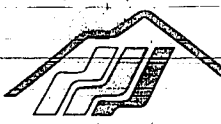


Inside today

Mussman, Black: Viking leaders — D1

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Area hospitals earn good grades — B1



The Times-News

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84th year, No. 355

Twin Falls, Idaho

Thursday, December 21, 1989

'Decapitated' Noriega vows to continue fight

The Associated Press

PANAMA CITY, Panama — U.S. troops smashed the forces of Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega on Wednesday and installed a new president, but the Panamanian strongman fled to hiding and said during a clandestine radio speech that the fight will go on.

Noriega's loyalists seized some Americans during the day and by nightfall sporadic gunfire was heard as armed thugs rounded city streets.

In Washington, the Bush administration offered a \$1 million reward for the military ruler who defied a superpower, saying, "We have decapitated him from the dictatorship. Supporters of Noriega also were offered \$150 for each firearm they surrendered.

Noriega spoke briefly Wednesday night

over the national radio network and declared, "We're in trench warfare now and we will maintain the resistance."

He said Panamanians fighting the American invasion, saying, "We must resist and advance."

"We ask the world for help, with men, dignity, and strength... Our slogan is to win or die, not one step back."

The station went off the air right after Noriega's remarks and his whereabouts still could not be determined. Whether he had substantial forces under his command was not clear.

More than 20,000 troops backed by warplanes began the invasion shortly after midnight Tuesday under moonlit skies, pounding Panamanian military bases in and around the capital with mortar, cannon and machine-gun fire.

By daybreak, the headquarters of Noriega's Defense Forces was burned and battered, and smoke from flaming buildings filled the sky. Widespread looting broke out in the capital.

Although the U.S. military appeared in control, fighting continued into the afternoon by holdout loyalists. There were also reports of fighting at Colon in northern Panama.

Officials in Washington said 15 American servicemen were killed, one was missing, 59 were wounded and four helicopters were lost. One U.S. civilian, a woman, was reported slain.

There were reports of Americans taken hostage, and some were seized by Panamanian troops and later released.

In Washington, the Smithsonian Institution said 11 scientists and technicians

associated with the Tropical Research Institute in Panama were missing and believed abducted.

The major battles appeared to be in the San Miguelito neighborhood to the northeast, where U.S. attack jets bombed and helicopters strafed a Defense Forces barracks atop a hill, and in Old Panama, site of the colonial capital, where Panama's Defense Forces have a military base. By 2 p.m. MST, the fighting appeared to have ended as Panamanian forces withdrew.

Two witnesses said that, before the fighting ended in Old Panama, Defense Forces soldiers managed to shoot down a U.S. helicopter with a bazooka-type weapon normally used against armored vehicles.

Dr. Leonardo Diaz, director of the government's Santo Tomas Hospital in the capital, said that by mid-afternoon he

counted 52 dead and "hundreds" of wounded. All casualties were Panamanians, some civilians and others troops.

President Bush said he ordered the invasion after Noriega said Panama was in a state of war with the United States and after the shooting death last week of a U.S. Marine lieutenant.

He said the assault was a mission to capture Noriega and bring him trial in the United States on charges of trafficking in Colombian cocaine.

Panama's national radio said about 40 Americans were "detained," while Cable News Network said at least 10 Americans were held hostage.

CBS said one of its television producers was still being held while an ABC-TV producer was reported released.

Writer tells of hotel raid, being captive for 4 hours

EDITOR'S NOTE — Candice Hughes, an AP correspondent based in Mexico City, had just checked into the Marriott Hotel when the fighting began and was held captive for about four hours.

By CANDICE HUGHES
The Associated Press

PANAMA CITY, Panama — The luxurious Marriott Hotel became a prison Wednesday for guests and staff as armed paramilitary troops staged repeated raids, singling out Americans to serve as hostages and threatening to return for more.

"Security at the seaside hotel was nonexistent initially. Armed Panamanians ransacked the hotel most of the day and seized 15 people."

The fate of nine people taken from the hotel, including two American journalists, was not known.

Officials of the Marriott Corp. said they were pressing the U.S. government to ensure the safety of guests at the 400-room hotel. It was about 42 percent occupied when the first raid began at 12:30 a.m., a half-hour after the United States launched an attack in a bid to capture Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega.

Roger Conner, a spokesman for Bethesda,

Md.-based Marriott, said most of the guests were journalists and airline workers, along with a few business people. A hotel worker said the guests included 50 Americans.

Pentagon spokesman Pete Williams said U.S. forces in Panama were aware of hostages taken from the hotel. "We will make efforts to take care of that," he said.

During the first raid, men dressed in civilian clothes and carrying assault rifles herded about 80 hotel staff and guests into the lobby and forced them to lie face down on the floor with their hands on their heads.

A man in a black ski mask spotted three American journalists as he ran across the patio and ordered them to join the other guests.

Passports were confiscated, bags searched, and the men singled out 12 foreigners, including the three journalists and four other Americans.

"We're being invaded, so we're taking hostages," said the man who appeared to be their leader.

Other guests and staff were led to the hotel's grand ballroom.

"I'm Chilean! I'm Chilean!" one man in a silk bathrobe kept saying to the captors.

For a time, the dozen hostages sat in silence near the elevators, guarded by men



American troops take position along an access road leading to Panama Defense Forces headquarters

Intelligence flaws emptied net

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON — The American attack on Panama Wednesday failed in a key objective to collar Panamanian strongman Manuel A. Noriega quickly because of flawed intelligence about his location and a noisy pre-invasion buildup that made the operation the worst-kept secret in Panama, U.S. officials said Wednesday.

American intelligence operatives who had been tracking Noriega's movements 24 hours a day over the past several months had recently been able to follow the increasingly elusive figure only sporadically, officials said.

Noriega, they said, had taken to sleeping during the day and moving three or four times a night to evade detection.

The massive American invasion force sent

to Panama beginning Monday was originally meant to act in a supporting role to special operations troops who were to have captured Noriega when the military operation began at 1 a.m. Wednesday.

But the Panamanian general was not in several locations where U.S. forces expected to find him.

"He is a very skillful operator and probably thought through this possibility many times," a knowledgeable American military source said. "We always underestimated him in the past, and we did it again."

The American invasion plan called for going forward with a huge military operation to pin down the entire Panamanian Defense Forces with overwhelming American military might regardless of whether Noriega was caught, a senior Pentagon official said Wednesday.

More details about Panama invasion

- Legality, list of names of identified dead — A2
- Congressional reaction, where to call — A3
- Analysis of events — A4
- World reaction, treaty provisions — A5
- Comments from Idaho congressional delegation — B2

Training, secrecy paid off

The Baltimore Sun

WASHINGTON — A highly trained Navy team trained for covert sea, air and land operations was infiltrated into Panama about two days before Wednesday's attacks to ferret out the location of Gen. Manuel A. Noriega and his associates and conduct other, dangerous reconnaissance missions, authoritative sources reported.

Three of the team members were killed when the Panama invasion got under way, the sources said.

The remarkable secrecy surrounding preparations for the operation, which involved more than 22,000 soldiers, was attributed by military men Wednesday to constant, unpublicized rehearsals that could be quickly turned into the real thing by presidential order.

Army sources said concepts for an attack like Wednesday's had been developed and practiced since the Grenada invasion of October 1983. One called the Panama attacks "a superb

example of lessons learned from Grenada."

There was no divided command this time, for example, with all field operations in charge of Gen. Maxwell R. Thurman, the U.S. Southern Command based in Panama.

Still smarting under criticism of Grenada communications problems, the military went into Panama with a "robust" command and control network to direct an extraordinarily complex operation, the sources said.

What information was turned up by the Navy SEAL unit, an integral part of the complex undertaking, could not be learned Wednesday. However, a television pool reporter sent to Panama with the invasion reported that U.S. authorities considered grabbing Noriega before the invasion began because they thought that they knew where he was.

The United States deployed to Panama a force of Army Rangers, paratroops, light infantrymen and Marines with amphibious-troop carriers, all supported by helicopter gunships, jet fighters and cargo aircraft.

Spirit of Scrooge alive and messing up Christmas

By The Associated Press

'Tis the season for human folly, or, as the sign in the New York City bus depot puts it: "The holidays are here. PLEASE! Watch your belongings."

With that in mind, we present our nominations for the 1989 Ebenezer Scrooge Awards, given just once to those who best exemplify the seamy underside of the Christmas spirit.

These are nominations only, there will be no winners. As will become appallingly obvious, everybody loses.

For Worst Performance by a Santa, the nominees are:

- The Santa in sunglasses who held up a branch of Fidelity Bank in West Chester, Pa., while softly singing, "We wish you a merry Christmas, we wish you a merry Christmas." Santa, whose performance was captured by the bank's surveillance camera, pocketed \$1,000.
- The mutton Santa who beat up a heckler in front of a crowd of children in Salvador, Brazil. The

heckler reportedly had shouted, "How about giving me your other as a present this Christmas, Santa?" Santa was arrested after attacking him, but proudly told police, "I gave that bum what he deserved."

- The elderly Santa in Lowell, Ark., who made off with cash from a convenience store after threatening to pour hot coffee on the clerk.
- For Worst Treatment of a Santa, the nominees are:
 - Either the employees, the customers, or both, at the Capital Plaza Mall, in suburban Landover, Md. A black Santa at the mall quit after complaining of harassment by co-workers who thought Santa had to be white. The mall later issued a public apology and asked Santa to come back.
 - The Marshalltown Mall in Marshalltown, Iowa, which fired a female Santa because she was — you guessed it — female. "Parents tell children that Santa Claus is a man, and the mall tries to get us close to that image as possible," mall manager Scott Ball explained. The mall told Ms. Claus, 28-year-old Tammy Meubrey, that she could go to work as an elf.

Judge chooses farmers' plan to settle Hawkins bankruptcy

By MARK KIND, Times-News writer

BOISE — The Hawkins Co. Ltd. bankruptcy case reached a sudden end Wednesday, when Judge Alfred Hagan selected the same settlement plan preferred by 82 percent of farmers and other creditors.

"This horrible experience has been a devastating event and the fairest option is to spread the loss as much as possible," the federal bankruptcy judge said in announcing his decision.

The settlement ended a year-long civil battle begun when the Idaho Department of Agriculture seized the Filer warehouse in November 1988 after beans were discovered missing from the facility. Hawkins Co. filed for bankruptcy in January 1989, and remaining supplies of

beans were liquidated for about \$6 million.

Hagan's decision came after he heard two hours of arguments from an army of attorneys representing several sides of the issue. Each insisted he desired a speedy resolution to the bankruptcy.

Last month, growers were asked to select between two plans for distributing funds from the liquidated beans. One plan, written by attorney John Melanson representing about 115 growers, called for distributing the proceeds equally with only a small difference between the amount paid owners of 1988 beans and those who held title to beans harvested earlier.

The alternative plan written by lawyer Richard Greenwood, called for paying more to growers who had pinto or pink beans stored at the

warehouse. Pintos and pinks have a greater market value than Great Northerns.

The creditors selected Melanson's less complicated plan. Under the settlement, they will receive roughly \$19.49 per hundredweight for 1988 beans and \$17.99 per hundredweight for beans harvested in prior years but still on hand when the warehouse closed. No distinction will be made among bean varieties.

Attorney Richard Greenwood, author of the plan Hagan rejected, objected to the Melanson plan, saying the creditors' vote was "no basis for making a judicial decision."

"Mr. Melanson seems to be saying a majority can vote away the property rights of — of others," Greenwood said. He insisted some creditors were entitled to extra

See HAWKINS on Page A2

Lawyers dispute invasion legality

WASHINGTON (AP)—The U.S. administration argued Wednesday that the U.S. invasion of Panama was legal under both domestic and international law but some lawyers who have tried war-powers cases disagreed.

Secretary of State James Baker cited Article 51 of the United Nations Charter that gives nations the right to act in self-defense and a similar provision of the Organization of American States that gives the legal basis for the invasion.

Article 21 of the OAS treaty gives the United States the right to protect its citizens, installations and

institutions, the secretary said.

Baker also cited the terms of the Panama Canal Treaty that give the United States the right to exercise force to protect the canal to keep it operating.

Attorney General Dick Thornburgh advised President Bush about the legality of the operation before it was launched, said Justice Department spokesman David Runkel.

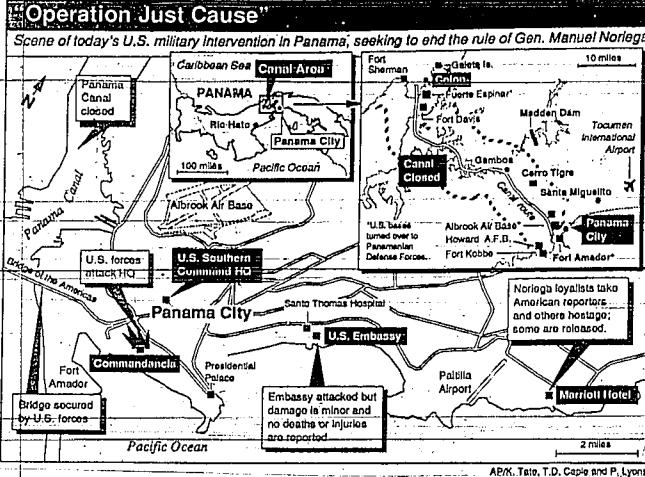
Thornburgh "believes there is a legal basis for this action being taken under U.S. law," Runkel said. "It is my understanding there is clearly legal authority under both U.S. law and international law."

But two attorneys for the Center for Constitutional Rights, a liberal New York-based civil liberties group, disagree.

"I'd say it's clearly illegal under the UN Charter and the OAS charter," said attorney Jules Lobel, who is also a law professor at the University of Pittsburgh.

Lobel said the United States must show it is acting in self-defense for the invasion to be legal under the UN Charter and the OAS treaty.

Both Lobel and David Cole, also of the center, said the invasion also violated the war-powers provision of the Constitution.



Today's weather

Winter's here; Santa's next; where's snow?

Twin Falls, Burley, Rupert, Jerome and Coalinga:

Today and Friday, partly cloudy. Variable winds 10 mph today. Highs in the low to mid 40s. Lows tonight 20 to 25.

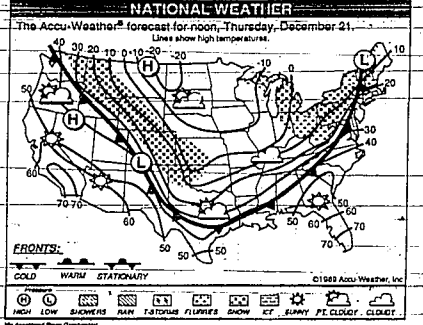
Camas Prairie and Wood River Valley:

Today and Friday, partly cloudy. Light winds today. Patchy night and morning valley fog. Highs in the mid 30s. Lows tonight zero to 10 above zero.

Northern Idaho and Lewiston:

Utah — Today, considerable cloudiness. A few snow flurries possible near the mountains early today. Highs in the upper 30s to lower 40s. Tonight and Friday, partly cloudy. Highs 40 to 45. Lows in the upper 20s to lower 40s.

Nevada — Variable high clouds today and Friday. Highs in the mid 40s to mid 50s. Lows in the teens to lower 20s.



Summary:

The National Weather Service says high pressure over the West eroded a bit more Wednesday, as a minor disturbance pushed through the ridge into the Northwest states.

Although this resulted in increasing mid and high level clouds over much of Idaho during the afternoon, no rain or snow was reported except in the north near the Idaho-Montana border.

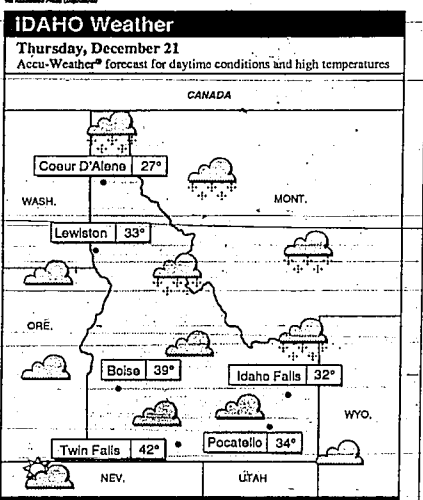
An air stagnation advisory was issued for Nez Perce and Clearwater counties due to heavy smoke trapped in the lower valleys. The advisory will remain in effect until further notice.

Afternoon temperatures statewide were mostly in the 30s, although a few southern spots warmed into the 40s. At 46 degrees Burley, Mountain Home and Twin Falls were warmest in the state at midday. The final day of autumn: Winter arrives at 2:20 p.m. MST today.

The extended forecast for Southern Idaho — Partly cloudy Saturday through Christmas. Highs in the mid 30s to the lower 40s west and in the 20s east. Lows in the 20s west and mid teens to mid 20s east.

The warmest temperature in the state Wednesday was 51 degrees at Hagerman. St. Charles reported the coldest at 2 degrees above zero.

Elsewhere in the nation Wednesday, the highest temperature was 84 degrees at Hollywood, Homestead and Miami, Fla. The lowest was 34 below zero at Warwood and International Falls, Minn.



Idaho road report

BOISE (AP) — The Idaho Department of Transportation Wednesday reported no snow or dry roads with snow at higher elevations.

Conditions:

U.S. 95 — Plummer-Sandpoint, wet; Sandpoint-Canadian border, wet, broken snow; Pomeroy-Whiteland-Hill, dry; Grandview-Moscow, wet; Weiser-New Meadows, icy spots; Marsing-Orange line, dry.

Interstate 90 — Fourth of July Canyon, wet; snow floor; Lookout Pass, snow; floor, chains advised.

U.S. 12 — Lewiston-Kooskia, dry; Kootenai-Lowell, wet; Lowell-Lolo Pass, icy spots, broken snow floor.

Interstate 84 — Caldwell area-Burley, dry.

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Albion	50	Boise	39
Almo	47	Blackfoot	32
Arden	47	Blaine	32
Arco	47	Bozeman	32
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Briefly

Some of the Panama dead identified
WASHINGTON (AP) — The Pentagon on Wednesday released the names of four of the 15 servicemen killed in the military invasion of Panama.

Here are those identified so far:

- Cpl. Garrett C. Isaak, 22, a Marine and a native of Greenville, S.C. Isaak entered the Marine Corps on May 29, 1985.
- Cpl. Ivan D. Perez, 22, of Pawtucket, R.I. Perez, an Army infantryman based at Ft. Polk, La., who entered the service in 1985.
- Pvt. Scott Lee Roth, 19, of Killeen, Texas, a military police stationer at Fort Hood, Texas.
- Specialist Phillip S. Lear, 21, Westminster, S.C., an infantryman based at Fort Lewis, Wash.

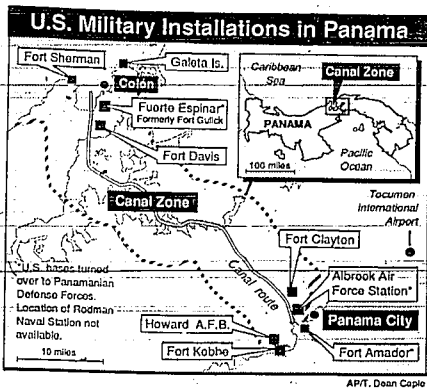
Pentagon officials said they would release the identities of the other casualties after their families had been notified.

U.S. allies condemn use of force
WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. allies in Latin America condemned the use of force by the United States in speeches Wednesday before the Organization of American States but begged down in haggling over procedures to vote on a resolution.

Many of the members spoke out against the U.S. attacks in Panama but they held fast to a rule requiring resolutions be submitted 24 hours before a vote can take place. They agreed to meet again Thursday.

The resolution was suggested by Panamanian ambassador Jose Maria Cabrera, a supporter of Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, and was introduced by Nicaragua. Cabrera called on the OAS to condemn the "brutal and criminal aggression" against his country by the United States.

The United States asked members to "rally around" the decision to send American troops into Panama.



Formal resistance ends, search begins

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. attack force captured or drove most regular Panamanian Defense Forces from their bases on Wednesday and planned to begin clearing the streets of Panama City on Thursday of troops loyal to their fugitive leader, Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, top Pentagon officials said.

"It looks like the organized resistance is a thing of the past," said Lt. Gen. Tom Kelly, the director of operations for the Pentagon's joint staff.

U.S. troops reported seeing Noriega several times on Tuesday, but on Wednesday he and an undetermined number of loyal troops eluded capture, Kelly told a Pentagon briefing.

Fifteen American servicemen were killed, 59 were wounded and one was missing, Pentagon officials said. An American female dependent also died in the fighting.

The U.S. forces captured 250 members of Noriega's army. Sporadic fighting was reported late in the day, but most Panamanian units had dispersed and may have fled into the jungle, Kelly said.

"We have a concern that they have gone off into the jungle," he told reporters. "There is every chance that we will go off after them."

The main operation on Thursday will be moving military police and other units into Panama City, a city of 1 million where nine of Noriega's 18 so-called Dignity Battalions were spotted Wednesday, said Rear Adm. Ted Sheaffer, an intelligence specialist.

The Dignity Battalions, which beat civilian candidates during elections last spring, are poorly

armed and organized and are not considered a major military threat, said Sheaffer.

U.S. officials expect ship traffic to resume Thursday through the Panama Canal, said Kelly.

"The canal is functioning. There has been no endeavor that we have discovered to destroy it," he said.

The more than 20,000 American troops sent against Panamanian military bases Wednesday moved in relative secrecy and carried out simultaneous, pre-dawn attacks using paratroopers, infantry and light tank units, top Pentagon officials say.

"It is among the most professionally executed operations that I have seen in 32 years of military status," Kelly told a Pentagon briefing. But he said without elaborating that "we have information that human beings in Panama have made mistakes."

The "mistake" he was referring to was the "casualty" of the dead and wounded had not been released by late afternoon; casualties were being flown to Kelley Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.

The U.S. forces failed initially to capture their prime target, Noriega. Hours after the 1 a.m. invasion, American troops continued to encounter sniper fire and pockets of resistance, said Defense Secretary Dick Cheney.

Nevertheless, Gen. Colin Powell, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, proclaimed "Operation Just Cause" a success.

"This reign of terror is over," he proclaimed.

Powell, in a breakfast-hour briefing, said Noriega was "not running anything, because we own all of the bases he owned eight hours ago."

Most Congressmen rally behind invasion

WASHINGTON (AP) — Members of Congress in both parties rallied behind the president's decision to invade Panama, with most saying he had little choice, though there were scattered objections.

"I support the president's decision," said Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell, D-Maine, who has been among Bush's harshest critics on other foreign policy matters. "It was made necessary by the reckless actions of General (Manuel Antonio) Noriega."

There was a small core of harsh dissent, with one lawmaker calling Bush's action "a trigger-happy act of gunboat diplomacy" and saying the move rested on shaky legal ground. But for the most part, members of Congress welcomed the restoration of a democratic government and said all other possibilities had been exhausted.

"It's an action the president determined, and I think under the circumstances Congress will support his position," said House Speaker Thomas S. Foley, D-Wash. "American troops are in the field and casualties are being taken. Under these circumstances, it's not the proper time for a lot of complicated debate."

Foley said he expressed "some concerns" when Bush called about 10 p.m. Tuesday to inform him of the impending operation. But, Foley added, the concerns "don't qualify my support for the president's action."

The White House informed the top four leaders of the House and Senate of the planned assault just before it was launched late Tuesday, and contacted other key members of Congress once the operation was under way.

Sen. Richard Lugar, R-Ind., a senior Foreign Relations Committee member, called the action "an overwhelming success because democracy has now been inaugurated and installed in Panama."

Lugar also called the operation "a very important moment in the

presidency of George Bush. It is a time when the president asserted his own leadership and did so effectively."

Rep. Lee Hamilton, D-Ind., said the action was justified.

"We've had a long period of provocation by Noriega," Hamilton said. "You can only go so long with this provocation, this pushing, this harassment. He crossed over the line — it backfired on him. I think he's a cornered tiger."

A rare dissent came from the chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, Sen. Claiborne Pell, D-R.I., who said the threat to the canal was less than clear and Bush did not adequately inform U.S. allies in Central America.

"Personally, unless very clear evidence emerges of a direct threat against the Panama Canal or against American people or installations, I would not have engaged in such unilateral or such go-it-alone action," Pell said.

But, he said he would support the administration until the operation was completed and hoped for "as few deaths as possible" among U.S. forces.

Rep. Don Edwards, D-Calif., harshly criticized Bush's action, calling it "a trigger-happy act of gunboat diplomacy that continues our mindless 100-year abuse of small Central American nations."

Edwards, chairman of the House Judiciary subcommittee on the Constitution, said Bush had violated the provision that requires Congress's consent to go to war.

However, the consensus on Capitol Hill was that Bush had exhausted diplomatic efforts and economic pressure, and was left with little alternative after Noriega's public declaration of war against the United States last week.

Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., chairman of the Foreign Relations

Western Hemisphere subcommittee, said the lack of immediate criticism from Latin American governments was testimony to Bush's earlier diplomatic efforts through the Organization of American States and other groups.

Senate Republican Leader Bob Dole of Kansas said the Panama operation "erases criticism by Democrats that Bush has been 'overly timid' in dealing with Panama and other critical foreign policy issues."



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Opinion

Teachers trying to better schools

In the Dec. 8, edition of *The Times-News*, statements were made in an article about legislators meeting with school board members that I believe cannot go unmentioned.

Jim Norton

Russ Holland, school board member from Minidoka County, made the statement that teacher association demands have become much more militant and teacher negotiations aren't serving students' best interests.

On the issue of association demands becoming more militant, I have to agree with Mr. Holland. If by this statement, he means teachers are asserting themselves by questioning policies and pressing for a greater voice in the decision-making process that directly affects their salaries and working conditions; then yes, we have become more militant.

The issue of negotiations not serving the students' best interests, I have to strongly disagree.

The students' best interests are served by having highly-trained, enthusiastic, professional educators managing classrooms of moderate class size and using up-to-date curriculum materials.

Teachers, as well as students, need to feel that everyone is working as a team to develop an excellent learning environment. Students' best interests are not served when good teachers are moved to surrounding states almost double their salaries and have far better health care benefits.

Students' best interests are not served when teachers are denied leaves to attend professional classes and workshops which will improve their knowledge and instructional techniques. Students' best interests are not served when teachers are not treated as part of a professional team but as part of the problem.

Mr. Holland's plea to lawmakers to keep budgeting money for specific uses because car-marked money can be kept off the bargaining table is further indication of his unwillingness to work with teachers.

I can sympathize with Mr. Holland's frustrations with the negotiation's process as I have sat across from him at the bargaining table for the past two years.

However, the solution is not to build more walls around the budget and place administration in uncompromising positions but to open up the bargaining process and tear down the barriers between board and employees.

Also, I am disappointed that the Minidoka School Board has chosen to alienate its employees further by hiring professional negotiators for the 1990 contract negotiation's session.

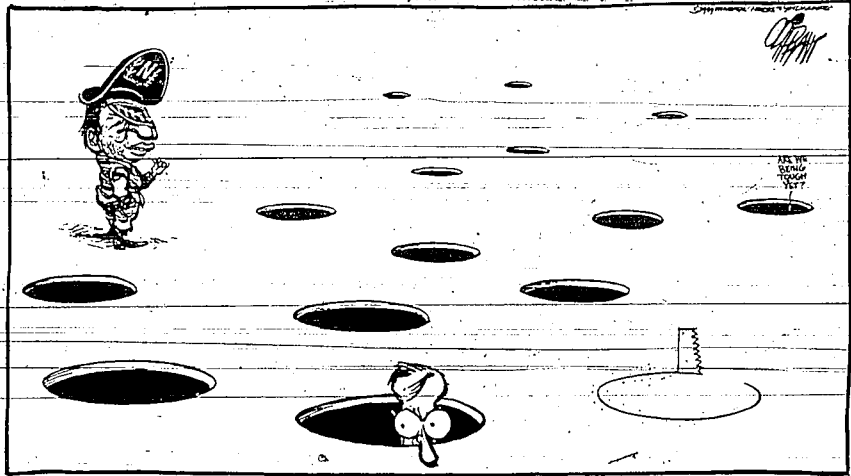
The professional negotiators hired by the district are the same gentlemen who generated discord in the Jerome School District last year by berating teachers and stalling negotiations. It must be that the Minidoka School Board wishes to create an equal amount of turmoil in Minidoka County.

I am aware of the Minidoka County School Board's past willingness to work cooperatively with teachers and especially Mr. Holland's effectiveness in those efforts.

I suppose that is why I am having a difficult time understanding statements such as Mr. Holland's and the decision by the board to hire professional negotiators, Gates and Bohannon.

These actions seem rather militant and certainly not in the students' best interests.

Jim Norton, Burley, is a teacher in Minidoka County and was a member last year's negotiating team of the Minidoka County Education Association.



Panama's stability will be real test

Walter Mears

WASHINGTON — In another time, another president said he would not see the United States made into "a pitiful, helpless giant."

