

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy with scattered rain showers. South winds 5 to 15 mph. Highs near 50. **Page A2**

MAGIC VALLEY

Wing watchers: Local birders spot 65 species in their annual one-day count. **Page B1**

On the record: Fire agencies responded speedily to a fatal house fire in Buhl, according to 911 records. **Page B1**

SPORTS

Steel away: Defending AFC champion Pittsburgh ended Indianapolis' season for the second straight year Sunday. **Page C1**

A cold dish:

The 49ers will look for revenge next week in frosty Green Bay after blanking the Eagles, 14-0, in the NFC play-offs. **Page C1**

Bill's Bruce is best: Bruce Smith of Buffalo earned his second NFL Defensive Player of the Year title. **Page C1**

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Sweet peace: Guatemala's 36 years of civil conflict finally come to an end. **Page A7**

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Senior citizens at risk

Abuse cases are seldom prosecuted

By Karen Tolkkhen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Detective Chuck Dudley will never forget the elderly man who died three years ago, after his much younger wife deprived him of enough food and water.

When the man's health seriously deteriorated, his wife called for an ambulance, which took him to intensive care at a local hospital. At the time, he was emaciated, his fingernails were two or three inches long and he had gone without bathing so long that a crust had built up on his skin. He had been confined to his bed and couldn't reach the bathroom on his own. His bedding was never changed.

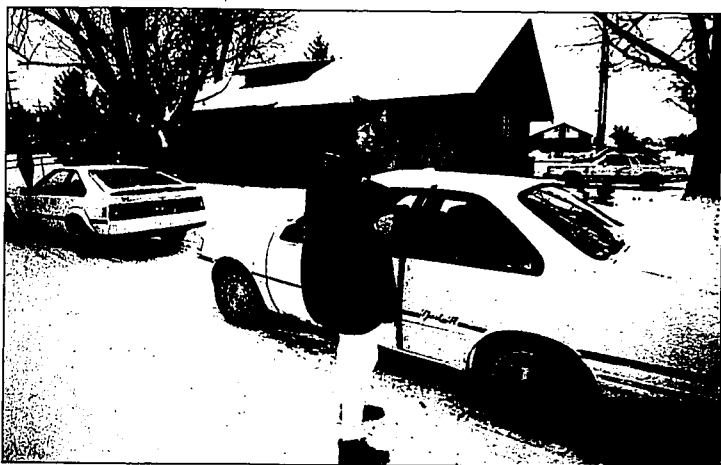
He died soon afterward. "It was, in my opinion, an obvious elder abuse issue," said Dudley, who investigates elder and child abuse for the Twin Falls Police Department.

But no charges were filed. The prosecutor turned down the case, Dudley said, because there wasn't enough evidence of criminal intent.

The case wasn't unusual. At any time during the year - but especially during the holidays - the elderly are raped, beaten or emotionally or financially abused by family members, care givers or others. Since July 1995, the local Office on Aging has turned over 23 cases to law enforcement in Twin Falls County. But rarely are such cases prosecuted. A search of records from Twin Falls city and county shows that no charges have been filed since 1990 under a statute designed to punish people who abuse, exploit or neglect an elder.

"I'm sure there must be cases out there," said City Attorney Fritz Wonderlich. "But I sure haven't ever seen one."

County Prosecutor Rich Bevan said he also does not recall a single case of elder



Nancy Killinger, an adult protection investigator, says she is frustrated by the lack of prosecution in the cases she handles for the local Office on Aging.

abuse reaching his office. Case workers at the state's Office on Aging estimate that they refer about six cases a month to Magic Valley law enforcement, the bulk to Twin Falls County. Some of those cases are simple welfare checks: A neighbor might not have seen an elderly person leave home that day.

But others are more chilling. Case workers see sexual and physical abuse, cases where valuables have been brazenly taken and sold, cases where a trusted family member has cleared out bank accounts.

In the Magic Valley, 129 cases of abuse, exploitation or neglect were reported from July 1995 to June 1996, according to Office on Aging data. The local agency investigated and turned over 122 cases to Magic Valley law enforcement.

Please see ABUSE, Page A2

Workers notice more reports of abuse

By Karen Tolkkhen
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The agency that deals with elder abuse is turning over more cases than ever to law enforcement.

