

Idaho Statesman



FRIDAY, JUNE 27, 2008

Latest news at IdahoStatesman.com

50 CENTS

'No-dig' gardens, tips for newbies and fruit growers

GARDENING, LIFE 1



INSIDE SCENE MAGAZINE

Hidden Hot Spots

Check out our favorite patios for outdoor dining
PLUS: More places to eat in a special Restaurant Guide

90° / 58°
MAIN 16

Boise Edition
Boise & Garden City

J.R. Simplot: His legacy, his life, his story • IdahoStatesman.com/Simplot

Has Micron turned a corner?

Third-quarter losses were still big, but sales and DRAM prices were up and costs were down.

BY JOE ESTRELLA

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Micron Technology's fortunes finally may have turned for the better, despite another staggering loss reported Thursday for its latest quarter.

Losses were slightly greater than analysts expected, but that didn't stop the memory-chip maker's latest earnings report from generating optimism among company leaders and analysts. They say savings from continuing cost-cutting and improving prices for dynamic random-access memory — Micron's principal product — have strengthened Micron in the brutally cyclical computer-memory market.

Micron is expected to get another boost soon from the increased demand for computer memory resulting from the back-to-school

market, they said.

And there was no mention Thursday of any further retrenchment — a good news for the Treasure Valley, where more than 1,100 Micron workers were furloughed last year.

Idaho's tech-sector workers, including those at Micron, earn almost twice the private-sector average. The average high-tech worker in the Boise area earned \$70,100 in 2006, the latest year for which metropolitan data are available, the American Electronics Association said. Micron remains Idaho's largest private employer with an estimated 9,000 workers.

See MICRON, MAIN 3

READ MORE ABOUT MICRON TECHNOLOGY
IdahoStatesman.com/Micron

MICRON TECHNOLOGY INC. EARNINGS

Here's how Micron's third-quarter 2008 earnings compare with the past quarters:

Fiscal year	2007			2008	
	3rd quarter	4th quarter	1st quarter	2nd quarter	3rd quarter
Revenue	\$1.3 billion	\$1.4 billion	\$1.5 billion	\$1.36 billion	\$1.5 billion
Earnings (Profit or loss) (million)	(\$225 million)	(\$158 million)	(\$262 million)	(\$777 million*)	(\$236 million)
Earnings per share (Profit or loss)	(29 cents)	(21 cents)	(34 cents)	(\$1.01)	(30 cents)

First Call earnings estimate: Loss of 28 cents/share for third quarter 2008
52-week high: \$14.20 / 52-week low: \$5.42 Wednesday's close: \$6.99 down 54 cents.

*Includes a non-cash charge of \$463 million — without this, losses were \$31.4 million

Ruling on guns popular in Idaho

The Horseshoe Bend man whose book was cited in Scalia's majority opinion calls the decision 'wonderful.'

First reported at IdahoStatesman.com

BY KATY MOELLER

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Idaho gun rights advocates hailed the Supreme Court's decision Thursday to overturn a ban on handguns in Washington, D.C., as a historic victory and a step toward guaranteeing unrestricted Second Amendment rights to law-abiding Americans.

While one Idaho legislator expressed concerns about the court's ruling that trigger-lock requirements are unconstitutional, Idaho's Republican officials and at least one Democrat praised the central ruling in the D.C. case.

"My initial reaction is that we should declare this Second Amendment Day," said former GOP state Sen. Gerry Sweet. "It was a great victory for the people and our Constitution."

But no one was more pleased than Horseshoe Bend resident Clayton E. Cramer, a software engineer who has written three books on gun history.

Cramer was thrilled to learn that a paper he co-authored — "What Did 'Bear Arms' Mean in the Second Amendment?" — was cited in Justice Antonin Scalia's 64-page majority opinion. (Check out page 15).