The phrase echoed as President Bush ordered American troops to crush and capture Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, whose Panamanian regime had withstood an arsenal of American sanctions short of force.

Part of the mission was reported accomplished within eight hours on Wednesday with the Pentagon declaring that Noriega had been decapitated as the strongman leader of Panama.

But he escaped and supporters claimed he was still directing his loyalist forces. The United States called him a fugitive, and said he would be tracked and taken, to stand trial on U.S. drug trafficking indictments.

For more than two years, Noriega had taunted and incited the giant, while his foes at home and in Washington tried fruitfully to dislodge his grip on power.

Bush, whose watchword is prudence, said it was an enormous frustration. But he took it for nearly a year, for lack of an acceptable alternative.

Then he took a risk, and went to war. "Fellow citizens, last night I ordered U.S. military forces to Panama," he told the nation Wednesday. "I took this step because the government's conclusion that every other avenue was closed and the lives of American citizens were in grave danger."

Bush gained prompt and predictable support at home, from Democrats as well as Republicans. He had briefed congressional leaders just before U.S. forces went into combat against Noriega's loyalists in the Panama Defense Forces.

Presidents seldom face much political dissent when American forces are in combat, especially with the kind of provocations Noriega provided.

His puppet assembly had declared a state of war with the United States, and an off-duty American officer was shot and killed by his forces on Saturday.

Bush recounted the killing, the wounding of another American serviceman, the capture and beating of a third and threats against his wife.

"That was enough," the president said.

Gen. Noriega's reckless threats and attacks upon Americans in Panama created an eminent

danger to the 35,000 American citizens in Panama.

Bush said, "... And that is why I directed our armed forces to protect the lives of American citizens in Panama, and to bring Gen. Noriega to justice in the United States."

Yet when dissident PDF officers attempted a coup on Oct. 3 and briefly held Noriega, American forces stood by, inactive. U.S. forces had blocked two roads and had conferred with coup leaders, but the administration decided against intervention.

Yet when dissident PDF officers attempted a coup on Oct. 3 and briefly held Noriega, American forces stood by, inactive. U.S. forces had blocked two roads and had conferred with coup leaders, but the administration decided against intervention.

That drew protests from left and right, although some Republicans complained that doves Democrats who opposed intervention in other crises were endorsing it retroactively in Panama.

Secretary of State James A. Baker III said U.S. commanders had told they could offer support for the coup "if there were an opportunity to do this without risking bloodshed and significant loss of American life and to do so without open military involvement."

Those instructions ring with irony now that U.S. forces have been sent into open combat.

That drew protests from left and right, although some Republicans complained that doves Democrats who opposed intervention in other crises were endorsing it retroactively in Panama.

"I said if this administration chose to use force, it would make its own decisions," he told a news conference. "It would not act based on some unknown coup plotters' strategy or rationale."

At least 11 American soldiers were killed in action early Wednesday, others wounded.

That is the price of using military power. It was Richard M. Nixon who spoke of the price of power.

That drew protests from left and right, although some Republicans complained that doves Democrats who opposed intervention in other crises were endorsing it retroactively in Panama.

Letters

Take time to check headlights

Wonder if we need to be reminded to check the headlights on the vehicles we are driving? Yesterday as I went to work at 6:30 a.m., there were three cars and one pickup pulling a camper with only one light.

Maybe we should take a minute and check them before leaving home morning and evening and not take it for granted that both lights are working.

MARGE MAYER

Twin Falls

Grass burning worries asthmatics

Please allow me to express my concern about the grass seed industry moving into this valley. Every winter, people with chronic breathing problems dread the approach of cold weather and the pollution from wood-burning stoves and fireplaces.

Now, in addition to wood smoke, seasonal pollen counts; usual field burning by farmers; automobile and industry pollution and last — but not least — careless cigarette smokers, all we have to fear is grass seed burning every fall.

As an asthmatic, I have learned to appreciate each breath of air. Believe me, cleaner air is better air!

MARIE HAMILTON

Twin Falls

Stallings bill not good for Idaho

Why did Congress stall on Stallings' bill through the house which would appropriate \$1 million in tax dollars to give to a private corporation from Utah if the Island Park Hydro Project has such widespread public support?

Did he really want to hear both sides of the story before he got the rules suspended and pushed this appropriation bill through without a vote?

If Mr. Stallings feels that our national debt is low enough that the government can afford to hand out tax dollars at a million dollars a pop, there are a lot better ways it can be spent in Fremont County.

Instead of spending to help an out-of-state developer bring its employees to Island Park to build a project that has questionable economic benefit, why not spend the million on education,

agriculture, or promoting tourism in Fremont County?

George Mangan, manager of Fall River Rural Electric, recently railed on about "self-styled conservatism" criticizing the project, citing all the economic benefits it would provide.

It's hard to see how this project, which has the potential to damage or destroy a fishery that is already providing a tremendous economic benefit with the recreational dollars and jobs it provides, could provide the great economic benefits recently alleged by Mr. Mangan.

Any rate reductions to Fall River Electric customers would be passed on to Utah Power and Light customers. By law, the power would have to be purchased at avoided cost rate by the BPA grid.

The bill Congressman Stallings railroaded through the House is on Senator Bradley's desk. He will not let it pass through his sub-committee without a proper hearing in spite of pressure from Congressman Stallings and Senator McClure.

It's an embarrassment when the only man in Congress who wants to allow time to hear from the people of Idaho is an out-of-state senator.

MIKE LAWSON

St. Anthony

American Legion leads the way

An open letter to Roland Gardner, American Legion Post No. 7:

Roland, your commitment to this program came months before the recent national focus. You and American Legion Post No. 7 led the way in the Magic Valley and brought about a dream to law enforcement in your community.

At the time that Bridger became a reality, there were just a few drug dogs in the state of Idaho. As a result of Bridger's proven effectiveness,

several other law enforcement agencies are obtaining their own drug dogs. These additional dogs in the Magic Valley in no way diminish Bridger's importance. The fact is, Bridger needs help!

Bridger's success has been far beyond what we dreamed it would be. Bridger's expertise has made cases that, by ourselves, we would not have been able to make. His nose does not violate a drug dealer's constitutional rights. As a result, he

and anarchy will threaten free nations and free institutions throughout the world," he said, announcing he had sent forces to attack Communist North Vietnam sanctuaries in Cambodia.

Later, there are sure to be told-you-so comments from those who argued the administration should have sent forces to join the October coup.

And Noriega's purge of dissident PDF officers after that coup could make it more difficult for the United States to quickly complete operations and withdraw the additional troops, which Bush said he wants to do as quickly as possible.

The newly-installed government of Panama — led by Guillermo Endara, thought to have won the May election Noriega annulled — will need reliable new leaders to take control of the military in place of his henchmen.

Stability under an elected government will be the real test of success, whatever happens to Noriega. The administration has been waging all along that his support was thin and brittle. American intervention puts that to the test; if the theory is correct and he is powerless, Noriega is irrelevant.

But if Noriega or his lieutenants are capable of holding out and running continuing operations against U.S. forces and the Endara government, the administration will have a major problem on its hands.

When President Ronald Reagan ordered American forces into action in the 1983 invasion of Grenada and the 1986 air raid on Libya, the operations were swift and brief.

The Bush administration wants intervention in Panama to be a mission accomplished and quickly ended. Prolonged involvement would stir political opposition at home and intensify the inevitable Latin American resentment against Yankee intervention, no matter the cause.

Bush sought to ease that backlash by saying the troops were to go out swiftly, by lifting economic sanctions against Panama under the new Endara government, and by promising anew that the United States will turn the canal over to Panama at the end of the century.

Walter Mears is a senior correspondent with The Associated Press.

Wearing fake fur shows hypocrisy

Fake fur and animal prints are everywhere one looks this shopping season. From the lingerie to the shoe departments, from home furnishings to automobile accessories, merchandisers have decreed "faux" to be the real thing.

Mary Stange

Animal rights activists are claiming the lion's share of the credit for this fashion trend, in which they see reflected a more humane, less human-centered attitude.

Given the vicissitudes of fashion, the exact impact of the anti-fur forces is hard to gauge. Whether fur sales are down, up or holding steady seems to depend upon whose figures you read.

But it is certainly conceivable that the anti-fur crusade of the past few years, some women and men, tired of being bombarded with slogans like "Cruelty is never chic," would feel relieved to hear that fake fur is fashionably, as well as politically, "correct" this season.

Even if the animal rights movement can claim victory in this trend toward the artificial, though, one must wonder at the logic of "fake fur" as a political statement. One of the movement's favorite slogans is "Real people wear fake fur." Why? Do gun-control advocates display replicas of firearms in their homes?

Do anti-smokers give their children candy cigarettes? Why should "real people," ostensibly those who have achieved a higher plane of ethical consciousness, wear fake fur at all? And if they do, just what sort of message are they sending?

For years, fake fur was a fashion untouchable; it was so obviously synthetic. Now, reputable designers are using fake fur precisely because technology has made it look real. In other words, it looks, and sometimes feels, like the skin of an animal.

As far as anyone knows, the person wearing the fake fur is wearing the skin of an animal trapped or farmed under conditions that the animal-rights movement roundly condemns. Even more problematic is the fake that appears to be the coat of a rare or endangered species. It is hard to see, exactly, one proclaims one's compassion for furred creatures by wearing what appears to be the pelt of a jaguar or an ocelot or a tiger.

The fake-fur trend, as championed by the animal-rights movement,

seems to suggest a peculiar form of double-think. Given the behavior of some animals in the fur industries, it is tempting to attribute this logical lapse to mere middle-headedness. What else could explain why Jane Wiedlin, a former member of the Go-Gos, showed up in a leather look at a more humane, less human-centered attitude.

Around the same time, various animal rights voices were circulating "Animal Lovin' Barbie" for wearing animal prints, on the apparent assumption that little girls might mistake hot-pink leopard spots for real fur.

Anti-fur protesters also demonstrate a curious ambivalence regarding the treatment of real furs. The Animals' Agenda (one of the movement's animal rights advocates, it is repeatedly suggested that enlightened fur owners donate their furs to be used as "props" in anti-fur protests. One such prop appeared on the evening news, dangling from a leg-hold trap. This hardly conveys much "respect" for animals.

Other animal-rights advocates have asserted, with perhaps more ethical consistency, that the only legitimate way to treat a fur is to give it a decent burial. (One cannot help but wonder whether it is politically correct to wear a fake fur while doing so.)

Logical coherence is hardly a hallmark of the animal-rights movement. However, the fake-fur fascination of the anti-fur lobby seems to betray a more deeply rooted hypocrisy than it does a mere inability to think straight. Never mind that alternative is produced from environmentally polluting petrochemicals. Never mind that anti-fur boycotts have had disastrous economic effects on native human communities here and abroad.

It is easier to oppose fur fashions now that almost perfect fakes are available? Do actions speak louder than words? If so, then all "real people" (whether they are pro- or anti-fur) should agree that they cannot stand up for animals' well-being by pretending to wear their coats.

Mary Stange teaches religion and women's studies at Central Michigan University.

The Times-News

William E. Howard Publisher

William C. Blake Advertising Director

Stephen Hartgen Managing Editor

Allen Wilson Circulation Manager

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hartgen and William E. Howard

Panama

Nations uneasy, but accept U.S. actions

LONDON (AP) — The Soviet Union used language reminiscent of the Cold War on Wednesday to denounce the U.S. military attack in Panama, and leaders from Europe and Latin American generally opposed the move but said it had to be done.

Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was one of the few heads of state who fully supported President Bush's attempt to capture Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega. "Someone has to uphold democracy," she said. One of the angriest condemnations came from Peru, where President Alan Garcia announced he was withdrawing his ambassador from Washington until U.S. troops leave Panama.

Nicaragua called a military alert and asked for an emergency meeting of the U.N. Security Council. Libyan leader Col. Muammar Gadhafi said the assault made Nero and Hitler look like angels.

The official Soviet news agency Tass said, "This action is an example of notorious 'gunboat diplomacy' which has been used for decades by the United States in an attempt to turn Latin American and Caribbean nations into its back yard."

Despite Soviet anger, Foreign Ministry spokesman Vadim P. Perfilov played down the impact on improved superpower relations.

But Perfilov said the U.S. action violated U.N. charters and "should be condemned by the international community ... (and) must immediately stop."

In London, Mrs. Thatcher said she had spoken with Bush on the phone and told him her government supported him.

"Someone has to uphold democracy, there were terrible things happening in Panama. It was a tyranny," Mrs. Thatcher said. "It was a courageous decision" to send in American troops, she said.

The opposition Labor Party criticized the U.S. move and in angry exchanges later in the House of Commons accused Mrs. Thatcher of humiliating Britain by supporting the United States.

Canada said the U.S. action set a "dangerous precedent" but expressed sympathy.

"What would you have us do?" asked Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney. "Here you've got a drug runner and thug running the country. He declares war on the United States. He assassinates some innocent American citizens."

Among other Western allies, the Dutch government said it also sympathized with Bush, but Spain, which has close ties throughout Latin America, "deeply lamented" the U.S. move.

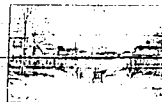
Venezuela summed up many reactions by saying it opposed the

intervention but also opposed Noriega's regime.

During a meeting of regional leaders in Colombia, Venezuela blamed a "lack of an effective and firm response by our countries" in the past for the situation in Panama.

China made no overt comment. Its official Xinhua News Agency issued brief reports that said Noriega was "safe" and would "fight for the nation's sovereignty."

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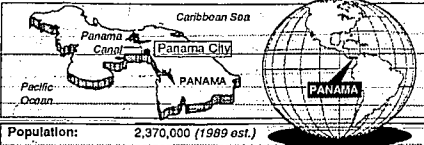
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AT-A-GLANCE



Population: 2,370,000 (1989 est.)
 Area: 29,208 sq. mi.
 Government Type: Constitutional Democracy, centralized republic
 Acting President: Manuel Solis Palma
 Chief of Defense: Manuel Antonio Noriega
 Defense: 2% of GNP (1985)
 GNP: \$4.4 billion (1985)
 Languages: Spanish (official), English
 Religions: Mostly Roman Catholics
 Organizations: United Nations (International Monetary Fund, World Bank), Organization of American States

Source: World Almanac

Summary of the provisions of the Panama Canal treaty

By The Associated Press

Here is a summary of the two Panama Canal treaties signed in September 1977 by President Jimmy Carter and Panamanian leader Omar Torrijos:

CONTROL

The United States and Panama will administer the canal jointly until the expiration of the treaty on Dec. 31, 1999. At that time, control, management and maintenance of the canal go to the Panamanian government.

The U.S. president was to appoint a Panamanian nominated by his government as administrator to take charge of the canal on Jan. 1, 1990. But the United States refuses to recognize the government of Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega, and has spurned his choice for the post.

President George Bush announced Dec. 3 he asked the canal's deputy administrator, Panamanian Fernando Manfredo, to take over as acting administrator. Manfredo accepted.

DEFENSE

For the duration of the treaty the United States has primary responsibility for the defense of the canal. A board of U.S. and Panamanian military officers was established to consult on defense matters and every five years reviews military resources made available by both countries. During the life of the

treaty, the United States decides on its own how and when to reduce its forces in the Canal Zone and schedule the closing of its bases.

COMPENSATION

The United States pays Panama \$50 million to \$60 million from canal revenue and an additional \$10 million a year for the canal's operation. Panama also received \$50 million in military assistance over a 10-year period.

LANDS AND WATERS

About 70 percent of the 300-square-mile Canal Zone reverted to Panama after the treaty was ratified. The United States retained temporary control over the rest, including areas considered vital to running the canal.

JURISDICTION

Three years after ratification, American civilian employees in the Canal Zone became subject to Panamanian law instead of American law. Panama took responsibility for public and social services, including schools, the Canal Zone police force, and postal service.

NEUTRALITY

Under a separate treaty, the two countries agreed to a guarantee that the canal would remain open to ships of all nations and that the canal's neutrality would be respected "in times of war as in times of peace." American and Panamanian warships and other vessels were given priority to use the canal.

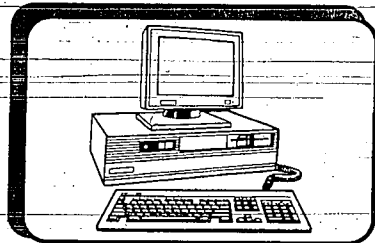


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Briefly

Families, friends gather at Lockerbie

LOCKERBIE, Scotland (AP) — Friends and relatives of the 270 people killed on Pan Am Flight 103 gathered in this small Scottish town Wednesday, the eve of the first anniversary of the bombing, to join residents in mourning.

One year ago Thursday, the New York-bound Boeing 747 exploded over Lockerbie, killing all 259 passengers and crew members. fiery, molten wreckage fell 31,000 feet, killing another 11 people on the ground.

Dec. 21, 1988 — the shariest day of the year — became the longest for the suddenly bereaved for the town of 3,500 people jolted into disaster, and for the rescuers who would give up their Christmas to search for bodies, wreckage and clues.

Residents of Lockerbie hope that once Thursday's anniversary passes, they can get on with their lives and return to quiet obscurity. A plaque made of three slabs of gray Finnish granite engraved with all 270 victims' names will be dedicated Thursday at a new Garden of Remembrance in Dryfesdale Cemetery outside Lockerbie.

S. Korean legislator jailed for spying

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A legislator was convicted Wednesday of spying for North Korea and sentenced to 15 years in prison, a light sentence the judge said was prompted in part by the easing of the Cold War.

Judge Hong Suk-je dismissed claims by Rep. Suh Kyung-won that he was tortured to make false confessions that he was a communist spy.

"It was hard to find evidence to support the claims of torture, considering the confessions signed by the defendant during an interrogation by prosecutors," Hong said.

Also Wednesday, riot police firing tear gas stormed a university campus in Seoul to break up a rally by hundreds of students demanding the release of Im Chong-suk, a jailed radical student leader.

About 700 students throwing firebombs and rocks fought police for two hours in and around Yonsei University in the third day of campus protests. Several students were taken away by police, but no figures were available on arrests or injuries.

Baker says new embassy will be built

WASHINGTON (AP) — Secretary of State James A. Baker III notified Congress Wednesday that the U.S. embassy in Moscow will be torn down and a new one erected in its place.

The decision, pending for months, was based on U.S. intelligence conclusions that the Soviets had "implanted sophisticated listening devices in the structure."

Rep. Olympia Snowe of Maine said she was "extremely pleased" by the decision. The ranking Republican member of the House Operations subcommittee, she had concluded after inspecting the embassy in April 1987 that tearing it down was the best solution.

"Another option weighed by the State Department was saving part of the building after demolishing areas thought to be infiltrated."

Protesters demand bodies of dead in Romania

VIENNA, Austria (AP) — Tens of thousands of people chanting "Give us our dead!" demanded the bodies of protesters in a western Romanian city Wednesday, and estimates of the number killed by security forces rose into the thousands.

Reports said protests of President Nicolae Ceausescu's iron rule had spread to at least eight more cities since the bloody weekend at Timisoara, in Transylvania only 30 miles from the Yugoslav and Hungarian borders.

Ceausescu, the last autocrat in the Soviet bloc, returned from a three-day official visit to Iran to a characteristically lavish official welcome. He ignored international condemnation and said fascists and foreigners were fomenting unrest in his Socialist land.

He said soldiers had fired warning shots Sunday in Timisoara when threatened by "hooligan elements," but did not mention casualties.

Few foreigners, and no journalists could get into Romania. Reporters already in the country, including those from allied nations, were not allowed to travel freely.

Eastern European reporters who tried to reach Timisoara from Bucharest were turned back 30 miles away, the Soviet, Yugoslav and East German news agencies reported.

Timisoara, a city of 350,000 people, remained inaccessible to foreign travelers and telephone callers Wednesday. It also was impossible to telephone Bucharest, the Romanian capital, from Vienna.

A Yugoslav trucker said he saw graffiti daubed on walls in a Timisoara suburb early Wednesday, calling for an uprising against the Ceausescu regime on Dec. 24. He reported sporadic gunfire and from the direction of downtown Timisoara.

A note he reached Budapest, Hungary, from Timisoara, on Wednesday told the daily Mai Nap it was "like a city under siege. I saw them tossing dead into the river. People told me over 1,000 people were killed."

Dispatches from the Yugoslav and Hungarian news agencies said Timisoara was full of police and soldiers Wednesday, but that 50,000

people went into the streets nonetheless. Western businessmen who crossed into Yugoslavia said Wednesday's protest began at a factory in the morning.

The businessmen said the people went to a stadium where they apparently believed authorities were keeping the bodies, chanting "Give us our dead!"

No police intervention was reported by the businessmen or the Yugoslav news agency Tanjug, which quoted the Yugoslav consul general in Timisoara, MFI, the Hungarian news agency, said some soldiers joined the demonstrators in chanting slogans against Ceausescu.

In a dispatch quoting Romanians working in East Germany, the official East German agency ADN said unrest had spread to at least eight other Romanian cities and the death toll in Timisoara could reach 3,000 or 4,000.

Casualty estimates have risen daily since Sunday. No independent confirmation is possible because of Romania's isolation.

Large numbers of soldiers and police were reported in the streets of Bucharest and other major cities, according to a Hungarian who telephoned five cities, and dispatches from Eastern European journalists in the Romanian capital.

Milena Bernadi, Paris spokesman for a group called Defense of Human Rights in Romania, said some policemen entered hospitals to arrest wounded protesters. Belgrade radio said police burst into the Yugoslav consulate, the only diplomatic building in Timisoara, and seized demonstrators who took refuge there.

Yugoslavia's Foreign Ministry would not confirm or deny the incident, which would be a violation of diplomatic conventions.

In a report from the Yugoslav border with Romania, Tanjug said there was no more room in Timisoara hospitals.

The Hungarian Red Cross appealed for international help in searching for victims of the crackdown.

Ceausescu, who has ruled Romania since 1965, delivered a 25-minute broadcast address after his return home, with his entire government and wife Elena, the second most powerful person in Romania, lined up behind him.

He sought to blame Hungary, which he has accused of wanting to reclaim Transylvania, where most of Romania's 1.7 million ethnic Hungarians live. Hungary ruled the region for centuries, but it was given to Romania in 1920 by the Treaty of Trianon.

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Briefly

Air Force pilots ditch Phantom in sea

ANGELES, Philippines (AP) — A U.S. Air Force F-4 Phantom crashed Wednesday in the South China Sea, but both crewmen ejected and were rescued, the U.S. military announced.

The aircraft was on a routine training flight when the crash occurred about 50 miles west of Clark Air Base in the South China Sea, the Air Force said.

The pilot reported engine trouble and radioed a distress signal, and the men were rescued by helicopter and taken to the 13th U.S. Air Force hospital at Clark, where they were reported out of danger, the Air Force said.

The Air Force identified them as Maj. Gary Barrentine and 1st Lt. William Cameron, both assigned at Clark. No hometowns were released.

Convicted W. German spies pardoned

BONN, West Germany (AP) — Two former government secretaries convicted of spying for the East bloc have been pardoned, a spokesman for the West German president said Wednesday.

Margret Hoeske, who once worked in the president's offices, and Elke Falk, a former secretary in the chancellor's offices, were pardoned by President Richard von Weizsaecker last week, said his spokesman, Gernot Fritz.

Fritz said he did not know if they had been released from prison. Sources at the Ministry for Inner German relations, requesting anonymity, say the pardons may be connected with a possible spy swap between East Germany and West Germany. West Germany's Bild newspaper reported this week that such a swap was imminent.

5 die in Chilean mental hospital blaze

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP) — Fire swept through a psychiatric clinic in a working class neighborhood early Wednesday, killing five inmates, the hospital said.

The fire, which started around 4 a.m., apparently was started by one of the inmates, said Dr. Juan Cortes, director of the hospital. Thirty other inmates were rescued unharmed, he said. Authorities have opened an investigation.

Soviet rocket carries U.S. experiment

MOSCOW (AP) — A Soviet rocket blasted off Wednesday carrying the first U.S. scientific experiment to the Mir space station. The official Soviet news agency said, the Progress M-2 cargo rocket lifted off on schedule at 6:31 a.m. and was functioning normally. It is scheduled to dock with the Mir in two days.

Along with food, water and 90 pounds of New Year's presents for two Soviet cosmonauts on the Mir, the rocket carries an experiment for growing protein crystals in space, developed by Payload Systems of Cambridge, Mass.

Flights of the U.S. space shuttle are too short to grow many kinds of crystals, whereas on Mir, the Soviet orbital platform launched in February 1986, they would have months to develop. Such research has applications in the development of pharmaceutical products and the improvement of existing drugs.

S. African faction fights claim 3 lives

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — Three more people were killed in factional fighting in Natal Province, police said Wednesday, and a Parliament member said Natal's biggest hospital for blacks should be declared a disaster area.

Carole Charlewold, who represents a Natal district for the anti-apartheid Democratic Party, said in a letter to the Health Ministry that the escalation of violence around the port city of Durban has aggravated already critical problems at King Edward VIII Hospital.

She said the hospital staff is treating 20 to 30 gunshot victims a day, and patients were exposed to "squalor, overcrowding and humiliation."

Lithuanians vote to break with national party

VILNIUS, U.S.S.R. (AP) — Lithuanian Communists voted overwhelmingly Wednesday to form an independent party, breaking Moscow's iron political unity for the first time in Soviet history.

The Lithuanian party's congress of 1,038 delegates voted to declare themselves an "equal partner," rather than a subordinate, of the Soviet Communist Party.

Delegates at the Vilnius Opera and Ballet Theater stood for a sustained ovation after the vote result was

announced: 855 voted for independence, with 160 for retaining subordination to the Moscow party.

Party chief Algirdas Brazauskas congratulated the congress and expressed the "hope and wish that our party will always be resolute, reinvigorated and ready for new battles."

The party declared in a resolution it would "maintain relations of equal partnership with the Soviet Communist Party, other progressive parties, public organizations and movements."

"The major goals of the Lithuanian Communist Party are an independent, democratic Lithuanian state, implementation of the ideals of humanistic socialism, liberty and social justice, creation of adequate living conditions for the Lithuanian people and all the inhabitants of Lithuania," the resolution said.

The break runs counter to more than 80 years of Communist Party practice and policy. Since before the 1917 Russian Revolution, Vladimir I. Lenin demanded a unified party covering the

entire territory of the czarist empire. In 1921, the party formally outlawed the existence of factions.

The vote came after two days of tough exchanges between the majority seeking a break with Moscow and the minority, mostly ethnic Slavs, who opposed it.

"I believe that the formation of this kind of independent party lends practically to its implementation," said Stefanyra Serzhantovich, a tractor driver from rural Vilnius who is a congress delegate.

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Comics

THE FAR SIDE



"You know, Sid, I really like bananas... I mean, I know that's not profound or nothin'. Heck! We all do... But for me, I think it goes much more beyond that."

BLONDIE



HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE IN A SUGAR PLUM DRESS LIKE THIS?
 OH-HUH?
 ON SODDY "I KNOW YOU LOVE IT TOO!"
 I'M GOING DOWNTOWN AND BUY IT RIGHT NOW!
 BUT ALL I SAID WAS "OH-HUH!"

DOONESBURY



WELL, I JUST DON'T WANT TO STAND AROUND. OLD I DON'T WANT TO BE A "STANDER" BECAUSE THAT'S BEEN THROUGH THE ROOF OF IT!
 WHEN I LOOK AT THE WOMAN NEXT TO ME, I WANT TO SEE GOOD THINGS YET TO COME, NOT THE LIPS SHE'S ALREADY HAD!
 WELL, THAT'S NOT QUITE THERE'S NO UNDERLAND FOR IT!
 MARSH! I'M NOT QUITE THERE'S NO UNDERLAND FOR IT!
 I SEE YOU INTO-DUGGED YOUR OFFER OF A "PREFER" YET!
 SEE THAT'S A VERY TYPICAL FIRST-HAND REMARK!

BEE TLE BAILLEY



IT'S YOUR WIFE, GENERAL. ARE YOU HERE?
 THAT'S A STUPID QUESTION TO ASK A COMBAT VETERAN.
 IT IMPLIES THAT I'M AFRAID MY WIFE WILL KNOW I'M HAVING FEW DRINKS WITH MY FRIENDS.
 ARE YOU HERE? NO.
 I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE GETTING FOR CHRISTMAS: A SACK OF POTATOES AND A PAIR OF UNDERWEAR.
 DEAR SANTA, I DON'T KNOW WHAT MY SISTER HAS BEEN TELLING YOU, BUT...

WIZARD OF ID



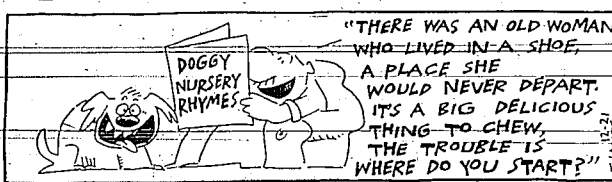
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 THE ROYAL CREDIT CARD... THE PEASANTS LOVE IT!
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 GIFTS ARE CALLED "GIFTS" BECAUSE THEY EVEN FIGHT OVER WHO GETS TO RUN THE ROLLERS OVER YOUR FACE!

