 10.1 percent were scored in the Below Basic category for reading and 13.5 percent in Below Basic for language skills.

But the numbers rebounded for eighth-graders with 81.4 percent scoring at or above the proficiency level for reading. Still, 14.7 percent of those taking the test scored below basic in language usage.

“We’re in a much better position in terms of literacy,” Rosandick said.

About 75 percent of Homedale High School 10<sup>th</sup>-graders were graded at or above proficient in reading and language usage.

“In the state — and in Homedale — we have put a whole lot of attention on literacy issues,” Rosandick said. “We are

now having to add to our plate mathematics.

“Not that we forgot about it, but we’ll have to put more of our effort into mathematics.”

Fourth-graders were the strongest in mathematic testing, with nearly 85 percent of the class scored at or above acceptable proficiency levels.

Among seventh-graders, though, 13.3 percent scored Below Basic in math, the worst showing of any grade level polled by ISAT testing. The percentage of students in the Proficient and above ranking hovered around 50 percent for seventh-, eighth- and 10<sup>th</sup>-graders.

“The district has adopted a new mathematics program called “Math Your Way,” Rosandick said. “And it will be further implemented this year.”

Rosandick doesn’t hold back his optimism for Homedale students continuing to make progress.

“I think our teachers have done well,” he said. “They’ve responded and worked hard, but there’s more work to do.

“I’m confident that we’re going to continue that improvement.”

Numbers from the Grandview-Bruneau district are being appealed. The final date to submit an appeal was Monday. That district’s new superintendent, Vicki Chandler, expected to know more about her students’ revised performance numbers sometime this week.

Shockley said that smaller districts like Marsing and Rimrock are at the mercy of a system that grades all districts — regardless of enrollment — on the same playing field. That means that in a system the size of Marsing

if a few students fail to meet proficiency standards it could have a much more severe effect on the district’s showing than a larger district like Meridian or Boise.

“One percent of 100 is much different than 1 percent of 25,” he said. “One kid can make a difference.”

Funding — or the lack thereof — also can affect a school’s performance in the state testing because limited resources mean limited teaching tools such as a textbooks.

Shockley said the Marsing district’s recent \$76,000 school levy helped boost resources such as math and science books, but building success also requires reversing the negative slide that poor performance can have on the morale of a student.

“You have to tear down the wall of defense that (students) have so they can look proactively at what they can do to improve,” Shockley said.

Complete reports on the Spring 2005 ISAT performance for all three districts is available online at [www.sde.state.id.us/admin/isat/spring05.asp](http://www.sde.state.id.us/admin/isat/spring05.asp)

— JB

## √ Treasurer

the commissioners didn’t agree. The candidates interviewed with the commission during its Aug. 1 meeting.

Chairman Hal Tolmie said the commissioners felt the Republican committee did not have the authority to nominate anyone. He said they are required to submit three names to the county commission, and the commissioners make the final decision.

“According to code they don’t have any business making a recommendation,” Tolmie said Monday. “Due to input of other elected officials in the county, due to our interview, I think the commissioners felt she was very qualified and that is the way we did it.”

Richards lives on a ranch on Reynolds Creek with her husband and three sons. She worked for Northwest Watershed Research Center in Reynolds Creek collecting technical matters from 1997 to 2004. She was a bookkeeper for a hay and cattle ranch in Nevada from 1988 to 1997, and from 1985 to 1988 she worked for a ranch in Paradise Valley, Nev., as a full charge bookkeeper. From 1982 to 1987 she worked at Security Bank in Winnemucca, Nev., as a teller,

eventually working her way up to assistant operations manager and loan secretary.

She has a business accounting degree from the College of Southern Idaho and took additional classes in accounting and education from the University of Nevada in Reno and Western Nevada Community College. She is secretary of the Owyhee Border Lands Trust, and represents the lands trust on the Owyhee Initiative work group. She also has been appointed to the Bureau of Land Management’s Resource Advisory Council by Gov. Dirk Kempthorne. She is chairman of the Idaho Cattle Association Federal and State lands committee and chairman of the Idaho Public Land Users. She is a member of the Natural Resources Committee and co-chair of the Water Resources Committee.

Charters could not be reached following the decision. Richards will remain in the office until next year when she will have to declare candidacy in March and be on the ballot for the primary election in May if she chooses to continue as treasurer.

Wright plans to leave her position on Sept. 30, but she has the option, until her last day, to change her mind and remain in the position. Wright refused comment when asked if she had plans to rescind her resignation.

— CAB

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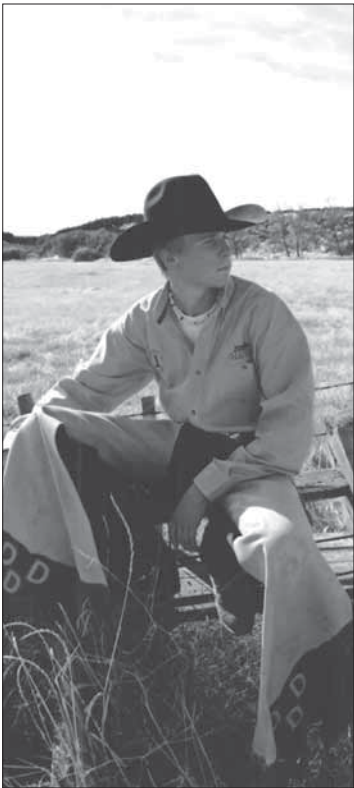
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# Obituaries



## Lillian Schwab

Lillian Schwab, 82, of Homedale passed away at home on Wednesday August 10, 2005 with her loving family at her side.

Lillian was born on October 12, 1922, to George and Bertha Aarup in Palmdale, California.

On July 26, 1940, she married the love of her life, Leo Schwab, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Through this union the two were blessed with four children. The two lived in Rialto, California, until 1963 when they made the move to Homedale.

Lillian made her living working in the restaurant business for many years and finally got the chance and opened the Mobil Café in Wilder. She eventually would retire in 1979.

Lillian is survived by her loving husband, Leo Schwab, daughter Lynda Craft of Houston, Texas, daughter Sharon Roesch of Highland, California, nine grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her son, George Wesley Schwab, and a daughter, Beverlee Flores.

The family would like to thank Calli Hann from Horizon Home Health for the loving care and support that she gave Lillian and her family throughout her illness.

Cremation is under the direction of Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Homedale.

## Baritone soloist to visit Marsing

Baritone soloist Gabe Cedillo makes a return visit to the Marsing Church of the Nazarene on Sunday, Aug. 21.

This will be Cedillo's third visit in three years to the church at 12 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. W. in Marsing. The free concert begins at 11 a.m. and is open to the public. A freewill offering for Cedillo will be received, and the artist will have music CDs available.