"It's a wonderful thing. I wrote my second book with a day like this in mind," said Cramer, who worked with Academics for the Second Amendment attorneys on their friend-of-the-court brief supporting Dick Heller, a D.C. security guard who wanted to keep a handgun in his home for protection.

"I wanted to put together information to provide support to the Supreme Court to make a decision like this."

"The title of Cramer's second book is 'For the Defense of Themselves and the State.' It is a history of how

See GUNS, MAIN 6

REACTIONS TO THE RULING ON GUNS, MAIN 6

CHECK OUT CLAYTON CRAMER'S BLOG

IdahoStatesman.com
What do you think about the decision? Vote in our online poll and discuss on our forum.

Online ad for teen sex is a first for Valley

3 adults are accused of offering a 15-year-old girl as a prostitute on Craigslist. The Ada sheriff says the case may be a 'wake-up call.'

First reported at IdahoStatesman.com

BY PATRICK ORR

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The Treasure Valley has its first case of adults advertising a teen girl as a prostitute online, but police have investigated similar cases in major urban areas like Sacramento, Minneapolis and Chicago.

"Sadly, I am not that surprised," Ada County Sheriff Gary Raney said. "Maybe just a little at the timing — we know this is happening in big cities and I was hoping this would not hit us for a while yet."

This could end up being a real wake-up call for us."

Police around the country have arrested hundreds of people in prostitution stings based on Craigslist — a free classified advertising Web site where users post their ads themselves.

Cases where victims are underage girls are rare but are becoming more common. Investigations in a handful of cities have identified teen victims advertised on sites like Craigslist since early 2007.

A variety of public officials and police have criticized Craigslist over the past several years for not doing enough to stop illegal prostitution on the site. Just Monday, New York City Councilman Eric Gioia, a Democrat from Queens, told the New York Daily News he wants police to pay more attention to Craigslist.

"The Internet has become like the wild, wild West," Gioia said Monday on the steps of Manhattan Supreme Court. "What used to be on city street corners is now in cyberspace."

Craigslist officials, while not commenting specifically on the Meridian case, said Thursday they are committed to working with police agencies to investigate any "illegal purpose" — including illegal prostitution.

"Craigslist is an extremely unwise choice for those intent on committing crimes, since criminals inevitably leave an electronic trail to themselves that officers will follow," spokeswoman Susan MacTavish said in an e-mail sent to the Idaho Statesman.

Craigslist has taken several security steps, MacTavish said, including a recently added disclaimer screen users have to go through before they can get into the "personal" classified ads.

See CRAIGSLIST, MAIN 2

N. Nampa's neighbor-in-chief



KERRY MALONEY / kmaloney@idahostatesman.com

Jennifer Bennett calls the Starr Park in her North Nampa neighborhood her "biggest accomplishment." Bennett started the project, named for former Mayor Ernie Starr, three years ago by getting the empty lot donated. Bennett is a mother and a former bouncer who befriends former gang kids and fiercely defends her neighborhood.

Jennifer Bennett strives to curb crime, bring amenities to Lakeview area

BY KRISTIN RODINE

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When you call Jennifer Bennett's cell phone, your first greeting is from Aretha Franklin: "R-E-S-P-E-C-T."

The song snippet is appropriate. Respect — for herself, her neighbors and her community — is a big thing for Bennett.

Many credit Bennett, a former bouncer with a direct, blue-eyed gaze, with helping restore the neighborliness of Nampa's Lakeview neighborhood, curbing crime, helping gang members and fighting for municipal improvements. Last week, the city started work on one of her goals: a pedestrian-activated lighted crosswalk that

will be Nampa's first.

"Before, it was, 'You leave them alone, they'll leave you alone,'" said Charlie Hill, a 15-year Lakeview resident who has bullet holes in his house from stray gunfire. "But with her (Bennett) it's, 'If we don't stand up together, we all end up in the same hole.'"