BORN LOSER

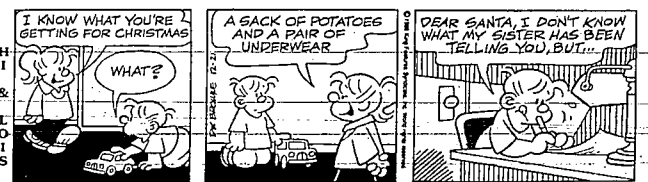
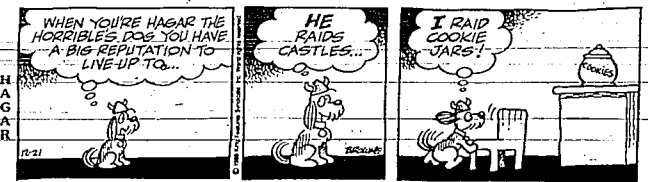
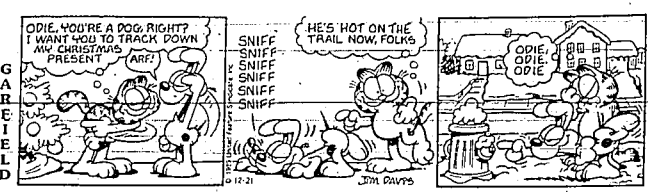
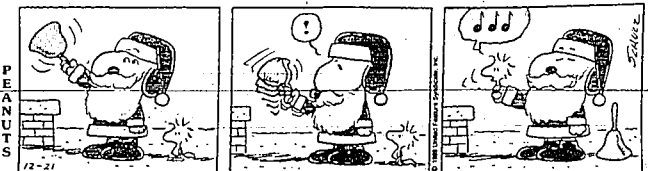


THAT'LL BE THE KIDS CAROLINE!
 DON'T ANSWER.
 DON'T BE A NUMB! NOTHING CAN TRANSFERTHE HEART BACK TO THAT MAGICAL STATE OF INNOCENCE LIKE ANGELIC VOICES SINGING A TRADITIONAL HYMN.
 GENANMA GOT RUN... ONE BY A REINDEER!

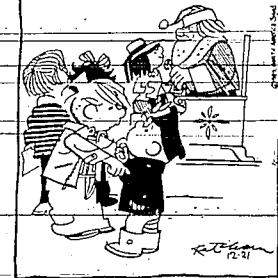
FRANK & ERNEST



"THERE WAS AN OLD WOMAN WHO LIVED IN A SHOE, A PLACE SHE WOULD NEVER DEPART. IT'S A BIG DELICIOUS THING TO CHEW, THE TROUBLE IS WHERE DO YOU START?"
 DOGGY NURSERY RHYMES



DENNIS THE MENACE



Oh, Sheezix! That was a horrible experience!
 It was pretty scary!
 But you're safe now!
 And so are you!
 I'm so thankful!

THE FAMILY CIRCUS



"REMEMBER, LITTLE FRIEND, EVEN IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE IN SANTA CLAUS, SANTA BELIEVES IN YOU."
 -Shall I play for you, pa-rum-pa-pum-pummm...?"

ACROSS	1 Inventory	14 Nor. city	15 Circa	16 smile be.	17 your.	18 Kind of drum	19 Arab post	20 Transgillizer	22 Log	24 Sound quality	25 Valuable wood	26 Pick	29 Hallways	33 Luck	34 Bolt	36 Watery swelling	37 Il. city	39 More sound	41 Cupid	42 Ello	44 Franko	46 Rushmore abbr.	47 Swinton	48 Skilled worker	49 Raymond cr.										
DOWN	1 Deprivation	2 Wight of Man	3 Slipper	4 Love apple	5 Cupboard	6 Crotch	7 Sole	8 Drag	9 Shops	10 Slog	11 Flying profix	12 Headliner	13 Grit	14 Throw	15 Loosen	16 Sanded	17 Abyss	18 Spood	19 Pertaining to the eye	20 Unreasonable	21 Root	22 Bacteria	23 Act in a way	24 Impudant	25 Filling the lungs	26 Jere	27 Strongly with	28 mouth open	29 Obtains	30 Blush green	31 Singo	32 Frozied	33 Gold: Sp.	34 Wisdom	35 Theater



SYDNEY OMARR

ASTROLOGICAL FORECASTS

IF DECEMBER 21 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Answer to "changing question": You did right thing, being in connection with domestic situation was necessary. Family members did impose, your decision was correct though temporarily painful. Spiritual values surface in 1990 - January will feature confidence, production.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Someone will request that you "split the difference." Don't affix signature to loan, avoid co-signing. Stay away from committees. You'll perfect techniques through individuality. Pisces represented.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Relationship intensifies. Emphasis on responsibility, leading ability to influence "important man." Older individual, possibly employer, will declare, "You are the right person - appointment involved."

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Task will be completed - you'll be in mood to travel, to enhance horizons. Focus on physical attraction, personal magnetism. Young person wants you to "tell all about love." Libra involved.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You'll see with "new eyes." What you missed one week ago will be discovered. Focus on durability, property values, relationship with older family member. Leo, Aquarius persons figure prominently.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Suggestions come from all directions, especially family members - Key is to follow, your own hunch, intuition. Holiday plans required if reunion is to take place. Individual who is ultra-sensitive sheds tears.

VIROGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):

Define terms - look beyond the immediate - about travel reservations. Surprise visit could alter plans - keep options open. You might be witness to inflationary spiral. Keep your budget balanced.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Those who attempt to restrict your plans, actions will suffer disappointment. Be confident, stretch rules if necessary. You'll gain powerful allies within four days. Scorpio plays role.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Check Libra message. Open lines of communication. Relatives get "in touch" in connection with holidays. Be flexible, accept suggestions but don't compromise principles. Written invitation requires response.

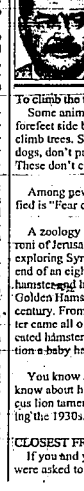
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Wishes continue to be fulfilled - you might be saying, "These are holidays I'll relish!" Focus on family, domesticity, acquiring of additional funds. Taurus, Libra persons figure prominently.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Something approaching holidays seems to promote gloom. Emphasis of home, family, restrictions. You'll snap out of it shortly - joyful spirit will then dominate. Pisces, Virgo persons play roles.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Just a little over a week ago major obstacle was hurdled. You have right to buck in glory, to enjoy fruits of victory. Relationship is strengthened, deadline is met. Cancer, Capricorn persons in picture.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Scenario of project, "new eyes" from surprise source. Intense feelings dominate. You'll say, "I am so happy to again be responding!" Aries represented.

L.M. BOYD



What's what

Q. What's a "peenny farthing" bicycle?
 A. That early model with the huge front wheel. Why it was so called will require a little more research. Stand by.

Q. Do alligators eat deer?
 A. That has been witnessed.

PERFECTIONIST
 Q. One chronic ailment is usually associated with a personality type typically described as "a bright, ambitious, driving perfectionist." What's the ailment?
 A. Migraine headache.

Don't know if all of Alaska's florist shops do well, but generally they average higher sales than florist shops in the other states.

You say your foot falls asleep. Technically, that tingling condition is called "lataresia."

Report is 9 percent of the tax returns contain errors.

Pink grapefruit has a lot more Vitamin A than white grapefruit.

Briefly

Number of homeless families grow

WASHINGTON (AP) — Urban hunger and homelessness rose rapidly this year among families with children, the nation's mayors said Wednesday, with Boston Mayor Ray Flynn telling reporters that, "increasingly, the face of hunger is the face of the young child."

He released a survey of 27 cities by the U.S. Conference of Mayors that said many cities had so many requests for help that they had to turn away families and others seeking shelter.

Requests for emergency shelter were up 25 percent. Requests for food were up 19 percent.

One in four homeless people was a child; almost two-thirds of those seeking food were children or their parents.

The organization of big-city mayors based its report on a survey of officials in 27 cities, who reported on public and private relief efforts. The cities ranged from the nation's largest, New York and Los Angeles, to Charleston, S.C., with a population of 81,000.

Evangelist charged with perjury

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — The evangelist who introduced PTL founder Jim Bakker to Jessica Hahn, leading to the scandal that destroyed the television ministry, was released on \$25,000 bond Wednesday on federal perjury charges.

In his first court appearance on the charges, John Wesley Fletcher appeared without a lawyer before U.S. Magistrate Paul Taylor, who imposed several conditions for his release, including surrendering his passport and refraining from the use of alcohol. Fletcher recently was arrested in Durham on a charge of driving while intoxicated.

According to the Dec. 5 indictment, on Sept. 24, 1987, Fletcher denied during testimony before the grand jury that indicted Bakker and three associates that he took Ms. Hahn to a Florida hotel to have sex with Bakker. At a later appearance, Fletcher told the same grand jury that he agreed when Bakker told him: "Get me a woman."

In a separate hearing, the Rev. Sam Johnson, a former PTL minister, was released on the same unsecured bond. Johnson is accused of lying to the special grand jury about a \$10,000 loan he made to former PTL executive Richard Dortch that later went to Ms. Hahn.

Bad weather delays Titan III launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Martin Marietta on Wednesday delayed the maiden commercial launch of its Titan 3 rocket until Dec. 27 because of a forecast calling for several days of unfavorable weather.

It was the fifth postponement this month of the launch, which is to boost into orbit communications satellites for a Japanese company and the British Ministry of Defense. Three of the scrubs were caused by too-strong winds about 30,000 feet above the launch area.

Liftoff had been rescheduled for Wednesday night, but with rain falling throughout the day and with a forecast that the stiff upper level winds would persist for several days, Martin Marietta decided to put off the effort until after Christmas.

The company said countdown would start Tuesday, aiming for a liftoff at 5:24 p.m. MST Wednesday.

Tennessee secretary of state dies

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Tennessee's secretary of state, whose office has been the center of a bingo and political corruption scandal, died Wednesday; more than a week after shooting himself in the head.

Gentry Crowell, 57, died at Vanderbilt University Medical Center's spinal hospital spokesman Wayne Hood. The one-time legislative power broker shot himself Dec. 12 in a suicide attempt on the front porch of his Lebanon home.

As secretary of state, he was in charge of regulating bingo and spending by lobbyists and political campaigns, all of which were involved in a federal-state investigation that has resulted in 22 people being indicted or pleading guilty since January.

Economy continues to grow amid fears

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. economy grew at a faster rate in the third quarter than previously estimated, the government said Wednesday, but analysts say it is fast running out of steam and some suggest it is flirting with a recession.

The Commerce Department said the gross national product, the broadest measure of economic health, grew at an annual rate of 3 percent in the July-September period, up from a 2.5 percent rate reported in October and the subsequent revision to 2.7 percent last month.

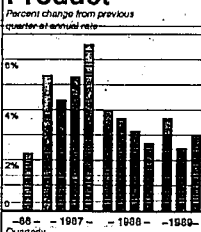
However, analysts said the economic growth in the third quarter borrowed its strength from the current quarter, when many see a growth rate of less than 1 percent and possibly an even year of unprecedented seven years of peacetime expansion.

The administration is forecasting a 2.7 percent growth rate for all of 1989, and the fourth-quarter GNP would have to advance 1.6 percent to meet that goal. The GNP grew by 3.7 percent in the first quarter and 2.5 percent in the second.

"The bottom line is that we borrowed from the future to produce 3 percent growth and that source of strength is gone now," said Allen Sinai, chief economist for The Boston Co.

Sinai and others said much of the third-quarter growth resulted from

Gross National Product



Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce

robust earlier-than-normal sales of automobiles and light trucks in the third quarter that were driven by incentives.

But the incentives were dropped with the introduction of higher-priced 1990 models in October and sales immediately slumped. Only this month have automakers begun

to restore rebates and lower interest rates that chief economist David Berson of the Federal National Mortgage Association said could boost sales early next year.

Many analysts had suggested the Federal Reserve would have to credit further to stimulate the economy and the central bank late Tuesday added money to the banking system in a signal that it might lower interest rates.

As a result, the key federal funds rate, the interest banks charge each other for overnight loans, dropped to 8 7/16 percent from about 8 1/2 percent late Tuesday. Analysts said they expected a target of 8 1/2 percent for the rate, the first drop since late November.

Samuel D. Kahan, chief financial economist at Kleinwort Benson Government Securities Inc. in Chicago, forecast fourth-quarter growth of 1 percent with continuing weakness in the first quarter of 1990.

The sluggish fourth-quarter growth is a result of Fed efforts to contain inflation by keeping a tight rein on credit. Inflation appeared to begin moderating earlier this year and since June the central bank has

raised some short-term interest rates. Its policy-making arm, the Federal Open Market Committee, met secretly Monday and Tuesday, but as usual, gave no indication of any decisions.

The GNP report contained favorable inflation news, however. A price index tied to the GNP rose at an annual rate of 2.9 percent, unchanged from earlier estimates but down from the 5 percent jump in the April-June quarter.

The revision in the latest report was due in large part to new data that showed exports rose 3.9 percent, rather than 1.6 percent as reported earlier. At the same time, imports fell from a 9.5 percent gain first reported to 7.4 percent in the latest report.

Consumer spending, however, dropped to a 3.5 percent increase rather than the 6.2 percent advance reported last month. Consumer spending represents two-thirds of the nation's economic activity.

Business capital spending posted a 5.2 percent gain, compared with 4.6 percent in last month's report, possibly reflecting an improvement in the decline of corporate profits.

Study: colleges must push non-European languages

WASHINGTON (AP) — Although Japanese is the most rapidly growing foreign language course on American college campuses, a major national program is needed to offer non-European languages to more students, said a study released Wednesday.

The study, conducted by Johns Hopkins University foreign language specialist Richard D. Lambert for the American Council on Education, said traditional West European languages are still the heavy favorites among university students.

The study showed 20.4 percent of college students were studying Spanish, 16.8 percent French and 7.1 percent German in 1986 at 13 institutions surveyed. Italian was the choice of 2.4 percent and Russian the choice of 1.8 percent of university students surveyed.

Japanese was picked by 2.2 percent of the students at 11 universities that offered it but "has tripled in the last three or four years," Lambert told a news conference.

"I was surprised by the spread of the less commonly studied languages, particularly Japanese, Chinese, Russian and a little bit of Arabic," he said.

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Tango & Cash
FRI SAT 7:00-9:30
MON 7:00-9:30
TUES 7:00-9:30
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SHE DEVIL
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SAT 1:00-3:00-5:00-7:00-9:00
Werner Herzog
THE LITTLE MERMAID
TODAY 7:00-9:30
MICHAEL J. FOX CHRISTOPHER LEE
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SEAN PENN
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FIRST CLASS PARTY VENUE

Racial tensions reviving with recent bomb incident

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Civil rights leaders said Wednesday they've made "progress" in this northeast Florida city, but the mailing of a bomb to NAACP headquarters

reignited recent racial tensions that had begun to fade.

The bomb discovered here Tuesday was similar to devices which killed a federal appeals court judge and a Savannah, Ga., civil rights leader.

Bombs mailed to the 11th Circuit Court of Appeals in Atlanta and to the Jacksonville office of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People were disarmed without causing any damage or injuries.

Possible links to NAACP school desegregation efforts have been identified in all four cases, leading to theories that a racist group may be responsible.

Racial tensions were heightened here in September when three black City Council members were ordered arrested after they walked out of a meeting to protest lack of funding for predominantly black areas in the city budget.

Black leaders said they were angry about Tuesday's discovery of the bomb, but it will not deter them from

their work. "We will go on with our business as usual. We will not let this incident stop us from doing the job we have set out to do," said Willye Dennis, local president of the NAACP. She received the explosive package Monday, but didn't have time to open it then.

The FBI said Wednesday that all four bombs had Georgia postmarks or return addresses.

FBI agent William Hinshaw, in charge of the Atlanta office, said the first parcel bomb, addressed to federal Judge Robert S. Vance, was mailed last Thursday from Nowman, Ga., Vance's home in Mountain Brook, Ala., a suburb of Birmingham.

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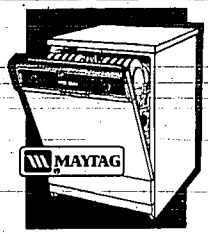
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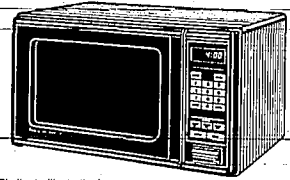
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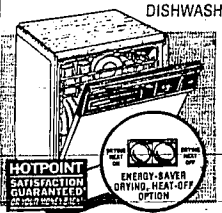
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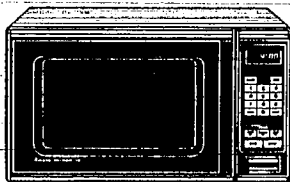
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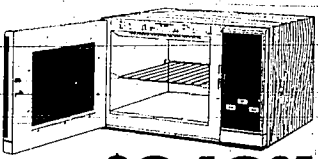
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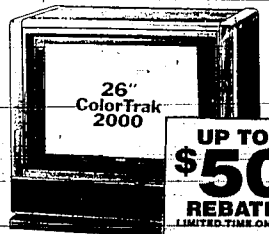
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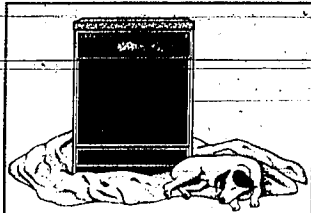


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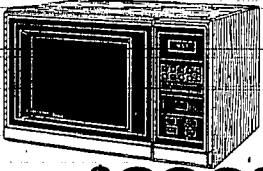
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AROUND THE VALLEY

Minidoka authorities want to talk to woman

RUPERT — The Minidoka County Sheriff's Department is looking for a woman to talk to about a burned, dead baby that was found in Paul last month. Minidoka County Sheriff Ray Jarvis declined to comment on specifics, and said he wasn't sure if the woman was the infant's mother.

The dead baby girl was found burned, dismembered and dismembered near the county landfill in November. An autopsy showed she was probably less than 2 weeks old and was white or Hispanic.

Divers fight construction near Blue Heart Springs

POCATELLO — A group of Idaho divers is gearing up to fight construction of a commercial fish hatchery near Blue Heart Springs on the Snake River near Hageman.

T.J. Dekker, owner of Pocatello Diving School, said putting the commercial hatchery there would divert water from the spring and make access nearly impossible. He said many diving instructors in western Idaho use the springs area for certification dives for students.

However, the regional supervisor for the Department of Water Resources said the only hatchery presently under construction in the area would not divert water from Blue Heart Springs.

Loren Holmes said he is not aware of the divers' complaints. He said one company, Rim View Trout Co., owned by Earl Hardy, has been granted water rights for a hatchery near the springs.

But he said water for the hatchery would be diverted from a spring about one mile upstream.

Dekker said Blue Heart Springs includes water 3 feet deep and 15 feet wide running into a pool about 18 feet deep and 100 by 75 feet.

"It's the last spring of its kind that we know of," Dekker said. "It's completely transparent, from one end to another."

Burley bricks will be sold to help non-profit group

BURLEY — Burley residents can buy a brick for a buck Saturday to help a non-profit job-training organization.

The students at the Center for Employment Training will sell 1,000 bricks donated by Amcor to help build a borrowing fund for them. The money would be lent for such purposes as needing new clothes for a job interview, gas or utility bills, Chris Clark, a teacher at the center, said.

Students will build a brick wall at the 7-11 Store, 2205 Overland Ave., and slowly dismantle it as each brick is sold. The sale will be from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The center is a non-profit organization designed to help people find work. Many of the students are trying to get off welfare, Clark said.

Stallings makes information available on Craters park

BLAKEFOOT — Rep. Richard Stallings will hold an informational meeting in Blackfoot Friday to discuss legislation he has introduced to Congress to designate Craters of the Moon a national park.

The meeting will be from 11 a.m. to noon in Courtroom-1 at the Bingham County Courthouse.

Those who cannot make the meeting can obtain a copy of the proposed legislation at Stallings' Magic Valley office, 834 Falls Ave., Room 1180, Twin Falls. Phone: 734-6329.

Fragments of Berlin Wall come all the way to Wendell

WENDELL — Pieces of the Berlin Wall have reached Wendell.

Bob Burks, owner of Idaho Rocks and Gems, recently bought about 30 pounds of the crumbled concrete at Bloomingdale's store in Chicago, Ill.

"It was quite expensive," he said, declining to name a price. "They were selling it by the tons there."

Burks said he bought pieces of the famous wall to give to a few of his best friends and customers "to show my appreciation."

The coffee-cake chunks come with little cards, written in German, that say, "Authentic Concrete Material from the Berlin Wall."

Burks said the pieces mean a lot to people whose families have been separated by the concrete barrier.

"After 40 years, the wall has come down and people are ecstatic about it," he said. "And each piece symbolizes that the wall has crumbled."

Hospital mortality rates OK

By LAURA M. ZABRISKIE, States News Service

WASHINGTON — Magic Valley hospitals fell within predicted mortality ranges in 1988, according to a just-released federal study of Medicare patient death rates.

The mortality measure was part of a Department of Health and Human Services study showing how many Medicare patients died shortly after admission to nearly 6,000 hospitals nationwide.

Twin Falls Clinic & Hospital, Magic Valley Regional Medical Center and Gooding County Memorial Hospital all received good grades in the federal hospital report card.

For each hospital admitting Medicare patients, the study lists the number of patients treated, the proportion who died within 30 days of admission to the hospital and the expected range of death rates. The range, which is different for every hospital, is based on a number of variables, including the sex and age of patients and the conditions they were admitted for.

"As a hospital's mortality rate approaches the outside range of what can be expected, one ought to be more concerned, one ought to ask more questions," said Tom Morford, an IHHS spokesman.

Though Idaho hospitals scored well, a state medical expert said the study is not an accurate gauge for measuring the quality of hospital care.

Because most Idaho hospitals are small, standardized federal studies geared toward national populations do not accurately measure their services, said Bonnie Haines, the Idaho Hospital Association's vice president for governmental and public relations.

"In past we've seen a number of cases where the numbers are so few that the percentages are not statistically meaningful," Haines said.

In 1988, Twin Falls Clinic and Hospital had a 10 percent death rate among Medicare patients, a rate that fell within the 5 percent to 13.2 percent range set for the hospital.

Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls had a 10.7 percent mortality rate, out of a 5.9 percent to 13.7 percent expected range. And Gooding County Memorial Hospital in Gooding had 13.9 percent death rate, out of a 5 percent to 19.4 percent range.

Federal officials say that the study can be used as one of several tools to help judge health-care quality. Haines noted that Idaho hospitals also monitor standards locally.

"Idaho hospitals are already doing ongoing quality assessments," Haines said. "That gives them some sense of where they can improve."

Other local death rates include:

- Minidoka Memorial Hospital in Rupert had a 14.1 percent mortality rate, out of a 4.5 percent to 15.6 percent range.
- Cassia Memorial Hospital & Medical Center in Burley showed a 13.5 percent death index, out of 7.5 percent to 16.8 percent range.
- St. Benedict's Family Medical Center in Jerome had a 8.5 percent death rate out of a 4.5 percent to 15.2 percent range.

Nationwide, close to 200 of the 6,000 hospitals serving Medicare beneficiaries nationwide had mortality rates over their expected ranges in 1988.

This is the third year federal officials have released the study in an effort to improve hospital care, reduce the number of preventable deaths, and increase public awareness. The study is designed as a guide for hospital administrators, physicians, researchers and Medicare patients.

Health department officials said this year's study accounts more precisely for the case mix at each medical facility and the severity of each patient's illness on entering the hospital. Officials also cited additional factors.

• See HOSPITAL on Page B2

Christmas not slated to be white

By N.S. NOKKENTVED Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Dreaming of a white Christmas? It's more likely to be a wet Christmas, reports the National Weather Service.

"As of right now, it does not look favorable for a white Christmas," said Bill Galkin at the Kimberly weather station.

Though the forecast Wednesday called for moisture over the weekend, it will most likely be rain in the valley. But it will be snow in the mountains.

"That's good news for skiers, but for holiday travelers it means hazardous driving conditions."

The current weather pattern is changing to a westerly flow of air, bringing a chance of moisture Friday and Sunday, Galkin said.

"Right now it looks like the mountains will get most of it," he said. If the Magic Valley does get moisture it may start as snow but is expected to turn to rain.

With the ground frozen down to about eight inches, however, that rain may wind up in local basements, Galkin warned. "The ground cannot absorb the moisture, and it will run off."

Historically, the Magic Valley doesn't have white Christmases, and Christmas Day is normally dry, he said. Usually if the valley gets snow at Christmas time it comes the day before or the day after Christmas.



Helping Santa

Jeff Ford, a senior at Twin Falls High School, gets a mini workout carrying sacks of beans from the school's lobby Wednesday. The food, 5,979 items, was collected during a student contest and will go in Santa's Helpers

food baskets. Seniors in the advanced marketing class won the contest by collecting 2,054 items. Santa's Helpers volunteers will deliver food to needy families Saturday.

Times-News photo/ANDY ARNIZ

Fire blackens Filer family's Christmas

By ANITA DENNIS Times-News writer

FILER — A Filer family that lost its home in an electrical fire will spend Christmas at a son's house, but it won't be merry.

"We have the Christmas gifts but the Christmas spirit is gone," 21-year-old Robert Thompson said.

Bill Thompson, his father, gave a thumbs-down sign to a merry Christmas.

Since an electrical fire damaged the Thompsons' home Monday night, they have lived in a motel and with friends.

Now Bill and Jean Thompson and their daughter have moved in temporarily with their son who lives in Twin Falls. Three other sons are staying with friends.

Although the Thompsons can't afford to pay rent, the family is looking for permanent housing, Thompson said.

The burned-out house on Pole Line Road near Filer is owned by the farm. Bill Thompson works for it. It will be torn down and another house or mobile home may replace it, Thompson said.

Although he will continue to work on the farm, he doesn't know whether the family will move back.

"I'm just playing it by ear," he said.

Damage from the fire was mostly on the second floor and in the kitchen, Thompson said. Although they retrieved most of their possessions, "most of our stuff is smoky," Thompson said.

Their possessions were uninsured.

Anyone who wants to make a donation to the family can drop it off at 446 Sixth Ave. N. in Twin Falls.

County examines bids on sewer, water work

By KIRK MITCHELL Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A plethora of septic tanks northeast of town may be contaminating an equally great number of wells, local officials say.

"There is a definite and major problem," said Gary Burkett of the state Division of Environmental Quality.

To solve the problem, residents in the area about a quarter-mile east of Eastland Drive and on both sides of Falls Avenue are considering connecting a sewer and water system with Twin Falls' systems.

County commissioners on Wednesday opened engineering bids by two firms that would determine how much it would cost to build a sewer and water system.

Commissioners tabled the issue until they had time to review the bids. Stewart Engineering of Chubbuck, Wyo., bid

\$13,500 for the project, undercutting the other bid by \$10,000.

Once the county chooses a firm, that company will apply for a state grant to pay for the study.

The neighborhood, which is outside city limits, will have to pay for the improvements that Twin Falls engineer Gerald Martens has estimated could be as high as \$600,000.

The neighborhood could finance the project by setting up a Sewer Water District by voting on the issue.

Burkett has previously said that the ground water in several locations in the area is polluted.

Local health department officials have found high amounts of bacteria called coliform, which indicates that other viruses and bacteria including typhoid and hepatitis could be present, he said.

• See SEWER on Page B2

School board will retain negotiators

By BEVERLY HICKS Times-News correspondent

FILER — The Filer School Board will stick with its decision to use professional negotiators Jerry Gates and Randy Bohannon next year in contract talks with teachers.

Jim Krueh, president of the Filer Education Association, asked the board Tuesday to reconsider its decision in November to hire the negotiators.

"Professional negotiators break down natural communication," Krueh said. He handed the board copies of newspaper articles from around the state quoting teachers as saying professional negotiators hindered contract negotiations, he helped them.

Board members listened to the request but did not change its earlier decision.

"The board is a lay board, untrained in contract negotiations," Superintendent David Teater said after the meeting. "The board needs technical assistance to get a good, clear contract for the whole district."

Gates and Bohannon, both based in Washington, have been district negotiators in some of the Magic Valley's more difficult contract talks in recent years. Teachers claim the pair take a heavy-handed approach to their job, while district officials contend they serve the district's interests well.

Filer contract talks ended in August this year after both sides requested a federal mediator to break a deadlock over salaries. The settlement called for an average 9 percent raise, partly to meet state minimum salary requirements.

In other business, the board tabled until January a decision to start a girls' bowling team so it can review the results of a survey to be put out this month.

Cedar Lanes offered to provide the alleys and equipment free. The district would be responsible to hire a coach and pay for transportation.

