



Junior Jayleen McAlpine reads to second grader Emma Clark as part of "I Love to Read Week."

THE REFINER

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NTCHS Excels in Science Competitions

Students Win Top Honors in Regional Science Fair

By VERONICA GILLUND

On Wednesday March 9, 12 ISI students from NTCHS competed in the Regional Science fair in Great Falls. Three of the students won a trip to the International Science and Engineering Fair (ISEF) in L.A., Calif. the week of May 8-13. One of the students, Mahkia Clark, a senior, was awarded this trip because she won the 1st place grand award for a high school individual project throughout the whole fair. The other two, senior Veronica Gillund and junior Scott Bye, were awarded the trip for win-
See SCIENCE REGIONALS 3

Six Students Travel to Salt Lake City to Compete in Intermountain Junior Science and Humanities Symposium

By MAHKIA CLARK

Several NTCHS seniors attended the Intermountain Junior Science and Humanities Symposium in Salt Lake City, Utah Wednesday March 2 through Sunday March 6 to compete in various categories of the science competition.

The seniors created presentations based on their projects that they completed last year. Mahkia Clark competed in the Oral Presentation category. She prepared a PowerPoint presentation that had to last no more than



Top photo from left to right, seniors Mahkia Clark, Cole Ratzburg and Ashlee Simmes and science advisor Amanda Becker; bottom photo from left to right chaperone Tami Simmes and seniors Angie Christiaens, Veronica Gillund and Zach Johannsen ride TRAX, Salt Lake City's public transit train, to the IJSHS award ceremony Sunday March 3.

Students Carve Up Showdown Ski Resort

By ALISON WATSON

March 11 was the annual Refiner ski trip. Over a third of the school participated in going to Showdown for a day of fun in the snow. Showdown has a program for schools

that involves a lesson of various difficulties and passes for sections of the mountain. The majority of NTCHS students skied in the third level group; however, there were also a few boarders. Only 19 students went to school the day of the ski trip.

The bus left at five twenty in the morning and faced a four hour ride to the slopes. The first half

of the day was mostly for lessons and then the second half was an open mountain. Showdown closed at four and the bus was able to stop at McDonalds on the way home and still make it back by a reasonable hour.

NTCHS was not the only school on the mountain on Friday March 11. For example, Ryegate was there. Sophomore Rachel

12 minutes, with three minutes for questions and answers from the judges. Ashlee Simmes, Zach Johannsen, and Angie Christiaens were chosen for the Competitive Poster category. These students had to prepare a poster as well as a PowerPoint, and their presentations had to be no more than 3 minutes in length, with two minutes for questions and answers from the judges. Cole Ratzburg competed

See SKI DAY 3

See IJSHS 3

Index

- Local News 8
- NCAA Bracket.10
- School News 1-3
- Sports5
- World News7

Activities

FCCLA Students Dress Up to Share their Enthusiasm for Reading with Eager Elementary Students

By **ANGIE CHRISTIAENS**

During the week of Feb. 21, the Sunburst community became involved in "I Love to Read Week." Many people came together to organize events to promote reading at the grade school level so that young adults would become more interested in reading as they grew older.

According to Mrs. Mary Jo Aschim, local librarian, the Sunburst Library sponsored their usual story hour which takes place every Friday afternoon to draw kids into reading. By having story time and crafts, kids find the true joys of reading and are more likely to enjoy reading afterwards.

Also becoming involved in "I Love to Read Week," the Sunburst Elementary sponsored many activities to support reading. According to Mrs. Diane Fauque, the seventh grade teacher, the Jr. High student council made a dis-



Junior Andrew Stevens listens as 2nd grader Matthew Hesla reads a book Monday Feb. 21. FCCLA students partnered with elementary kids to share books all day.

play to catch kids reading and put their pictures up in the hallways. They also had a book swap for two days where kids could exchange books with other kids to have more of a variety of reading. Also during "I Love to Read Week," they had 'Drop Everything and Read' (DEAR) sessions through-

out the day for at least fifteen minutes each.