But it is because there are more cases, or just more reporting? In 1995, the responsibility for investigating elder abuse moved from the Department of Health and Welfare to the Office on Aging, as part of a statewide effort to reduce the number of state employees. In the Magic Valley, the number of workers dropped from five to three. Statewide, the number of area agencies dropped from seven to six. The philosophy behind working with the elderly changed as well. Where once case workers made cold

calls - just walking up to the home of a senior citizen and introducing themselves - now a visit depends on evidence of abuse and whether the victim is thought to be vulnerable.

"As adults, we have the right to live our lives," said Judy Gerard, director of home and community-based programs for the local Office on Aging.

But the cold calls were an integral part of preventing abuses, said Tom Barnes, who supervised the Division of Adult Protection for the Department of Health and Welfare for four years.

"That's a major missing part of adult protection anymore," he said. "We don't help elderly get help before they get involved in a crisis situation."

When he was in charge of the local

Please see REPORTS, Page A2

Old Man Winter continues assault

New storm blasts Northwest with snow, wind, rain

The Associated Press

SEATTLE - The Northwest was pummeled by its second major storm in less than a week Sunday as 2 feet of snow, heavy rain and high winds blocked major highways, collapsed roofs and closed the Space Needle.

Blizzard warnings were posted for northwestern Washington, where snow was piled by bone-chilling gusts as powerful as 90 mph. Compounding the problems was heavy rain, which created an icy glaze and led to flood warnings for parts of Oregon and the rest of western Washington.

"Basically we're paralyzed," said Neil Clement, director of emergency management in northwest Washington's Whatcom County. "Even the snow plows are getting stuck. That's how bad it is."

Washington Gov. Mike Lowry declared a disaster in 11 western counties and activated the National Guard. And a symbol of Seattle, the Space Needle, was closed because heavy wet snow and ice was falling in "something resembling missiles," said spokeswoman Lynn Brackpool.

Travel ground to a halt throughout the region. Seven to 10 inches of snow fell on Seattle overnight on top of 6 to 12 already on the ground. Transit officials canceled bus service when most of the vehicles were stuck in the snow or just frozen to the ground. Most taxicabs would carry only people with medical emergencies.

All three main routes across the Cascade Range in Washington - Interstate 90 over Snoqualmie Pass, U.S. 2 over Stevens Pass and U.S. 12 over White



Above, Karl Lieberknecht, center left, and wife, Ashley, got police assistance after their car slid off Interstate 5 near Tacoma, Wash., Sunday. Below, a truck struggles to navigate a Seattle street.

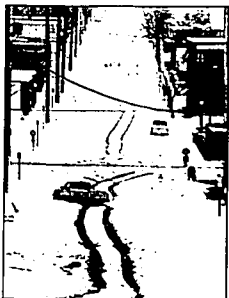
Storm snipnets - B2

Pass - were closed by multiple avalanches. Officials said there was little chance they could be reopened before Monday.

Avalanches also closed a 45-mile stretch of Interstate 84 on the Oregon side of the Columbia River Gorge, and one just west of Cascade Locks trapped a pickup truck. Both occupants escaped safely.

"It almost looks like water but it's snow and it's moving that fast," said Ron Scheele of the Oregon Department of Transportation. "Once we scoop it up to get it out of there, more snow replaces it."

Service was drastically curtailed at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Several hundred passengers had to spend the night there because airline crews couldn't reach the airport on snow- and ice-covered streets, said Anita Risdon, a Port of Seattle spokeswoman.



House majority whip: Gingrich won't quit post

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - In the face of mounting evidence the ethics storm swirling around Newt Gingrich may be eroding his support among Republicans, House Majority Whip Tom DeLay flatly predicted on Tuesday that Gingrich will not step down from his post as House speaker.

"Newt Gingrich is not going to step aside - I'm absolutely confident of that," DeLay said Sunday. "He will be elected (speaker) on Jan. 7."

DeLay's remarks on NBC's "Meet The Press" came after a week in which Republicans began voicing unease about the House ethics committee's probe of Gingrich. The speaker has admitted filing inaccurate statements to the panel regarding a college course he once taught at a small Georgia college.

Gingrich and other Republican leaders are calling on the panel to make a decision on what penalties, if any, should be levied against the speaker on or before Jan. 7, when the House convenes to elect leaders for the 105th Congress.

If the panel - and the full House - should take the unlikely step of voting for censure, Gingrich would be stripped of his speakership. An official reprimand, the most lenient penalty available, would not require Gingrich to quit the leadership.

Political costs associated with a prolonged public airing of the panel's findings on Gingrich, however, could diminish the speaker's power. That explains in part why Republicans are eager to put the two-year ethics investigation behind them, while Democrats who frequently have pushed to accelerate the probe now want to proceed more slowly.