"The offer was made by the bowling alley board Chairman Bob Lanting said. "No parents or students have come in with their interests. When it turns around, maybe we should consider it."

"Even with interest, I don't think we have the budget for the bowling program," Teater said following the meeting.

The board adopted a motion to continue the district's participation in the Magic Valley Alternative School program. Teater said at the meeting that he can only support a concept that keeps kids in school.

"That's what the district is all about," Teater said.

Teater announced to the board the elections for December employees of the month, chosen by fellow teachers: Delmar Lieral, Hollister school; Judy Snider, Filer elementary; Jeanna Davis, middle school; and Joni Lawrence, high school.

They were unnamed when they left, Gold said.

Tuesday night Jerome County deputies, the U.S. Border Patrol and the Idaho State Police looked for the boys. Early on, they were seen hitchhiking, he said. John Devine, the Southern Idaho Youth Center's administrator, "We're trying to stiffen where we're soft."

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Idaho congressional delegation stands behind Panama action

By ERIC ANDERSON
States News Service

WASHINGTON — Idaho's four-man delegation endorsed the U.S. military operation in Panama staged early Wednesday morning, with only Rep. Richard Stallings voicing limited reservations about the action.

Stallings, a Democrat from Rexburg, stood behind President Bush's decision to take action against Gen. Manuel Antonio Noriega in Panama but cautioned, "the guy's still out" on whether the move will result in a long civil war or guerrilla insurrection.

"I think the next 24 to 48 hours will be crucial just because we may have solved a problem quite simply... or we can see the beginning of a protracted civil war down there in which Noriega becomes the rallying point for those who oppose U.S. intervention," Stallings said in a telephone interview.

"I think the President did what he had to do and I certainly support that," Stallings said, but added that the action flies in the face of a statement Bush made in October that the United States should not become involved in the internal affairs of other nations. "It's always troubling when our sovereign nation invades another," Stallings said.

Idaho's other House member, Republican Rep.-Larry Craig of Riverview, endorsed the action, saying Bush "did what he had to do to protect the integrity of our treaty and our treaty relationship with the nation of Panama."

Sen. James McClure, R-McCall, said the action against Noriega was justified because all diplomatic efforts in Panama had failed and because there were new threats against Americans in the Central American region.

Buhl school renovation considered

By MIKEL BENTON
Times-News correspondent

BUHL — Renovations to the aging middle school building could cost as much as \$46,500, the school board learned Tuesday.

The board, members of the Pocatello architectural firm Myers and Anderson, presented sketches and recommendations for the repairs of the gym ceiling and a new vestibule at the middle school.

The project would add a storage area and a finishing room, estimated at \$28,600. In addition, the present upstairs storage rooms would be remodeled into a classroom and learning resource center, estimated at \$8,100.

Hagerman ponders '90s needs

BY TERRELL WILLIAMS
Times-News correspondent

HAGERMAN — Hagerman City Council members considered at their last meeting of the 1980s the major needs of the city and the county in the 1990s.

Debra Harris said following the meeting. With more room, she said, the library could expand its services and put stored books on shelves.

maybe a regional jail, is needed for juveniles. Hagerman Policeman Carl Ellis said a city jail will not be necessary in the foreseeable future.

The board decided to review the district's five-year building plan before making a decision on any of the construction projects.

Anderson recommended the district put a new ceiling in the gym. Although it could be repaired for as little as \$13,000, he said the district should spend up to \$37,500 to have the job done properly.

If the district decides to enclose an area for an outdoor classroom, including providing electricity, it is estimated to cost an additional \$7,000, for a total project cost of \$43,950.

Officials discussed the need for a new city hall and library, a city water tank, a county landfill and an improved county jail. Funding for these projects, they concluded, will be difficult.

The city eventually should consider the issue for the library and city hall. Mayor Merle Owsley said, "Keep it in mind," he told the council.

In other city business: Ellis presented his design of an arm patch for his uniform. The patch includes a skeleton of a fossil horse and says, "Home of the Idaho State Fossil."

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Board members questioned whether the age of the building justified an expensive renovation project.

"All the cost estimates are very liberal," Anderson said.

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Sun Valley OKs mandatory pickup

By ROBERT DOYLE
Times-News correspondent

SUN VALLEY — Wood River Rubbish, which collects garbage from nearly 80 percent of the city's homes, will soon collect every body's.

Homeowners will be billed quarterly with their sewer and water bills. Ordinance 222 will not become law until its third reading at council meetings.

Whether the council should judge the effectiveness of the air-injected foam simply on videotapes by the foam's manufacturer, the Oden Co., "I'm not sure this is a proven product," Luber said.

The City Council voted Tuesday to implement mandatory pickup following a public hearing on the matter during which one resident favored the idea and one opposed.

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Panel says plutonium supply adequate despite claims by DOE

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has enough plutonium to maintain, and even expand, its nuclear arsenal well into the future, a panel of government scientific advisers said Wednesday, contradicting the Bush administration.

The National Research Council panel also said that because plutonium supplies are adequate, the administration should drop plans to spend \$1 billion in Idaho and Colorado to provide additional plutonium-producing capacity.

The judgment that current plutonium supplies are sufficient is not shared by the Energy Department, which owns the nation's nuclear weapons production facilities, but it jibes with claims by private arms control groups and many members of Congress.

"This is a certification by a semi-official body that you don't need" additional plutonium supplies, said David Albright, senior staff scientist of the Federation of American Scientists, which urges a halt to production of nuclear arms materials.

In a report detailing the findings of its year-long study of the nuclear weapons production complex, the National Research Council also said dangerous amounts of plutonium residue may have accumulated in ventilation systems at the Savannah River weapons plant in South Carolina, the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California and the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico.

The report noted that Energy Department contractors recently discovered significant accumulations of plutonium in ventilation systems at the Hanford nuclear reservation in Washington state and the Rocky Flats weapons plant near Denver. This raised the possibility of accidental nuclear chain reactions.

In assessing environmental problems of the weapons complexes, the report applauded the department's improved efforts to clean up the radioactive and toxic wastes that have accumulated at virtually all 17 major weapons facilities. But it said more should be done to limit future contamination by using new technologies and management methods to reduce the rate of waste generation.

On the subject of plutonium, the report noted that the United States already has more than 20,000 nuclear weapons.

"The plutonium in these devices, plus that in the supply chain, is obviously sufficient to supply a nuclear deterrent of the existing size or even greater," the report said, adding later, "It is not sensible to produce more plutonium than we need."

The Energy Department had no immediate comment on the report. The department commissioned the report in February 1988 at the instruction of Congress.

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Car belonging to robbery suspect burns following bomb blast in Butte, Mont. Wednesday

Robbery ends with bomb blast

BUTTE, Mont. (AP) — A distraught man who robbed a pharmacy by threatening to explode a bomb attached to his body later was cornered by police and detonated a bomb that critically injured himself, blew up his car and injured two lawmen and two firefighters, authorities said Wednesday.

Nobody was killed.

Butte-Silver Bow Sheriff Bob Butorovich was hospitalized in satisfactory condition and was being held for observation. Lt. Bobby Lee was treated and released from St. James Hospital.

The lawmen were hurt when Terry Rossland, 37, detonated a bomb inside his car following negotiations that spanned more than an hour. His condition was termed critical and he was being flown to a burn center in Salt Lake City Wednesday night, officials said.

The two lawmen were hurt in the initial explosion at 3:14 p.m. MST. Butorovich was knocked over and Lee was blown back 100 feet by the force of the explosion.

One minute later there was another explosion inside the car and that was when firefighters John Pauli and Jim Olsen were injured. Both were treated and later released from the hospital, officials said.

A third explosion occurred two minutes after the second but no one else was injured.

Officials said Rossland apparently was upset because his wife, Paula, filed for divorce earlier Wednesday and also asked for a restraining order to keep Rossland from bothering her or the couple's 15-year-old son.

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The bizarre chain of events began about 1:45 p.m. when Rossland walked into an "Oxco Drug" and approached the pharmacy, ordering personnel there to give him various drugs and threatening to detonate a bomb he said he was carrying, authorities said.

He was given the drugs and left the store without incident, lawmen said.

Authorities spotted Rossland's vehicle and tried to surround it to protect pedestrians in the business district of the city.

Rossland's car was parked and surrounded shortly after 2 p.m. at one of the busiest intersections in the city and the area was cordoned off, officials said.

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Valley life

Parents' group eases pain of coping with a child's murder

DEAR ABBY: The letter asking how a mother who has lost a child should respond when asked how many children she has most certainly hit home. Since my son's murder in 1987, I also have a hard time with that question. He was only 23.

Your recommendation of Compassionate Friends was excellent, but you also need to make people aware of Parents of Murdered Children. It is a wonderful self-help support group. Parents of children who were murdered have different feelings and needs than parents of children who died of natural causes. We have to deal with totally different situations, such as: police departments, if the murderer was a friend or relative, with the court system, the press, the painful ordeal of fac-

ing the murderer, unsolved murders, and the terrible "why-did-this-have-to-happen" question.

I know this too. It is a very pleasant subject, but there are a lot of parents out there who could use this information. Please let them know about us, Abby.

— **LEVADA AUSTIN-GHESEY, DETROIT**

DEAR LEVADA: My condolences on the loss of your beloved son, and thank you for letting me know about Parents of Murdered Children. The statistics are shocking: Since 1978, your organization has grown to 18,000 members and 300 chapters in the U.S. and Canada. Interested persons should write to the national office. The address:



Abigail VanBuren Dear Abby

P.O.M.C., 100 E. Eighth St., Suite B-41, Cincinnati, Ohio 45203. P.M.C. is non-profit, with no dues or membership, and is supported entirely by donations, which are tax-deductible.

DEAR ABBY: How does a wife know for certain that the "other woman" is out of her husband's life? Please ask your readers, Abby. My husband's "friend" has been in our lives for many years. My husband says it's over, but I can't believe him. He has lied, cheated and

betrayed me for so long that his words mean nothing. — **BEWILDERED IN GREENSBURG, PA.**

DEAR BEWILDERED: Does your husband have unexplained absences for hours at a time? Is he always where he says he is going to be? Can you reach him by phone when he's not home? Can he look you in the eye? Has your love life perked off? (This may not mean anything because some husbands work twice as hard at being good lovers when they're inviolated away from home.) Is he short of money?

You could put a "tail" (private detective) on him, but that's very expensive, and it's usually done only when a spouse wants evidence for a divorce.

DEAR ABBY: I am planning a spring wedding. There are many family problems concerning weddings, but ours is different from most. "Harold" and I have gone to-

gether for four years and announced our engagement on Thanksgiving Day. Amid all our happiness, we received an unexpected shock. My sister and Harold's father, who is twice my sister's age and still married to Harold's mother, announced that they had moved in together. That's bad enough, but my sister is expecting!

Abby, my dreams of a storybook wedding have been crushed. My fiancé and I have decided not to invite my sister or his father to our wedding. My mother, on the other hand, is upset with us. She says my sister and Harold's father are "family" — no matter what — and they should not be excluded from our wedding. Abby, I just can't invite them. It would make everyone uncomfortable. The whole town is talking already! Are we wrong for not wanting them — even if they are family?

DEAR BRIDE: You are not wrong. Furthermore, it's your wedding, not your mother's, and if you and your fiancé choose to exclude certain members of your family, it's your right. Do it your way and don't feel guilty. All the best to you and Harold.

Facts about drugs, AIDS, how to prevent unwanted pregnancy are all in "What Every Teen Should Know." Send name, address, plus check or money order for \$3.50 to: Dear Abby's Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054. (Postage included.)

Emphasize safety with toddler's toys

By The Associated Press.

Take toys seriously as you shop for the holidays.

To make safe and appropriate selections, keep in mind this checklist offered by the Toy Manufacturers of America, an industry trade association:

- Use the age group label as a guide and look for other safety messages printed on the packaging.

- Think about other children who may have access to the toy in your home. A toy intended for an older child may be dangerous in the hands of a younger sibling, so consider supervision and storage.

- When buying toys for children under three, avoid those with small parts that can be swallowed or with sharp points or edges that could be hazardous.

- Stuffed animals and dolls should have sturdy, well-sewn seams, and attached items like eyes and noses should be securely fastened so they cannot be bitten or

pulled off. Rubber toys such as rattles, squeakers or teething rings should be too large to fit in an infant's mouth, even when compressed.

- Electric toys with heating elements should be chosen only for children over eight, and then only when there will be adult supervision.

- Toy arrows and darts should have blunt tips made of rubber, flexible plastic or cork. Make sure their shafts are securely attached to their tips.

- If the toy is painted, look for the words "non-toxic" on the package or label. Fabrics should be labeled "flame retardant" or "flame resistant," and stuffed and cloth toys should be marked "machine washable." Electrical toys should have the Underwriters Laboratories "UL Approved" tag.

- Choose a toy chest that has a removable lid or a lid with spring-loaded support that will hold it securely open. The chest should have smooth, finished edges, holes for

ventilation and hinge-line clearance to prevent pinched fingers.

The TMA also notes that plastic wrappings from toys and other products should be discarded immediately. Adults should check toys periodically and encourage safe play habits, such as following recommended instructions and secure storage. Toys appropriate to an older child but potentially hazardous to a younger sibling in the house should be stored out of reach of the younger child. Games or toys with small pieces are especially hazardous to small children, who tend to put things into their mouths.

Establish a toy storage habit with your children and explain to them how accidents can happen with unattended toys. Large toys like wagons or bikes should be protected from the elements and not left where they can become fire or safety hazards. Encourage children to inspect toys for needed repairs or replacements.

School spellathon pulls in \$10,000

TWIN FALLS — Morningside Elementary School's recent spellathon raised nearly \$10,000 for school activities. The event was sponsored by the school's Parent-Teacher Organization.

The students secured pledges and collected money for each word they spelled correctly. Total collections were \$10,542.94; after prizes were

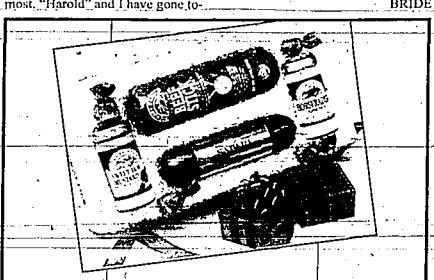
awarded and expenses paid, the event netted \$9,824.27.

Cole Moeller, a third-grader in Miss Hepworth's class, collected \$739 and won a school jacket for his efforts. Second-graders Brandi Lee and Lindsey Wagner and fifth-grader Melody Hrafac each earned over \$200.

The top three student collectors in each grade were awarded gift certifi-

cates for area stores. Winners were second-graders Brandi Lee, Lindsey Wagner and Mathew Hargrave; third-graders Cole Moeller, Ryan Skoen and Branden Smalley; fourth-graders Karly Pippitt, Andrea Voorhees and Tyson Chaplin; fifth-graders Melody Hrafac, Randy Carpenter and Alicia Gabica; and sixth-graders Jason Bowman, Christina Weiras and Jason Suter.

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Idaho

Briefly

Trial slated for Coeur d'Alene man

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — A Coeur d'Alene man charged with 12 counts of arson has been bound over to stand trial on five of those charges in 1st District Court.

Kootenai County Magistrate Neil Walter ruled Tuesday that Wess Knapp, 20, should be tried on three counts of first-degree arson and two counts of second-degree arson.

Knapp remained in the Kootenai County Jail in lieu of \$200,000 bond.

If convicted on all five counts, he could be sentenced to up to 80 years in prison.

Seven additional arson charges are pending against Knapp, who was arrested Dec. 7 for allegedly starting fires that gutted two Coeur d'Alene buildings weeks earlier.

Man free after Idaho's 1st lottery trial

BOISE (AP) — A 4th District Court jury has found a Boise man innocent after the state's first trial on a charge of altering an Idaho Lottery ticket.

James Peirso, 25, was charged with a felony count of altering a lottery ticket last summer to produce a \$10 winner, but was acquitted Tuesday after a 10-day trial.

If convicted, Peirso would have faced up to five years in prison and a \$25,000 fine.

"The defendant had a fair trial," said Ada County Deputy Prosecutor Alan White. "I talked to a few jurors afterwards. The state's satisfied that the jury got to hear all the evidence and we accept the outcome."

One of two co-defendants in the case, Gwen Woolsey, 35, of Boise, testified at his trial that Peirso altered the ticket she admitted cashing.

"I argued that she was lying and cooked up the tale to get a good deal," Deputy Public Defender Rick Toothman said.

Hodge appointed to Idaho tax post

BOISE (AP) — Robert B. Hodge of Boise, former executive with Intermountain Gas Co., has been appointed to the Idaho Tax Commission.

Gov. Cecil Andrus announced the appointment Wednesday. Hodge, 65, is a Republican and succeeds former GOP state legislator Darwin Young on the four-member commission. Young retired last month to return to his Blackfoot farm.

Hodge served as a top assistant to Republican governor Robert E. Smylie in the late 1950s and early 1960s.

"Bob Hodge will bring a wealth of business, legal and governmental experience to the Idaho Tax Commission. I am delighted that he has agreed to serve the state of Idaho," the governor said, in a prepared statement. "He will be a fine addition to the commission."

Owyhee County halts tire dumping

HOMEDALE (AP) — The Owyhee County Commission and the Southwest District Health Department have halted the dumping of used tires southwest of Homedale until the persons responsible obtain permits.

County Commissioner Hal Tolmie said a business operated by Frank and Alex Gordon is dumping old tires in the desert southwest of Homedale, without a conditional use permit.

"What I'm worried about is that probably 30,000 or 40,000 tires are already out there, and they might get 100,000 or so tires and then tell us they don't want the land anymore, just let it go for taxes," Tolmie said. "Then the county would have to take care of it."

Tolmie said he has been told the Gordons plan to use the tires as fuel for an electric plant, but officials had no details.

Caldwell train crash victims identified

CALDWELL (AP) — A Caldwell woman and her sons who died in a collision with a Union Pacific freight train have been identified, police say.

Killed in the wreck Tuesday night were Cheryl Farris, 27; Brian Edwards, 13; Clint Farris, 8; and Joshua Farris, 4, Caldwell police Lt. Dave Lamb said.

There were no witnesses to the 7:15 p.m. accident at the Ustick Road crossing at the south end of Caldwell, Police Chief Bob Sobba said. The crossing has no gate or lights, only a stop sign and traditional railroad crossing sign, Chief Bob Sobba said.

"It appears they just did not either see or hear the train," Sobba said. "The car kept inching, inching through the intersection. A whole family wiped out, that's all I know."

Nampa praised for work on housing

NAMPA (AP) — The city of Nampa's efforts to provide low- and moderate-income rental housing and clean up a local eyesore has won the praise of Gov. Cecil Andrus.

The Idaho Housing Agency has supplied \$75,000 in federal grant money to developer Earl Geselle to renovate a Nampa building into 10 rental units by spring.

"Rental housing in Nampa is at a premium with 100 percent occupancy," Nampa Mayor Winston Goering said. "These additional rental units will help ease a tight Nampa rental market."

Nampa was awarded \$100,000 from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Symms backs INEL expansion

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — Sen. Steve Symms continues to back defense-related projects at the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory despite continued diplomatic progress with the Soviet Union and the breakdown of the Communist system in Eastern Europe.

But Symms said INEL can survive even if the plutonium-refining Special Isotope Separation project or the tritium-producing New Production Reactor are not built.

That is, "if we don't allow the fearmongers -- the emotional New York Times -- nuclear bias to detract from the good that has happened at the INEL," he said.

Symms said in a news conference Tuesday the future is equally bright for the INEL in non-defense endeavors.

"If tritium and plutonium are not needed, fine," Symms said. "We'll build high-temperature gas reactors."

The NPR, he said, "is a viable project even if not used for production of weapons-grade material." The high-temperature cooled gas reactor could help meet the nation's future energy needs, he said.

INEL also could be a leader in providing technology for waste cleanup.

But Symms said he was not giving up on the defense-related projects and said the Bush administration has not backed away from its support for SIS.

"We shouldn't jump to the conclusion that the Cold War is over," Symms said. "They haven't disarmed or stopped defense spending in the Soviet Union yet. They are saying the right things, and I'm encouraged by the rhetoric we hear, but I think it's premature to say we can unilaterally disarm the United States at this point."

The situation in Eastern Europe has given a lift to SIS opponents, Symms said, "but I think that's a naive view of what has happened in Eastern Europe."



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Boys protest catalog toy as 'sick humor'

BOISE (AP) — Four young brothers, upset by a Sears, Roebuck and Co. Christmas catalog toy that features an exploding rocket booster, have taken on the giant retailer and apparently won.

"Sabotage the rocket booster" is how the holiday Wishbook promotes an exploding toy rocket, part of a series called "Building Blasters."

Angry over the association with the fatal January 1986 explosion of the space shuttle Challenger, the Sanders boys fired off letters of

complaint in September to President Bush and Sears executives.

"We feel this is very sick humor," wrote Jared, 13, and Seth, 9. "We don't want children learning to blow up space shuttles! There are plenty of terrorists in the world already."

Younger brothers Spencer, 5, and Cody, 3, also signed the letters.

Rita Gutke, a Sears customer relations official in Chicago, recently replied to the boys.

"Your concern is valid," she wrote. "I doubt that this product will be offered in future catalogs."

The catalog, distributed last summer, invited customers to build a rocket pad and "detonate" the accompanying rocket upon launch. That prompted condemnations Tuesday by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration and McCall teacher Barbara Morgan.

As NASA's backup "Teacher in Space," Mrs. Morgan witnessed the Challenger explosion. It killed all seven astronauts on board, including New Hampshire teacher Christa McAuliffe.

"It's pretty disgusting, from both a parent and a school-teacher point of view," Mrs. Morgan said of the toy. "I sure like to see our kids focus on positive, constructive activity."

NASA's James Funkhouser, a public services division director in the Office of Communications, agreed that the toy could be considered offensive. "It's not in very good taste," he said.

Funkhouser said he wrote a letter of complaint to Sears a week ago after learning of the Sanders' letter to President Bush.

Teamsters seek delay in Pocatello vote

POCATELLO (AP) — Teamsters Union representatives have asked Pocatello officials to delay until January a vote on whether municipal employees want to join the union. Posing the election would allow both union and city officials to work through some differences, including which employees are eligible to vote, those involved said.

North Idaho facilities top priority list for counties

BOISE (AP) — Funding for regional juvenile detention centers in Lewiston and Coeur d'Alene will be the top priority of county officials from throughout Idaho before the 1990 Legislature.

The plan to ask lawmakers for \$3.5 million for a juvenile facility in Kootenai County and \$1.5 million for a detention center in Nez Perce County was ranked as the most pressing of the state's regional needs at a meeting this week in Boise.

"We were very happy about that,"

Nez Perce County Commission Chairman L. Bud George said Tuesday. "I will say the people of southern Idaho were good to us, because they realize they don't have as much of a problem as we do."

County officials from each region of the state discussed the juvenile detention issue and how to approach legislators for the money to pay for a series of regional facilities.

Regional centers now are located in Boise and St. Anthony.

Nez Perce County currently pays

to house its juvenile offenders at a Valley County facility in McCall. That costs \$80 a day for each juvenile, but the price is going up to \$114 a day in a few weeks.

As a result, Nez Perce County officials want to establish a regional detention center in Lewiston to serve Region II, which also includes Latah, Clearwater, Lewis and Idaho counties.

The proposed facility in Coeur d'Alene would serve Region I, which includes Kootenai, Shoshone, Benewah, Bonner and Boundary counties.

Nez Perce County commissioners have expressed interest in buying an 18-bed facility owned by the Northwest Children's Home in Lewiston.

Other proposals discussed at the Boise meeting included locating juvenile jails for more serious offenders in northern and southwestern Idaho and establishment of more diagnostic centers to evaluate and refer juvenile offenders for treatment.

The state's only diagnostic centers now are in Orofino and St. Anthony.

Cities delay decision on detergent restriction

COBUR D'ALENE (AP) — Coeur d'Alene and Post Falls city officials have put off further action on proposals to ban the sale of phosphate detergents, which supporters contend are polluting Panhandle waters.

The Coeur d'Alene City Council has scheduled a Jan. 16 public hearing on the issue, and the Post Falls City Council tabled a proposed ordinance until its Jan. 16 meeting after its first reading Tuesday.

The city council in Spokane, Wash., also is scheduled to consider a ban on phosphate detergents next month, Spokane Mayor Vicki McNeill has asked upstream jurisdictions on the Snake River, including the Idaho communities, to join in talks that could lead to a regional ban.

Phosphates promote plant and algae growth and speed the eutrophication or oxygen depletion of rivers and lakes. Wastewater containing phosphate detergents have been blamed for last summer's development of "blooms" of green-

scum on Long Lake, about nine miles northwest of Spokane.

Supporters of a phosphate detergent ban contend it will reduce the amount of the chemical entering the Spokane River from Coeur d'Alene's wastewater treatment facility by at least 20 percent.

David Sirchuk, director of the Association for the Protection of Lake Spokane, told the Coeur d'Alene City Council on Tuesday that a ban is an environmental and economic necessity.

Lakeside business during last summer's Long Lake algae bloom fell by 50 percent, Sirchuk said.

But Mike Smith, a representative of FMC Corp., which operates an elemental phosphorous plant in Pocatello, called banning phosphate detergents "an ineffective management alternative."

Smith said phosphorous can be removed from detergents by using other chemicals, but the environmental impacts those substances cause is not fully known.

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Ririe lights up for 2nd time

RIRIE (AP) — For the second time, people at Ririe have gathered for a Christmas lighting ceremony. They hope it lasts longer this time.

Last week, for the first time in years, townspeople gathered as Christmas lights and decorations went up on a 65-foot tree. The next morning, the decorations were gone, stolen during the night.

But residents from the area heard about the incident, and donations allowed Ririe to replace everything. The lights went on again Tuesday night.

At last count, more than \$600 worth of lights, decorations and money were contributed, said Mark Roberts, a local broadcaster. Roberts discussed the town's plight on his radio program, and people began calling in to contribute to the city's cause. From there, the donation drive took on a life of its own, he said.

Utah Power and Light employees donated labor and light repair trucks to string the lights on the park's large evergreen, and on every other tree on the square.

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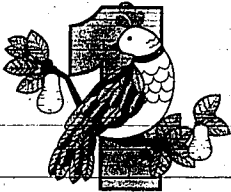
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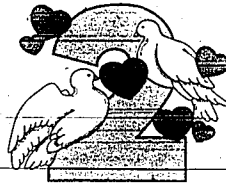
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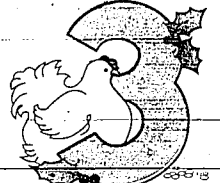
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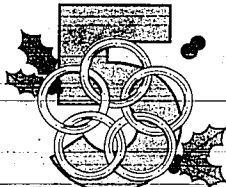
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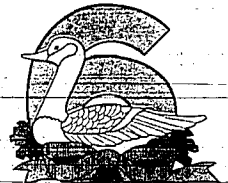
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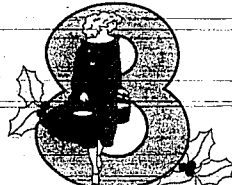
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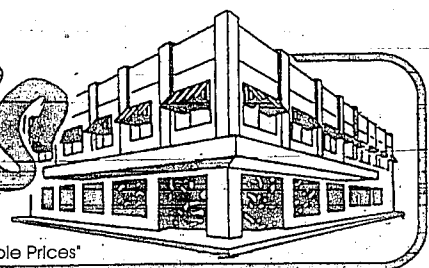
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New fusion method chief says recipe will be released soon

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — It is time for the University of Utah to take its recipe for producing a room-temperature nuclear fusion reaction out from under the bushel of secrecy, says new National Cold Fusion director Fritz G. Will.

Will, a General Electric scientist appointed to the directorship on Tuesday, said his first priority in Utah will be producing a set of instructions that will enable researchers worldwide to reproduce the U of U's fusion experiment.

In March, U of U chemist B. Stanley Pons and Martin Fleischmann, a British colleague, announced they had produced room-temperature, or "cold", fusion, in their laboratories.

The reaction reportedly occurred when rods of palladium wrapped

with electrically charged coils of platinum were immersed in deuterium-rich heavy water.

However, Pons and Fleischmann, apparently seeking to protect their discovery, were roundly criticized for not providing specific details and instructions needed to reproduce their findings exactly.

"Once a recipe can be written to reproduce the phenomenon so that other scientists can replicate it, then I am utterly convinced that money will be flowing freely," Will said.

"Until such time, however, it is going to be more difficult."

While wanting to make it easier for other researchers to reproduce Utah's fusion experiments, Will said he is personally confident in Pons' and Fleischmann's work.

"Based upon my own evaluation

of much of the available evidence presented by B. Stanley Pons and Martin Fleischmann and later by others both in the United States and abroad, I am convinced that new scientific effects have been discovered that may have highly significant technological applications," Will said Tuesday in a telephone interview from GE's Development Center in Schenectady, N.Y.