Not only did the grade school become involved, but high school sophomores Rachel Ehlers and Brooke Lindskog decided to base their FCCLA project on this particular week. Ehlers and Lindskog asked other FCCLA members to read to first,

second and third graders during 5th, 6th and 7th period on Monday, Feb. 21. The members read stories one-on-one and then were also read to by the younger students. Some members even went so far as to dress up in the theme of the book they were reading. One member, freshman Mason Kearns

See LOVE TO READ 8

NTCHS Hosts Toole County Spelling Bee

By **VERONICA GILLUND**

On Tuesday March 8 the Toole County middle school spelling bee was held in the NTCHS auditorium. The event was originally scheduled for Monday evening on Feb. 28 but due to winter weather conditions and scheduling conflicts, it was re-scheduled for that Tuesday afternoon at 1 p.m.

The location for this county spelling bee is on a yearly rotation, switching back and forth from Shelby to Sunburst.

Shelby eighth grader Paul Bielawski placed first by correctly spelling the word "mongrel." He will continue to compete in the

state spelling bee in Billings at the end of the month.

Marias River Electric sponsored the event by paying for plaques for the top ten winners. They will also pay for Bielawski to travel to the state competition.

Eighth grader Emily Griffin placed highest among Sunburst competitors, with sixth place. The top ten winners, in order, are the following: Paul Bielawski, Brodey White, Tyler Robertson, Kage Hansen, Jacob Aklestad, Emily Griffin,

Tirzah Davis, Lee Rouse, Barrett Hansen, and Makenna Daniels. Initially, Zach Lopez was announced as ninth place but that was a clerical error.

Many local school employees worked together to make the event a success. Marigail Sveum,

Mary Jo Aschim, and Phyllis Robertson were the judges. Diane Fauque coordinated the event. Shelby Principal Joe Rapkoch was the word pronouncer, and Sunburst Principal Dan Nau gave the welcome and introductions.



Top ten winners at the Toole County Spelling Bee show their plaques Tuesday March 8. Sunburst students include Tirzah Davis and Lee Rouse on the back row and Emily Griffin in the front. Winner Paul Bielawski is pictured second from the left on the front row.

Activities

IJSHS

From 1

in the Non-Competitive Poster category, where he created a poster to display his presentation, but was not eligible for any awards. Veronica Gillund went as part of a team with Simmes but Simmes actually did the presenting.

There was a formal Awards Banquet, tours, lectures, and a Hogle Zoo Scavenger Hunt for the students who attended the IJSHS program. NTCHS students, science instructor Amanda Becker and chaperone Tami Simmes stayed an extra day after

the IJSHS program concluded for "sightseeing." They toured the Gateway Mall, Temple Square, and the Clark Planetarium. At the awards banquet, nobody from NTCHS won any awards. However, Becker said, "I thought everyone presented very well. They did an excellent job."

Gillund said, "I thought it was a unique school experience compared to others. I enjoyed the free day on Saturday when we got to explore the downtown."

Photo by Jayleen McAlpine



Center right -- senior Ashlee Simmes poses before her science display and prepares to answer judges' questions at IJSHS in Salt Lake City.

Far right -- from left to right, Bill Peterson awards senior Mahkia Clark first place and Cascade high school junior Ashton Clinger at regional science fair in Great Falls

SCIENCE REGIONALS

From 1

ning the 1st place grand award for a high school team project throughout the whole fair. Their trip is all expense paid.

These two winning projects were among two other projects that made it to the second round of judging. These projects included senior Angie Christiaens' and junior Cash Ehlers' project, which won the second place grand award for a high school team project throughout the whole fair, and senior Cole Ratzburg's project which won four special awards.

Two team projects received blue ribbons in the

first round of judging. Juniors Hali Miller and Alex Watterud, and senior Zach Johannsen and junior Josh Friesen were among these projects. Senior Ashlee Simmes and junior Jayleen McAlpine both received red ribbons in the first round of judging for their individual projects.

Science coach and mentor Ms. Becker said, "It was a lot of hard work and a really long day, but I am very proud of the kids and pleased with the results."

The day started off at 5:15 a.m. when the students had to load their project boards onto the bus.



Middle left -- seniors Zach Johannsen and Cole Ratzburg pretend to walk on the moon while Bottom left -- seniors Angie Christiaens and Veronica Gillund pose before a Mars landscape. The seniors were exploring Clark Planetarium in Salt Lake City as part of the IJSHS competition Saturday March 5.

SKI DAY

From 1

Ehlers, a skier, said "it was a good experience to ski with friends."

Senior Myles Mokate described the day as "a successful day of boarding."

Other than a few sun burns, the NTCHS students did not suffer from any injuries.

Sophomore Ben McAlpine, who was one of the 19 students at NTCHS that day, said that "the school was as empty as my gas tank."