"Clearly, there should be a full discussion of this," said Rep. Martin Frost, D-Texas. "The speaker - clearly should have the opportunity to defend himself, to come in and present his case, and I would hope that that would be public."



Newt Gingrich

Travelers won't benefit from lapse of airline ticket tax

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - For a second consecutive New Year's Day, the 10 percent federal tax on commercial airline tickets is lapsing. Unlike last year, travelers won't benefit.

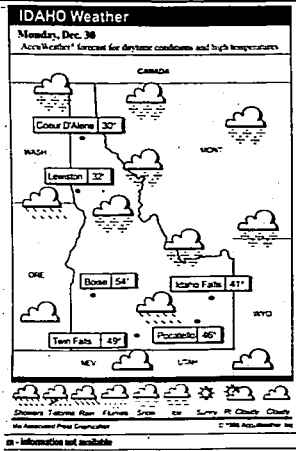
The carriers, led by Continental

based Consumer Reports Travel Letter.

"The airlines are pretty well convinced that business is strong - and they figure, 'If we can't raise fares in this climate, we'll never be able to raise fares,'" he said.

Please see AIRLINES, Page A2

WEATHER



FORECAST

Magie Valley
Today and tonight mostly cloudy with scattered rain showers. Highs near 50. Lows 35 to near 40. South winds 5 to 15 mph Monday. Tuesday rain likely. Highs 45 to near 50.

Extended regional forecast
New years day through Friday valley rain and mountain snow likely. Breezy at times. Lows in the 30s to lower 40s. Highs 45 to 55.

Camas Prairie, Wood River Valley
Today mostly cloudy with scattered rain and snow showers. Highs 40 to 45. Tonight rain and snow likely/Lows 30 to 35. Tuesday mostly cloudy with scattered rain and snow showers. Highs 40 to 45.

Treasure Valley
Today cloudy with scattered rain showers. Highs in the lower 50s. Southeast wind 10 to 20 mph. Tonight rain likely. Lows 40 to 45. Tuesday cloudy with scattered rain showers. Highs in the mid 50s.

Sawtooth Mountains
Today rain showers likely with snow above 6000 feet. Additional snow accumulation 1 to 2 inches. Highs mostly in the 40s. Tonight and Tuesday cloudy with scattered rain and snow showers. Lows from the upper 20s to the mid 30s. Highs in the 40s.

Eastern Idaho
Today cloudy with rain showers likely. Highs in the mid 40s. Southwinds 10 to 20 mph. Tonight periods of rain. Lows in the mid 30s. Tuesday cloudy with rain showers likely. Highs in the mid 40s.

Northern Idaho
Today snow showers likely, mixed with freezing rain in the morning. Scattered rain and snow showers in the afternoon. Highs in the mid 30s. South winds 5 to 10 mph. Tonight and Tuesday occasional rain with snow above 6000 feet. Lows near 30. Highs 35 to 40.

Northern Nevada
Today showers likely and windy. Snow above 7000 feet. Wind advisory. Southwest winds 25-35 mph with locally higher gusts. Tonight showers likely. Snow above 7,000 feet. Tuesday showers likely. Snow above 7,500 feet.

Northern Utah
Today mostly cloudy and breezy. South winds 15-30 mph. A 60 percent chance of rain showers, mainly early. Highs near 50. Tonight mostly cloudy. A 60 percent chance of rain, mainly late. Lows 40-45. Tuesday cloudy. A 60 percent chance of rain, mainly early. Highs near 50.

ALMANAC

Idaho

Max	Min	Pcp	Max	Min	Pcp	
Boise	55	40	18	Yesterday	50	40
Burley	m	40	---	Last year	39	25
Fairfield	m	m	---	Normal	39	20
Gooding	42	34	31			
Hagerman	47	36	37			
Idaho Falls	47	33	01	More to date:	3.78	
Jerome	48	36	03	Normal year to date:	6.10	
Lewiston	28	24	25	Normal year to date:	2.98	
Malad	43	36	---			
Malta	52	39	---			
McCall	52	39	---			
Pocatello	49	37	02	Barometer at noon:	29.54	76
Salmon	52	30	---	Poten count: Reports ended		
Stanley	m	30	---	for this season:		
Sun Valley	m	m	---	Source: NOAA and Long's Island		

SUNWATCH
Sunset today 5:14 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow 8:08 a.m.
Lunar phase: Full, Dec. 24; Last quarter, Jan. 1; New, Jan. 8; First quarter, Jan. 15.
Visible planets: Mercury, Mars, Venus, Evening Jupiter, Saturn, Mercury.