Cedillo represented Idaho at the Farm Bureau Association's convention in New Jersey and was a featured soloist at the inauguration of former Gov. Cecil Andrus.

Cedillo and his wife of 40 years, Bobbi, live year-round in their RV, and Cedillo has sung in Idaho, Utah, Oregon, Arizona and California during the past four summers.

## Daniel David Dopps

Daniel David Dopps, 19, of Mountain Home, passed away on Sunday, August 7, 2005 after sustaining injuries during a rodeo in Grace, Idaho. Visitation was held from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. on Wednesday, August 10th at Summers Funeral Homes, McMurtrey Chapel in Mountain Home. Funeral services were held at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 11, 2005 at the LDS Stake Center, 1150 North 8th East in Mountain Home. Interment followed at Mountain View Cemetery with reception afterwards at the LDS Church. Arrangements are under the direction of Summers Funeral Homes, McMurtrey Chapel in Mountain Home.

Daniel was born on September 14, 1985 in Fontana, CA to Ramona and David Dopps. He moved to Mountain Home when he was five and truly considered himself an Idahoan. Growing up with his two older sisters, Shannon and Stephanie, he spent countless hours riding and roping with them. One of his greatest pleasures was roping with his sisters at local team ropings. Daniel started down the path to bull riding when he was just six, starting out with sheep riding, moving on to calf riding then steer riding. When he moved up into bull riding, he was very fortunate to have many veteran bull riders help him in the sport he loved. Anyone who knew Daniel knew that he was a cowboy.

One of Daniel's greatest joys was hunting season, any hunting season. He loved hunting in the hills above his house and many time just loved going with his

friend Greg and hunting. One of his accomplishments was training his black lab, Hunter. He and Greg spent many hours working their dogs and talking about duck hunting and pheasant hunting season. There was always a hunting regulations book on the kitchen table and wet waders at the front door. We had many nicknames for Daniel, "Triple D", "Little D", "Cowboy", "Dudie" and he answered to them all.

Daniel had many people who helped him to achieve his life goals. His Grandma Gladys and Grandpa Pete who were always there when he needed them. His Grandpa Pete always made sure that he had good horses to ride and his Grandma made sure that he always had whatever he needed. Mike Pope was one of his greatest supporters. Mike spent countless hours talking to Daniel about what it took to be competitive. Some of their best times were spent in the roping pen. Pat and Juanita O'Malley of Slash T, were special friends. Daniel enjoyed going to any rodeo where Slash T stock would be. One of the highlights of Daniel's life was drawing Snake Eater at the ICA Finals, and then riding him. From the first time that Daniel met Jim and Jan Youren, he was one of their "kids." The time he spent with Cole and Zane was countless and they had more fun than any three boys could. Justin Davis, his best friend, partner in crime and traveling partner. Walt, Jake and Buford Ireland always took the time to help Daniel whenever he needed it. From taking him on roundups when he was just seven to pulling his rope at a rodeo. His Uncles Aaron,

Gary and Larry were never far from Daniel's thoughts. He was thrilled when he knew he would get the opportunity to see them and enjoyed going to the gym with Larry, he loved the books that Gary recommended he read and he knew that his Uncle Aaron would always send him home with great stuff for his horses and cows. His Aunt Sylvia was a special delight for Daniel. He would call her while he was on the road going to a rodeo. He especially liked when he forgot that there was a one-hour difference and called her at 5 a.m. She would always tell him "God Bless" and "make sure your ride for 8." Daniel's relationship with his sisters was everything to him. From the time he was born, they were always looking out for him, making sure that he didn't get hurt, helping him with his homework. He loved every minute that he spent with them roping in the front yard, teasing them, roping them, and tying them up to the tree. They were always there for him and he for them. Daniel wanted for nothing when his two big sisters were with him. Anyone who met Daniel knew that they had made a friend for life. The list of people that Daniel touched in his almost 20 years is endless, and you know who you are.

Daniel would want us to always remember that rodeo was not just a way of life, that it was his life. Daniel is survived by his mother and father, Ramona and David Dopps, Mountain Home, his sisters Shannon Dopps, Mountain Home, Stephanie King and brother-in-law, Gene, nieces Grace and Gwennie, Homedale, his Maternal Grandparents, Pete

and Gladys Gallegos, Riverside, CA, his Aunt Sylvia and Uncle Phillip Howell &, cousins Crystal, Cassie, Tyler, Charlene (Bean), Romoland, CA Uncle Aaron & Kelley Gallegos, cousins Nolan and Evan, Lake Matthews, CA, Uncle Gary Gallegos and Uncle Larry Gallegos, Riverside, CA, Great Aunt Reina and Uncle Ernie Sandoval, Mesa, AZ, Great Aunt Susan Carrasco, Belen, NM, Great Uncle Ernie and Great Aunt Linnette Gallegos, Bosque Farms, NM and many second and third cousins.

In lieu of flowers, please send contributions to the Justin Cowboy Crisis Fund, 101 Pro Rodeo Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80919.

*The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want.*

*He makes me down to lie In pastures green; He leadeth me*

*The quiet waters by.*

*My soul He doth restore again;*

*And me to walk doth make*

*Within the paths of righteousness,*

*Even for His own Name's sake.*

*Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,*

*Yet will I fear no ill;*

*For Thou art with me; and Thy rod*

*And staff my comfort still.*

*My table Thou hast furnished*

*In presence of my foes;*

*My head Thou dost with oil anoint,*

*And my cup overflows.*

*Goodness and mercy all my life*

*Shall surely follow me;*

*And in God's house forevermore*

*My dwelling place shall be.*

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# New Friends church takes shape



## Expanded facilities

The new Friends Community Church is gradually being built on U.S. 95 in Canyon County north of the Snake River. **Above:** The facility will include a cinderblock building, right, for the sanctuary and a wooden structure that will house meeting rooms and a kitchen area. **Below:** Nate Vis, left, and Scott Hilbert, both of Caldwell, spent Tuesday morning working on the upper portion of the frame in the building that will become home for meeting rooms and a kitchen. Vis and Hilbert work for Benchmark Construction out of Nampa. **Bottom:** These plans show the front view (bottom) and rear view of the church once construction is completed, which is expected sometime in the fall.

## Project could be finished by the fall

Construction continues on the new Friends Community Church facility on the east side of U.S. 95 in Canyon County between Garman Hill and the Snake River.

Ron O’Neal of Wilder, the project supervisor, says that Benchmark Construction and other crews have been working on the two-building layout since June.