Life

Hollywood's Best and Brightest Strut Their Stuff

By **VERONICA GILLUND**

On Sunday Feb. 27, at 5 p.m./8 eastern time, the annual Oscar awards were televised. Actor James Franco and actress Anne Hathaway hosted the event.

Hathaway wore seven outfits throughout the

night including six dresses and a tux.

Wally Pfister, the cinematographer behind the Montana Meth Project, won an Oscar for cinematography in the movie "Inception."

The first Oscars was May 16 1929 and tickets

cost only \$5. Tickets for the 83rd Oscars cost thousands of dollars.

At oscar.go.com, people could vote on the winners of each category.

According to an awards show reporter and expert Courtney Hazlett on a Today show chat, some

people have questioned why the Oscars don't recognize comedy films and roles. For the Oscars, there is a misconception that the best movies and actors are the serious ones. Other awards shows like the Golden Globes recognize comedy.

The Oscar Awards

Best Picture: The King's Speech
 Actor in Leading Role: Colin Firth
 Actor in Supporting Role: Christian Bale
 Actress in Leading Role: Natalie Portman
 Actress in Supporting Role: Melissa Leo
 Animated Feature: Toy Story 3
 Art Direction: Alice in Wonderland
 Cinematography: Inception
 Costume Design: Alice in Wonderland
 Directing: The King's Speech
 Documentary Feature: Inside Job
 Documentary Short Subject: Strangers No More
 Film Editing: The Social Network
 Foreign Language Film: In a Better World
 Makeup: The Wolfman
 Music (Original Score): The Social Network
 Music (Original Song): Toy Story 3 "We Belong Together"
 Short Film (Animated): The Lost Thing
 Short Film (Live Action): God of Love
 Sound Editing: Inception
 Sound Mixing: Inception
 Visual Effects: Inception
 Writing (Adapted Screenplay): The Social Network
 Writing (Original Screenplay): The King's Speech



Actors James Franco and Anne Hathaway host the Academy Awards.

Clocks Jump One Hour Ahead for Day Light Savings Time

By **REFINER STAFF**

At 2 a.m. on Sunday March 13 daylight savings time began. Clocks across 48 states were set one hour ahead. Hawaii and Arizona are the only two states that do not observe this practice.

Clocks will remain set for this time until Sunday Nov. 6.

According to National Geographic, Ben Franklin, who coined the phrase "early to bed, early to rise makes a man healthy, wealth and wise," was the first to suggest adjusting clocks twice a year.

During World War I Germany was the first nation

to try a daylight savings program. They set clocks back to "save coal for the war effort," according to National Geographic.

The U.S. officially adopted time changing policy in 1918.

From 1942 to 1945 all states were required to observe daylight savings time without a return to what is called standard time. Instead of changing the clocks back in the fall, they remained fixed throughout World War II.

After World War II state participation has been optional.

During the 1973-74 Arab Oil Embargo, the U.S.

icy Act (passed two years earlier) extended savings time for the states who participate. Before 2007 the time to change clocks was closer aligned with the spring and autumn equinox.

Environmental economists at the University of Washington and the University of California conducted separate studies and found no energy savings. They found that most states may use less electricity for light with day light savings but consume more with air conditioning in the evening and often use even more energy.



once again extended daylight savings time through the whole winter. This reportedly decreased the country's electrical load by one percent.

In 2007 the Energy Pol-

See DAYLIGHT 8

Sports

Girl's Basketball Blasts Past Power to Jockey for District Tournament Position

By **ANGIE CHRISTIEANS**

On Feb. 16, the Lady Refiners traveled to Conrad to play their first District game against the Power Pirates. The Refiners came out strong with a fast lead and won the game by an impressive 37 points. The ending score was Sunburst 49, Power 12. Junior Alex Watterud had an outstanding game by shooting the ball well and having a season high of 21 points. Sophomore Rachel Ehlers was second with 9.

The Lady Refiners then moved up the bracket to take on the Valier Panthers on Feb. 18. Poor shooting and having problems on the free throw line gave Sunburst a loss of 15 points.

The final score was Valier 47, Sunburst 32. Watterud lead the team with 12 points and was the only one in double figures.

Taking the loss, the Refiners moved into the loser bracket and came up against the Dutton/Brady Diamondbacks at an early game on Feb. 19. Playing well in the morning, the

Refiners came out with a lot of energy and claimed a victory of 20 points. The final score was Sunburst 55, Dutton/Brady 35. Senior Angie Christiaens was leading scorer with 16 points and junior Becky Flesch was also in double figures adding 11.