ROAD CONDITIONS

BOISE (AP) — The Idaho Department of Transportation reported hazardous driving conditions throughout the state. U.S. Highway 12 was closed from milepost 98 through 162, as were Idaho Highways 21 from Idaho City to Banner Summit.

Road Conditions:
U.S. 95 — Plummer-Sandpoint, bit of snow floor, Sandpoint-Canadian Border, broken snow floor, snow; Riggins-Lewiston, icy spots; Lewiston-Hill-Blowen, broken snow floor, snowing; Carey-Water-New Meadows, icy, broken snow floor, snowing; Marsing-Oregon Line, wet, rain.

Interstate 90 — Fourth of July Canyon, broken snow floor; Lookout Pass, icy, broken snow floor, snowing.

U.S. 12 — Lewiston-Lowell, broken snow floor, snowing; Lowell-Lolo Pass, snow floor, snowing.

Interstate 84 — Oregon line-Mountain Home, wet, rain; Mountain Home-Glen Ferry, dry, wet, rain; Bliss-Burley, wet, rain; Burley-Utah Line, wet, icy spots, rain, snowing.

U.S. 95 — Horseshoe Bend Hill-Demmelly, icy, broken snow floor, snowing; Demmelly-New Meadows, icy, broken snow floor, snowing.

Idaho 21 — Boise-Idaho City, wet, rain, snowing; Idaho City-Lowman, CLOSED; Lowman-Banner Summit, CLOSED.

U.S. 20 — Mountain Home-

Abuse

Continued from A1

The virtual lack of prosecution frustrates case workers such as Nancy Killinger, one of three who investigate complaints in the Magie Valley, and Judy Gerard, director of home and community-based services for the local Office on Aging.

"We would like to see people who are doing things punished," Gerard said. "But if that doesn't happen, our goal is still the same, to try to protect the victim."

"That's the reason the crimes aren't prosecuted is that the reports go through a long chain of command before they reach the prosecutor's level. At any level they're subjected to heavier and heavier burdens of proof and are more likely to be ruled not a crime at all."

Sometimes the reason is that the elder can't or won't testify. "They're an easy victim," Dudley said. "They can't run. They can't fight. They're easily overpowered. If they've had a stroke or dementia or Alzheimer's to the point they can't talk, nobody's going to tell."

Sometimes the elder is trying to protect a family member.

Sometimes he or she is overcome by shame. Dudley has investigated rape cases where there is physical evidence of rape, but not enough to win a conviction.

"Most of the time you cannot prove a case that far," he said. "Most of the time, you almost have to handle abuse as a homicide case almost as if it were a homicide case, where the victim is unable to talk."

"It's tough. And unfortunately the people who suffer the most are the elderly."

And sometimes, law enforcement's hands are bound. If family members are listed on an elder's bank account, they are within their rights to draw it.

Dudley would like some way to prosecute those cases as well. And he would like mandatory criminal-background checks on those who provide health care and services. "Like the checks on teachers and police officers."

"Maybe we ought to consider the fact that we ought to protect Mom and Dad as they get older too," he said. "Age is the enemy."

Elders often unload on Jackie Nix, the manager of the Twin Falls Senior Center.

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To know the circulation director
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Twin Falls and other areas: 733-0931.

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ACROSS THE NATION

Heavy rain and snow pound Northwest; thunderstorms hit South
The Associated Press

Up to 2 feet of snow and heavy rain hit the Northwest on Sunday, blocking highways and drenching power lines, while the South was drenched by thunderstorms.

The second major storm in the Northwest in less than a week was produced by a low-pressure center moving in from the ocean.

Washington's Whatcom County, on the state's northwestern corner, was hardest hit by snow with up to 2 feet by afternoon. Heavy snow also fell in the Cascades, blocking major east-west highways.

Seattle got 7 to 10 inches of snow overnight, on top of 6 to 12 inches already on the ground from Thursday's major storm.

Heavy rain fell over parts of southwestern Washington and western Oregon, where Astoria got 21.3 inches in 24 hours, and flood warnings and warnings were posted for the region. Up to 2 inches of ice collected in parts of Oregon.

High wind also hit the coast, toppling dozens of trees and closing several highways in Oregon. Wind gusts to 98 mph at Netarts, Ore., and the National Weather Service said.