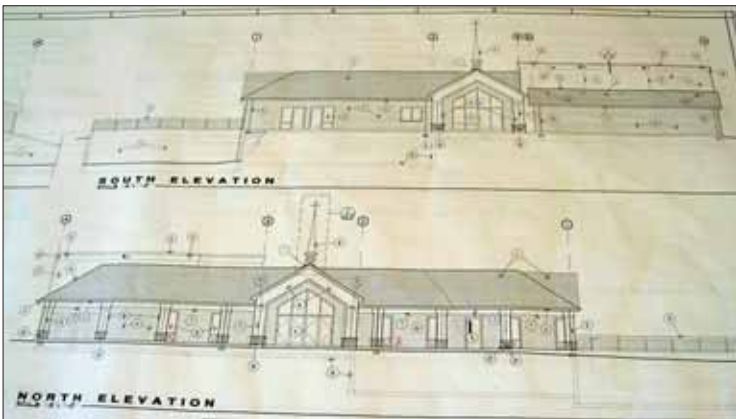
The project is expected to be completed sometime in the fall. O’Neal speculated either October or November.

Lar Kor Construction of Homedale is involved with the project, according to O’Neal. Nampa’s Town & Country Electric is the electrical contractor.

The facility is a cinberblock building and wood frame building. The cinderblock structure will house the sanctuary, while the wood building will hold a kitchen area and meeting rooms in addition to serving other purposes.

Friends Community Church, the pastor of which is John Beck, currently holds services in its church on the corner of Third Street and West Montana Street in Homedale. That building is for sale.

— JB



# Engagement



Sumr Pruett and Antone Badiola

## Pruett, Badiola to marry August 20 in Homedale

Sumr Pruett and Antone Badiola, both of Homedale, plan to wed at the home of the bride-to-be’s parents in Homedale at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 20, 2005.

The bride-to-be is the daughter of Dennis and Michelle Pruett and is employed at Pruett Tire in

Homedale. The groom-elect is the son of Ben and Lori Badiola. He works at Snake River Palette in Homedale. Both Sumr and Antone are graduates of Homedale High School.

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# 2005 Owyhee County Fair & Rodeo

## More images from the fair



**Light horse**

A light horse and mule-driving competitor rounds a corner during the light horse and single rider competition Friday morning.



**Historical winner**

This original antique fly pole won first place in the historical category in the open class entries.



**Mutton buster**

Colton Mergess rides a sheep during the annual mutton bustin' competition Wednesday night. Mergess didn't receive a time, but gave a good performance.



**Miniature spinning wheel**

A handmade miniature version of a spinning wheel won reserve champion in the crafts open class division.



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Sports

Homedale volleyball  
Trojans' new  
coach imports  
positive vibes

Things seem to be falling into place for Maleta Henry, the new varsity volleyball coach at Homedale High School.

Henry, a lifelong Caldwell resident and graduate of Vallivue High School, and her husband John made plans earlier this year to move to the Homedale area and, coincidentally, the Homedale High brass came calling to hire Maleta as the new coach of the Trojans.

"Apparently someone recommended me for the job," Maleta Henry said of how she was approached by Homedale officials to interview for the position. "I've just always been a Vallivue girl, but things change and we're moving out to Homedale."

Henry says she's happy with the move, and the relocation probably made her decision to take the Homedale position — her first varsity coaching job — easier than if she remained in the Caldwell area and had to commute across the Snake River for practice and games.

"I'm really excited because



**Meet Maleta Henry**  
**Age:** 32  
**Family:** John, husband of 14 years; daughter, Jessica, 12; son, Karl, 9  
**Hometown:** Caldwell  
**Education:** Pursuing Health Sciences degree at Boise State University  
**Occupation:** Educational assistant, computer lab, Central Canyon Elementary School, Caldwell; varsity volleyball coach, Homedale High

sometimes change is good," Henry said. "It'll be very positive because the girls might need a change."

Homedale's new athletic director, Dave Hart, says he sensed her passion for the game, and that bodes well for the Trojans' program down the road.

"She's an extremely confident young lady," Hart said. "She's someone who can take charge and guide the program into the future."

Henry takes over the Homedale program from Jim Smyth. The 32-year-old mother of two says she doesn't know much about the history of Homedale volleyball,

— to page 11A



Powder bronc

Daniel Richards comes out of the chute in a cloud of "powder" in his white chaps during the ranch hand bronc riding Saturday night. Richards scored a 71 to place second in the final standings behind Caleb Bayes from Parma, who scored 78 points during his championship ride.

Lewiston cowgirl wins  
Owyhee all around

**JV brothers rule saddle bronc**

The Mackenzie brothers from Jordan Valley, Ore., made the Owyhee County Rodeo saddle bronc competition a family affair last week as their top scores survived all four nights of action.

Sam Mackenzie scored 77 points aboard Rooster during last Wednesday's opening-round of action, and Ryan Mackenzie scored a 74. Sam's score was good enough to win the \$100 bonus for the night's best score in saddle bronc. By the end of the week, he had added nearly \$600 more to that take.

Ryan settled for a split of the second- and third-place money with Eagle's William Schneibe. Schneibe scored a 74 to win Thursday's \$100 bonus.

Meanwhile, Scotti Fuller made her trip from Lewiston worthwhile. She finished second in the barrel racing event and seventh in breakaway roping to earn enough cash to take home the all around championship. Fuller earned nearly \$1,000 from her rodeo experience during the opening night. She finished third during the Aug. 10 action in breakaway roping with a time of 2.96 seconds, and that time turned out to be the second-best time of the entire rodeo. Her

time of 17.423 seconds in barrel racing on the same night held up for seventh overall.

Fuller's barrel racing time was beaten only by Kyna Schrader of Caldwell on opening night. Schrader's time of 17.290 held up for the championship-winning time for the rodeo.

While the Mackenzie brothers, Fuller and most of the cowboys and cowgirls in Homedale for the week were focused on doing well at the Owyhee rodeo, one of the world's top cowboys was just competing for some quick cash during a break in his touring schedule.

— to page 12A

Schamber ready to lead Trojans' cross country

He hasn't been a high school coach for a couple of seasons, but that doesn't mean that Nick Chamber's teaching skills have diminished.

The new cross country coach for Homedale High School has been keeping sharp by coaching his sons' basketball, baseball and softball teams since leaving the Marsing school district for a teaching job at Homedale Middle School three years ago.

Now, he's back coaching high school athletes. Yes, he had to do some homework.

"I've had to break out some books and refresh my memory," the 36-year-old father of three said. "I think I'll do fine."

Schamber began his practices Friday, and one of his first jobs is to build a solid group of runners for the team, which until last year had been coached by longtime

Trojans track and field coach Troy Sullivan.