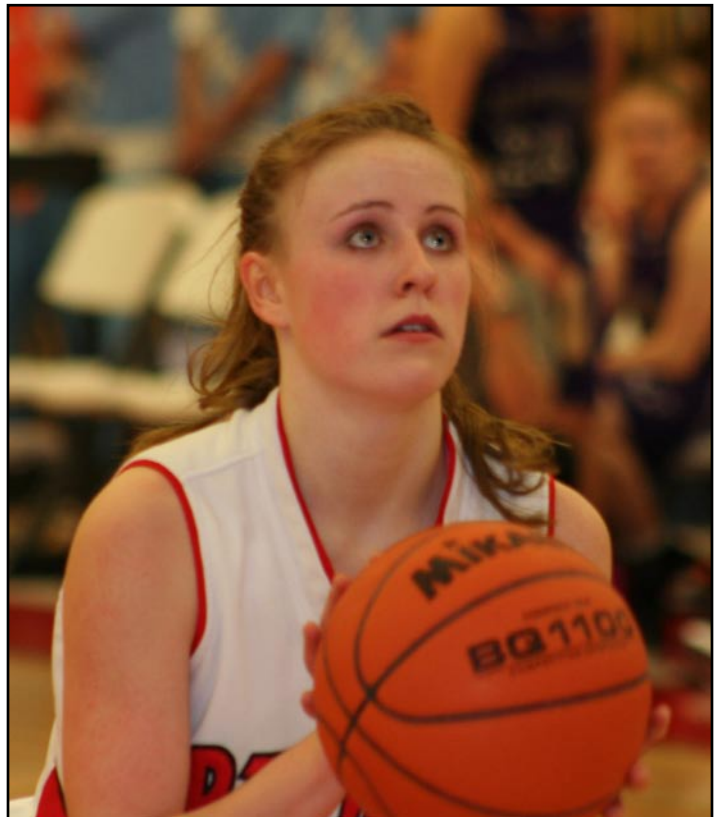
Following later that day, Sunburst met with Simms to battle for third place. With the lead going back and forth between the two, a last second play resulted in Simms winning by one point. The final score was Simms 32, Sunburst 31.

Scoreboard	
Girls	
Power	W 49-12
Valier	L 32-47
Dutton/Brady	W 55-35
Simms	L 31-32
Boys	
Power	L 23-42
Simms	L 42-57

Christiaens lead the team with 13 points and Watterud also contributed 11.

Senior Nicole Fleisher said, "We worked hard and played as a team. We never gave up, especially at the end."

The Lady Refiners ended up taking fourth place in Districts and had an overall record of 12-10.



Junior Alex Watterud concentrates as she prepares to shoot a free throw during the district tournament against Power on Feb. 16. She ended that game with 21 points.

Boy's Basketball Battles through Final Season Games

By **ANGIE CHRISTIEANS**

The Refiners ended their season at the Corral gym in Conrad during the District tournament. Their last place standing put them up against the Power Pirates on Feb. 17. Sunburst battled hard but Power ultimately came up with a win of 19 points. The final score was Power 42, Sunburst 23. Junior Scott Bye was leading scorer with seven points and senior Cole Ratzburg also put up six.

The loss placed Sunburst in the loser out bracket

against the Simms Tigers in the morning on Feb. 18. Sunburst put all their work on the line but just couldn't grab the victory. Their last game ended with a score of Simms 57, Sunburst 42. Bye ended his season by leading with 18 points while senior Zach Johannsen and junior Justin Hauschulz both contributed eight.

Sophomore Vanessa Legler said, "Even though we didn't win, we had really good teamwork."

The Sunburst Refiners ended with an overall record of 1-19.

March Madness Begins Prompting Many to Complete Brackets

By **REFINER STAFF**

Let the dance begin. The NCAA tournament known as "March Madness" kicks off Tuesday, March 15.

Sixty-eight teams will pair off to play loser-out games until only two remain.

The top four seeds are Ohio State, Duke, Pittsburgh, and Kansas. Fans often prefer a Cinderella story and watch for break

out teams to shake the odds.

Championship games will be hosted in Houston with semifinals on April 2 and finals on April 4.

Fans throughout the nation, including President Obama will be filling in brackets to predict the winner.