"My No. 1 goal as director of the NCFI will be to concentrate the institute's efforts on reproducing on demand the liberation of unusually large amounts of heat and tritium," he said.

The search for a full scientific understanding of the phenomenon will be another high priority goal.

St. Anthony signs lease for facility

ST. ANTHONY (AP) — Calling it an historic day in the city's history, St. Anthony Mayor Merrill Rose has signed a five-year lease with the Department of Corrections so the old Fremont General Hospital building can be used for the state's first prison work camp.

The lease depends on the state negotiating a work contract with the U.S. Forest Service or other public agency and Legislative approval of the funding, but other details were worked out at a meeting Wednesday between the City Council and corrections officials.

Corrections Director Richard Vernon said he has worked out an agreement with the Targhee National Forest to provide work projects for the 100 minimum security inmates he hopes to have moved in by July 1.

The last major item of contention — whether the state should pay a cash rental — was discussed at length, but Vernon said he does not have the authority to add the item to his budget. It already has been submitted to Gov. Cecil Andrus.

Rep. Stan Hawkins, R-Ucon, one of five state legislators at the meeting, suggested the lease include cash rent. He said he doubted the Legislature would scrap the lease on the basis of a \$25,000 cost, but "if the Legislature has the option to get it for free, it will take it."

Clergy seeks more pressure in policy

POCATELLO (AP) — Pocatello-area clergy leaders are calling for the U.S. government to pressure El Salvador into stopping terrorist activities against church workers in that Central American nation.

"We believe the action of the United States government to date has not been sufficient to bring about any significant change in the behavior of the Salvadoran government," said a statement, signed by the clergy members.

"Further, we are distressed that attention is being diverted from the crisis at hand by the recent incident of the crash of an arms-carrying plane, purportedly from Nicaragua. This diversion is unacceptable."

Signing the statement Wednesday were clergy from Episcopal, Catholic, Adventist, Methodist, Presbyterian, Central Christian, First Congregational, Lutheran, Baptist and Unitarian churches and the Jewish Temple Emanuel.

The statement, read by the Rev. Roger LaChance, pastor of St. Anthony's Roman Catholic Church, said the U.S. government should work for the release of church workers now being held in detention.

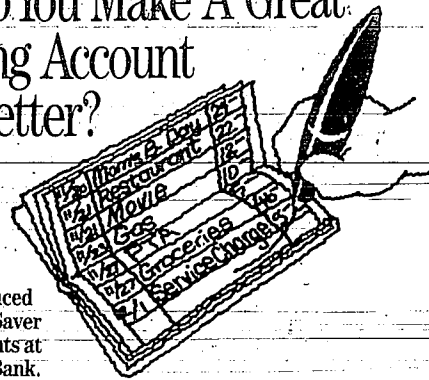
Several of the Pocatello participants said they did not accept the U.S. government's stance that El Salvador's leaders were not involved in the recent slayings of six Jesuit priests and two women, or in the detention of numerous church officials.

"There's a funny inner feeling that something's fishy there," said LaChance.

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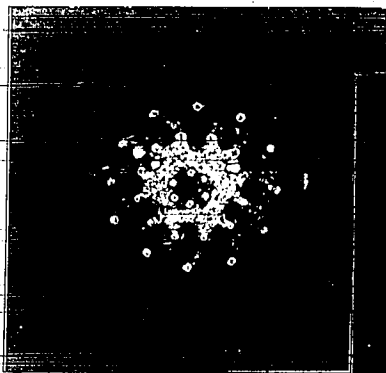
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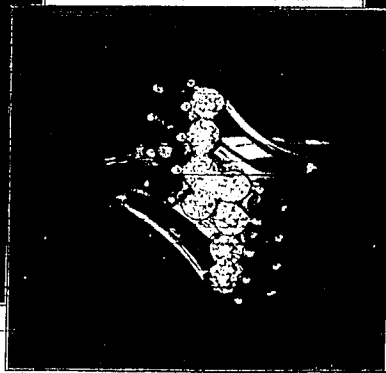
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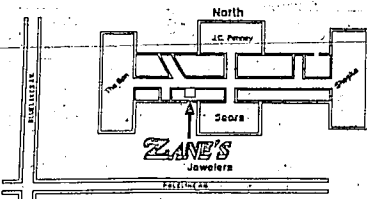
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Consider a custom-made suit next time

Retailers, long before the time of laborer Harry Truman, were saying, "Clothes make the man. But all men are not created equal, and off-the-rack suits do not always show them at their best. Consider the man with broad shoulders and a thin waist, or short legs and wide hips, or large stomach and small neck.



Sylvia Porter

In the past, men like these have had to go to the tailor to get suits that may not fit properly. Now, as ready-made suits have increased in price — the best, like Oxford, go for more than \$1,000 — custom suits are within the reach of more buyers at prices not dramatically different from suits off the rack.

"Suits that fit a lot for a man's frame of mind," says Claude Barchi, a leading New York-based custom tailor. "No man has a perfect body, and a good custom tailor can camouflage his physical shortcomings. If one leg is shorter than the other, if one shoulder is higher than the other, if he's flat or barrel chested, custom tailoring can compensate for it. There's no problem. What's more, he gets his choice of fabric, style, silhouette and color."

Prices for custom tailoring can be as low as \$400 from Long Kong tailors to the more elegant suits which begin at \$900 and go higher for tailors like Barchi. Better men's stores may also offer custom tailoring, often from the same workshops that cut their top ready-made suits.

To make sure you get true value from a purchase that costs that much money, Claude Barchi has compiled some rules for those buying their first custom suits:

1. Consider the style and color. Deep, darker tones, subdued patterns and stripes help you look taller and slimmer. Also, the most practical colors are navy blue and solid gray or a pin-striped version of the colors.
2. Examine the fabric. The best fabric is super 120 percent or super 100 percent wool made in either England or Italy. When you're selecting fabric, ask the tailor to show you the label so you can ascertain that the wool comes from one of these two countries. Never be lulled into accepting polyester or wool blends.
3. Check the weight of the wool. Pick a 9 1/2-ounce wool, if you want a suit you can wear 12 months a year. A suit made of 11- or 12-ounce wool will be uncomfortable during the summer months, but will be functional during the rest of the year. And a suit made of 14-ounce wool is designed to be worn during the winter months.
4. When you go for your first fitting, it is a good idea to put the items you usually put into your suit jacket and trousers. In addition, wear the type of shirt and shoes you plan to wear with the suit.
5. During the fitting, make sure that everything is sewn with silk thread, that the edge of the jacket, the area around the collar, the sleeves, the button holes and waistband of the trousers and the button hole in the trousers are all hand-stitched. Also check to see there are four button holes in the sleeves and one on the left lapel.
6. Look in a three-way mirror to make sure that the collar is snug to the neck.

See PORTER on Page C2

The 13th day of Christmas: Return day

By S. J. DIAMOND
Los Angeles Times

Does Christmas shopping seem a hassle? Compared to the day after Christmas, it's a breeze.

For retailers, that day brings the year's biggest traffic, and the third biggest sales volume, cut by the biggest volume of returns — a single day getting "a build-up of over four weeks of buying," says Charles Zalka, vice president of consumer services for the Broadway stores in Southern California. It's thus both good and bad for retailers, and, feeling the pressure, they show their true colors in how they handle it.

For consumers, it's big crowds and the likelihood of skirmishes with stores demanding better proof that the goods were theirs; or refusing to credit more than the after-Christmas sale price. Some stand

though, because in the short run, it's more profitable. Others are lenient because, says Holly Tatum, manager of customer services at Marshall Field's in Chicago, "we hope to build good will at this time of year."

Where they exist, state and municipal laws governing return policies generally only require that a policy be disclosed to the purchaser. Few concern themselves with specific terms, although New York state says that any retailer that doesn't disclose his policies must offer a choice of cash or credit within 20 days of purchase.

Gift returns are a special problem, rarely addressed by policy or posting. The gift returner was not the purchaser, and there's often no sales receipt to prove the origin, purchase date, or price of the goods. Most stores also give Christmas returns special treatment, not because of Christmas spirit, but for expedience, given the sheer number

and concentration of returns. Many also recognize the marketing opportunity in "people who came in only because they received a gift," says Zalka. "It gives us a crack at building new customers."

Many big stores — department and chain — say they're more liberal about gift returns at Christmas because they're so committed to giving service. It obviously helps if the consumer has kept the original packaging, but a surprising number of stores say that if they carry the item at all, they'll take the shopper's word that it came from their store. "The only exception would be something bearing another store's label," says Kathleen Waugh, spokesman at Atlanta headquarters for Macy's South and Bullock's stores.

Most will give cash as well as credit or exchange, a custom that might please the person making the return, but not the gift

giver, who would have given cash himself had he wanted to. If it's over a certain amount, some send a check — a system that could reveal a suspicious number of returns by any one person, who may be stealing goods just for their return value.

Small stores are another matter; they usually give credits rather than cash, though their limited selections make it more difficult to use them up. Some say their cash flow is too precarious. Some are just short-sighted. Some are too involved psychologically, because at small stores, says Joseph B. Siegel, vice president of merchandising at the National Retail Merchants Association in New York, "the owner is on the floor and recognizes it's money they'd be losing."

Service philosophies and efficiency break down somewhat when it comes to the

See RETURN on Page C2

They're not Santa's elves — elves have until Sunday

The Associated Press

REDMOND, Wash. — It's crunch time at Nintendo's only U.S. repair shop.

With 800 broken electronic game machines to fix each day, scores of technicians are working feverishly to get them finished and back home in time to play the new games placed under Christmas trees.

When Super Mario won't jump, when the screen goes blank, when the whole gadget chooses to be a lump of uncooperative plastic, the place to send the misbehaving merchandise is Nintendo of America's headquarters in this Seattle suburb.

In a workshop crammed with testing equipment, TV monitors, spare computer boards and electronic parts from wounded toys, the 160 technicians try to "make things right."

At present, the home office is the only place in the United States to go with broken Nintendo Entertainment System, game packs and other products for the popular electronic toy. That will change next year, says Jon Pedersen, Nintendo's director of technical services; as the company starts opening dozens of service centers around across the country.

At the moment, however, Pedersen is worried about this week.

"Right now we're looking at quite a big load for the Christmas rush," Pedersen said. "We're trying to do the best we can now to get everything back to the consumer, which means we have to ship by Wednesday."

They've been making about 800 repairs a day, up from 400 to 500 before the holiday season. On the other hand, with Nintendo selling 9 million more game systems this year, "there's never really been a normal load," Pedersen said.

"It grows with the hardware sales. It never really levels off."

Nintendo's Entertainment System, a small computer that lets owners play games on a television screen, has been the nation's top selling toy the past three years. So far, nearly 20 million systems have been sold in this country, plus about 101 million individual game cartridges.

The company expects the game system will be in 22 percent of all U.S. households by the end of 1989, said spokesman Bill White.

Pedersen says the machines and games are pretty reliable, with a problem rate of about one-tenth of 1 percent. But with about 120 million control decks and game car-

tridges sold, that equates to something like 120,000 repair jobs.

The No. 1 troubleshooter for Nintendo "is simply dirty contacts between the game pack and the control deck," Pedersen said.

"Basically, because of the age group of the individual who uses this product, there tends to be a lot of sugar. The machines don't like carpet fuzz either, so when you play on the living room rug, put something under deck," Pedersen says.

Nintendo devices carry a 90-day warranty. After that, it's a flat \$30 to fix control decks and \$10 for each cartridge, no matter the problem.

"Well, we will call them to ask why we got a sack of parts," Pedersen said. "But I don't think to date, we've received a repair."

Starting early next year, Nintendo will open "World Class Service" repair centers at some of its "World of Nintendo" retail outlets. By the end of 1990, there should be about 200 service outlets, each capable of doing any repair the main workshop can.

That work load Pedersen will be cutting back. "The way the workload increases around here, I don't see it," he said.

Cut your utility bill

COARSE SCREEN - 1.0 METAL LOUVERS OR FINE SCREEN - 1.33

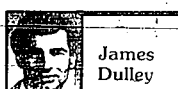
WOOD LOUVERS - 4.0

ADJUSTMENT FACTORS FOR VARIOUS VENT COVERS TO PROVIDE PROPER NET FREE VENT AREA

You need adequate 'net free' vent area

Adequate combustion air a must for comfort

Q - I am concerned about having adequate combustion air for my furnace and the hazards due to backdrafting. How can I check it and how can I supply combustion air to 107 G.P.



James Dullely

A - Providing adequate combustion air (preferably outdoor air) to your furnace and water heater is very important for several reasons — furnace efficiency, potentially deadly indoor air, and your comfort.

A 100,000 Btu/hr. gas furnace running continuously for seven hours would consume all the air in a 800 square foot house. If your house is airtight and you are operating your clothes dryer or kitchen or bathroom vent fan, your furnace and water heater may not get enough combustion air.

The operating efficiency of your furnace drops when it is starved of air.

Some common symptoms are yellowish flames, non-uniform flames that seem to "dance" on the burners, and soot around the opening of the furnace burner.

A lack of adequate combustion air may also cause deadly carbon monoxide (CO) to form. If it's severely short of air, the negative indoor pressure can draw the CO back down into your house. Inexpensive CO testing tablets for your house are available. Stick them up near your furnace and water heater and perhaps in your bedrooms. Check them often for color change.

To efficiently supply combustion air, you can build an enclosure around the furnace and water heater and duct outside combustion air to it. This not only solves the combustion air problem, but it reduces chilly drafts in your house.

See DULLEY on Page C2

Thanks a million

Getting legal counsel better solution than divorce

Minneapolis millionaire Percy Ross is internationally known for his philanthropic works and likes to encourage others to help solve problems for those in need. He has earned a fortune and a wealth of knowledge during his lifetime and wants to share both before his death. His motto is "He who gives gives the lives... also knows where it goes."



Percy Ross

Editor's Note: Mr. Ross' editor, Nancy Webber, is writing the column this week. As Mr. Ross is on the road for the approaching holidays, bringing his "Caring is Sharing" philosophy to readers across the country.

Dear Miss Webber: My request is for \$400 to obtain a divorce. A year ago, I married a guy who was already married. His wife was supposed to get the divorce, but papers were sent to him saying it was never granted. He left me and my four children — without a forwarding address. I have since met another man whom I love, and we want to be married but can't because of lack of money for my divorce. My children get along great with the new

man in my life. We would all be very grateful if you choose to help us.

— Mrs. L.T., Davenport, Iowa.

Dear Mrs. T.: You don't need money for a divorce; you need it for legal counsel. If the man you're supposedly married to now was never legally divorced from his first wife, I believe that alone would void your marriage to him.

It is my hope that the \$200 I'm sending will pay for an attorney to untangle your mess. Good luck and even better luck with the choice of men in your life.

Dear Miss Webber: Words alone can't tell you how much I love and appreciate my husband. We are in our 30s and both have full-time jobs. Since our wedding day 12 years ago, I've been diagnosed as one of

the many women who go through PMS most of the month. In my case, I have only one good week a month.

My husband wants to go to Chicago and see Paul McCartney in concert. He has his ticket and motel room reserved, but in all actuality, his going will really put us in a financial strain. He really deserves a great time, but I know how I am — bound to nag for the rest of his life that he spent money we really don't have. Would you please have Mr. Ross send him \$500 for gas, motel, food and souvenirs?

— Mrs. G.H., Little Rock, Ark.

Dear Mrs. H.: Who are you kidding? Life is making sacrifices, and I don't feel you're willing to make any for your husband. I hope during your "one good week" you find the wherewithal to send him to the concert. Who knows — you just may feel good about your selfless decision for the remaining three weeks in the month.

Dear Miss Webber: Mr. Ross seems too good to be true! As for us, we are a young, happy family with two children, striving to

make it on our own. My husband is a welder and makes just enough to feed and clothe us and to put gas in the truck. Our little cabin with no electricity or plumbing is snowed in during the winter and early spring.

Our only means to make it through the snow, to pack our food in over the last three miles of road, is by horse. Our problem is that we need a saddle — the cost is \$200 for a used one. Gradually, we'll get ahead because we're really working at it. Would you help us get a step farther?

— Mrs. C.M., Brito, N.M.

Dear Mrs. M.: Chances are I'd be keener in horse apples when Mr. Ross returns if I didn't help you, so it's my privilege to extend a helping hand. You're back in the saddle again, because our THANKS A MILLION check to get your haul of burden-harassed is on the way. Best wishes.

Dear Miss Webber: I'm an unhappy 17-year-old girl and spend all my free time feeling depressed. Since September 1988, I have had a menstrual cycle. This has caused facial hair and a bad case of acne,

among other things.

The complexion among girls is so stiff these days, I feel even more self-conscious of my appearance. I'd like to see an endocrinologist, a doctor who specializes in hormones. The first appointment runs \$150, and I don't have the money. If you can help me begin to treat my problem, it would mean a lot to me. Please, I would appreciate any advice you or Mr. Ross may have that would lift my spirits.

— Miss R.J., San Jose, Calif.

Dear Miss J.: Any advice I could dispense wouldn't come close to the value of having you solve the immediate problem treated by a physician. As far as Mr. Ross goes, he simply said by phone, "Tell that young lady to go for it," which translates to "This check is in the mail."

You may write to Percy Ross c/o The Times-News, P.O. Box 35000, Minneapolis, Minn. 55435. Include a telephone number if you wish. All letters sent to Mr. Ross are read. Only a few are answered in this column, although others may be acknowledged privately.

Revlon's anti-cellulite claims unsubstantiated

Q: I would like to get rid of my cellulite. Is a product like Revlon's Ultima II helpful, as it advertises?



Better Business Bureau

A: Revlon's claims are unsubstantiated. According to the Federal Trade Commission, Revlon claims that the product significantly reduces cellulite and reduces the skin's bumpy texture caused by cellulite; that its product helps to disperse toxins and excess water from areas where cellulite appears; and that anti-cellulite body complex increases sub-skin tissue strength and tone.

The complaint further charges that through its advertising and promotional material, Revlon represented that it had a reasonable basis for such claims when in fact it did not. Therefore, the claim is false and misleading. Because of the physiological effects promised by advertisements, competent and reliable scientific evidence should exist to substantiate any claims, according to the FTC. In other words, cellulite is another word for fat; and the only way to get it off and keep it off is through a balanced diet and moderate exercise.

Q: I received a credit card through the mail that I don't want. Should I just destroy it? No, this is not the thing to do. If you don't want a credit card currently held or one you receive through the mail, don't just cut it up and throw it away. Instead, cut it up and return it to the issuer. No, this is not the thing to do. If you don't want a credit card currently held or one you receive through the mail, don't just cut it up and throw it away. Instead, cut it up and return it to the issuer.

your credit report. This could stop your obtaining needed credit or an increase in your present credit limits in the future.

For example, if a charge or credit card is received with a \$5,000 limit that you don't want to keep, throwing it away and not using it doesn't tell the issuing firm that you don't want the card. In fact, it does just the opposite; an account with an open \$5,000 line of credit but with a zero balance may appear on your credit file. Should you ever make an application for credit or seek to increase present credit limits, this unused open line of credit could be cause for denial. From a lender's point of view, this is considered available money and such accounts may have to be closed out before further credit would be extended.

The BBB recommends a periodic review of your credit file. Credit cards are a wonderful convenience, but if you carry too many (which may be stolen) and use them too casually, they can be dangerous to your wealth!

Consumer Watch is a readers' service column. Questions of general interest will be answered here; others will be answered by mail. Address inquiries to: Better Business Bureau, 1333 W. Jefferson St., Boise, Idaho 83702.

Mortgage interest prepaid for the month

Q: I recently got a \$135,000 second mortgage on my house. It is a 30-year, fixed rate loan with an interest rate of 11 percent. We signed the documents Nov. 20, and got our money Nov. 27. We were given a choice of a payment due date, and we selected the fifth of the month. We were told that our first payment of \$1,311.66 was due Dec. 5. Why should a full payment be due when we only had the money for a few days? Our loan officer wasn't much help when we asked.

A: Actually, the answer is quite simple: Mortgage interest is prepaid for the month. So, the payment you made Dec. 5 was for the period between that date and Jan. 5. Your Jan. 5 payment is for the following month, and so on until the loan is paid off.

You might also check the terms of your loan. It is possible that you have 10 or 15 days after the due date in which to make the mortgage payment before being subject to a penalty charge. This extension effectively allows you to split the month with your lender; you prepay two weeks interest and post-pay the other two. As you might imagine, lenders don't like you to do this. Also, if you should ever accidentally miss the final payment date, you are subject to a substantial late charge. So, it makes sense to pay close attention to the terms of your agreement with your lender.

Q: I am one of the many unfortunate holders of unsecured debentures issued by American Continental, parent of Lincoln Savings. I invested \$12,000 in the debentures and now that American Continental is in bankruptcy, I have little reason to be-

YOUR MONEY



By Carla Lazzareschi

I believe that I will get my money back. I know I can write the investment off on my taxes, but when I am getting lots of conflicting opinions. Some say I can do it this year, others say I have to wait until the bankruptcy proceedings are completed. Help!

A: Your plea is one we have been hearing often in recent months. So, our advice bears repeating — again. Despite what you have heard from accountants and others, the Internal Revenue Service has no set rules on when you can declare a capital loss, which is what you have. The only guideline is that you can declare the loss when it can be "reasonably determined" that your investment is actually worthless.

Is that when bankruptcy proceedings are completed? Perhaps, but a bankruptcy does not even have to be filed for the determination to be made. You must only have reasonable and sufficient evidence to support your conclusion.

As we have said before, this is a fine line that you unfortunate investors must walk, because if you are overly pessimistic, the government can force

you to refile your tax form and assess you a penalty for your judgment error. And, if you wait too long to make the assessment, you could be the one who write-off entirely because the IRS imposes a three-year statute of limitations on capital loss deductions. That said, our tax advisers say taking the loss on American Continental debentures this year is probably a sound bet given the company's current situation.

Q: I am a dual citizen of the United States and a country in South America. I inherited some property from my father 25 years ago when I was a child in my native country. I now want to sell it. I feel that should not owe taxes to the U.S. government since I was not a resident when I inherited this property and have never seen a cent of return from any of it. What are my choices?

A: Despite your opinion on the fairness of it all, our tax advisers say you have only one chance of legally escaping the long stretch of Uncle Sam's tax-collecting arm here once you sell your inherited property. That one course, assumes that you recognize a gain on the sale.

Our experts say that all U.S. citizens — and residents, too — must pay U.S. taxes on their worldwide income. This regulation holds even if the income is generated by the sale of property in a foreign country that has been held for years before the taxpayer became a U.S. citizen.

However, you should check with your accountant or other adviser to determine if you are eligible for the one potential loophole. If you are required

to pay taxes on your gain in your native country, it is possible that a special tax treaty between the U.S. and that country will allow you to receive a credit on your U.S. tax bill for the taxes you pay in your native land. Without knowing your native country, we cannot advise you further.

Carla Lazzareschi cannot answer mail individually but will respond in this column to financial questions of general interest. Please do not telephone—Write to: Your Money, Business Section, Los Angeles Times, Times Mirror Square, Los Angeles, Calif. 90053

Let's Talk Real Estate by Jane Georjo

BBB BOONER DEMANDS

Baby boomers fueled the demand for housing right after the Second World War, and now "baby boomers" continue to be driving force behind most residential real estate markets. Baby boomers began to reach their prime home-buying years (ages 25 to 35) during the late 1970s. As a result, demand for housing rose sharply. Today, this group were trade-up buyers. Recent studies indicate that many baby boomers are just beginning to marry, have children, and buy homes. It is therefore reasonable to assume that the demand for housing will continue strongly into the early 1990s, despite any temporary lulls along the way.

Discuss your needs with one of our professional real estate agents at GEM STATE REALTY, so we can put you on the road to ownership and financial stability. Our staff knows the entire area and will gladly answer your questions regarding any aspect of real estate. We provide our customers and clients, buyers and sellers alike with expert guidance, so why not call us at 734-0400 to discuss your particular needs. We are located at 1445 Addison Ave. East. We wish you and yours a joyous holiday season! These owning homes of trade-up caliber are likely to see continuing interest in their property in the next few years.

GEM STATE REALTY 734-0400 1445 Addison Ave. E. Toll Free 1-800-345-4688 Ext. 115

Return

Continued from Page C1 amount of refund. Almost all stores disingenuously promise to refund full "purchase price," as verified by our receipt. The problem is that such prices self-destruct on Christmas Day. Immediately thereafter, they're marked-down 20-percent-of-the-original price, says Siegel, then 30 percent, 40 percent by end-of-January inventory, 50 percent in early February. The problem is that the sequence complicated, but not necessarily altered by all today's desperate pre-Christmas sales.

Without a sales slip, the customer gets the current price on the item, or so say almost all the stores annually surveyed by the Better Business Bureau of Metropolitan New York. This foils the petty con artist who would rip off a store by buying goods at post-Christmas prices and claiming they were pre-Christmas purchases. Instead, the store rips off its customers, because most of the

Christmas gifts being returned were bought before Christmas, undoubtedly at a higher price.

There's a simple solution to the question of price practiced by some, noted by a few (including this column over several years), known to all—Stores could include a notation of the purchase date, if not price, with every purchase, thereby settling all questions. Unfortunately, no one wants to talk about this "solution," out of fear, said one store, that people would then rip them off by altering the notation.

Nevertheless, such notations are being made, in various ways, and are usually helpful. Some stores put a note on all boxes that are specially gift-wrapped — a small percentage of purchases. Marshall Field's includes coded notations in all boxes, and all sales counters' provide boxes at Christmas.

Seattle-based Nordstrom stores have put scrambled information on

all goods for years, and year-round. Other stores are starting to follow the custom, and not just because they're big services. More and more, particularly department stores, are putting their salespeople on commissions, and the notations guarantee that credit for the sale can be properly given and properly received if something is returned.

For customers contemplating returns, however, it would be a real service, and consumers buying gifts might insist on date notations whenever it's their store custom or not. For retailers, it's little trouble, although they do run the risk of altered notations, and they will lose the money they make by returning less than was spent.

There are more important gains, and Siegel, for one, is sanguine that stores would recognize and welcome them: "They'd be delighted to do it," he says, "because it avoids argument."

Porter

Continued from Page C1 and doesn't move. The jacket should fit the back and the shoulders without wrinkling or creeping up and there should not be too much of a break or too much padding in the shoulders. When the jacket is buttoned, it should fit snugly across the chest with the armholes hugging the shirt collar snugly without wrinkles or gaps. The shoulder sleeves should be smooth without puckering and the lapels should lie perfectly flat. The jacket collar should fall one-half inch below the shoulders. Shirt cuffs should end where the hand joins the wrist, with the jacket cuffs exposing one-half inch of the

shirt. The hem of the jacket should be at the mid-point of the thumb.

7. In terms of the trousers, the waistband should be above the navel and horizontal to the ground, with just enough room to slip your hand into the waistband when it's fastened and the seat area and crotch must be comfortable without being baggy. It's always a good idea to sit down in the trousers after the fitting to determine that they fit comfortably.

Sylvia Porter writes on matters of interest to consumers. Her column appears every Thursday in The Times-News.

Dulley

Continued from Page C1 ty room. A rule of thumb is that, for a vertical duct, you need one square inch of UNRESTRICTED free vent area per each 4,000 Btu/hr. input rating. For a horizontal duct, you need twice that much. A coarse screen vent covering is acceptable. If you add metal louvers or grill, increase the overall vent area by a factor of 1.33. For wood louvers, use a factor of 4.0. You can also use a combination of indoor air wall vents from adjacent rooms and a smaller outdoor vent pipe, one square inch of area per \$,000 Btu/hr.

Check with your furnace dealer about recommended clearances around the furnace when sizing the enclosure. Don't just run an outdoor duct directly to the furnace opening. This can cause drafts into the furnace and combustion inefficiencies. The furnace may not operate properly with cold outdoor air ducted into the opening.

Write me for UTILITY BILLS UPDATE No. 259 showing schematic diagrams of enclosure layouts for providing all outdoor or indoor/indoor combustion air, a worksheet to determine if you already have adequate combustion air, and a list of addresses for testing tablets. Please include \$1.00 and a self-addressed business-sized envelope.

Q: I am replacing my old deck. Can I burn the old and scrap pressure treated wood to my fireplace without causing any problems? H. T.

A: You should never burn any type of pressure treated lumber. It has been impregnated under pressure with special chemicals to resist rotting and insects. Many of the chemicals can be dangerous to your health. Proper handling of the wood shouldn't present problems. However, smoke from burning the wood and any airborne sawdust can release the chemicals and increase the overall heat. Also, repeated contact with your skin can be bad, especially from the pentachloro and creosote preservatives. CCA-treated wood can give off arsenic fumes when it burns.

"Cut Your Utility Bill" appears in The Times-News every Thursday. Please address questions to James Dulley, The Times-News, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45244.