"I know a few years ago (Sullivan) had quite large numbers," Chamber said. "Soccer has cut down a lot of numbers from the program."

"My concern is that a lot of kids that ran last year and are coming in this year are upperclassmen."

Schamber has a plan to use his connections with the town's middle school students to build a feeder system for the high school team. He is starting his third year as a social studies teacher at Homedale Middle School.

"Being here — I'm starting my third year — I have a good handle on the freshman and sophomore kids," said Chamber who has taught many of the ninth- and 10<sup>th</sup>-graders now attending Homedale High.

— to page 11A



Watchful eye

New Homedale High School cross country coach Nick Chamber, left, studies the form of senior Stuart Miyasako, center, and junior Scott Thatcher during the first workout of the preseason Friday at City Park.

Trojans' boosters hold '05 kickoff

The Homedale Fan Club will hold its annual Fall Kickoff barbecue at 7 p.m. Friday at the Trojans' football stadium.

Food will be provided, but organizers recommend bringing lawnchairs.

Homedale High School's fall coaches and new athletic director, Dave Hart, will be on hand.

Registration for the fan club will be available, and club members will be selling Trojans apparel.

The fan club is in place to support Homedale High School athletics. That includes raising funds to help supplement the budgets of athletic programs.

For more information on the kickoff event or the fan club, contact club chairman Darren Krzesnik at 573-4993 or club secretary-treasurer Susana Brockett during the day at 337-3271.



# Sports

## √ Coach

If Dave Hart's enthusiasm for having Schamber aboard is any indication, the recruiting process should go smoothly.

"He has a great background," Homedale's new athletic director said. "We're really tickled to have him on board, and he'll be great for the program."

Schamber, who was born in Oregon and moved to Idaho with his family when he was less than a year old, has a strong history with small schools. He was head coach of the Marsing cross country program for four years. He also served as an assistant track coach — handling the distance runners — for eight years with the Huskies.

Schamber said he expected a slow trickle of athletes into preseason practice because some many students are wrapping up commitments from the summer. But he also understands that running a couple kilometers over hill and dale isn't most teenagers' idea of a having fun.

"I wouldn't say this is necessarily a sport where kids



Nick Schamber

Meet Nick Schamber  
**Age:** 36  
**Family:** Kelly, wife of 12 years; sons Corby, 10, Benny, 7; daughter Elizabeth, 3  
**High school:** Notus  
**Education:** Bachelor's in History from Albertson College of Idaho  
**Occupation:** History and social studies teacher, Homedale Middle School; cross country coach, Homedale High School

are signing up by the thousands," he said. "It does draw different types of kids."

"You do have serious runners who are very serious about it and want to go as far as they possibly can. There are some kids, too, that maybe volleyball and soccer and football aren't their No. 1 sports, but basketball is and they want to stay in shape."

But Schamber isn't going to focus on the reasons why athletes may not turn to cross country. He's trying to rebuild a program that lost its leader when Sullivan — a man Schamber respected — stepped down in the spring.

"The main emphasis right now is to have some fun and try to recruit," the Notus High School graduate said.

— JB

## √ Volleyball

but she has immediate plans to put her mark on the team by instilling her philosophies and her drive to succeed.

First and foremost in Henry's canons of volleyball: Never give up.

"I want no drop balls," the four-time all-state high school player said. "Whether you have to kill yourself to get to the ball, you have to at least try."

"The girls I coach know that, 'Coach Henry wants you all over the floor.'"

That aggressive style can produce thrilling results, especially in the new age of rally scoring in volleyball.

Henry graduated from Vallivue High School in 1991 after a career in which she was an all-state player for four years and named MVP in a senior all-star game. Although a lot has changed since she was on the court as a player, Henry

has stayed sharp with the game through coaching freshman volleyball at her alma mater and volunteering as a coach in Caldwell city recreation youth programs.

"Volleyball is volleyball," she said. "They've changed the rules, but you have to stay open-minded and play the game."

Henry's open-mindedness means starting from scratch with her personnel, as is to be expected from a new coach coming into a situation.

"I always tell everybody coming in that I don't coach by your name," Henry said. "I go by your abilities, and my philosophy is very positive."

"Girls have a hard enough time in school anymore, so I'm more of a positive teacher of the love of volleyball."

The Trojans open the season Aug. 25 at New Plymouth. The preseason includes the Melba Jamboree at 6:45 p.m. on Aug. 23.

— JB

## Avalanche seeks prep sports information

The high school sports season is just around the corner.

The Owyhee Avalanche is looking for rosters and schedules for all teams from Homedale, Marsing, Rimrock, Jordan Valley and Adrian high schools.

Coaches can send information to managing editor Jon Brown

at The Owyhee Avalanche, P.O. Box 97, Homedale, ID, 83628, fax to (208) 337-4867 or e-mail to [jbrowneditor@cableone.net](mailto:jbrowneditor@cableone.net).

Forms are available from the Avalanche to help coaches report game information.

Call (208) 337-4681 for more information.



## Camp opens

Dave Hart, Homedale High School's new defensive coordinator, talks about the proper execution of the outside linebacker position during Friday's first day of practice for the Trojans. Senior linebacker Larry Wass is helping Hart demonstrate his point. Homedale began practice on Friday, while the football teams from Rimrock and Marsing had been working out since Aug. 8. The season begins Aug. 26 for Marsing and Rimrock. The Huskies travel to play Payette, while the Raiders entertain Notus near Grand View. Homedale starts the season Sept. 2 on the road against Nampa Christian.

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Sports

√ Rodeo

Jake Hannum of Ogden, Utah — the 15th-ranked tie-down roper in the Jack Daniel’s world standings — was just passing through Aug. 10 when the rodeo began. He unloaded his horse and ripped off the best calf roping time of the rodeo — 7.8 seconds — on opening night. Ryan Watkins’ 8.2 on the same night was the second-best time for the entire week. Hannum pocketed \$764.75.

The big winners of the rodeo turned out to be a Treasure Valley team roping duo. And, as seemed to be the case quite a bit at this summer’s edition of the rodeo, Jon Stafford of Boise and Nampa’s Marlow Eldridge carded a score on opening night that would stand tall by the end of Saturday’s finale.

In all, six of the champions or co-champions had their winning rides on the first night of the rodeo, offering suspense for the rest of the week.

Stafford and Eldridge snared their animal in 6 seconds flat to split a total winning purse of \$2,066. Ty Thomas of Star and Ryan Powell of Caldwell had set the time to beat at 6.2 and had to settle for second. Richard Eiguren of Jordan Valley, Ore., and partner Bucky Campbell from Benton City, Wash., were another two-tenths of a second back

on the first night, but managed to finish third overall.