Occupying about 30 blocks across the railroad tracks from downtown Nampa, Lakeview shares its name with the showpiece city park on its northern boundary. One of the city's more ethnically diverse and lower-income neighborhoods, it has a lingering reputation for high

See BENNETT, MAIN 3

5-MINUTE UPDATE



BEEES STILL VANISHING

A record 36 percent of U.S. commercial bee colonies have been lost to mysterious causes so far this year and it may get worse, experts said, asking lawmakers for money to fund out

what is killing the crop pollinators.

MAIN 11

STAMPEDE'S TAYLOR DRAFTED

Idaho Stampede guard Mike Taylor was picked by the Portland Trail Blazers in the second round of Thursday's NBA Draft. Portland then traded Taylor's rights to the Los Angeles Clippers. SPORTS 1

CAPITOL BUDGET GOES UP

The Capitol Commission, the group overseeing the restoration and expansion of the Idaho State Capitol, has had to revise its budget and add \$2.5 million to the original estimated \$20 million price tag. MAIN 2

MAIN STREET MILE TODAY

The fifth annual Main Street Mile, a running and walking event that helps raise awareness and money to fight

prostate cancer, is Friday in Downtown Boise. Get involved. MAIN 2

MOVE OVER, .COM

Soon, virtually any word will be able to be used in place of ".com" in a Web page address. MAIN 11

NATURAL WONDER

Consider the kingbird, the dive bomber of the bird world. OUTDOORS, SPORTS 6

GOT INK?

IdahoStatesman.com/photogalleries
Do you have a cool tattoo you'd like to show off in our Readers' Tattoos photo gallery? E-mail .jpg photos to linenews@idahostatesman.com. G-rated, please. Information submitted to the Idaho Statesman may be published or distributed in print, elec-

tronic or other forms.

LOCAL GAS PRICES

BOISE	Thu.	Month ago	Year ago
Regular	\$4.09	\$3.88	\$3.17
Diesel	\$4.81	\$4.75	\$2.94
	Idaho avg.	U.S. avg.	
Regular	\$4.08	\$4.07	
Diesel	\$4.79	\$4.77	

Among the lowest-priced gas in the area (regular): \$4.04 at Flying J, 3353 S. Federal Way, Boise

Source: AAA Idaho

LINK TO AAA IDAHO'S FUEL GAUGE REPORT
IdahoStatesman.com

TODAY'S IDAHO STATESMAN
Comics Life 5
Idaho/West Main 4
Legal ads Classifieds 19
Obituaries Main 8
Weather Main 16

IDAHO POWERBALL: There were no jackpot winners for Wednesday's \$64.2 million prize. A ticket worth \$200,000 was sold in Idaho. Wednesday: 14-21-25-45-53. Powerball 9. PowerPlay 2. Next jackpot: \$75 million.

LOTTERIES
IDAHO HOT LOTTO: There were no jackpot winners for Wednesday's \$17 million prize. Wednesday's numbers: 13-15-18-22-39. Hot ball 17. Next jackpot: \$1.9 million.

THURSDAY'S IDAHO PICK 3: 8-0-5.
IDAHO WILD CARD: There were no jackpot winners for Wednesday's \$342,000 prize. Wednesday: 2-4-6-14-24. Wild card: QW. Next jackpot: \$360,000 (estimated).

Is your paper missing?
Call 377-6370
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Capitol renovation budget going up

Officials blame the rising cost of building materials and 'surprises' uncovered in 100-year-old state building.

BY ANNA WEBB
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Restoring the Idaho State Capitol and constructing its new underground wings is on schedule.

But for the first time since the project began, the Capitol Commission has had to revise its budget and add \$2.5 million to the original estimated \$120 million price tag.

Commission member Stephen Hartgen believes this will be the first and last budget increase. By now contractors have "poked and prodded the building, gone into its ceilings and walls. We don't have a lot of unknowns," Hartgen said.