Birkenstock The Gift of Comfort Birkenstock footwear...irresistible comfort in a variety of contemporary styles and colors, to be appreciated day after day...all year long. Double your comfort and style with cotton and wool socks. Come in today and see our large selection of socks. Lynwood Shopping Center 733-8280

On the sixth day of Christmas my true love gave to me, a 4x4 truck she found in Times-News Classifieds. The Times-News Classifieds 733-0626

"We Have Noticed A Substantial Increase In Sales And Service." MAKE AN OFFER SALE! No Reasonable Offer Refused On ALL Remaining New 1989's & Used Cars In Stock!!! This Is A ONE TIME ONLY EVENT! Friday Night, November 17th & All Day Saturday, November 18th - These Cars Must Go To Make Room For Our Building Expansion! FREE TURKEY WITH ANY NEW OR USED PURCHASE! 510 2nd Ave. S. • Twin Falls, Idaho • 733-3776



We, at Latham Motors, have always been strong believers in advertising. For several years we depended mostly on television advertising. In 1988, we made a commitment to advertise in The Times-News. Since then, we have noticed a substantial increase in sales and service. In fact, we officially sold 1163 new units in 1988 - an increase of 377 new units over 1987 when we sold 786 new units. We feel The Times-News reaches a major portion of our customer base - including people who may not be reached by any other areas of the media. Bob Latham, Jr. LATHAM CHRYSLER-PLYMOUTH-DODGE

The Times-News may be able to increase the sales of your product too. For more information, call: 733-0931 The Times-News Retail Advertising Department


Merchandise-Farmers' market-Recreational

090 - 132

<p>090 Pets & Supplies</p> <p>AKC Akita puppies, good personalities. Weekends or evenings. Call 324-8429.</p> <p>AKC Cavalier King Charles spaniels. Fawn & white, tails & dew claws long, champion bloodlines. Call 324-3141.</p> <p>AKC Cocker pup, ready for Christmas, will deliver. Call 324-6448 or 684-5473.</p> <p>AKC miniature Schnauzer, female, 5 months, all shots, ears cropped, housebroken. Call 324-3141.</p> <p>AKC registered miniature Schnauzer puppies, AKC registered miniature Pinscher puppies. 543-5015.</p> <p>AKC long toy Poodle puppy, 3 female and 1 male. See our parents. 828-0316.</p> <p>Aquariums from 10 to 70 gallons, w/aquascapella, fish, filter. Call 323-8839.</p> <p>Board your little ones with us over the holidays. Booster shots - \$3. Call Happy Holidays Pet-Med Center. 734-7970.</p> <p>CAT FOOD</p> <p>Science Diet Maintenance cat food. Call 324-3141.</p> <p>Globe Seed & Feed Co. Twin Falls ID</p> <p>CFA reg Persian kittens, 2125-500 at 149 Mountain View Dr. or call 733-1725 after Fr. 9am-2pm.</p> <p>Christmas puppies, reg. breed-orientations, \$125. Call 536-6764.</p> <p>ELECTRIC HEATER</p> <p>Dog water bowl \$29.99 each.</p> <p>Dog Seed and Feed Co. Twin Falls-Idaho</p> <p>For sale: 3 AKC Silky Terrier female puppies. \$350 to \$500. 734-4163.</p> <p>When you're looking for bargains, check the garage sales advertised in classified. Call 733-0626.</p>	<p>090 Pets & Supplies</p> <p>For sale: Australian Shepherd pups, tails bobbed, working parents, 6 wks old, mother is double papered. Call 324-7368.</p> <p>Free: Livestock and adorable, medium sized puppies. Call 733-6696.</p> <p>Golden Retrievers AKC, 8 weeks, with shots. \$100. Good looking, great dispositions and excellent hunters. Call 837-4815 or 837-4593.</p> <p>Himalayan kittens CFA registered. \$150, 439-9166.</p> <p>Lost: chance before Christmas! Only 2 female, top. Especially priced for the holidays. \$30/lemao, \$25/male. Call 733-0729.</p> <p>Parakeet & Cockatiel. Locally raised, 253 7th Avenue East or Call 733-6954.</p> <p>Pomeranian puppies, AKC, female, Call 733-0139.</p> <p>Promia & puppy for Christmas. AKC registered 16 weeks puppy, born Nov. 22, 1989. Excellent bloodline, \$175. Deposit required. Call Mountain Hawk, 587-7566.</p> <p>Purebred English Setter puppies for sale - will be ready Dec. 12, \$100 each. Call 637-6816 after 5pm.</p> <p>Pure-bred female German Shepherd puppy for sale. Call 679-3427 after 6.</p> <p>Registered AKC Rottweiler puppies. Call Shauna at 678-8102 before 2pm.</p> <p>Registered, miniature Schnauzer puppies, 3 to 4 males & 2 females. \$43-4470.</p> <p>Yellow Lab puppies, 9 wks old, tails, shots, vaccinated, registered, 3 years, never bred. \$390-678-3182.</p>	<p>090 Pets & Supplies</p> <p>Used bird cages, all sizes; brooding pens; parakeets & cockatiels, reasonable. Call 733-0639.</p> <p>DOG FOOD</p> <p>Science Diet Maintenance 40lbs. \$25.95</p> <p>Globe Seed & Feed Co. Twin Falls ID</p> <p>Farmers Market</p> <p>097 Hay, Grain & Feed</p> <p>1000 ton of straw in big square bales, will sell any amount. Call 350-8052.</p> <p>1100 big Holstein straw bales, clean, good body straw, \$25 per ton. Loading and/or trucking available. Call Grant Jennings 785-4967 or Dale Owens 785-3278 after 5pm or even.</p> <p>200 tons of 1 ton bales, 1st cutting, \$75. Call 764-2626.</p> <p>310 ton 1st, 2nd & 3rd, \$60 per ton. Call 733-2149.</p> <p>40-ton of hay - 1989 crop, short and broken bales, \$40 per ton. Call 438-1335.</p> <p>Allstate hay - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, \$60/ton. Call 668-3347.</p> <p>I would like to buy out hay of first and second. 878-5163.</p> <p>Blood count farming help? Check our Service Directory, published daily in Times-News Classifieds.</p> <p>098 Farms For Rent</p> <p>Wanted: Cash or share contract, 40-160 acres in Buñ Filor area. Call 543-4004 or call Er 2pm.</p> <p>Want to rent: 30 to 150 acres, near of Twin or Kimberly. Entry or later 734-6832.</p>	<p>102 Cattle</p> <p>100 head stock cows, 65 pairs, 30 purebred Hereford pairs. Call 634-6778.</p> <p>40 head brood top quality Angus females, WPA first calving March 1. Call Glennadio March 543-4131.</p> <p>50 head of cows, spring calves & head of pairs, 6 head Holstein steer, 500 lbs. 7 head Holstein heifers 400-500 lbs. 110 head mixed heifers, 600-700 lbs. 3 head 800 lb steers. \$39-2391.</p> <p>75 head Hereford & biker with two stock cows, 200 white face & black brood heifers, Bred vaccinated, start to calve, 3rd brood to break into. 208-676-2812.</p> <p>Gooding Livestock Commission Co., Dairy & Beef Sale</p> <p>We will not be having a sale Fri, Dec. 22nd. There will be a sale Sat. Dec. 29th. Monday, Dec. 27th.</p> <p>Polled Hereford bulls and cows. 829-5988, 829-5252.</p> <p>103 Dairy Equipment</p> <p>2 Vacuums, 10 hp, 3 phase, 50 CFM each, will run 20 machines, \$1000 each. Call 669-7716.</p> <p>Have Dairies Available 100-700 cow. Call Marva, 524-5441.</p> <p>Landmark Realty</p> <p>104 Horses</p> <p>Miniature burro lock, 5 months old, good or best offer. Call 654-2392.</p> <p>Red aroal gelding, well broke and gentle, good in the mountains, \$1600. Call 340-4171. Tues-Fri after 6.</p> <p>One of the nicest things about classified is the way it works for you. Call 733-0626.</p>	<p>104 Horses</p> <p>3 year old brown and white Paint gelding; 2 black & white Paint geldings, 2 year old, all green broke, healthy. Call 324-7678.</p> <p>7 year old, bay gelding, broke, very sturdy, worked with cattle, spirit, \$550. Call 734-4923.</p> <p>8 horses, 6 registered, from \$500. All broke to ride. Call 733-2506 or 326-5811.</p> <p>8 year old bay Quarter horse mare, 5 year old registered Morgan gelding, \$500 each. Call 543-0246.</p> <p>ALL TYPES OF HORSES</p> <p>bought and sold. We buy killer horses. Call 733-6055, any or later.</p> <p>105 Horse Equipment</p> <p>1976 Miley 2 horse trailer, fully enclosed, excellent condition. Call 543-0498.</p> <p>1 set of roping horns and a barbecue rig. Call 823-4381 evenings.</p> <p>2 horse Blake horse trailer, tandem axle, good condition. \$1195. Call 733-3961.</p> <p>Complete year and clobber out on all 1918 & 99 Liberty horse trailer in stock. Horses and cattle trailers for \$29.50 and up.</p> <p>DICK DEY</p> <p>Oldsmobile-Buick-Isuzu 733-8221.</p> <p>Total clearance on all new horse & stock trailers. Priced to sell. Farmers Exchange, 1000 E. Idaho, 733-3291.</p> <p>108 Sheep/Goats</p> <p>1 1/2 year old, Saanen nanny goat, \$75. 825-5900 or 800-8231. Twin, Edon.</p> <p>2 female Suffolk lambs, Call 651, 852-3225.</p> <p>65 head white faced ewes to lamb in March, 1 year old. Call 823-4381 evenings.</p>	<p>110 Poultry & Rabbits</p> <p>Dressed rabbits 324-3429.</p> <p>112 Irrigation</p> <p>1600 feet 6 inch PVC pipe, \$1.30 per hr. Call 636-2003.</p> <p>Steel pipe new and used. Rocky Mountain Industries, Junction, 324-2142.</p> <p>2300 feet of 10 aluminum lined pipe. Call 497-3444 evenings.</p> <p>GATED PIPE</p> <p>Now and Used</p> <p>Unflanged pipe Custom fabrication Call 497-3444</p> <p>AND SUPPLIES</p> <p>1 mile east of Buñ, Hwy 30 643-4777</p> <p>114 Farm Implements</p> <p>1900 Glanor No combine, total time on engine, 683 hours, operator 425 hours, comes 3 update kit, full instrumentation, 1981, 24' header, pickup, real, immaculate condition, both axles stored inside, \$39,000. Hi-mower, 4200 press wheel grain drill, 24' on 6' spacing, excel cond. \$12,500. 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Call 324-4105.</p> <p>Used Farm Tractor Parts Buñ Tractor Salvage Park. ID - 438-5420</p>	<p>122 Sporting Goods</p> <p>Best bow, nice condition. Best offer. Call 423-5878.</p> <p>SKI poles \$10. Salmon boots, 1024, \$85. 734-1573.</p> <p>127 Motor Home</p> <p>1978 23 ft motor home, large bathroom, sleeps 6. \$5500. Call 734-4024.</p> <p>New! 1990, 35 foot Mobile Treveler, many extras. Retail nearly \$65,000, will sell for \$50,000. All the comforts of home! Call 734-7831.</p> <p>Wanted to buy: motor home, travel trailer or 5th wheel! Need all great. 324-5532.</p> <p>128 Utility Trailers</p> <p>20' tilt trailer, single axle. Call after 6. 324-6768.</p> <p>Factory-built 6 x 10' tandem axle trailer, all metal w/46 inch sides, \$1295-733-1193.</p> <p>You'll never know the value of classified until you use it.</p> <p>Automotive</p> <p>132 Auto Parts Accessories</p> <p>\$80,000 inventory discount prices, like, rebuilt engines. 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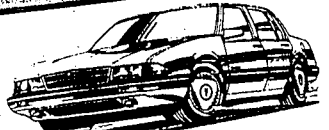
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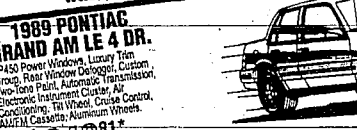
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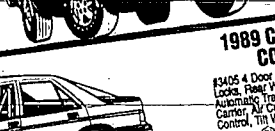
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D

THE MORNING LINE

Good morning. It's Thursday, December 21.

Wednesday's scores

Basketball

Prep boys

Burley 70, Minico 64
Cary 62, Jackpot 62

College

Minnesota 77, Washington 60
Purdue 60, California 55
BY Missouri 81, K6, Buchanan-Cookman 61
Georgetown 120, Washington 111
LSU 73, NY Louisiana 63
Memphis 81, New Orleans 62
South Alabama 111, Alabama 81
Northwestern 63, N.C. Charlotte 62
Tennessee 62, W. Carolina 60
Georgetown 97, Virginia Tech 62

N.B.A.

Houston 115, Utah 100
Dallas 94, New Jersey 78
Philadelphia 110, Washington 111
Orlando 110, Chicago 100
Denver 104, Cleveland 89
Los Angeles Lakers 104, Minnesota 97, 07
New York Knicks 100, Sacramento 100
Indiana at Phoenix, 10:30
Houston at Golden State, late

Sportslate

Today

PREP BOYS BASKETBALL
Gooding at Bluff, 8 p.m.
Hagerman at Wendell, 8 p.m.
Hagerman at Mountain View, 8 p.m.
Hickland at Rath River, 8 p.m.
Wood River Tournament, Hatley, 8:15 and 8 p.m.

PREP GIRLS BASKETBALL
Burley at Minico, 8 p.m.
Wood River at Richfield, 7 p.m.
Hagerman at Gooding, 8 p.m.
Clemens Perry Valley, Hagerman, 8 p.m.
Kimberly at Ardena, 8 p.m.

Sports on TV

6:30 p.m. — Channel 13, College basketball: Boston College vs. Providence.
6:30 p.m. — Channel 8, NBA basketball: Atlanta at Miami.
8:30 p.m. — Channel 13, College basketball: Penn State at Alabama Birmingham.

Briefly

BSU's Pearson out for rest of the season
The Times-News

BOISE — Boise State University has announced that senior guard Michael Pearson will miss the rest of the basketball season with a stress fracture in his leg and that the school will seek to redshirt him because of medical hardship.

Pearson, a 5-foot, 9-inch senior from Union City, Calif., and a returning starter from last season, played in three games for the Broncos this fall, averaging 3.4 points.

As a junior starting at point guard, he averaged 6.9 points and 2.3 assists per game.

Pearson will not know whether he will get his hardship redshirt season until next spring, when the Big Sky Conference presidents will consider his application.

Pearson has already had one redshirt season, after transferring to BSU from California's Chabot College.

Jerome youth basketball registration not yet closed

JEROME — Registration is still open on a space-available basis for the Jerome boys' and girls' youth basketball program.

To this point, 505 youngsters have registered for the program, forming 50 teams.

The program is in need of a few more coaches to staff the 1990 teams. Anyone who can assist the program should phone the district office at 324-3389 during regular business hours.

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SportsQuote

66

— "By the next Olympics, you could see the United States win as many medals as in 1984, when the Eastern Bloc did not compete."

99

— Jiri Mianus, U.S. men's cycling coach, on amateur sports and political upheaval in the East Bloc.

As different as Black and Mussmann



BERNARD MUSSMANN

Valley High seniors offer contrasting views of Vikings' roundball success

By RON GATES
Times-News writer

EDEN — Individually, as different as night and day, Valley scorers Bernard Mussmann and David Black have nonetheless combined to ignite the rejuvenation of a basketball program in remission for nearly two decades.

Things began to improve when both made the varsity in their freshman year, although few really noticed until the end of the 1987-88 regular season when Valley reached out of a losing season to seriously contend for the district title.

Last season saw the Vikings come within one win of qualifying for the state Class A-3 basketball championship tournament after putting together their first winning campaign in 19 years.

Behind the leadership of Mussmann and Black again this year, the school's football team carried the states' No. 1 ranking and a perfect 9-0 slate into a two-point playoff loss to eventual state champion Grangeville.

Looking at this basketball season as their last chance to do something special — at least together — that same duo has Valley off to a 6-1 start, during which they've avenged their only loss to Canyon Conference rival Kimberly in the Holiday Tournament and built a 3-0 league mark.

"I'm hoping we'll still win a (state) championship," Black said. "We kind of blew it to a 6-1 start, during which they've avenged their only loss to Canyon Conference rival Kimberly in the Holiday Tournament and built a 3-0 league mark."

"We just got started a little slow," added Mussmann. "We wanted it, but it didn't quite work out. Now our goal is going to state again and winning this time."

All-staters in football as well, each was

"The interesting thing about those kids is that Dave's so outgoing, almost outspoken, and Bern was always big for his age and very quiet. I've enjoyed watching them mature. They have, but in different ways."

— Valley athletic director

named to the all-conference basketball team a year ago, though Mussmann, a 6-foot-2-inch, 160-pound college football aspirant who prefers his light brown hair close-cropped, had that same honor bestowed on him as a sophomore.

Black, who played on last year's Magic Valley Basketball Congress International team and favors basketball stands two inches shorter, is 35 pounds lighter and wears his darker hair a bit longer than his classmate. The dissimilarities don't stop there.

"The interesting thing about those kids — they live right here on the street from each other on Valley Road — is that Dave's so outgoing, almost outspoken, and Bern was always big for his age and very quiet," says Valley athletic director Scott Tingey. "I've enjoyed watching them mature. They have, but in different ways."

• See DUO on Page D3

Shoshone falls from 1st place in AP A-4 ranks

The Associated Press

rankings in voting by Idaho sportswriters and broadcasters.

Lapway received eight of 10 first-place votes cast and 39 of 50 possible points to finish ahead of three undefeated teams.

But in A-2, Preston dropped from first to third following a 62-61 loss to Utah's Box Elder High School, while Shoshone fell from first to third in A-4 after losing 55-37 to Kimberly. Preston was replaced by Shil-

ley and Boniers Ferry, which tied for first in A-2, and Highland of Craigmont took the place of Shoshone among A-4 teams.

Sherline of Idaho Falls remained on top of the A-1 rankings, with nine first-place votes and 49 points. Boise moved from third to second, followed by Borah of Boise, which advanced from fifth. Rexburg of Madison High moved up to fourth from a fifth-place tie with Borah last

week, but the Bobcats share fourth with Highland of Pocatello and Idaho Falls this week.

The Tigers moved into the rankings after knocking off Rigby, last week's second-ranked team.

In A-2, undefeated Shelley got five first-place votes and 43 points to advance from

• See POLL on Page D3

Dodgers trade Marshall and Pena to Mets for Samuel

By RONALD BLUM
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The New York Mets and Los Angeles Dodgers swapped problems Wednesday when New York traded center fielder Juan Samuel for outfielder Mike Marshall and pitcher Alejandro Pena.

Samuel, acquired from the Philadelphia Phillies during the summer, had been a bust in New York and asked to be traded. The off-injured Marshall had been a disappointment to the Dodgers because of his numerous injuries and had angered teammates when he refused to play when he was less than 100 percent.

"We feel that Mike Marshall gives us an extra right-handed bat," said Joe McEvie, the Mets vice president for baseball operations. "He'll have some time possible in the first base and possibly in the outfield. Dave Magadan will be a factor at first base and Keith Miller will be a factor in the outfield."

Samuel, 29, was traded to New York from the Philadelphia Phillies in midseason, but asked to be traded at the end of the season, saying that he and his family did not like the New York area.

Overall, he batted .235 with 11 home runs and 48 RBIs and had 42 stolen bases. With the Mets, he batted .228 with three homers and 28 RBIs.

Samuel had some problems in center field, a position he started playing in 1988 after five seasons as a second baseman with the Phillies. His best season was in 1987, when he batted .272 with 28 homers and 100 RBIs.

Marshall, 29, batted .260 in 1989 with 11 home runs and 42 RBIs. He has been bothered throughout his career by a disc problem in his back and has been on the disabled list six times.

But in 1988, he played in 144 games and batted .277 with 20 homers and 82 runs batted in.

He hit .293 in 1985 with career highs in homers (28) and RBIs (95).

"Every once in a while, just from the wear and tear of the season, my back will go out on me," Marshall said.

"Usually it's one or two days, sometimes six longer. This is the best I felt in three years. I even took up golf again."

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Burley ends 6-game loss streak to Minico, 79-64

By The Times-News

BURLEY — The Burley Bobcats scored the first 11 points of the night, put all 12 players into the scoring column and downed cross-river rival Minico 79-64 Wednesday night in a Region III Class A-1 boys' basketball game.

Burley, now 3-3 overall and 1-2 in Region III play, thus ended a six-game regular season losing streak in this series. Minico, 1-5 and 1-1, last lost to Burley at 72-66 in the second meeting of 1985-86.

In absorbing their fifth straight loss since an opening win over Twin Falls, the Spartans shook off that early 11-point deficit and managed to cut it to six points in the opening couple of minutes in the third quarter. That was after Burley had pushed out to a 34-19 lead before settling for

26-27 at intermission.

Burke Garner's field goal pulled Minico to its closest point at 39-33 but Burley hit the next four points of the game. Brandon DeLozier's free throw let Minico inside a double digit deficit — one later but Justin Robinson, who had five three-pointers, hit a howitzer and Sam Shaw helped extend that to 50-34.

Burley reached a 20-20 tie when Robinson and Brian Peterson scored. Burley remains in action Friday, traveling to Marsh Valley, while Minico will be home to Pocatello.

Gilbertson finalist for Utah job

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — University of Utah officials expect to choose the Runnin' Utes' new football coach by this weekend, with Athletic Director Chris Hill making the final decision, says search committee member Larry Gerlach.

The two finalists are Arizona assistant head coach Ron McBride and Washington assistant Keith Gilbertson.

McBride was interviewed Tuesday and Gilbertson Monday in Salt Lake City, where the Huskies are preparing where officials aren't required to handle the ball.

The second is the maturity factor of some of the team.

"This tournament is a hodgepodge of two, three and four or five-year schools. The Canadian junior colleges can have a player three years, the universities can have them five years. While I assist everyone is going to consider us the favorite. We at least get into the finals — sometimes that maturity and experience can make a lot of difference," the coach said.

Trinity doesn't appear to have a lot of help. They usually are tied in scoring by 6-foot, 5-inch Pat Chace and 6-3 Dave Blankovich. Doug DeVries, 6-4, and 6-3



GILBERTSON

for an appearance in the Freedom Bowl. He did not return a phone message left on Wednesday.

McBride caught a Tuesday night flight home to Tucson, still wondering about his status.

His team is preparing for a Copper Bowl appearance.

Reached at the Salt Lake Airport, McBride said he left without knowing what the decision would be.

"I got no word. There was no indication what they're going to do."

However, McBride said he expected an answer by Thursday.

Eagles cross border for Canadian National tourney

By LARRY HOVEY
Times-News writer

CALGARY — The last time the College of Southern Idaho's men basketball team attended the Canadian National Holiday Tournament here, it won three games by an average of 37 points and a high of 71.

Coach Fred Trenkle and his 11-0 Eagles, ranked No. 1 in the National Junior College Athletic Association pool, aren't that interested in repeating those statistics as they are in repeating as champion.

They take their first step at 9 a.m. Thursday against Trinity Western College in the first round of the three-day tournament. The Eagles will play either Humber State

of Ontario or Lethbridge University Friday.

The local finalist out of the other bracket will be host Southern Alberta Institute of Technology or Johnson County, Kans.

"We don't know a lot about Trinity. I talked to a coach who played them and he said they didn't handle pressure very well but I liked to hear," said Trenkle with a smile. "The last time we played up there, our pressure was simply too much for them. We're hopeful that will be true again."

Trenkle said two things could give the Eagles problems. The first is playing international rules with the 30-second clock, the allowance of what the U.S. considers goal tending and out-of-bounds plays

where officials aren't required to handle the ball.

The second is the maturity factor of some of the team.

"This tournament is a hodgepodge of two, three and four or five-year schools. The Canadian junior colleges can have a player three years, the universities can have them five years. While I assist everyone is going to consider us the favorite. We at least get into the finals — sometimes that maturity and experience can make a lot of difference," the coach said.

Trinity doesn't appear to have a lot of help. They usually are tied in scoring by 6-foot, 5-inch Pat Chace and 6-3 Dave Blankovich. Doug DeVries, 6-4, and 6-3

Mike Hanick are usual starters.

"It helps to have some information on Trinity going into the opener," Trenkle said. "We will have the opportunity to do a little scouting of the other possible opponents once we get there."

The combination of this tournament and the resumption of regular season play Jan. 5 compels to make this one of the shortest vacations a CSI basketball team has had.

"We start losing players right from Calgary," said Trenkle. "One will fly home from there and four more will leave us when we get back to Great Falls. The rest will come in on the bus with me."

Trenkle said the Region 18 schedule dic-

• See EAGLES on Page D3

Briefly

O'Leary girls clinch championships

TWIN FALLS — The O'Leary Junior High School eighth and ninth grade girls basketball teams clinched championships Wednesday on the final day of the season. The ninth grade completed an undefeated 14-0 year with a 34-25 decision over Burley while the eighth grade, 14-2, topped the young Bobcats 34-24.

Court clubs PGA square groove rule

PHOENIX (AP) — A U.S. District Court judge Wednesday issued a preliminary injunction preventing the PGA Tour from enforcing its rule against square-grooved golf clubs. The rule, which requires the use of traditional V-grooved clubs in PGA Tour competition, was scheduled to take effect Jan. 1. A law clerk for Judge Paul G. Rosenblatt confirmed that Rosenblatt had issued the order but said he would not sign it until Thursday or release it publicly until Friday.

Tigers cut Hernandez, Alexander

DETROIT (AP) — Guillermo Hernandez and Doyle Alexander, two veteran pitchers who were heroes in different Detroit Tiger play-off years, were cut Wednesday by the American League team. The Tigers' decision against offering a contract to either man for the 1990 season excluded them from the team's 40-man roster and makes them free agents. But Detroit general manager Bill Lajoie said either player still could end up playing for the Tigers. Teams had until Wednesday to offer contracts to players they wanted to protect on the roster.

Russel retires at Georgia Southern

STATESBORO, Ga. (AP) — Erik Russel, who presided over the resurrection of football at Georgia Southern College and won Division I-AA national championships in 1985, '86 and '89, retired today as head football coach.

Duo

Continued from Page D1. Black averaged 23 points per game as a junior, while Mussmann went to the boards for 11 rebounds to supplement his 15-point-per-game average. As seniors, their numbers are down some, more the result of a planned diversification than the loaded defenses they've had thrown against them. Black is scoring at an 18.4 clip and Mussmann, just into double-figure scoring, has grabbed nine boards per contest through seven games. "That's not surprising when you consider that they're not playing that much," explained Valley coach Bill Mitchell. "We've only had close ballgames with Kimberly. To put things into perspective, they'd probably be better than last year in the stats on a full-game basis."

Last year the offense was more to me," Black added. "This year we have so many players who can shoot and who can score that they don't need as much from me. "I don't mind at all as long as we win," he continued. "Our bench is getting a lot more playing time and that's cool."

So positive are their attitudes that each has handled his role with poise. Neither has a do-or-die attitude and Mitchell loves it. Of Mussmann he says, "Bernie's so quiet, unassuming and laid back as any athlete I've even seen, especially one with such a fierce desire. Inside he's burning, but outside he looks like he's asleep. It's that inside competitiveness," the coach added. "Some have just got to win at all costs. These guys do all they can to win, but not at someone else's expense. That's why they're such fun to coach."

Despite their respective abilities on the court Valley could in no way considered just a two-man team. "They're both ultimate team players. They'll do exactly what you ask

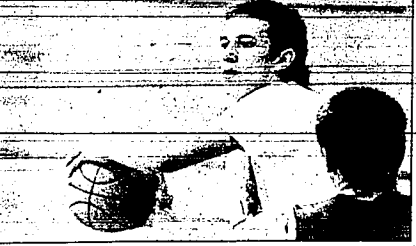
of them," Mitchell emphasized. "If anything I'd say Bernie is too unselfish. For four years his role has been to get us the rebounds. He has a knack for getting the ball. If it comes off he's around it."

Wendell coach Allen Kelsey shares Mitchell's beliefs. "What those two are doing so well is being unselfish," he said. "I'm impressed and what impresses me most about Black is that he's passing the ball well. He splits people and made some great passes against Kimberly. "And Mussmann jumps a lot better than 6-2," he pointed out. "They got the ball covered inside on him and he threw that little hook pass to the other post a couple times. But when you get down to that point of the game where you need a basket they're great kids to get it to."

"Dave's role is to be a scoring guard," says Mitchell of his floor general. "This year we've put him in a position where we don't require that as much in order to make us a better all around team, but I don't think anybody could stop him one-on-one. If we want that way, I think he'd score 40 points a ballgame."

After all, Black and Mussmann are both honor students and, in their own way, leaders. On one subject they're in total agreement. "Sports have really been a lot of fun," added Black. "We've got really good coaching over here."

Perhaps Tingey found a common denominator that would sum it all up. "Both are from families with five children and their parents have always been involved in their kid's lives. It was almost too good to be true," he suggested. "The lost art of parenting is still alive and well in the Black and Mussmann households."