Jeff Bayes dominated the bareback riding competition, racking up an 83 on Friday night to put distance between himself and second-place finisher Nathan Bayes, who posted a 73 on opening night.

Caleb Bayes of Parma continued the family fun with a championship in the ranch hand bronc riding. Caleb scored a 78 for a seven-point victory over Daniel Richards. Again, Caleb was a first-night rider.

Cole Nelson edged Brad Abbe of Middleton to win the bull riding and more than \$725.

In mutton busting, Marcus Furtado and Homedale’s Tristan Corta posted high scores late in the week in one of the few championships that actually had a winner decided after opening night. Furtado laid down a 70-point ride on Friday, and Corta’s 69 during the finale came up just short.

Jennifer Hall and Kasey Scott wrapped up their animal in 13.8 seconds on opening night then held on to claim the local team roping buckle. Recent high school state finals participants Scott Roeser of Marsing and Gloria King of Homedale teamed for the second-best time of the rodeo at 16.1.

Owyhee County rodeo results

**FINAL STANDINGS**  
**Total purse:** \$35,580  
**All around champion** — Scotti Fuller, Lewiston, \$993

**Calf roping** — 1. Jake Hannum, Ogden, Utah, 7.8 seconds, \$764.75; 2. Ryan Watkins, 8.2; 3. Joel Jeffries, Caldwell, 8.6

**Bareback riding** — 1. Jeff Bayes, 83, \$490.39; 2. Nathan Bayes, 73; 3. (tie) Noah Bayes, 72; Russ Smth, 72

**Team roping** — 1. Jon Stafford, Boise, and Marlow Eldridge, Nampa, 6.0 seconds, \$1,033 each; 2. Ty Thomas, Star, and Ryan Powell, Caldwell, 6.2; 3. Richard Eiguren, Jordan Valley, Ore., and Bucky Campbell, Benton City, Wash., 6.4

**Saddle bronch** — 1. Sammy Mackenzie, Jordan Valley, Ore., 77, \$573.04; 2. (tie) Ryan Mackenzie, Jordan Valley, Ore., 74; 3. William Schneibe, Eagle, 74

**Breakaway roping** — 1. Melinda McDaniel, Caldwell, 2.41 seconds, \$987.62; 2. Regin Lawson, 2.54; 3. Trisha Legg, La Grande, Ore., 2.56

**Steer wrestling** — 1. Matt Cupp, Caldwell, 4.6 seconds, \$551; 2. Chip Giles, Kuna, 5.2; 3. Carl Seiders, 5.9

**Barrel racing** — 1. Kyna Schrader, Caldwell, 17.290 seconds, \$895.85; 2. Scotti Fuller, Lewiston, 17.423; 3. Karen Ewy, Boise, 17.476

**Bull riding** — 1. Cole Nelson, 75, \$726.51; 2. Brad Abbe, Middleton, 74; 3. (tie) D.J. Burdine, Caldwell, 72; Cody Bequeath, Nampa, 72

**Novice saddle bronc** — 1. Bryan Martinat, 66

**Local team roping** — 1. Jennifer Hall and Kasey Scott, 13.8 seconds, buckle; 2. Scott Roeser, Marsing, and Gloria King, Homedale, 16.1; 3. Doug Rutan and Dana Rutan, 16.5

**Ranch hand bronc riding** — 1. Caleb Bayes, Parma, 78; 2. Daniel Richards, 71; 3. Samuel Perry, 70

**Steer riding** — 1. (tie) Casey White, 75; Justin Parker, 75; 3. Jeremiah Kelleher, 68

**Wild horse race** — 1. Caleb Bayes, Simon Bayes and Richard Jordan, \$725

**Wild cow milking** — 1. Tom Love and Joshua Adamson, 1 minute, 27.70 seconds; 2. Patrick Tindall and Matt Plummer, 1:37.82; 3. John Hackler and Brian Plummer, 1:42.62

**Mutton Busting** — 1. Marcus Furtado, 70; 2. Tristan Corta, Homedale, 69; 3. Megan Aman, 68

**Day 1, Wednesday**  
**Calf roping** — 1. Jake Hannum, Ogden, Utah, 7.8 seconds; 2. Ryon Watkins, 8.2; 3. (tie) Kirby Cook, Marsing, 8.9 and Nate Baldwin, Rigby, 8.9

**Bareback riding** — 1. Nathan Bayes, Homedale, 73; 2. Noah Bayes, 72

**Team roping** — 1. Jon Stafford, Boise, and Marlow Eldridge, Nampa, 6.0 seconds; 2. Ty Thomas, Star, and Ryan Powell, Caldwell, 6.2; 3. Richard Eiguren, Jordan Valley, Ore., and Bucky Campbell, Benton City, Wash., 6.4

**Saddle bronc** — 1. Sammy Mackenzie,

Jordan Valley, Ore., 77; 2. Ryan Mackenzie, Jordan Valley, Ore., 74; 3. (tie) Levi Bunch, Durkee, Ore., 72; John Dennis, King Hill, 72

**Breakaway roping** — 1. Sammee Green, Madras, Ore., 2.63 seconds; 2. Mikal Black, Meridian, 2.83; 3. Scotti Fuller, Lewiston, 2.96

**Steer wrestling** — 1. Clint Allegre, 5.9; 2. Carl Seiders, Adrian, Ore., 8.4; 3. Sammy Mackenzie, Jordan Valley, Ore., 14.6

**Barrel racing** — 1. Kyna Schrader, Caldwell, 17.290; 2. Scotti Fuller, 17.423; 3. Kali Jo Parker, Wendell, 17.654

**Bull riding** — 1. Zach Vankomen, Nampa, 68

**Local team roping** — 1. Jennifer Hall and Kasey Scott, 13.8 seconds; 2. Jeff King and Justin Jarvis, 22.7

**Ranch hand bronc riding** — 1. Caleb Bayes, Parma, 78; 2. Samuel Perry, 70; 3. Justin Bayes, 64

**Steer riding** — 1. Casey White, 76; 2. Cody Burden, 67; 3. Travis Leedam, 66

**Mutton Busting** — 1. Megan Aman, 68

**Slack**  
**Team roping** — 1. Dace Woods and Tim White, 8.5 seconds; 2. Mark Harris and Casey Brunson, 11.1; 3. Dave Boyles and Dan Troncole, 16.0

**Breakaway roping** — 1. Sally Brown, Baker City, Ore., 3.12 seconds; 2. Megan Lewis, Twin Falls, 3.30; 3. Brenda Reay, Homedale, 3.36