Across the South, thunderstorms were scattered from Louisiana into Mississippi and Alabama. Wind gusts to 60 mph during thunderstorms in southern Mississippi.

Patterson, La., reported 4.91 inches of rain in 24 hours.

A few showers and thunderstorms also spread into the Appalachians and mid-Atlantic regions, and light showers extended into New England.

Elsewhere, light snow was scattered from the northern Rockies across the Dakotas into Minnesota and Wisconsin.

TEMPERATURES

City	High	Low	Wind
Albuquerque	57	28	---
Atlanta	69	59	---
Boston	54	43	077
Chicago	54	34	001
Dallas	67	42	---
Denver	63	29	---
Des Moines	45	6	---
Detroit	40	37	077
Houston	59	48	---
Indianapolis	47	38	077
Kansas City	53	41	---
Las Vegas	68	53	---
Los Angeles	68	53	---
Memphis	68	63	---
Miami Beach	87	78	195
Minneapolis	28	28	001
New Orleans	68	48	---
New York	58	48	---
Oklahoma City	59	29	---
Omaha	43	4	---
Phoenix	62	49	---
Pittsburgh	48	42	357
Portland, Me.	53	33	143
Portland, Ore.	58	41	521
San Diego	57	35	---
San Jose	54	43	---
San Francisco	53	43	---
Seattle	46	37	1,882
Spokane	25	13	40
Washington	66	50	028

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Tune to the National Weather Service radio band at VHF-FM 162.4 or 162.55 MHz or call 423-4123. The Internet address for Idaho Transportation Department road reports is: <http://www.state.id.us/ditd/imp.htm>

HIGHS & LOWS

Idaho: High, 57 degrees at Caldwell, Low, 14 degrees at Coeur d'Alene.
Nation: High, 67 at Miami Beach, Fla. Low, 32 below Bar Harbor, Me.

ROAD INFORMATION

For current road conditions call these numbers: Boise, 536-2532; Shoshone, 866-2266; Pocatello, 238-6724; Rigby, 745-2728; Utah 300-964-6000; the Idaho, News, 800-732-8888.

Reports

Continued from A1

program, he referred two or three cases a year to law enforcement. Now, the lack of preventative programs may be partially causing the increased number of serious cases, he said.

Office on Aging officials discount his theory.

"They're plugged into a network of services in a way that health and welfare never act, through Meals on Wheels, Senior Companions and other senior programs, said Omar Valverde, attorney for the Office on Aging.

"We have hundreds of more eyes and ears," he said.

Some of those programs have been around since the 1970s, Gerard said. But recently his agency and other programs became much more integrated.

"We have sat and worried about that plan," she said. "We people aren't as comfortable contacting the Office on Aging than they did the department." That could be a factor.

Airlines

Continued from A1

Analysts expect the industry to post a record \$4 billion profit in 1996. Continental spokesman David Messing rejected the notion that airlines should automatically pass on the savings from the tax lifting.

"Fares are ultimately set by the marketplace based on supply and demand for seats. They aren't based on adding up all the cost components," he said. "So a fare that's \$179 on Dec. 31 and \$179 on Jan. 1 makes sense from an economic perspective."

The ticket tax and other aviation levies first lapsed at the start of 1996, the victim of the protracted budget battle in 1995 between President Clinton and the then-new Republican majority in Congress.

Also expiring was a 56 per cent levy on international departures, a 6.25 percent tax on domestic air cargo and excise charges on noncommercial aviation fuel.

They weren't reinstated until August. The delay cost the government roughly \$500 million a month.

When the taxes tied the first time, airlines initially passed the savings to customers but within three to four months most had raised fares to match.

This time they didn't hesitate to increase fares. And since airlines advertise their prices with the ticket tax included, travelers probably won't notice a thing.

Passengers won't realize fares have been raised, Perkins predicted, until Congress goes around to reinstating the tax. The airlines will be loathe to give up the revenue and will tack it onto their previously raised prices, he said.

That probably won't be for some months, even though Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., and Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., have endorsed quick reinstatement.

Rep. Bill Archer, R-Texas, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, appointed an eight-member bipartisan task force to examine federal taxes on all forms of transportation. A separate 21-member commission is studying how best to finance the Federal Aviation Administration.

Archer's move was announced in part by a dispute among a group of airlines about the small and discontinued airlines. The large airlines advocated a fee system based on the number of passengers, seats per aircraft and passenger miles flown. The other carriers say that would unfairly shift costs to them.