Jacobson-Hunt Joint Venture, the

general contractor for the restoration portion of the project, has given the commission a "guaranteed maximum price" of \$122.5 million to finish the job. That amount includes the cost of the new wings, contracted by McAlvain Construction, plus a small contingency.

The state sold \$130 million in bonds to pay for the project, which it will repay with cigarette taxes. Gov. Butch Otter has made a promise to keep the budget under that amount, commission spokesman Gary Daniel said.

The rising cost of building materials is partly to blame for the increase. Builders have also had to contend with surprises that surface in the restoration of any century-old building.

Some sections of the floor made of poor quality concrete will have to be replaced. Walls covered in "distemper," a decorative technique with a powder-like consistency, will have to be stripped before they can be repainted.

Hartgen said that despite the increase required now, the commission has saved \$14 million through the course of the project by cutting back on a number of features.

READ ABOUT THE STATEHOUSE PROJECT
IdahoStatesman.com/Statehouse
Check out the construction cams.

COMING SUNDAY: A CLOSER LOOK AT THE RESTORATION PROJECT

Anna Webb: 377-6431



The Capitol restoration and expansion project is on schedule, but has had to revise its budget. Above is a view from the fourth floor looking back at the rotunda.

ACHD modifies ruling on road

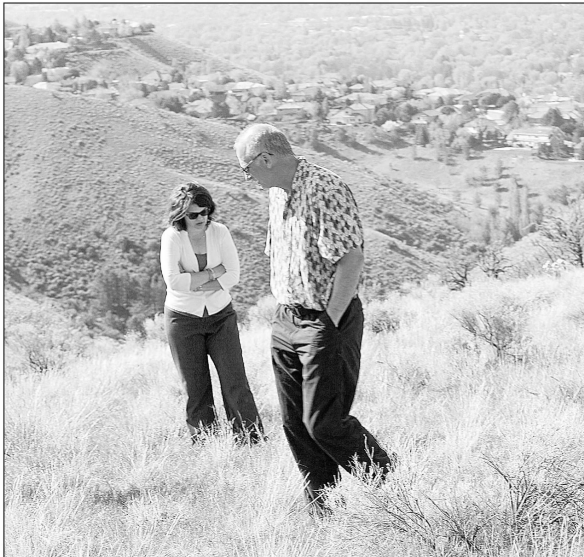
Aase's Canyon developer first will build a gravel road to connect Collister, Plano

First reported at IdahoStatesman.com

BY CYNTHIA SEWELL
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The developer of a proposed subdivision north of Hill Road still will be required to build a road that connects Plano Lane to the north end of Collister Drive.

Until 53 of the 154 homes in the proposed Aase's Canyon subdivision are built, the road will be gravel and used only for emergency services and construction traffic. After that, the road must be paved and opened to the public.



Ada County Highway District Commissioners said Wednesday that the developer of the proposed Aase's Canyon subdivision north of Hill Road first must build a gravel road that connects Plano Lane to the north end of Collister Drive. The road will later be paved. In the file photo above, Stephanie Bacon and Brent Smith walk along ridgelines over their house where the development is planned.

KATHERINE JONES / kjones@idahostatesman.com

CHECK OUT THE ACHD STAFF REPORT IdahoStatesman.com

WHAT'S NEXT?

Boise Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing on the proposed Aase's Canyon development at 6 p.m. July 14, Boise City Hall Council Chambers, third floor, 150 N. Capitol Blvd.

Ada County Highway District commissioners on Wednesday voted 4 to 1 to modify their May 28 unanimous decision that required the developer to build a 2-mile paved road when construction begins on the 333-acre subdivision.

ACHD staff recommended the commissioners change their decision because the road would rarely be used initially, but ACHD still would be responsible for maintaining it.

ACHD Commissioner John Franden voted against the motion because he does not think construction traffic should use the gravel emergency access road.