**Barrel racing** — 1. Carla Rogers, 17.749; 2. Brittany Highsmith, Lewiston, 17.869; 3. Koni Mordhorst, 18.582

**Day 2, Thursday**  
**Calf roping** — 1. Dan Webb, Wendell, 9.0; 2. Wyatt Prescott, 9.7; 3. Jim Ingram, Haines, Ore., 10.0

**Bareback riding** — No qualifying runs

**Team roping** — 1. Brad Carpenter and Tim Black, 12.4 seconds; 2. Ron Webb and Dan Webb, Wendell, 13.1; 3. J.C. Cabral and Dick Williams, 14.3

**Saddle bronc riding** — 1. William Schneibe, Eagle, 74; 2. Jake Bigelow, New Plymouth, 72; 3. Matt Morrison, Wells, Nev., 67

**Breakaway roping** — 1. Melinda McDaniel, Caldwell, 2.41; 2. Trisha Legg, La Grande, Ore., 2.56; 3. Britney Edmondson, Sweet, 3.11

**Steer wrestling** — 1. Matt Cupp, Caldwell, 4.6 seconds; 2. Tanner Stanger, Boise, 7.5; 3. Andy Weldan, Middleton, 8.1

**Barrel racing** — 1. Matea Gabiola, Payette, 17.647; 2. Stacy Vanostran, Caldwell, 17.736; 3. Katelen Perkins, Murtaugh, 18.053

**Bull riding** — 1. Cole Nelson, 75; 2. Brad Abbe, Middleton, 74; 3. Mike Sparks, Caldwell, 70

**Local team roping** — 1. Scott Roeser, Marsing, and Gloria King, 16.1 seconds; 2. Kalli Roeser, Marsing, and Matt Nauman, 21.6

**Ranch hand bronc riding** — 1. (tie) Kasey Love, 69; Myles Blossom, 69; 3. Ryan Stowell, 60

**Steer riding** — No qualifying runs

**Mutton busting** — 1. Selena Hadley, 64

**Day 3, Friday**  
**Calf roping** — 1. Bland Ballard, Wilder, 8.8 seconds; 2. Will Casey, Kennewick, Wash., 8.9; 3. Skeeter Roe, Wendell, 9.5

**Bareback riding** — 1. Jeff Bayes, 83; 2. Brad Reeder, 71; 3. Cody Miller, 66

**Team roping** — 1. J.B. Saltregui and Jason Miller, 7.0 seconds; 2. (tie) Clay Griffith and Dave Moyle, 7.4; Cody Jepson, Council, and Sam Riley, 7.4

**Saddle bronc riding** — 1. Bryan Martinat, Marsing, 66

**Breakaway roping** — 1. Lorrie Percifield, Ontario, Ore., 3.26 seconds; 2. Jamie Hand, Homedale, 6.10; 3. Ann Chapin, Homedale, 6.56

**Steer wrestling** — 1. Ben Rowe, 6.0 seconds; 2. Jace Davis, Wilder, 9.5

**Barrel racing** — 1. Kasey Bruce, Homedale, 18.017; 2. Bobby Jean Jones, Bruneau, 18.040; 3. Linda Roberts, 18.117

**Bull riding** — 1. Russell Brenner, Caldwell, 72; 2. Cody Campbell, Sommersville, Ore., 71; 3. Bryan Perry, Payette, 67

**Local team roping** — 1. Dean Schultz and Shane McArthy, 16.9 seconds; 2. Wade Hyer and Cory Uriia, 18.2; 3. Dusty Easterday and Joe Easterday, 23.1

**Ranch hand bronc riding** — 1. Justin Jarvis, 75; 2. (tie) Dustin Easterday, 64; Buster Gibson, 64

**Steer riding** — 1. Justin Parker, 75

**Mutton busting** — 1. Marcus Furtado, 70

**Day 4, Saturday**  
**Calf roping** — 1. Joel Jeffries, Caldwell, 8.6 seconds; 2. Brian Hill, Meridian, 19.2; 3. Jeremy Sutfin, Ontario, Ore., 19.5

**Bareback riding** — 1. Russ Smith, 72; 2. Caleb Bayes, 70; 3. Dan Herman, 66

**Team roping** — 1. Ryan Gieck, Hermiston, Ore., and Jack Kiser, Enterprise, Ore., 7.1 seconds; 2. Jeremy Sutfin and Brian Reece, 8.1; 3. Joel Jeffries and Luke Jeffries, 11.2

**Saddle bronc riding** — No qualifying runs

**Breakaway roping** — 1. Keri Muchow, Melba, 2.70 seconds; 2. Kenna Muchow, Melba, 3.13; 3. Austin Clow, Melba, 3.52

**Steer wrestling** — 1. Pat Page, Caldwell, 12.9 seconds

**Barrel racing** — 1. Karen Ewy, Boise, 17.476; 2. Lucy Schnabele, Prineville, Ore., 17.579; 3. Carissa Donaldson, Emmett, 17.844

**Bull riding** — 1. Cody Bequeath, Nampa, 72

**Local team roping** — 1. Doug Routan and Dana Routan, 16.5 seconds

**Ranch hand bronc riding** — 1. Daniel Richards, 71; 2. Ryan Hayes, 68; 3. Patrick Tindall, 66

**Steer riding** — No qualifying runs

**Mutton busting** — 1. Tristan Corta, Homedale, 69; 2. Lawsen Matteson, 67; 3. Levi Nesbitt, 65

**Note** — High-point riders in rough stock events (bareback, saddle bronc, ranch hand bronc and bull riding) won \$100 each.



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# Owners slow down to run Stop ‘n’ Shop

## New Marsing store offers products for every facet of life

Dave Loeffler, the new owner of the Stop ‘n’ Shop convenience store in Marsing has gone from the heat of being a heavy equipment mechanic to the cool of being a store owner, and he couldn’t be happier.

“It’s all good,” he says. Loeffler’s wife, Karen, has the same opinion of her new life and business in Idaho, hundreds of miles away from the California city where the Loefflers had been living until about 18 months ago.

“It’s fun having a store because you meet a lot of people,” Karen said. “It’s a slower life from California. I like it.”

And they like owning the store at 106 Main St. in Marsing. The former Old West Dollar Store has a little bit of everything for the shopper — from knick-knacks to groceries to ready-to-eat sandwiches to footwear ... The list literally goes on and on.

“We’re trying to stick with the convenience store,” Karen said. “But we’re adding to it.”

Dave recently completed work on a new floor-to-ceiling cooler

that has sodas and beer chilled for people who need to stock up before a trip to camp or fish.