Another motivation was the brief but intense flurry of interest among Republicans last spring in temporarily suspending part of the gasoline excise tax. GOP presidential candidate Bill Dole had made it a campaign issue but the movement bogged down when lawmakers began debating the fairness of reducing one fuel tax but not others.

"There's been a pendulum of taxation and fees built over an extended period of time, and (Archer) just wanted us to mile each the fuel excise tax and do a complete analysis of them, one by one, for each of the transportation," said Kirk France chairman Rep. Mac Collins, R-Ga.

That means the ticket tax probably won't be reinstated before fall, when Congress complies with the 1996 budget.

And under Congress' generous tax laws, the step and go program means lawmakers can use the revenue to offset tax cuts in other areas. On the down side, it means less money for the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, which finances airport modernization.

The General Accounting Office projects the trust fund balance will hit zero in July if aviation taxes aren't reinstated before then.

"That fund will suffer severely," said Geoff Collins of the Dallas-based International Airline Passenger Association. "They shouldn't be in a position where they'll suffer severely."

Girl burned by package bomb returns home

CLIFTON PARK, N.Y. (AP) — A 10-year-old girl burned by a package bomb that blew up in her face on Christmas Eve came home for a belated holiday celebration Sunday as police ruled out a potential lead in the case.

Jordan Reardon returned to her family's home where she had spent the planned-wrapped package that was marked to "Mr. Reardon and family." She was burned over 27 percent of her body and underwent minor plastic surgery at Westchester County Medical Center.

"The first thing Jordan wanted to do was come back and celebrate Christmas," said Mark Marchand, a neighbor who is acting as a family spokesman. He added that Jordan was in "good spirits" and "physically feeling very well."

Police also said Sunday that a raid at vacant home in nearby Troy, where a live pipe bomb was found on Christmas Eve, was not related to the bombing at the Reardon home in this community 15 miles north of Albany.

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Clinton plans to combat state drug laws

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton has approved a plan to combat state laws legalizing marijuana for medical use through a variety of means that could include criminal charges against physicians who prescribe it.

Retired Army Gen. Barry McCaffrey, the president's anti-narcotics chief, said those who violate federal laws, including provisions forbidding doctors from prescribing illegal drugs, "lend themselves vulnerable to prosecution."

Interviewed Sunday on CBS' "Face the Nation," McCaffrey said Clinton approved the plan last week, with details to be announced Monday. He headed a multiagency effort over the past several weeks to draw it up.

McCaffrey said the plan would make clear that while federal law has not changed, government medical authorities will continue to examine the purported benefits of any drug, including marijuana.

But he said doctors who prescribe illegal drugs would be prosecuted or removed from the federal registry that allows them to write prescriptions. He said the administration remains confident American medicine offers better remedies to deal with pain than prescribing illegal drugs.

"Clearly if we had unscrupulous physicians who were using heroin



Gen. Barry McCaffrey, White House drug policy adviser, leaves the CBS building in Washington Sunday after the taping of "Face the Nation." Along with guest Rep. John Lewis, D-Ga., McCaffrey discussed President Clinton's medical marijuana policy on the show.

to treat writer's block in Arizona, or if there were prescription mills in California, federal law will be upheld," McCaffrey said.

Voters in these two states last month approved measures that would relax restrictions on the medical use of some illegal drugs, such as marijuana.

He said the administration is reminding anyone who receives

government money or operates under federal jurisdiction that they are banned from using illegal drugs, whatever a doctor may recommend.

"So if you're flying a Delta airliner, driving a school bus, operating a nuclear power plant, if you are a National Guard sergeant, you can't use Schedule I drugs" for medical purposes, McCaffrey said.

Marijuana and heroin are Schedule I substances, and federal law recognizes no legitimate medical use for them. Under the new administration plan, doctors who prescribe marijuana could lose their Drug Enforcement Administration certification, even where state laws permit such prescriptions.

McCaffrey said the resolutions California and Arizona voters approved amount to quiescentization of drugs.

"In essence we see them as a violation of the scientific process that has brought America the safest and most effective medicines in the world," McCaffrey said. "And we're extremely concerned because of the potential for increased drug abuse in these two states."

Asked if by its actions the federal government is thwarting the will of the people, McCaffrey said many voters in California and Arizona "were asleep at the switch" in approving "hoax referendums" that did not have any serious medical backing.