See page ten to find and complete a bracket and test your own predictions.

See NCAA BRACKET 10



Photo by: Brent Smith/Reuters: Christian Science Monitor Ohio State Buckeyes guard David Lighty cuts off a piece of the net after the Buckeyes won the NCAA Big Ten men's basketball tournament championship game March 13. Ohio State is now a top seed in the NCAA basketball tournament.

School

Students Tested on State Standards with MontCAS

By MAHKIA CLARK

On Tues, March 1, Wednesday, March 2 and Thursday, March 3, all sophomores participated in the MontCAS CRT tests during the mornings on those days.

According to Mrs. Nancy Linnell, who administered the tests to the sophomores, grades 3-8 and 10 participated in Sunburst.

There were three sections to the test: a 50 minute Math test, a 50

minute Science test, and a 60 minute Reading test.

Linnell said, "The only test students worked towards the end was the math test but the reading was the longest."

"We met state guidelines last year. Because of No

Child Left Behind, the proficiency rate goes up each year, so we are hoping we still met our goal. If we don't meet our standard, it could affect our federal funding," Linnell explained.

NTCHS

Survey Measures Students' Risky Behaviors

By ANGIE CHRISTIAENS

On Feb. 21, NTCHS participated in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) to answer questions regarding risky behaviors. This particular survey was not required for all students, yet most of the students in Sunburst took part.

fitness, tobacco use, alcohol use, bullying, suicide, prescription drug abuse, and sexual behavior.

The state of Montana, overall, has shown a general decrease over the last 10 years, except in some areas of concern in certain communities. For example, Montana has been the state with the highest increase in methamphetamine usage. This

prompted the Montana Meth Project to try to decrease the risk in this area. "NTCHS has been participating in the YRBS for at least the past six or seven years," said Linnell. No past results may be published due to privacy compliances with the OPI and the school district. Students from NTCHS have their own opinions of the survey as senior Ashlee Simmes said, "I think it (YRBS) is important because it helps the state know what areas of risk to focus on." One NTCHS teacher, Mr. Shannon Dunk also said, "I think the survey is alright because you can see if different areas increase in usage or go down."

"Montana has been the state with the highest increase in methamphetamine usage. This prompted the Montana Meth Project."

schools to better serve their needs. Linnell said, "The survey also provides a funding program towards school that show certain risks, but they must have a plan for peer education (to receive funding)."

Since 1997, the YRBS has been in full motion, testing students all over the state to track an increase/decrease in risky behaviors. According to Linnell, the YRBS can be defined as a needs assessment to find out how students are behaving in certain risk areas such as: drugs, wellness/physical

Sophomore 2010 CRT Results

Reading

Standard 1	68.8%
Standard 2	76.5%
Standard 4	83.6%
Standard 5	83.3%

Math

Standard 2	64.2%
Standard 3	51.0%
Standard 4	45.6%
Standard 5	62.5%
Standard 6	53.8%
Standard 7	50.0%

Not all state core standards are tested

has not had funding revoked because of declining test scores in the past.

Sophomore Hayley Denison said, "I enjoyed it and I kind of breezed through them. There was a lot of stuff (on the tests) I knew I've learned."

All states are required to administer a CRT (criterion-referenced test) which "Compares student achievement to content

to juniors, are norm-referenced tests (NRT) and are required and funded by the state of Montana.

"The Iowa Tests are published by Riverside Publishing Company. A norm-referenced test (NRT) compares student achievement to achievement of a national norm group," according to the Montana Office of Public Instruction.

Principal's Cup

By ALISON WATSON

The Annual Principals' Cup was held on Tuesday March 8. The competition challenges teams of students from schools across Mont. It is an academic competition and five students from each school are selected to act as a team in the struggle to win. The Cup was held at the University of Great Falls and stated at 9:00 a.m.

At the end of the day, the top ten individuals were

awarded with medals and recognition for their overall smarts. The competition challenges students in all subjects including math, geography, and history.

Students from their freshman to senior years are able to participate in the Cup. From Sunburst, seniors O Jay Hartzell and Travis Robbins, junior Kelsey Burley, sophomore Kramer Potak, and freshman Connor Overcast were chosen as representatives.

World

Massive 9.0 Magnitude Earthquake Strikes Japan Sending Tsunami Waves World-Wide



Photo collage created and posted online at www.allvoices.com showing several damaged Japanese sky scrapers as a result of the 9.0 magnitude earthquake that shook Japanese cities March 11.