The Loefflers are planning a grand opening for their store during Labor Day weekend. But there are weekly specials at the rustic-looking shop every week. And the left-over dollar store inventory offers party supplies, kitchen utensils and tools in addition to the usual convenience store fare.

The store is open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. seven days a week. That creates longer work days than Dave had when he was a mechanic, but as he says, “It’s all good.”

He used to work 10 hours a day as a mechanic, now he’s working 14 hours a day as a shopkeeper.

But the store, which the couple bought from George Wilson and opened in June, is something Dave takes pride in. And it was something of a fateful move, too. Dave relocated from California for his job but was laid off soon after he arrived in Idaho. Karen had stayed behind in Southern California to sell their house and



### Friendly atmosphere

Stop ‘n’ Shop co-owner Karen Loeffler, right, chats with Richard Lacer of Marsing.

prepare for a permanent move.

But when Dave’s job ended, the opportunity to buy the store unveiled itself, so the couple — who have been married 19 years — never missed a beat despite the radically different job environments.

“I love this lifestyle,” Dave said. “I’m not in it for the big bucks, just to earn a living.”

The Loefflers have made themselves at home in Idaho in

earnest after moving here from San Bernardino, Calif. Their twin 16-year-old daughters, Kristie and Kari, attend Notus High School. David III, their 14-year-old son, is a student in Marsing.

Karen says she misses her two older children, 24-year-old Jim and 26-year-old Jamie Marcellus. Marcellus is a newlywed and lives in California with Karen’s 2-year-old grandson, Derek.

But the Loefflers are content

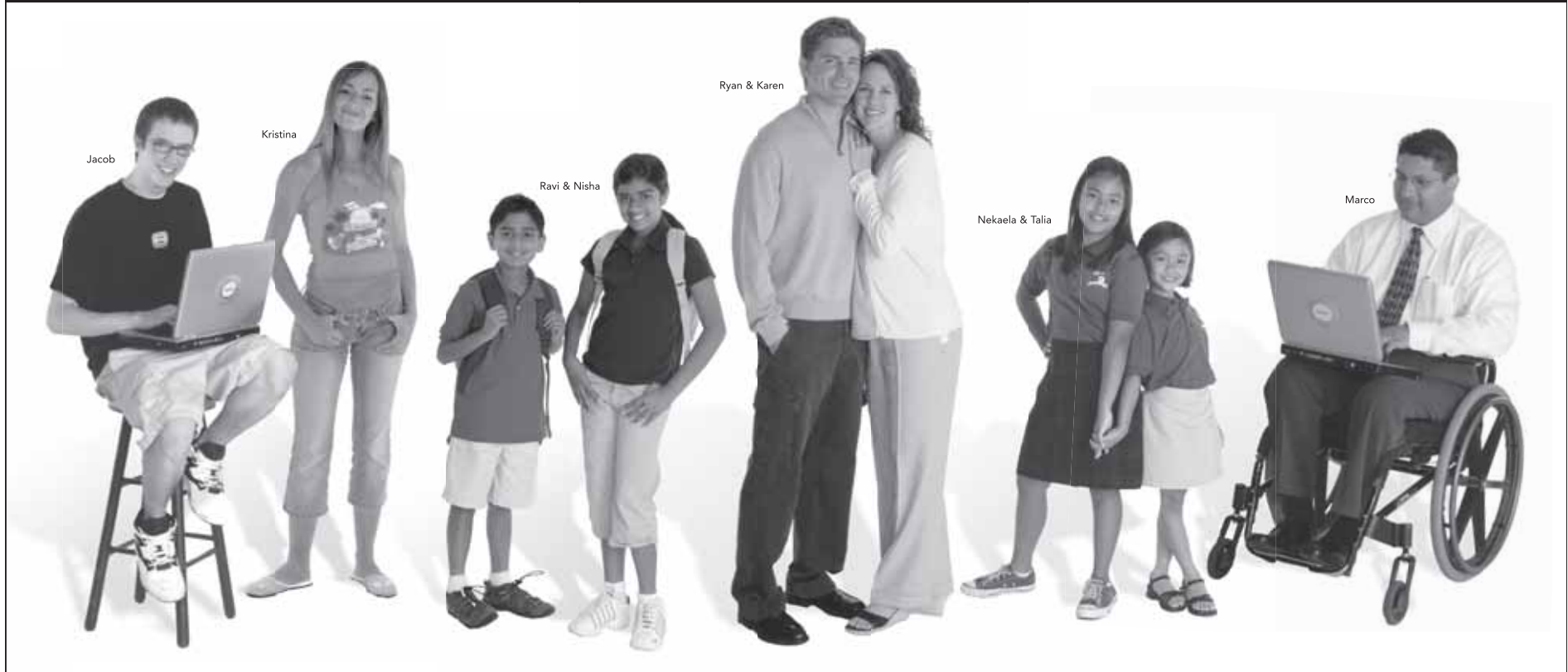
with their decision.

Dave is a jovial guy who seems to enjoy conversations — a good quality for someone owning a store in a small town. And the friendly demeanor of the folks coming into the store isn’t lost on him either.

“You’ve never met so many good people as you do here,” the Marsing resident said. “Everybody is friendly and treats you good.”

— JB

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# Group says ranchers denied due process in Jarbidge case

Last week’s ruling by Judge B. Lynn Winmill, which will force ranchers in Southeastern Idaho to remove cattle from their grazing allotments in the middle of the season, an egregious example of due process violations, according to officials at Stewards of the Range, a property rights organization headquartered in Meridian.

“This judge ignored current studies conducted by BLM experts and denied the affected parties a fair hearing, in order to justify a ruling that promotes (Western Watershed Project’s) radical goal of eliminating productive use of the federal lands,” said Fred Grant, litigation chairman of Stewards of the Range.

The organization points out that Winmill’s handling of the case clearly favors anti-grazing environmental groups

## Stewards of Range speaks out against Winmill’s ruling

and illustrates how one-sided the judicial process can be on resource issues. In this case, as with most cases brought by environmental groups, the affected parties are forced to sit on the sidelines and watch their livelihood be extinguished without an opportunity to defend their rights.

The anti-grazing environmental group, Western Watershed Project, filed a case against the Bureau of Land Management claiming the management of the Jarbidge Resource Area was causing the sage grouse species to decline and asked that all grazing be eliminated from these lands. The group did not sue the ranchers whose livelihood would be affected, but instead

sued an agency that often takes controversial positions against the ranchers, and is not competent to argue the ranchers case, Stewards of the Range contend.

The ranchers did try to intervene, as judicial rules allow, but were blocked from exercising their full rights by the judge.