To help balance traffic on the two roads, ACHD said 36 of the 53 homes permitted to go up before the emergency access road is made public should be on the Plano side of the development and the other 17 homes must be built near the Collister side of the development.

Cynthia Sewell: 377-6428

BOISE

Volunteers still needed for fireworks show

Organizers of the Fourth of July fireworks show in Ann Morrison Park are still looking for volunteers to assist with information, security, parking and traffic, and maintaining trash receptacles.

Volunteers must be 18 or older and are needed for 4-8 p.m. and 8-midnight shifts on the Fourth.

Interested? E-mail Idaho Statesman Marketing Manager Binna Jensen at bjensen@idahostatesman.com with your name, address, phone number and e-mail address, or leave her a voice mail at 377-6475. For more information, visit www.idahostatesman.com/fireworks

The Idaho Statesman and Journal Broadcast Group are joining the city of Boise to produce the fireworks.

TREASURE VALLEY

Children's Home Society elects new president

The Children's Home Society of Idaho has named Chuck Winder as president of its board of directors. The society, which marks its centennial this summer, elected Winder at its 100th annual meeting Tuesday. He will serve a one-year term. Winder is the former vice president of the board and a member for five years.

Gang member convicted of firearms charge

Edwardo Nino Alfaro, 26, a member of the Caldwell-based Eastside Locos street gang, was convicted Thursday in federal court of illegally possessing two firearms. Allegedly, Tom Moss said.

Alfaro will be sentenced at 10 a.m., Oct. 14 at the federal courthouse in Boise. He faces a maximum of 30 years in prison.

STAR

Residents pitch in to fight modular homes

A majority of Saddlebrook subdivision residents voted late Thursday to pitch in about \$100 each to continue a lawsuit to stop the installation of more modular homes in their community.

About 250 people attended a meeting at Friends Community Church to hear from the homeowners' association.

Sawtooth Custom Homes has installed two modular homes in the subdivision and has plans for 110 more.

The Saddlebrook association was denied a temporary restraining order in Ada County in June, but its request for an injunction will be heard July 24.

"If (Sawtooth Custom Homes) would have come to us, they would have found us willing to work with them," said Kevin Nielsen, the Saddlebrook association president.

A representative of Sawtooth Custom Homes attended the meeting, but was unavailable for comment.

Statesman staff

YOUR COMMUTE THIS WEEKEND

Ada County Highway District and Idaho Transportation Department provide traffic updates, including an approximate start and completion date for each project.

INTERSTATE 84

Exit 29 at Franklin Road: road and bridge construction, speed restrictions 55 mph on weekdays.

Exit 36 at Franklin Road to Exit 46 at Eagle Road: reduced to one lane, road construction, speed restrictions 60 mph. Lane restrictions 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. Sunday to Thursday and 10 p.m. to 7 a.m. Friday and Saturday.

Westbound from Exit 50 at Overland Road to Exit 54 at Broadway Avenue: speed restrictions 55 mph, work between Cole Road and Broadway Avenue westbound for installation of soundwalls.

Exit 57 at Gowen Road to Exit 59 at Isaacs Canyon Interchange: road construction, work in the median

BREAKING NEWS TIPS:
LOCAL@IDAHOSTATESMAN.COM
377-6400
AFTER HOURS 373-6627

Patrick Orr: 373-6019

Lace up the sneakers and run the Main Street Mile Friday

Downtown Boise event is expected to attract up to 1,400 runners and walkers to raise awareness for prostate cancer.

STATESMAN STAFF

The fifth annual Main Street Mile, a running and walking event that helps raise awareness and money to fight prostate cancer, is Friday in Downtown Boise.

About 1,200 to 1,400 runners and walkers are expected to participate, according to race officials.

Packet pickup and late registration ends at 5 p.m. at Bandanna Running & Walking (504 W. Main St.).

Racing on the Main Street loop begins at 6:15 p.m. and will continue with a series of waves until the final race starts at 7:50 p.m.