By MAHKIA CLARK

According to Fox News, a 9.0 magnitude earthquake struck Japan at 2:43 a.m. local time on Friday, March 11. Officials estimated nearly 10,000 fatalities.

In Sendai city, the “closest city to the epicenter”, nearly 300 bodies have been recovered. Sendai City is almost 300 miles from Tokyo, Japan’s capital, but the effects were felt there as well.

Michelle Roberts, who lives in central Tokyo,

said, “It was quite scary. But we are all okay.” Officials confirmed another 110 people dead from other areas of Japan, said Fox News. Fox also reported that the death toll would be likely to continue to climb. Besides the initial quake, over 50 aftershocks occurred, with many over magnitude 6.0.

In addition to the death toll, other problems were reported as well. Kyodo News reported that a passenger train transporting an unknown number of

See EARTHQUAKE 9

Libyan Citizens Protest for Democratic Reform

By MAHKIA CLARK

Political unrest that began January in Tunisia have since spread to other Middle Eastern nations, including Egypt, Yemen, Iran, Bahrain, and most recently Libya according to FoxNews.com. Citizens of all these nations protested through the

demonstrators demanded more freedoms and rights from the government.

Fox News.com also stated that the nation of Iran sent warships through the Suez Canal for the first time in decade, which could “destabilize the Middle East, a regional already reeling from

Average National Gas Price \$3.54
Average Montana Gas Price \$3.28
Up \$0.40 in one month
GasBuddy.com

streets with very similar messages: they resent oppressive government and call for an end to “grinding poverty, corruption, unemployment, and police abuses,” stated The Huffington News. The

unprecedented anti-government rebellions.” The current focus of political unrest in the Middle East is Libya. Libyan citizens began protests against the government on Feb. 15. Libyan leader Moamman



Photo by: Bonnie Allen/World Vision Report
Protesters in Benghazi, Libya demonstrate against the nation’s leader Moamar Gadhafi and call for democracy in their nation.

Gadhafi accused the civilians that were protesting his regime of being under the influence of hallucinogenic pills, and blamed al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden for the attacks during a “rambling” speech on Libyan state television. In response to the protests,

Gadhafi ordered his militia to burn many of Libya’s oil wells and bomb cities in his own nation. As of Thursday, Feb.24, there were over 300 Libyans dead from the violence in the country. Police forces under Gadhafi have raided hospitals, mosques, and airports, according to the Associated Press (AP). The AP also stated that Gadhafi sent the warning “either leave or you will see a massacre,” to protestors before the attack on the mosque in Zawiya, a key city in Libya.

Time Magazine reporter Rana Foroohar said “People in relatively poor countries--including Egypt, Tunisia and others in the

See MIDDLE EAST 8

Community

Guest Speakers Cause Community Council to End Late

By REFINER STAFF

The Sunburst Town Council Meeting, Tuesday March 8 ended unusually late at about 11 PM. The meeting included several guest speakers and a full agenda focusing primarily on water issues.

Two homes and one business recently dealt with frozen pipes due to this winter's deep frost line and shallow pipes.

Sunburst Clerk/Treasurer Linda Burley said that when frozen pipes occur between the curb and on private property, residents are required to handle repairs. However, she suggested that when residents deal with sewer problems,

they should call the city first so that city employees can check the main line to ascertain whether the problem exists beyond private property.

In addition to the three locations with frozen pipe lines, several families, including the Hauschulz, Griffin, and Hoveland properties recently experienced sewer problems, each with different circumstances.

Burley also encouraged parents to teach their children to be cautious around manholes and sewer lines. The city recently spent \$750 repairing a sewer manhole where children had forced many sticks

in, creating a dam that clogged the line. Homeowners can be held liable for damages to city lines and sewer lines can be dangerous for children and adults alike.

Some residents expressed concern about garbage pickup timeliness. Burley reminded residents that city employee tasks are often prioritized by need. Recently employees were working to restore water to the Jarvis residence which delayed trash removal.

"We prioritize water and sewer needs to get families their water," she said.

Among other meeting reports was one about a water relief pipe. The

pipe is located on the corner of 2nd South and 1st Ave West. Employees are researching to see if city water or only ground water is being relieved by the pipe. Researchers hope to have information to develop a plan of action by the next community meeting.