DAVID BLACK

Poll

Continued from Page D1. McCall-Donnelly made his first appearance of the season in the rankings at fifth and Sugar-Salem, ranked fourth last week, dropped from the poll. Preston dropped to third, while Kuna remained fourth and Priest River moved into the rankings at fifth. It was the first time a Priest River team has been ranked in four years. Jerome, last week's No. 5 team, dropped from the poll after losing to Shelley last weekend. In A-3, Lapwai was again followed by Malad, but undefeated Kimberly moved from fifth to third and Fruitland dropped from third to fourth.

Here is how sportswriters and broadcasters voted in this week's Associated Press poll of Idaho high school basketball teams.

Vikings place 7 on Pro Bowl roster

NEW YORK (AP) — The Minnesota Vikings, who had nine players in the Pro Bowl last season, placed seven on this year's NFC squad despite the AFC squad with six in which their playoff chances are still in doubt going into the final weekend.

And Cincinnati, which is only 8-7 and in danger of missing the playoffs despite the AFC squad with six players for the game, to be played at Honolulu Feb. 4.

The Vikings (9-6), who need a win over the Bengals Monday night, or a Green Bay loss to Dallas Sunday to clinch the AFC squad, will have six starters — defensive end Chris Dooleman, defensive tackle Keith Millard, cornerback Carl Lee, safety Joey Browner, tackle Gary Zimmerman and guard Randall McDaniel.

Tight end Steve Jordan made it as a backup. The Bengals' contingent is led by tackle Anthony Muñoz, the first offensive lineman ever to play in nine straight Pro Bowls. Three other Vikings will start — running back

from Towson State who has had three touchdowns runs of 50 or more yards with short passes, was one of two rookies named to the NFC team. The other was more heralded — Detroit's Barry Sanders, last year's Heisman Trophy winner — who will start at running back.

Derrek Thomas of Kansas City, who will start at outside linebacker, was the only rookie on the AFC team.

Here are the teams (the first two in two-player position are starters, the others backups); the first at one-player positions are starters, the others backups. One additional "wild-card" player will be named and will be a linebacker unless the coach can determine a greater need exists.

Wide receivers: Andre Reed, Buffalo; Webster Slaughter, Cleveland; Anthony Miller, San Diego; Brian Blades, Seattle. Tight ends: Holman; Ferrell Edmunds, Miami. Tackles: Muñoz; Chris Hinton, Indianapolis; Tunch Ikin, Pittsburgh. Guards: Mike Munchak and Bruce Matthews, Houston; Montoya, Centers: Ray Donaldson, Indianapolis; Kent Hull, Buffalo. Quarterbacks: Warren Moon, Houston; Eli Manning, New York Giants; Christian Okoye, Kansas City; Brooks, Thurman Thomas; Buffalo; Eric Dickerson, Indianapolis. Defensive ends: Bruce Smith, Buffalo; Lee Williams, San Diego; Howie Long, Los Angeles Raiders. Interior linemen: Michael Dean Perry, Cleveland; Kraig, Denver. Outside linebackers: Thomas; Clay Matthews, Cleveland; Leslie O'Neal, San Diego. Inside linebackers: Meeklenburg; John Ofori-Adah, Miami; Shane Conlan, Buffalo. Cornerbacks: Albert Lewis, Kansas City; Frank Minnifield, Cleveland; Kevin Ross, Kansas City. Safeties: Fulcher; Erik McMillan, New York Giants. Punter: Reggie Roby, Miami. Kicker: Treadwell. Kick returner: Rod Woodson, Pittsburgh.

Friesz gets national audience in Blue-Gray game

MONTGOMERY, Ala. (AP) — John Friesz of Idaho is only the eighth quarterback in NCAA history to pass for more than 4,000 yards in a season, but the average football fan probably doesn't know who he is. Friesz hopes to change that in the Blue-Gray All Star Football Classic. Friesz is competing with Frank Baur of Lafayette for the starting quarterback job for the Nov. 10 team in the Christmas Day game, which will be televised by ABC at 11 a.m.

CSU. "I just want to come into the Blue-Gray game and show the nation that I can play football," Friesz said. "I'm playing in the Big Sky Conference, but I always get the recognition they deserve. I hope I can change some of that." Friesz holds 24 school, 18 conference and five NCAA Division I-AA records. His fifth on the NCAA all-time passing list, with 10,697 yards, and 1,041 yards this season made him the eighth quarterback in NCAA history to break the 4,000-yard mark. "During my time at Idaho, we won 37 games and lost only 12. We won three consecutive Big Sky titles," he said. "While those accomplishments didn't get Friesz a lot of national attention, NFL scouts did take notice of his talents. "This year John is far ahead of the rest of the crop... It is definitely a good and pick. Scouts will be a part of the NFL draft bureau, said

Players union gripes about clubs' actions

NEW YORK (AP) — The baseball union complained about the way clubs treated players in salary arbitration and free agency at Wednesday's bargaining session and talks aimed at a new labor agreement then recessed until the new year. Wednesday's session, the seventh, lasted four hours. It was attended by Paul Miller, bargaining secretary and talks aimed at a new labor agreement then recessed until the new year. Wednesday's session, the seventh, lasted four hours. It was attended by Paul Miller, bargaining secretary and talks aimed at a new labor agreement then recessed until the new year. Wednesday's session, the seventh, lasted four hours. It was attended by Paul Miller, bargaining secretary and talks aimed at a new labor agreement then recessed until the new year.

Nuggets owners apologize to fans for turmoil in ranks

DENVER (AP) — With the front office in disarray, several players openly disgruntled and fans becoming restless, the Denver Nuggets' ownership has apologized for the turmoil and promised to do better. "We, the management, and the owners, recognize that there have been some ineffective dealings," majority partner Robert Wussler said. "We do have a problem. We are extremely mindful of the problems. We have talked about them at great length, in private, and now it's up to us as a team to put it out together. "I know we have not done everything right. I apologize to the fans and to the players for that. I think brighter days are ahead." In the first acknowledgement from management that something is wrong, Wussler on Tuesday said it is managing partner Peter Bynoe's job to repair the damage, and he expressed confidence that Bynoe would do so. Wussler, president of COMSAT Video Enterprises in Washington, D.C., said that although Bynoe and Bertram Lee are both managing partners, Bynoe is responsible for running the operation. Wussler added to misgivings about Bynoe's ability to do that long-distance from his home in Chicago. "I am concerned about that," Wussler said. "Peter has assured me that given the proper support system in Denver he can do it, and I'm willing to go along with that." The "support system," of course, consists of the team's front office, which has appeared disorganized since vice president Pete Babcock signed center Blair Rasmussen to a \$17.5 million contract extension on Nov. 20. President and general manager Jon Spoelstra helped negotiate the deal, but Babcock was left to take the heat when Bynoe declared the owners knew nothing about it. Wussler said he was aware of Fat Lever's refusal to do promotional work for the team based on his conviction that he was lied to just before signing his five-year \$8.5 million contract at the start of the season. That, too, is Bynoe's problem to solve, Wussler said. Alex English's demand to be traded, on the other hand, is not a concern, Wussler said. "All players at one time or another in their careers ask to be traded, demand to be traded," he said. "That's part of modern-day professional sports in America, and it's also part of what owners have to live with." It was just after the Rasmussen debacle that Spoelstra, who was brought in over Babcock as president and general manager on Nov. 2, said he was unaware of any problems within the Nuggets' management structure. Wussler disagreed. "The front office management operation has not been completely together," he said. "Just as it takes time to develop a team on the court, it takes time to build a team off the court."

Arizona suspends 2 starters from football squad

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — The University of Arizona's top rusher and a starting lineman were suspended Wednesday after they were found to be "in violation of NCAA eligibility rules," the school announced. The athletic department refused to discuss the infractions involved but said running back David Eldridge and left tackle David Roney would not be allowed to play in the inaugural Copper Bowl scheduled Dec. 31 in Arizona Stadium.

lim' recover from a sprained ankle which sidelined him in the first half of a Nov. 11 game against Southern California. Roney had started all 10 of his team's games until, that time, but missed the Nov. 25 win/put against Arizona State. "My desire was to return in time for the Arizona game," Roney said in a prepared statement. "After I wasn't able to play against Arizona State, I discontinued taking the testosterone. No one associated with the University of Arizona athletics department advised me to take this substance." The 6-foot-3, 278-pound player said he had never used it before substance before and apologized for embarrassing the school and his family. Eldridge, a tailback, was named to the Pacific 10 Conference's second team honors squad after rushing for 788 yards and eight touchdowns in 143 carries. He also caught seven

North Carolina State and Arizona (both 7-4) are the participants. Roney acknowledged testing positive for anabolic steroids, saying he received small dosages of testosterone in the belief it would help

passes for 47 yards. He declined to divulge the nature of his violation. "I wish my teammates the best of luck in the bowl game. I will be in the stands pulling for the 'Cats," he said in a brief statement. Eagle Classic right after the holidays. The Eagle Class is scheduled for Jan. 5-6 with CSI meeting BYU Jaycees while Treasure Valley plays Salt Lake Community College. CSI and Salt Lake will play the second night but it will not count in regional standings.

Eagles

Continued from Page D1. Eagle Classic right after the holidays. The Eagle Class is scheduled for Jan. 5-6 with CSI meeting BYU Jaycees while Treasure Valley plays Salt Lake Community College. CSI and Salt Lake will play the second night but it will not count in regional standings.

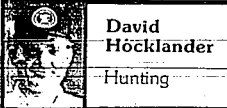
Valley Cafe in Hazelton is now open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. The Times News Regrets the error in their Tuesday ad

This Christmas, The Salvation Army salutes those who give of themselves for the good of others. ANGELA LANSBURY THE SALVATION ARMY'S 1989 NATIONAL CHRISTMAS CHAIRMAN SHARING IS CARING GOD BLESS YOU

Outdoors

It's once more time for the Wishful Thinking Christmas List

It is now time for the second annual Wishful Thinking Christmas List. I am afraid most of the requests relate to my own not so perfect hunting experiences of the 1989 season, but I suspect that others may have encountered similar problems. In any case I often enjoy



David Höcklander
Hunting

laughing at myself and invite you to join in.

First, I'll begin with an elk hunt, actually three elk hunts. I was a party to this friend's hunt twice, a cow guy invited me to join him on his hunt. During the course of the three weekends we spent riding through the hills, we saw several spectacular bull elk, but not a single cow. However, on two of those trips we ran into hunters with bull permits who had seen numerous cows during the day, but had not seen hide nor hair of a bull.

It seems obvious to me that elk have some sort of sense which allows them to ascertain the type of permit each hunter carries.

So my first wish is for an "elk proof" envelope into which the tag and permit could be placed which would prevent this intelligence leak.

Second, I am not a short man but when legs were handed out I got a pair made for someone six inches shorter, so the straps on the saddle I use for hunting have to be shortened to insure a comfortable ride. The problem then is getting on the horse without the aid of a competent roper or up hill slope. I would pay well for a stirrup which would drop down low for stepping into the saddle and then retract to riding length.

Third, I have hunted ducks for many years but have never attempted to use a decoy call. This year I decided to expand my hunting skills by learning to call ducks. I looked over the selection of calls in a local store and selected a model which stated simply "Duck." I assumed that if I blew the call the sound produced would attract something alluring to the average duck.

It became apparent, however, the first time I used the call, that the sound it produced represented some kind of a danger call as every bird within earshot dove for cover. I then realized that it only fair that the manufacturers note on the package exactly what the sound made by the call means in "duck."

See HÖCKLANDER on Page D5

Briefly

Local man appointed to BLM advice panel

BURLEY — Keith Turner of Twin Falls joins with holdover members Lloyd Smith and Edward Mitchell, Rupert, as this year's advisory council appointments for the Burley District of the Bureau of Land Management.

Turner, an avid outdoorsman and recently retired elementary school principal at Sawtooth in Twin Falls, will serve as a recreation advisor until Dec. 31, 1992.

"I am interested in habitat for game in this country. It is my number one concern," he said.

Smith and Mitchell will be serving their second terms on the council. Smith represents wildlife interests and Mitchell represents environmental protection.

Smith currently is the secretary/treasurer of Region 4 Wildlife Council and founder and president of the Magic Rio Turkey Chapter.

Mitchell, immediate past council chairman, owns and publishes the Idaho Outdoor Digest, a publication devoted to Idaho outdoor activities.

The council meets from one to four times annually to discuss topics of concern in land management. Presently the council is tackling the issues of hazardous material clean-up and unauthorized dumping on public lands.

F&G increases non-resident deer tags by 500 for 1990

BOISE — The Idaho Fish and Game Commission increased by 500 the number of non-resident deer tags, bringing the total to 15,500 available in 1990.

The commission earmarked 300 of the new non-resident tags for use by outfitters, who were able to sell all non-resident deer tags allotted to them last year.

Idaho hunters took \$2,200 deer in 1988, an all-time record, and a preliminary report to the commission at its Dec. 7 meeting estimated the harvest during 1989 will be similar.

Herd census surveys indicate the additional permits will not have a negative impact on Idaho deer populations.

Lack of snow means few deer, elk complaints

By LARRY HOVEY
Times-News writer

JEROME — No snow is a worry for the hunters but for right now the outdoor conditions have activity at the Region 4 Idaho Department of Fish and Game office at perhaps a decade low.

"We've had just two deer complaints so far and both of those had more to do with the possibility of what might happen if snow came than what was happening now," says Craig Kvale, regional wildlife manager. For the first time in a long while, the region isn't operating a feed site anywhere.

"The only feed we've put out is on an elk feeding site on the south bank of the Boise River) where we are shifting the operation to the opposite side of the river," Kvale said.

said, "Our hayshed burned down there and we felt this would be a good time to make the shift."

"We've put out a couple hundred pounds of pellets there just in case some elk might be moving through the area and find them and remember the site if and when the snow comes."

While the region has had bare ground at this time of year recently, it hasn't been able to get much past Dec. 1 without some feeding and deprecation complaints.

"We're not seeing the animals coming onto private land so much this winter because of the wet fall," Kvale said.

"Those October rains provided us a very good fall green up, particularly on the transitional ranges, and apparently the native grasses are holding migrating herds between their usual summer and winter

ranges. The fall green up was easily the best we've had in a few years."

The lack of snow is going to hurt another aspect of the department's operation, however, as next week marks the time biologists get into the annual herd composition census.

"Because bucks will be starting to drop their antlers soon, it just isn't possible for the department to simply postpone the censusing."

"It will be difficult to get a good sample size," Kvale said. "With out the snow to congregate them on winter range, the deer remain widely dispersed and will be difficult to spot." The last of the hunting seasons closed last weekend in the extra-deer Unit 45.

The private lands from north Glens Ferry to King Hill to north of Bliss have particu-

larly had hit by winter herds the past several years.

This fall, the department went with the extra tag regulation, to reduce the resident herd and event seemed to have fit together almost exactly.

"We will not know the true percentages until the telephone surveys are completed early next year but our field personnel are estimating the extra deer success at 75 to maybe 80 percent," Kvale said.

Added to that is the fact that many of the migrating animals have been held on public land by a combination, evidently, of full greenup and hunting pressure. That would indicate the year-round resident animals sustained the brunt of the harvest and they were the exact targets.

"We could get to a record harvest in Unit 45," Kvale said.

Give us buckets full of snow for Christmas

Snow, snow, snow and more snow. That is what I want for Christmas: Watersheds full of snow. Record piles of it with moisture content that rivals Noah's 40 days.

I'm tired of dust storms in February and trout sunbathed in May because they can't get deep enough to stay wet.

Let's have some legendary Idaho winters — about 20 in a row.

It will test the sincerity of the current migration to Boise, Ketchikan and Coeur d'Alene.

It will utilize spillways that currently arouse the curiosity of children and make them suspect the veracity of grandpa when he says they are for excess water runoff.

Let's have those winters that create so much water they have to keep the high line canal full year-round.

Let's have enough water that the whole Salmon tract — the original optimistic acreage included — can be turned into a rice paddy.

Think about it. We have teenagers in Idaho who may never know about driving on snowpacked roads.

I'm sorry, farm folks, it is not good enough to have water in the upper Snake River reservoirs.

Water is good for potatoes, but there are quite a few of us who depend on it for a living who couldn't raise it crop if it all it required was a scissor jack.

I want water in the little creeks above 6,000 feet. Water in stock ponds and mini-reservoirs from Jordan Valley to Bear Valley.

Let's learn to ski on spud cellars, pull kids on toboggans on back roads and create legends of going to Shoup on the snowmobile.

Let's see 10 spring thaws that require hip boots to get to church, that turn downtown Kimberly into the Venice of the West for two weeks in March.

Let's get government disaster loans for too much water for a change.

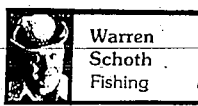
Let's have enough snow that we are all required to flood irrigate three times a week.

Since you haven't noticed, I'm getting a little nervous about our moisture situation.

If this keeps up, people will have to file on the sweat of a man's brow.

Water means fishing. Yes, I know, it means farming, ranching, irrigating yards and all those other laborious endeavors.

But fishing and hot showers are im-



Warren Scoth
Fishing

portant also.

Christmas snow is not essential but it is a good place to start. St. Patrick's Day is a good time to end.

We could salvage the ski season for Sun Valley, Magic Mountain, Solider and Pomerelle.

Those folks would avoid the poor-house and be able to relax next summer by going fishing.

The duck hunters could use some snow storms to spread the ducks and geese around and bring them down to shooting range.

If the next season is an indicator, duck plumage should double or triple in price.

Stayner ducktails could command a king's ransom because of the duck plank. Sure, they'd appreciate snow for Christmas.

Think about Arizona and New Mexico.

Their economy depends on snowbirds from the bitter cold northern states like Idaho.

Without snow, the trips south are shorter, the dollars don't flow south. They could have an economic disaster.

They won't return the money by coming north to fish folks if we don't get some snow. We may have to pay a snow tax to subsidize the snowbird economies.

I can't get my spring fly tying started if there is no snow to close the lane.

There are books to read that require heavy snow to create the sweet quiet of a blanketed countryside, so that one can concentrate.

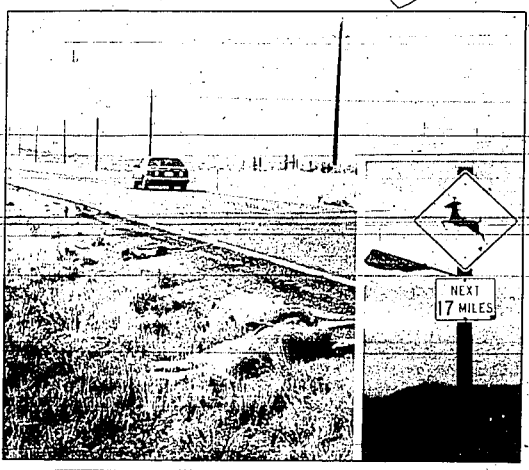
The hot springs in Hagerman Valley — and all those hot tubs we bought — require snow to be properly appreciated.

Let's write our congressmen for Christmas now. We need it. We deserve it. We are entitled to it.

Fishing requires it.

Merry Christmas.

Warren Scoth operates a fishing fly business in Wendell.



Six deer were hit by one vehicle in this accident near Fairfield

F&G advises motorists to be careful of Idaho game

The Times-News

BOISE — Skid marks and other evidence indicate that six deer were hit by the same vehicle in an accident near Fairfield in early November.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game receives thousands of calls each year about wildlife on and near the state's highways and many of them are the result of accidents or near misses.

Some areas, such as this accident location near Fairfield, have been the scene of fatal accidents already this year.

The deer warning signs put up by the Idaho Department of Transportation are sometimes laughingly referred to as "deer ballet warnings" but they are, in fact, deadly serious.

They can save a human life or the wildlife in the 151 locations across the state where migration or wintering areas historically route deer toward highways.

County highways and other rural roads are always potential locations for wildlife accidents, even though signs may not be posted.

More than 400 white-tailed deer were killed on roads in northern Idaho in 1986 and 1987.

As in the rest of the state, remains must be removed from the highway.

Fish and Game officers removed many of the carcasses, donating salvageable meat to institutions or organizations which feed the indigent. In some areas, the transportation department cleans up the roadside.

Unusable meat is donated to zoos or made available for rendering, mink food or other commercial uses.

Winter brings wildlife to low elevations and motorists are urged to use caution. Cautious and slow travel is the best defense against hitting the deer that jumps "out of nowhere."

Fishing regulations change little

The Times-News

BOISE — Idaho steelhead fishermen will find few changes in the 1990 spring steelhead seasons and regulations.

According to regulations established by the Idaho Fish and Game Commission, the steelhead season runs from Jan. 1 through April 30 except on one section of the Clearwater River, where the season will end March 31.

Cost of licenses and fees remain unchanged. Anglers will be allowed to take a total of 20 steelhead during the season, provided that at least 10 are harvested from the Clearwater, Snake or Little Salmon rivers and not more than 10 are harvested from the Boise, Payette or Salmon rivers.

Bag limits will be two per day with four in possession, except in the Little Salmon River and some areas of the Clearwater River drainage where the limits will be three per day with six in possession.

The regulations allow anglers to keep steelhead over 20 inches in length (except in two sections of the

See FISHING on Page D5

Wife substitutes for husband on bear hunt, brings home the rug she has always wanted

By LARRY HOVEY
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — When Del Jackson realized he wasn't all that interested in an offered bear hunt, he immediately suggested a substitute — and wife Gail was quick to pick up on the chance.

"I had always wanted a bear rug," she says.

Gail accomplished that goal and may have hit into the Boone and Crockett side of records with the skull of the 400-pound male she picked out of a tree on Paradise Creek above the Smoky Bar Ranger Station.

"I had hunted deer a couple of years ago but never got a shot," she said of her previous hunting experience. But there was a wealth of experience in the friends who offered to help her get her long-sought rug.

The party went out a total of three teams, each time trying to get something off some bait. For two weekends nothing happened.

But on the third, white husky Del was back in town working, the dogs picked up the bear's scent at the bait site and took off in chase.

The hunters followed horseback and after about a four to five-mile run, the bear took to a tree.

Gail dispatched the 8-9-year old bear with a single shot "above the chest, right in the center of the throat — right where they told me to," she reports.

The trophy currently is with the taxider.

Del and Gail is getting some friendly flack from her associates.

"Everybody's giving me a bad time because I am a working mother of a 2-year-old and shot a 400-pound bear," she laughed.



Gail Jackson shows off the bear she always wanted, and finally got the hard way

Plutonium wastes, wildlife share range at Hanford reservation

RICHLAND, Wash. (AP) — Eagles and plutonium, two of nature's deadliest killers, share the range at the Hanford nuclear reservation.

The Eastern Washington site, which for more than 40 years has housed the nation's nuclear arsenal with plutonium, is an ironic example of effective wildlife management in a region where agriculture and the acid rain came to keep animals populations down.

Despite a record as the U.S. Department-of-Energy's most polluted site, with two-thirds of the nation's radioactive defense wastes in stor-

age tanks or the soils, Hanford is a home for salmon, geese, bald eagles, mule deer, elk and smaller animals.

"This site has been closed to the public for 45 years," said Robert Gray, manager of environmental surveillance at Hanford.

"The surrounding area was heavily plowed and irrigated and there is hunting," said Gray, a biologist who works for Battelle Pacific Northwest Laboratory.

"A wildlife population that can't survive elsewhere can on the Hanford site."

Among the most unique species is

a herd of about 100 elk that is one of only three desert herds in the nation, Gray said.

The herd started about 1972 when three to five elk wandered onto the site and stayed, he said.

The herd is now so big that it has to be thinned out by hunting to prevent starvation on the limited food supply, he said.

Hanford is technically a shrub-steppe ecosystem, the next step up from a desert, Gray said.

Although mostly arid, Hanford is blessed by the last free-flowing stretch of the Columbia River in the

United States, providing plenty of water.

Sage-covered ridges form gullies that provide shade for wildlife from the sun, he said.

All 560 square miles, half the size of Rhode Island, are designated a national environmental research park, Gray said.

Other sprawling Department of Energy sites, including the Savannah River Plant in South Carolina and the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, also support large wildlife

populations.

Animal populations at Hanford are routinely monitored for radioactive contamination, Gray said.

There is no evidence that past radioactive releases into the river have harmed fish, Gray said, although small traces of Hanford-generated radioactivity have turned up in some fish tissue.

Only 15 percent of the Hanford site is occupied by human facilities. The rest is a home for wildlife.

Among the highlights:

—The Hanford Reach, the only portion of the Columbia River in the United States that has not been dammed, provides a spawning area for chinook salmon, whose numbers have been increasing.

—The bald eagle, the nation's symbol, winters on the site. And the hawk population is growing.

—Blue heron and Canada geese are established on Columbia River islands.

EPA finds high dioxin in Columbia fish

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — A public health advisory will be issued if studies show dangerous levels of contaminants in Columbia River fish, a state health division spokesman says.

Division officials will meet next week with representatives from the Environmental Protection Agency and the Washington State Health Department to discuss studies on dioxin levels in the fish. Ken Kaufman, an environmental specialist in the division, said Thursday.

An EPA sampling of threespine stickleback, channel catfish, crayfish and Dungeness crab taken downstream from pulp and paper mills on the Columbia and Willamette rivers in March showed high levels of dioxin, a cancer-

causing agent.

The federal study was released after a Eugene group, Northwest Coalition for Alternative Free of Pesticides, obtained it through the Freedom of Information Act.

Kaufman said the Health Division had some test data from the EPA but did not know the extent of the information and had not had time to interpret it.

"The information that made so much news came from a private source," Kaufman said.

"At this point, we are unaware of any tests that show food products coming from the Columbia River are unacceptable."

By late next week, when the test data has

been reviewed by Oregon and Washington health agencies and the EPA, Kaufman said the public will be told where those agencies stand on the question of contaminants in Columbia River marine life.

Randy Fisher, director of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, said the department gets its direction on health matters pertaining to the consumption of fish, shellfish and game birds from the Health Division.

"We haven't done testing (on environmental contaminants), but this raises the issue of our being involved from the standpoint of the health of the Columbia River as habitat for our fish and wildlife," Fisher said.

of 15 birds, all of the same species.

"All of this information is compiled in the Christmas Bird Count issue of American birds. It reveals interesting and scientifically useful information on the early-winter distribution pattern of various species of our wintering birds. It can tell us much about man's effect on the environment of these valuable members of our wildlife community."

Stu Murrell is Region 4 conservation educator for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

Nongame tax checkoff preserves Idaho wildlife

BOISE — Idahoans can watch an endangered peregrine falcon soar over Boise, stroll through urban wildlife areas in Pocatello, Lewiston and Boise and read about local snakes and lizards, all thanks to state residents who have contributed to Idaho's nongame income tax checkoff.

To contribute, all a resident has to do is check off the nongame box on the return and indicate the amount to be donated.


All monies received go to the nongame wildlife program of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. The program is supported mainly by the tax checkoff with some income derived from other donations and sale of T-shirts and bird feeders.

Last year, Idahoans contributed \$55,000. The money was used for a variety of programs, including wildlife interpretive areas at Lewiston, Pocatello and Boise.

At the Boise site, a local group is working on a river observatory where visitors will be able to watch the life cycle of fish through a series of viewing windows. With the aid of a grant from the Albertson Foundation, a wildlife interpretive specialist has been hired to coordinate programs at the Boise site and the new Kathryn Albertson Wildlife Park in Boise.

Working with the Peregrine Fund, federal agencies and private businesses, 38 peregrine falcons

Check for Nongame Wildlife on Your Idaho Income Tax Form



—were released at eight sites in the state this year. Nongame animals produced leaflets on Idaho's amphibians and reptiles, grizzly bears and bluebirds. A statewide wildlife viewing guide will be available by summer.

Other staff projects include Selkirk Mountains grizzly bear research and caribou population augmentation, survey work on a variety of rare plants and animals, including the harlequin duck, wolverine, boreal owl, great gray owl and trumpeter swan and statewide bird caging studies.

Five students received fellowships to assist in research on nongame animals.

Bird count shows 66 species, 16,490 birds

JEROME — Members of the Prairie Falcon Chapter of the Audubon Society observed 66 species, totaling 16,490 birds during their annual Christmas bird count last weekend.

The 15 observers covered a 15-mile diameter circle around Twin Falls for their assigned census area. They saw everything from golden eagles and prairie falcons to starlings and robins. An unusual sighting included 276 mourning doves in separate flocks on the north and south sides of the canyon. These were evidently migrants that still remained in the area because of the

count on Christmas Day in 1989 by an intrepid group of strollers in 25 locations around our major north-eastern cities.

Birders are grouped into parties in each census area. There is no upper limit on the number of participants. Last year, the Edmund, Alberta, count had 1,172 participants and many areas had only 10 to 15 observers.