“They were allowed to intervene, but only as to the issue of whether an injunction should be issued, not with evidence as to the merits of the case which shows that sage grouse are not declining in the county. Winmill based his decision on information collected over two decades ago,” Grant said.

Winmill made his ruling based upon a 1987 management plan that relied on data from years before.

In an earlier decision, which caused reductions of grazing and great financial loss to ranchers in the Owyhee Resource Area, Winmill ruled that relying on such an old plan was contrary to federal law. The result of ignoring current studies and relying on ancient data is that ranchers must remove their cattle from a thriving range with a thriving sage grouse population, in the middle of the grazing season, Stewards of the Range said.

“This is the kind of irresponsible decision-making by the courts which bankrupts hard-working Americans. Here is an example of an activist judge who finds that a federal agency made a mistake and punishes not the agency but the ranchers,” Grant said.

“We are taking a hard look at what we can do to help the ranchers overturn this decision.”

## COSSA offers pre-school testing

The Canyon-Owyhee School Service Agency offers free screenings for developmental delays in speech, language, pre-academic, motor and social/emotional skills for children ages 3 to 5 years old.

The service is available to preschool-aged who reside in the Homedale, Marsing, Notus, Parma and Wilder school districts. Children attending private schools also are eligible.

The screening takes about 45 minutes and includes a brief review of results with parents.

Screening dates for the 2005-06 school year are Aug. 19, Oct. 14 and Feb. 3, 2006 at the Wilder Headstart Building. Screening takes place from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. each day.

For more information or to schedule a screening appointment, call Debbie Delaney at 482-7874.

## Volunteers spruce up Bruneau school

Volunteers from Bruneau, Grand View and Mountain Home Air Force Base banded together Aug. 6 to give Bruneau Elementary School a facelift just in time for the new school year.

The repair work to the exterior of the school was organized by Kelly Buckingham and included patching walls and applying several coats of paint.

According to a release issued by Bruneau Elementary Principal Don Collins, the volunteer work saved the Bruneau-Grand View School District more than \$5,500 in labor and materials.

“Idaho has experienced a dwindling cash flow for school repair and maintenance in recent years,” Collins said in a press release. “The project is an excellent example of how rural communities overcome underfunding of school maintenance and repair by working together.”

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# BLM prepares EIS on proposed grazing regs

The Bureau of Land Management announced last week that it would prepare a supplement to the final Environmental Impact Statement on proposed changes to its grazing regulations.

The BLM proposed these grazing regulation changes in December 2003 and published a final Environmental Impact Statement on the proposed changes on June 17, 2005. The bureau plans to publish its supplemental impact statement in the near future.

BLM Director Kathleen Clarke said, “This decision reflects the BLM’s desire to go the extra mile to ensure that the agency has fully considered all comments and views on the proposed changes.”

The BLM’s grazing regulatory proposal — known as a “rule” — is aimed at improving the agency’s management of grazing on 160 million acres of federal lands. More specifically, the proposed rule seeks to improve the agency’s working relationships with public land ranchers, conserve rangeland resources and enhance administrative efficiency.

The bureau undertook this regulatory initiative in recognition of the economic and social benefits of public lands grazing, as well as the role of ranching in preserving open space and wildlife habitat in the rapidly growing West.

Details on the BLM’s proposed grazing regulations can be accessed on the agency’s national Web site at [www.blm.gov/grazing](http://www.blm.gov/grazing).

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# OWYHEE COMBAT VETS IN IRAQ

## Local soldiers look forward to coming home

Some of Idaho’s116<sup>th</sup> Guardsmen unit expected back by end of year

Idaho experienced the largest deployment in the history of the state when the 116th Brigade Combat Team went to Iraq. That will lead to the state’s largest demobilization when they return.

Many soldiers from Owyhee County are currently in Iraq with the Idaho-based 116<sup>th</sup> BCT and will be headed home later this year after nearly two years of serving their country in as part of the Enduring Freedom operation in Iraq.

Last week, Ralph Rotter contacted The Owyhee Avalanche and submitted several photos of some of the men deployed with the 116<sup>th</sup>.

“Some of the boys are local kids, and we felt it would be great if we could get a picture of us as we are working in Iraq,” Rotter said.

Rotter said right now the division is busy packing to return to the states. He said obviously the soldiers are excited to be so close to returning home, but they still realize they have a job to do and each day is different.

“The pictures were taken in Kirkuk,” Rotter continued. “That’s where most of us are from. They are excited to be coming home. ”

Rotter said he feels it is important to let the local people know that their soldiers are doing well. He said it is hard because most media sources only portray the bad things that happen in Iraq, not the good things the soldiers are doing in the war-torn country.

“We have helped that country,” Rotter said. “We are teaching them that they don’t have to be afraid and they can live safe lives. We help in the schools, in the churches and in the hospitals. We are doing a good thing there.”

Tanya Garrison is also preparing

for the return of her husband, former city councilman Charles Garrison. She said since Charlie has been gone, she has had a new house built and the couple’s youngest son will be starting kindergarten before his dad gets to come home. Their daughter, Emilee is nearly 2 years old now.

“I am trying to get the yard in before Charlie comes home,” Tanya said by phone last week. “A lot of things have changed since Charlie has been gone, but we do get to stay in touch by computer and he gets to call every week. As for Christmas, the only thing I am planning is to stay at home and be together. I have seen Charlie 40 days out of 18 months. We have some catching up to do as a family.”

Those serving in Iraq include:

From Homedale, Sgt. Brian Elordi, transportation driver; Spc. Bradley Willis, supply system; George Basterrechea, mechanic; Seth Morgan, mechanic; Juan Garcia, security detail for the brigade commander; Caleb Morgan, electronics mechanic; Jennifer Morgan, engineer; Brian Cook, ammunition handler; Charles Garrison, intelligence officer; Rotter, ammunition handler; and Kevin Harden, medic.

From Marsing, Spc. Lucas Moore, transportation driver; Spc. Justin Hance, transportation driver; and Marco Dean, fueler.

From Wilder, David Rodriquez, fueler.

Rotter said the division is grateful for the letters and care packages so many people have sent. The group is expected to return in late November or December.

— CAB



### Local soldiers

Local soldiers stationed in Iraq with the 116<sup>th</sup> BCT include Sgt. Brian Elordi, transportation driver; Spc. Lucas Moore, Spc. Bradly Willis, Spc. Justin Hance, George Basterrechea, Seth Morgan, Jennifer Morgan, Brian Cook, Charles Garrison and Ralph Rotter.



Fuelers David Rodriguez and Marco Dean



Caleb Morgan, electronics mechanic



Medic Kevin Harden



Mechanic Juan Garcia

Photos submitted by Ralph Rotter of the 116th





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