Two speakers from the Big Sky Carbon Sequestration Partnership addressed the council. Director Lee Spangler and Outreach and Communications Manager Lindsey Tollefson reported on progress and potential of the project which studies the Kevin Dome to see how the ground stores CO₂. MSU is currently

See TOWN COUNCIL MEETING 9

DAYLIGHT

From 4

However, government reports continue to show slight energy savings with the program.

Junior Kelsey Burley said "I like it because it stays lighter later."

Sophomore Satyn Tomscheck said "I always get confused by it because some clocks change and some don't and the sky is the wrong color at the wrong time of day."

Mrs. Johannsen said, "It's nice having it stay light longer in the evening. I guess I'm a traditionalist; I like it."

LOVE TO READ

From 2

who participated and even dressed up by popping his collar and wearing aviator sunglasses, said, "I helped because it was fun to go read to the little kids and to support their reading habits." Ehlers said, "The project was interesting to connect with the grade school kids and promote reading."

MIDDLE EAST

From 4

developing world--spend a much higher percentage of their incomes on food."

According to QuoteOil.com, the amount of oil in the Middle East "far outstrips anywhere else in the world." The U.S. imports nearly 160 billion barrels of oil from the Middle Eastern nations, including

Saudi Arabia and Libya. FoxNews.com reported that crude oil prices have risen due to the political unrest in the Middle East, exceeding \$100.00 per barrel, and that "the rise has driven retail gasoline prices higher in the U.S. despite ample supplies in some areas."

Shannon Dunk, World/Montana History, U.S. History, and Government teacher at NTCHS said, "I don't know if we will ever get out of that area. There is so much political unrest there. It will be interesting to see what will happen with oil and gas prices because of the turmoil."

Protestors gather to continue demonstrations against Libyan President Moamar Ghadafi. Rebels call for Democratic reform and have taken control of several portions of the country though Ghadafi continues to maintain control of the capital and shows no indications of backing down from the conflict or of making any concessions; photo from upi.com.



Community

EARTHQUAKE

From 7

people went missing, and a ship carrying 80 dock workers had been "swept away" by waves from Miyagi, Japan.

Furthermore, there were concerns about Japan's nuclear plants. Officials reported two explosions at the Unit 3 Power Plant. Witnesses claimed they felt the blast 25 miles away. The explosions prompted local officials to evacuate more than 180,000 people from the area. Reportedly one month's equivalent of radiation leaked

due to the explosions. Most of the radioactive materials leaked into the air over the ocean, avoiding humans and no dangerous levels are expected to reach the U.S.

Though other plants prompted concerns, no others have suffered explosions.

Japan's Prime Minister

Naoto Kan said at a press conference, "The earthquake has caused major damage in broad areas of northern Japan." Hiroshi Sato, a Japanese disaster management official stated, "We don't even know the extent of the damage."

The quake triggered a 23-foot tsunami that af-

ected Japan and reached as far as the U.S.

Tsunami warnings stretched from the "entire western coast of the United States and Canada from the Mexican border to Chignik Bay in Alaska" according to the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center.

Honolulu Mayor Peter Carlisle said, "The situation we're confronting right now is unpredictable. We do not know how many waves are going to be coming."

Japan manufactures many technological devices and is home to companies such as Sony and Toyota. Global financial effects are expected.

One man examines a large crack after the 9.0 earthquake in Japan Friday March 11. Photo from Justsharthis.com



Top left -- Japanese mother and child try to stay warm and wait for relief

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

From 9

waiting on a grant to begin the study stage of this eight-year, \$85 million project.

If the dome proves a viable resource, it may create new industry and about ten local jobs in the future.

Mary Heller, director of the Montana North Central Regional Water

Authority, reported on the progress of the Rocky Boy Water Project. North Havre recently received much needed water supply as pipes drawing water from Lake Elwell finally reached their community.

Sunburst joined the program five years ago that buys water rights near

Tiber Dam from the Chipewa and Cree Native American tribes.

Though the water treatment plant has not been built yet, funding for smaller projects has allowed construction to bring water to Havre. It will eventually reach Sunburst and Sweetgrass.