Some Downtown streets will be

closed from 5:15 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Information is available at mainstreetmile.org.

Registration: The cost is \$20 and includes entry and T-shirt. Proceeds support the event and organizations that fund research, education and prevention.

Street Closures: Main Street (between 9th and 5th), Capitol Boulevard (between Front and Idaho), 8th Street (between Main and Idaho), 6th Street (between Main and Idaho), 5th Street (between Grove and Idaho).

Screenings: The National Prostate Cancer Coalition's mobile clinic is offering free exams and blood tests for men 40 and older. The clinic is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Boise City Hall (150 N. Capitol Blvd.).

RACE SCHEDULE
 > 6:15 p.m.: Mascot Scamper 100-

meter dash featuring about 20 local mascots).

> 6:25 p.m.: Children's Half Mile (ages 10 and younger; late registration fee is \$10).

> 6:40 p.m.: Mayor's Mile For Everyone (non-competitive).

> 7:05 p.m.: Prep Mile Showdown (competitive for boys and girls in fifth through 12th grades).

> 7:20 p.m.: Beauty & The Beast Mile (competitive race for men and women 40 and older).

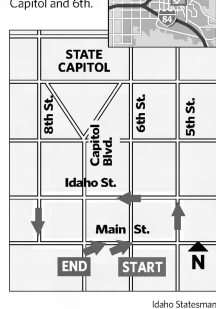
> 7:35 p.m.: First Responders Team Challenge and Team Mile Challenge (competitive five-person teams for first responders and companies).

> 7:50 p.m.: Men's and Women's Open Mile (competitive for men and women between 18 and 39).

NOTE: Awards ceremonies will take place at the Boise City Hall Plaza after each race.

THE MAIN STREET MILE COURSE

The starting line is at the intersection of 6th and Main. Runners and walkers will repeat the loop and finish on Main between Capitol and 6th.



Idaho Statesman

CRAIGSLIST

CONTINUED FROM MAIN 1

which requires people to agree to report any suspected exploitation of minors to local law enforcement. The disclaimer also asks users to flag inappropriate ads for removal.

Meridian police officials did not say Thursday whether they worked with Craigslist to investigate the case.

Last fall, Boise police arrested an adult woman for prostitution involving a Craigslist posting. She pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor prostitution charge and was placed on probation.

No one has made any complaints to the Boise police or Ada County sheriff's deputies about Craigslist or similar Web sites advertising underage prosti-

tutes, officials say.

Meridian police say they were tipped off about this new case last week.

A 50-year-old Meridian man and an adult Boise couple are accused of having sexual contact with a 15-year-old girl, taking pictures and videos of her, and advertising her on Craigslist, according to Meridian police and Ada County prosecutors.

Douglas A. Winberry, 50, of Meri-



dian and Colby R. Watson, 36, of Boise were charged with two counts of lewd conduct with a minor under the age of 16 and sexual exploitation of a child. Watson's girlfriend, 23-year-old Lindsey J. McKeohan of Boise, was charged with lewd conduct with a minor.

Police have not said how the girl knew the adults or defined the nature of the relationship between Winberry, Watson and McKeohan — or whether they met on Craigslist.

Boise police have received some complaints about Craigslist personal ads, but because those advertisements are usually for escorts — which is not illegal — they are not pursued unless evidence of prostitution is evident, police spokeswoman Lynn Higley said.

But if those allegations indicate minors were involved, that would be a

high-priority case that would be investigated by the department's special victims unit, she said.

Raney acknowledged Thursday that such investigations take a lot of time and resources for misdemeanor crimes but said maybe it is time for local law enforcement to really investigate online escort ads to make sure people are following the law. Raney also said any cases involving minors would be given high priority.

"Technology like Web sites, chat rooms and text messaging is only making such crimes easier," he said.

"Technology has made society more mobile, but it also makes it more difficult for law enforcement to catch offenders."