He said the administration mounted a year-guard campaign against the measures, and "that's what we're going to do in the other 48 states — make sure that parents, educators, law enforcement officers, ministers and people who care about children get the point" about illegal drugs.



Philip Pettit practices a high-wire walk in an outlying building at St. John the Divine in New York City, Friday. Pettit will perform in the nave of the cathedral, 90 feet above the ground, on New Year's Eve.

High-wire performer offers rare tribute

NEW YORK (AP) — In the maw of the cathedral, on a cold steel wire, an artist offers up his life.

With just a long white pole to balance him, high-wire performer Philippe Petit brings a rare form of reverence to the Cathedral of St. John the Divine as he glides across the cable to the strains of Bach.

Past the gothic columns and the dusty chandeliers; the stained-glass windows cast a warm protective glow on this silhouette in leotards cowering mischievously in the sky.

Kneeling, prancing, bowing, dancing.

Practicing for a New Year's Eve performance, he times across his precarious stage with nothing but faith and skill to guide him.

Quite, the rumble of Manhattan seems a world away. Inside, you wonder if God might be watching. Or the spirit of Petit's daughter buried far away.

There is no safety net, just two "cavaliers," anchor ropes on runners that stabilize the wire on either end. In 30 years of wire walking — including an illegal jump between the towers of the World Trade Center in New York in 1974 and others at Notre Dame in Paris and the Sydney Harbour Bridge in Australia — Petit has never used a protective device.

Instead, he puts his faith in his raw stubby feet, his buffalo-skin slippers (which he stitched himself), his 27-foot pole and his three-quarter-inch wire. The 47-year-old Paris-born acrobat says he needs nothing more.

"Why would a bird have a leash?" he asks incredulously, when asked about a net. "Would it still be a bird? A wire walker is only beautiful when walking in the sky."

On this day Petit is practicing "Crescendo," a high-wire tribute to his great friend and patron, the Very Rev. James Parks Morton, who is retiring as dean of St. John's at the end of the year. The session takes place in one of the cathedral's outlying buildings and the wire is about 20 feet from the ground. The actual performance, on New Year's Eve, will be in the cathedral itself and will include three separate wires, the highest strung at 90 feet above the high altar.

Petit is the first to acknowledge the surreal nature of high-wire walking in such a sacred setting.

"A steel cable with a human being on it does not belong in a church," he says. "But this is not a daredevil act. It is an act of poetry and art that reflects what a living cathedral should be."

He dismisses questions about danger, saying only that he can't afford to falter and that he never loses. The wire is his musical instrument, Petit says. He knows every nuance, every quiver.

"I dig the wire myself, which is why I'm still alive. For me, there is nothing that is more alive."

"And it makes me happy, up here in the sky."

But "Crescendo" is far more than another stroll in the sky for the man who has conquered cables from Tokyo to Paris, and who has already strung a wire

across the Little Colorado River in the Grand Canyon in preparation for a future stroll.

It is a deeply personal work of love and worship. The performance, which includes dance, mime, music and lighting, is an allegorical depiction of Morton's life at the cathedral. It is both a tribute to the dean and to the haunting brown stone building that both men call their spiritual home.

And it reflects Petit's own journey, from his teen-age days as a wandering minstrel in Paris, juggling and performing magic tricks, to his role as artist-in-residence at the 104-year-old Episcopal cathedral in New York.

When construction resumed on the unfinished cathedral in 1982 after a 41-year break, it was Petit who carried the first stone on a wire across Amsterdam Avenue, delivering it into the grateful hands of Morton.

His studio is tucked into a cathedral gallery, high above the nave. The ashes of his 13-year-old daughter "Cordia-Gypsy," who died of a cerebral brain hemorrhage in 1992, are buried in the columbarium.

"My heart is here, my life is here," he says simply. "It is my precious place."

And Morton's. The largest cathedral in the world is a living testimony to the man who spent 25 years opening its doors to worshippers of any faith and to those with different social and artistic messages. There's a poet's corner above one altar, a huge fish tank in another, memorials, Japanese vases, a sports tapestry, an AIDS memorial. Concerts and Halloween parties are now a regular part of the annual cathedral schedule.

So it was fitting that the high-wire walker who captivated the dean two decades ago should be invited to join this stroll.

The two are close: Morton buried Petit's child, and says he loves the performer like a son.

Report: Feds trying to build case against rap label

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Federal investigators are trying to build a racketeering case against Death Row Records by looking for links to gangs, drug traffickers and organized crime, the Los Angeles Times reported Sunday.