The numbers of species can vary greatly with tropical or saltwater areas having the highest and the coldest climates the lowest. Last year, the Pinnacul Canal Zone scored 341 species and Prudhoe Bay in Alaska a

total of 15 birds, all of the same species.

"All of this information is compiled in the Christmas Bird Count issue of American birds. It reveals interesting and scientifically useful information on the early-winter distribution pattern of various species of our wintering birds. It can tell us much about man's effect on the environment of these valuable members of our wildlife community."

Stu Murrell is Region 4 conservation educator for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

open winter.

This count was one or more than 1,550 similar counts designed to help survey the wintering birds. All Christmas bird counts will be taken from Guam and Hawaii to Labrador and Alaska to Brazil from Dec. 16 through Jan. 15.

This year marks the 90th anniversary of the original Christmas bird



Stu Murrell

Plenty of gifts appeal to outdoors types

Copy News Service

One of the nicer things about buying a Christmas present for an outdoors person is the scope of the choices: a tackle box, small or large; a hunting knife; a sharpening stone; a sports wristwatch; an Ironwood decoy-carving; a day pack or a tote bag; and we haven't really gotten into the big stuff, like a rifle, a shotgun, a rod and a reel.

The purpose of this column is to mention a few of the options and help you avoid Christmas Eve shopping panic.

Most of the sporting journals — BASSMASTER, Field and Stream, Outdoor Life, Sports Afield, In-Fisherman, Western Outdoors, to mention a few — have been filling their columns for months with possibilities.

This one, however, may have been overlooked, a Polaroid CPR camera. The initials stand for "Catch, Photograph, Release." The camera is aimed at the catch and release fisherman, but it's just as valuable for the hunter, the camper and the full-stringer-of-fish sportsman.

I tried one of these compact units at the BASS Masters tournament last summer in Richmond, Va., and was amazed at the quality of Polaroid pictures the camera ground out and the shutter speed for moving shots. Other pluses: Its compactness, its waterproof case and the speed at which it can be focused and shot. A fill-in flash is built into the camera.

The price, at the time, was advertised at under \$100 but I've seen it offered since at half that price. Only had feature is the price of the 10-negative pack of film, about \$8. But, at least, you duck out on printing

and developing charges when you shoot Polaroid.

Here's something for the water-fowl hunter: Heat Solution. This is a reusable, self-generating heater. It can be boiled in water for five minutes after use and returned to its original state — and used over and over again, according to the manufacturers, Heat Pack Midwest.

A five-piece spinning reel is another option. It's just the ticket for the traveling fisherman. Most of the tackle companies — Fenwick, Eagle Claw, Orvis, Zebeo, Berkley — offer compact reels and reels in a carrying case. Your tackle store will have details.

Books are always a good bet for Christmas gifts. One I like, which touches all the outdoor bases, is "The Sports Afield Fishing Almanac," published by Lyons and Burford. It sells for \$12.95. If you

would become more fancy, there's always "Safari: A Chronicle of Adventure" by Burt Bull, which lists African adventures over the past 150 years. The price is \$40.

I've always felt that, for kids at Christmas time, the best buy is a compact Zebeo fishing outfit, available in any tackle store. The reel is a closed face spinner, mistake-proof for kids and, with a Super Duper or a Rooster Tail lure tied on the end, the youngster can be turned loose immediately at a nearby lake. Might even bring home a mess of trout for you to clean and fry for Christmas dinner.

How about a camp grill, polarized glasses, a diamond bone sharpener, a good Boy or Schlade knife, a magnesium fire starter which works on lighter fluid, a can or a tub of plastic worms, a new, pocket-size Plano tackle box?

Letter

Sherwood article spots big pheasant loss factor

Should you be interested in what happened to the pheasant population in most of Idaho, I suggest that you get a copy of the December 1989 issue of the *Idaho Outdoor Digest* and read the article by Bob Sherwood entitled "Pheasants on the Fade-A-Chemical Erasure."

Sherwood, a retired pheasant biologist for the Idaho Fish and Game Department, pretty well sums it up just what really happened over the years to our once great pheasant hunter's paradise in Idaho and how this all came about. Moreover, much whoop and holler about lack of habitat, Sherwood makes it clear that it's not all that which is causing the decline in pheasants.

And, in my own observation, the rapid decline of our pheasant population in the Magic Valley was right after the excessive spraying of the grasshopper infestation a number of years ago. From that time on, I noticed a rapid decline of not only pheasants but many song birds also disappeared in many areas of the farm lands; and the only place that birds were being seen in any decent numbers was in the mountains, where no chemical sprays were used.

So, I urge you to read the article by Sherwood; and you'll have a much better understanding of what has happened to the once fantastic pheasant population of the Magic Valley, and Idaho as a whole.

EARL E. ETTER, SR.
Jerome

Hocklander Fishing

Continued from Page D4

Fourth. There seems to be a defect built into rifle scopes that I wish manufacturers would try to eliminate. I have compared stories with many people who have also encountered this problem.

It seems that the optics of the typical rifle scope magnify the size of the horns or antlers of big game animals in size two-thirds of the power of the scope. Thus a 4x power scope enlarges the body of the animal by four, but increases the perceived size of the horns or antlers by eight times. This defect has been the cause of much embarrassment and disappointment.

Fifth. If Santa walks through my back yard this Christmas Eve he is very likely to step into a souvenir left by my black lab, Moose. I am sure that the by-products produced by this sixty pound duck retriever outweighs the food consumed by at least two to one.

I would truly appreciate a dog food which produced a more favorable return ratio.

Well so much for my list. I had better get it in the mail because some of these harder to find items may go quickly.

David Hocklander is a teacher and athletic director at Gooding

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Payette River from the mouth upstream to Black Canyon Dam, steelhead are defined as rainbow trout over 20 inches which have had their adipose fin clipped (as evidenced by a healed scar).

This definition applies only during the steelhead season.

The commission made other minor amendments to the steelhead regulations which should be available through licensed vendors shortly after Christmas.

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Montana officials examine a bison shot when it left Yellowstone Park

Bison kill should be smaller this year

HELENA, Mont. (AP) — Bison that blunder over the line from Yellowstone National Park are fair game for hunters again this winter, but park officials expect the harvest to be smaller than the 500 taken last season.

Just how many of the big, furry, dumb beasts will wander outside the park boundaries to graze depends on how severe the winter is and how pinched the food supply within the park, officials say.

Hunters aren't allowed to shoot bison in the park.

But statements by a leading zoologist have added weight to the state's contention that the slaughter of wandering bison is necessary to prevent the spread of brucellosis among Montana cattle herds, despite the outrage such killings may produce.

Dr. Don Davis, a Texas A&M University specialist in the highly infectious bacterial disease, said previous claims by park officials that the bison bug could not be transmitted to cattle have proven false.

"Montana has spent in excess of \$260 million of federal and state money to rid the domestic livestock of brucellosis," Davis said. "So you can see why you're not real crazy to get it back again."

Davis, a scientific adviser to a committee on brucellosis in

'Montana has spent in excess of \$260 million to rid livestock of brucellosis. So you can see why we're not real crazy to get it back again.'

— Don Davis, infectious disease specialist

Montana, Wyoming and Idaho, said the National Park Service could do more to eradicate brucellosis in the Yellowstone herds by isolating and slaughtering infected bison.

But that would mean killing the animals on park property, and that isn't going to happen, he said.

"We're talking big-time political and economic concessions if they were to do that," Davis said.

The Park Service says that unless scientists can prove brucellosis was not in the park when Yellowstone was created in 1872, it may classify the bacteria as a "native species." Park policy forbids eradication of any native species.

Eradicating brucellosis from the buffalo herd could prove useless if the organism is native to the area and simply reinfects the animals, said Yellowstone spokeswoman Joan Anzelmo.

And the buffalo would no longer be a wild, free-roaming species if

they were treated like domestic cattle, she said.

Brucellosis, also called Bang's disease, causes domestic cattle to lose their calves.

It can cause undulant fever — characterized by recurring fever and aching joints — in humans who get it through unpasteurized milk or direct contact with infected animals. It generally can't be transmitted through meat.

The U.S. Agriculture Department has been trying for decades to eliminate the disease from commercial herds.

So far, USDA says, 27 states are free of brucellosis, with the disease most prevalent in the South. Brucellosis was eradicated from Montana cattle in 1984.

Last year, due to food shortages caused by the massive 1988 forest fires and an ensuing harsh winter, hundreds of hungry bison wandered north onto Montana cattle ranches.

Hunters were called in to snag strays, and a record 569 bison were killed.

Of these about half were found to be infected with brucellosis.

Park officials counted 418 buffalo in the northern herd last week and estimate a park total of about 2,000 animals in the park's three major herds.

Wyoming, where most of Yellowstone is located, does not permit the shooting of stray bison.

Animal rights activists sought unsuccessfully to stop last year's hunt, which to some was sadly reminiscent of the massive buffalo slaughter of a century ago that signalled the final taming of the Wild West.

Although the bison season legally began Oct. 1, it does not actually start until and unless bison begin leaving the park.

That usually happens in December, although it may not happen at all if the winter is mild. "The biologists can't predict whether they'll move if they did last year," Anzelmo said. "We hope not. Maybe only a few will leave the park."

Previously officials have said they expect no more than 200 to be harvested this year.

In preparation for the hunt, 3,217 people have paid \$5 to apply for a bison permit.

Want to stay warm outdoors? Follow these winter-wear tips

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The weatherman is bleating about wind-chill factors of minus-20 and anybody with half a cup of common sense was deep in bed with no intention of moving. It was 4:30 in the morning, after all.

But I was rolling east down U.S. 50, headed for a pre-dawn date with a Potomac duck blind Saturday, and the dire radio warnings — northwest winds of 20 knots and temperatures in the teens — just put a smile on my face. Bad weather is ducky weather, and I was ready.

My feet were tucked cozily into a pair of 15-year-old boots I knew wouldn't fail; my legs were encased in longjohns and wool trousers that had survived far worse; my wool shirt and sweater and the parka in the back seat had been through a score of storms like this and always brought me home dry and happy.

In short, no surprises among these old friends, which is the code of the winter adventurer: Don't give us anything to try, give us what we know.

This has been a particularly harsh season and it promises to get no better, with winter formally arriving Thursday. With the idea that many will take time off over the next few holiday weeks and be tempted to

explore the woods, fields and trails, I thought I'd pass on a winter guide to proper dress, gleaned over the years from hard, unfashionable experience.

Rule 1: no experiments. All those space-age fabrics you read and hear about sound like the answer to 30,000 years of modern suffering in the cold. It isn't necessarily so. Whenever I write a curmudgeonly report about winter gear, some corporate type calls to complain I failed to mention his firm's new petroleum-based, polybutyl styroethylene garment, guaranteed to shed water, wick moisture, form a vapor barrier, toast marshmallows and serve as a fire starter in emergencies.

So I trudge out and test it and generally it turns out to be perfect for picnicking on the sunny side of a windbreak next to a campfire at noon, if you don't get too close to the fire. But when you're lost in a sleet storm on the windward side of a mountain at dusk? Instinct says, "No way."

Here, then, is a little guide to some time-tested stuff guaranteed to carry you through the worst of it, as long as you're unselfconscious enough to wear it. None of it is pretty.

Sorel boots: These over-the-ankle, Canadian-made leather-and-

rubber combinations come with removable, quarter-inch-thick felt liners, and are thoroughly waterproof. You can sit all afternoon in ankle-deep ice water and your toes stay toasty. Be sure to buy spare liners, though, so you can roast one set by the fire while you muck up the others with your sweaty feet.

Wool socks: The thicker and nappier the better.

But never wear just these on a winter hike; wear them over a pair or two of standard rayon stretch socks, which will keep your feet from getting damp with perspiration and increase insulation. Buy boots a half or full size too large, to accommodate the extra socks.

Duofoiled longjohns: These feature two fabrics sewn together, cotton-on-the-inside-for comfort, wool on the outside for warmth. Some folks like one-piece Duofoils, which don't create a gap in the back for wind to run up when you bend over. But our climate seems generally mild enough to avoid the discomfort and hassle of one-piece suits.

Wool trousers: Army-Navy stores and even some retail operations sell surplus, olive-drab wool trousers, for about \$20 these

days. There is no better bargain on Earth. Wool keeps you warm even when wet and it's not unreasonably bulky. Of course, it looks goofy. Do you want to be warm or fashionable?

Wool shirt and sweater: Pendleton makes marvelous wool shirts that last decades.

A sweater of soft, long-strand Icelandic wool, if you can find it, seems to have about double the insulating power of coarser woolen sweater materials.

Gore-Tex jacket with Thinsulate or similar insulation: This is my concession to technology and is a limited endorsement.

I have yet to find a truly waterproof Gore-Tex jacket; they all end up sodden in a downpour.

But if it's cold enough to wear a heavy jacket, it's unlikely to be insulated. Gore-Tex treatment does make a garment "breathable" enough to be bearable while hiking, yet will keep you dry during a gentle rain or wet snow.

Balaclava: Yes, your new parka has a hood, but hoods face straight when you want to look to the side, a grating annoyance to an active person.

Better to have a wool balaclava you can wear atop your head when it's mild, but pull down over your face and neck when it gets bitter cold, then drape the hood over it when the weather gets worse.

Mittens: Far warmer than gloves, which let heat escape between the fingers.

The best mittens I've found are insulated. Gore-Tex items with a thumb and forefinger on each hand.

That keeps hands warm but offers enough dexterity for you to handle things you couldn't grasp with a full mitten.

Backpack: A vital, final item, because as you increase or decrease activity, you'll need to add or remove layers of clothes.

When active, strip down far enough that you don't perspire and put the extra stuff in the pack.

Then slip it back on when you slow down.

All set? Good. Let's meet at the canal some morning to test your gear. Say 5 a.m.? Don't be late!

Whooping crane count rises in 1989

ROCKPORT, Texas (AP) — The endangered whooping crane population, which suffered devastating losses in 1988, made a remarkable comeback this year, a wildlife refuge manager says.

A total of 144 birds have been sighted at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge near Rockport, where they spend the winter, before returning to their nesting grounds in Canada's Buffalo National Park, said Brent Giezantner, refuge manager.

"We're really happy. As a matter of fact, we're ecstatic so far," he said Wednesday.

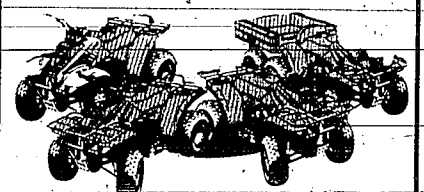
Only 138 whooping cranes out of an expected 150 made it to the refuge last year. Biologists estimated that as many as a dozen birds may have died after leaving their Canadian habitat.

One bird was shot by a Houston lawyer, who paid a \$15,000 fine, Giezantner said.

A good sign this year is that of the 21 whooping crane chicks sighted and tagged in Canada, all but one made it to the Texas refuge.

The increase in the world's only remaining naturally reproducing flock of whooping cranes is the result of favorable nesting conditions in Canada and the fact that many of the birds are reaching breeding age, Giezantner said.

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Wolves perishing without any known cause in Isle Royale's special habitat

EDITOR'S NOTE — Isle Royale is a fascinating natural phenomenon that has beckoned Indians before the birth of Christ, and archaeologists and biologists in modern times. The Indians mined natural copper from the island. The scientists used it as an insulated laboratory to study animal behavior. But now there is trouble. One link in the balance of nature, the wolf, is dying out.

ISLE ROYALE NATIONAL PARK, Mich. (AP) — For 40 years, the wolves and moose of Isle Royale have engaged in a macabre dance of predator and prey before a fascinated audience of scientists and summer campers.

This island has been the site of one of the world's most intense wildlife studies, neatly confined to an 8- by 45-mile island isolated in Lake Superior.

Now the wolves are dying. No one knows why.

Dr. Rolf Peterson, who for the past 19 years has been chief researcher for the 31-year-old Isle Royale Project, fears there will soon be a winter when he cannot find a single wolf on the island, where more than 50 roamed a few years ago.

Until 1988, the National Park Service dictated a policy of non-interference with the wolves. While researchers elsewhere captured the animals for blood tests and to attach radio-collars — on Isle Royale — scientists learned what they could only from aerial surveys and by examining mouse carcasses. Nobody under any circumstances touched a wolf.

"This was one of the last really unimpacted wolf populations in the world," former park superintendent Jack Morehead said from his office in Washington, where he is now in chief of operations for the Park Service.

"These wolves were really a museum test specimen of wolves in the wild."

Despite Morehead's objections, the Park Service last year gave Peterson permission to collar the island's dwindling wolves.

"The first time we crossed, now we can never say these wolves have never been touched by man," said

Assistant Park Superintendent Tom Ferranti on the island. "Isle Royale is different for me now. I feel a loss just knowing that."

Isle Royale is a rugged collection of high ridges plunging into tangled swamps, a serrated edge of the earth rising out of Lake Superior, 18 miles from Canada, the nearest mainland.

The Indians called it Mionong and traveled across open lake in canoes to pry copper from the island's crevices. Today backpackers blight from ferry boats.

Isle Royale is teeming with moose, more than 1,600 at last count. They were a waiting food supply when wolves from Canada loped across the Lake Superior ice in what must have been 1949, the

Purdue University arrived with his doctoral candidates to begin one of the world's precursor studies of wolf predation. There was precious little known about the wolf and its prey.

Thirty-one years of research since then have told science much about the way wolves live, Allen says.

"These life communities are the most complex things we know about in the whole universe," he said. "We are only beginning to unravel it."

When Peterson stepped in, he inherited a stable pack of about two dozen wolves and a celebrated study that mapped the harmony of nature. Something snapped the balance. The population exploded. By 1980, Isle Royale had three wolf packs and 50 wolves. It was the highest density

The blood also showed two wolves were exposed to canine parvovirus, a fatal disease of domestic dogs. No dogs are allowed on Isle Royale but the Park Service suspects-bunters sneak their pets ashore.

A third test showed the four wolves had look-alike genes, in-keeping with the theory the whole population comes from a single female who colonized the island 40 years ago. Island inbreeding could mean reduced fertility and the doom of the population. It would not cause a population crash, Peterson thinks.

The big unknown is, did disease cause the crash? Very likely, it did and we will never know," he said.

The only theory Peterson can write off is starvation. There is plenty of food.

A faint odor wafted on the lake breeze when he returned to the island last spring after a winter of teaching at Michigan Technological University in Houghton. Carcasses of winter-starved moose rotted in the warm air.

When the next few weeks, Peterson's field assistants found dozens of dead moose, their legs tucked beneath them where they died in the snow.

There were more weak moose than wolves could kill, more carcasses than wolves could scavenge.

Meanwhile, the island's wolf population dropped to 11.

The Park Service has not decided what to do. One proposal is to simply let the wolves die without human intervention. But Isle Royale without wolves could mean more moose, more starved moose.

This summer, Peterson watched in frustration as the remaining wolves simply let the wolves die without human intervention. But Isle Royale without wolves could mean more moose, more starved moose.

"This summer, Peterson watched in frustration as the remaining wolves simply let the wolves die without human intervention. But Isle Royale without wolves could mean more moose, more starved moose.

When unexpectedly in September, field assistant Joanne Thurber saw something hopeful.

She saw wolf-pup-tracks-in-the-earth.

"These life communities are the most complex things we know about in the whole universe. We are only beginning to unravel it."

— Dr. Durward Allen

winter the lake froze. They arrived unseasonably early after the island became a national park.

Former park ranger Bob Hakala first confirmed there were wolves on Isle Royale.

It was November 1951. He and his wife were taking one last hike up Feldtman Ridge before snow closed the island and sent them retreating to the Michigan mainland. In that first frost of winter, he saw wolf tracks.

Hakala also remembers the mournful sounds that came later.

"You figure you're hearing the call of the wild when you hear that howl," he says. "It has that sad quality."

That didn't stop a public relations campaign the next year to stock Isle Royale with four wolves from a Detroit zoo. The park tore a housewife's laundry into strips, ate a fisherman's nets and then stalked a tourist. Rangers shot two of them and departed a third. The fourth, a black creature called Big Jim, escaped and disappeared into island folklore.

In 1958, Dr. Durward Allen of

wolves recorded in the world.

Just as suddenly, the wolves began dying. In 1981, 30 wolves survived the winter. In 1982, the population was 14.

In those two years, counting new generations born and lost, Peterson figured 52 wolves died.

He found six carcasses and no conclusions.

The survivors roamed at a nervous pace. Evidence suggested the wolves were killing each other.

Peterson didn't think it was anything more than an ordinary population swing for several more years. But the wolves failed to make the comeback he hypothesized.

By 1988 there were just 12 animals left and the pups born each year were too few to replace the dying elders.

He persuaded the Park Service to let him capture Isle Royale's wolves and take action.

Blood samples taken from four of the animals last year showed they were exposed to Lyme disease, transmitted by infected ticks and suspected of causing reproductive failure in wolves.



No one knows why so many Isle Royale wolves have perished

USFS opens snowmobile trail

CODY, Wyo. (AP) — The U.S. Forest Service has agreed to let commercial snowmobile outfitters travel the Continental Divide Snowmobile Trail through the Shoshone and Bridger-Teton national forests this winter.

In the past the Forest Service allowed only private snowmobilers to use the sections of trail that crossed the national forests and the Shoshone and Bridger-Teton national forests. However, forester Bob Rossman says non-renewable, short-term permits will be issued this winter, and next winter the agency will grant long-term permits.

"As interest grows in this regionally and nationally significant winter recreation area, the Forest Service must be prepared to assure that commercial operations on the trail meet our customers' needs," said Bernie Spanogle, the resource staff officer for the Shoshone National Forest.

Rossman, the recreational forester

for the Lander District of the Shoshone forest, said the decision to issue temporary permits was based on the interest shown by people who wish to operate commercially on the trail.

So far the Forest Service has identified two outfitters from the Shoshone forest's Lander District and five from the Wind River District as being eligible for the permits. Rossman says five outfitters from the Pinedale District of the Bridger-Teton forest also are eligible for the permits.

Long-range plans for the trail include possible future routes through Grand Teton and Yellowstone national parks.

According to Rossman, outfitters may choose two methods of paying for their use of the trail across the national-forest-lands. He said payments may be figured on a scaled basis on the outfitters' daily charges, or may be set at 3 percent of their annual gross receipts.

Biologists labor to save homeless woodpecker group

ATLANTA (AP) — Biologists are spending hundreds of dollars to try to save a major colony of red-cockaded woodpeckers, a rare little bird that tries to snake-proof its home with pine sap and keeps male offspring around to help raise the next generation.

About 1,000 birds, about a quarter of the known population, lived in South Carolina's Francis Marion National Forest before Hurricane Hugo hit.

Around a quarter of the birds were killed. Most were homeless.

Near the size of a bluebird, the red-cockaded woodpecker evolved its unique lifestyle in the pinyon woods of the Southeast's coastal plain where snakes are common and fires almost as common.

"It's the only woodpecker that excavates a nest cavity in a live tree," explained Ron Escano, Southeast regional endangered species biologist for the U.S. Forest Service, which is trying to save the survivors.

That may be because the frequent natural fires and storms toppled dead trees soon after their leaves fell.

The red-cockaded woodpecker learned to pick big, old pines infested with red heart disease, which rots out the wood, making it easier for the birds to dig out a nest.

"I may take six to 12 months to build a cavity. That's a lot of energy. Because of that, they do not excavate a new cavity every year like most woodpeckers," Escano said.

Their cavity is protection from winter's storms as well as summer's predators.

A pair will drill little holes all around the tree, keeping them open so sap drips down the bark, apparently to keep away snakes and other predators, Escano said.

Red-cockaded woodpeckers, who get their name from a tiny tuft of red feathers on the male's head, live in colonies, each colony including a mated pair and one or more younger males which help catch food for the offspring.

The Forest Service has inspected 456 of the 548 known colonies on the Francis Marion forest as of Nov. 27, Escano said from his office at the service's regional headquarters in Atlanta.

Only three colonies were undamaged. Every cavity tree was knocked down in 218 of the colonies.

"Every tree was broken at the nest cavity," where the tree was weakest, he said.

There were, however, 285 colonies, out of 367 checked, where at least some birds survived, even if they had no nest cavities.

"A large segment of the population on the Marion is sitting there without any cavity trees. They're vulnerable to predation, insect attack and have no place to nest to March," Escano said.

To try to save them, the Forest is making nest boxes and drilling holes in surviving, healthy trees which may be too strong for the birds to

excavate.

A nest box is an 8-inch chunk of 4x6 pine timber with cavity and entrance holes drilled into it. It is pounded into a square hole cut in a healthy pine with a chain saw.

Forty-five had been installed and 13 had been occupied, Escano said.

"We expect that percentage to increase."

It takes time and effort to make the woodpecker apartments and the National Wildlife Federation is lobbying Congress for a special appropriation to cover the Forest Service's cost.

"You have about a quarter of the world's population of an endangered species in danger of being wiped out," said Rudy Rosen, head of the

Federation's Southeast regional office. "It wouldn't cost much to do everything possible to save it."

"Our ability to save a large number of the birds out there looks real promising," Escano said.

The service plans to continue making birdhouses and drilling nest holes all winter.

Meanwhile, biologists must worry whether the storm left enough insects to support the survivors.

The Francis Marion population of red-cockaded woodpeckers is the only one which has grown, Escano said, "with a 10 percent increase going into Hugo, then, whoosh."

F&G advises expect fewer loose moose

REXBURG (AP) — There will be fewer loose moose in Upper Snake River Valley communities this winter, the Fish and Game Dept. says.

Last winter, conservation officers had to remove 77 moose from cities ranging from Idaho Falls to Ashton. A harsh winter following two years of drought left scant forage for the big animals, leading many to venture into civilization in search of something to eat.

Information officer Rod Parker said the moose mainly were content to munch on trees and shrubs, but three serious incidents were reported.

Three-year-old Joshua Terry of Parker was attacked by a moose as he played in his yard.

A Salem youth was issued a warning ticket after shooting and killing a moose in his yard. And at Ashton, Dick Egbert fatally shot a moose after it charged him outside his home.

Parker said between 20 and 30 moose were removed from St. Anthony and Ashton last season and about 10 were taken from Rexburg.

Other than an occasional stray, Parker said officials don't expect moose to wander into populated areas this winter because range conditions are much better.

St. Anthony and Ashton, both communities in close proximity to forests, are guaranteed a few, "but nothing like the extremes of last year."

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After setback, Maine hopes for new caribou transplant

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Attempts to reintroduce caribou to Maine have been thwarted by disease and bears, but based on the success of a hearty doe named Daisy, officials hope Canada will provide more animals for "transplant."

"We were amazed she was in as good condition as she was in" after a 600-mile trek into and out of Canada, said wildlife biologist Mark McCollough, leader of the privately funded Maine Caribou Project.

Of a dozen North American reindeer released last spring in Baxter State Park, only Daisy is

known to be alive, although a second caribou that lost its radio collar may also be, said Richard B. Anderson, project coordinator.

Five caribou died after being attacked by bears, and five died of the "brainworm" parasite. Others still being kept in pens have been ravaged by brainworm and ulcers, said Anderson. More than two dozen caribou that were used as a breeding herd remain in pens at the University of Maine at Orono.

Despite the troubles encountered by most of the herd, Daisy's experience "shows they can thrive" in Maine, where caribou were

hunted out of the state around the turn of the century, McCollough said. Sightings and radio tracking mark a trek from the wilderness park in central Maine to Quebec and back.

Daisy "encountered everything possible," said Anderson. It crossed highways, stayed healthy, undoubtedly survived meeting bears and coyotes, "and when we caught it was in just as good shape as when we let it go."

Two dozen caribou were shot with tranquilizer darts in Newfoundland three years ago, rounded up on helicopters and trucked 1,200 miles

to Maine. Project leaders now have asked Canada for 25 more caribou in 1990 and — if all goes well — for another 25 in 1991 and in 1992.

Newfoundland's environmental and lands minister, Jim Kelland, has not decided on the Maine proposal, said David Pike, head of the provincial wildlife division. Pike would not say whether the plan is likely to be approved.

The Maine Caribou Project wants to release about 50 caribou — including most of those in the pens and those shipped from Canada — next year.

It would be the third release

attempt. In 1963, two dozen Newfoundland caribou were released in Baxter, but they disappeared, possibly as a result of poaching, disease, predation and dispersal. Poaching is no longer considered a major threat, thanks to stiff new fines and jail terms for killing a caribou.

Biologists have learned a lot from the setbacks of the latest attempt, Anderson said. For example, they learned that shots are more effective against brainworm than putting medication in the caribou's food. They also learned that bears are more likely to attack caribou than

had been thought, and that bears tend to attack their prey's face, while coyotes attack the hindquarters.

Another lesson is that the caribou should not be kept in pens before being released because they do not learn to defend themselves. And it appears caribou are more prone to brainworm while in captivity, McCollough said.

If caribou are released again, it will probably be in higher elevations, where they are less likely to come in contact with deer infected by brainworm and they may fare better against predators, he said.

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