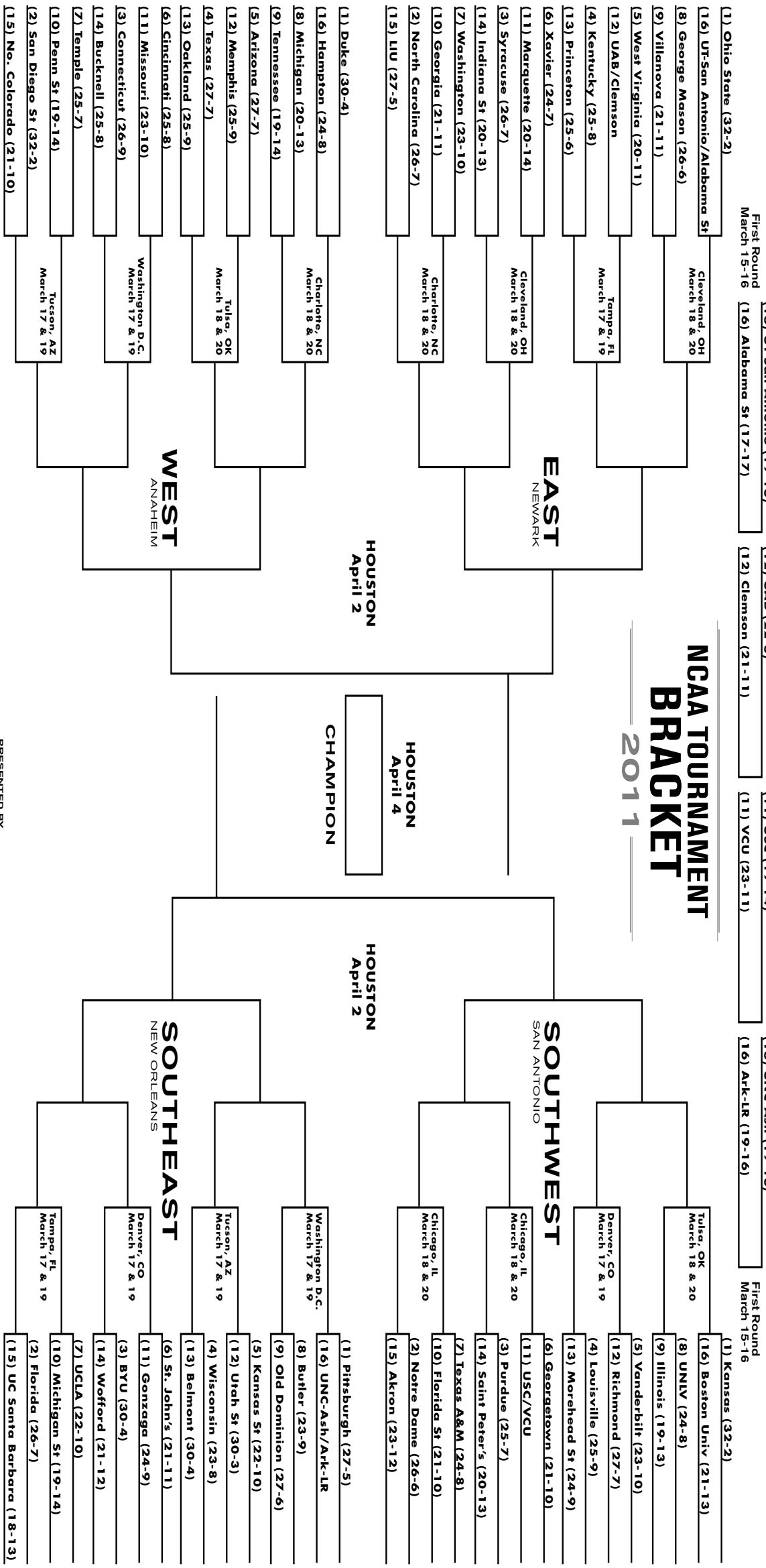
Burley said Sunburst has "an abundance of quality water from a deep well." She said that once pipes bring the Elwell water to Sunburst, the town will purchase at least 35% of its water from that source. This will allow greater opportunities to draw new industry that might purchase town well water.

Sports



Second Round March 17-18
 Third Round March 19-20
 Regional Semifinals March 24-25
 Regional Finals March 26-27
 National Semifinals April 2
 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP
 National Semifinals April 2
 Regional Finals March 26-27
 Regional Semifinals March 24-25
 Third Round March 19-20
 Second Round March 17-18

NCAA TOURNAMENT BRACKET 2011



Fill out your brackets on your mobile phone. Go to ESPN.com/lc on your phone's browser.



Regional Sites: Anaheim, CA; Newark, NJ; New Orleans, LA; San Antonio, TX