The investigation of the rap label includes phone taps and work by the FBI, the Internal Revenue Service and federal drug investigators, the Times reported, citing unidentified law enforcement sources.

Justice Department officials have refused to confirm or deny whether the company is under scrutiny.

Death Row has had \$300 million in sales since it was founded in 1992.

One of its stars, Tupac Shakur, was shot to death in September in Las Vegas. Death Row founder and owner Marion "Suge" Knight

was slightly wounded in the still-unsolved attack.

Knight, 31, has eight convictions, mainly for assault and weapons charges. His probation in a 1992 assault case has been revoked for his role in a brawl hours before Shakur was shot; he could be sentenced to prison in February.

Knight, who has been jailed since October, also is accused of violating probation in a 1994 federal firearms trafficking case by smoking marijuana.

Knight denied allegations that Death Row may have links to the Bloods street gang and to East Coast mob associates.

"Anybody who wants to follow us around is welcome to come check it out," he said. "If you don't like rap or R&B music, though, you better bring some car plugs to the studio. Because that's where you're going to find

us ... making the hit records that generate all the money."

He said the government probe was socially motivated.

"This is the most outrageous story I have ever heard," Knight said. "A black brother from Compton creates a company that helps people in the ghetto, so what does the government do? They try to bring him down."

According to the Times, federal investigators also are examining:

- whether members of the Bloods committed assaults and other crimes while on Death

Row's payroll.

- whether Death Row was launched with drug money or other illegal funds. Knight said corporations were the source.

- Knight's association with convicted drug kingpins Michael Harris and Ricardo Crockett, both of whom are now in prison. Knight said he knew the men, but did not take money from them to launch his company.

- Knight's investment in a now-defunct Las Vegas nightclub called Club 662 for links to organized crime.

'My heart is here, my life is here. It is my precious place.'

—Philip Petit, performer

O'Hare getting new detectors

Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — O'Hare International Airport will be the first of 54 U.S. airports to receive improved explosives-detection devices under a federally funded program aimed at increasing security for air travelers.

The new screening machines will employ technology similar to that used in CAT scans to enhance the visibility of the contents of luggage and other baggage.

Chicago Aviation Commissioner Mary Rose Loney said O'Hare is scheduled to get the first of five machines, valued at \$900,000 each, on Jan. 15.

The other four are expected to arrive before the end of 1997.

"This is new technology that gives a more comprehensive picture of what's inside bags," Loney said. "It's one of several things we've said could help us make some security improvements."

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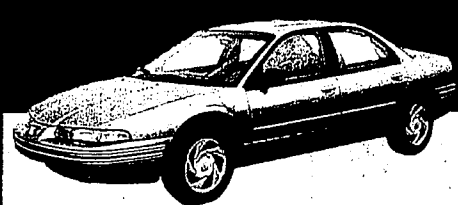
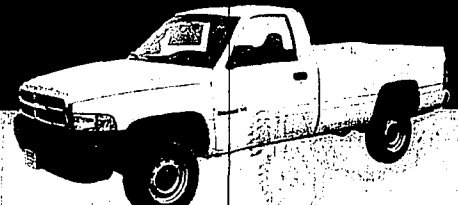
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OTHER VIEWS

Planning welfare reform requires long-range vision

From the Post Register, Idaho Falls

Idaho's commitment to welfare reform as a way to help people rather than to simply cut costs was seriously challenged last week.

Surveying the degree of state support for day care and early child education, the Children's Defense Fund ranked Idaho 48th, estimating it spent less than \$19 per child per year in 1994, the last year for which numbers were available.

Only South Dakota and Mississippi provided less.

By contrast, Alaska, which is ranked first, spent almost \$150 per child.

That's significant because within seven months, Idaho will implement its welfare reform package. For reform to work as designed, the state will need to help provide child care services to welfare recipients attempting to make the transition into the work force.

"It's very scary because child care and early education are the linchpins to any successful effort to reform welfare," said Gina Adams, a CDF analyst who compiled the study. "They desperately need to increase their commitment to children and child care if they want to reform welfare and have a long-term productive workforce. If they don't, they'll be paying the price."

The architects of reform believe welfare is a trap. To liberate people from welfare, they have come up with this solution: Cut off benefits and force people to begin working.

For instance, there is a two-year maximum lifetime benefit limit. And no family regardless of size will receive more than \$278 a month. That's well below the current benefits. Indeed, the average payment among the 9,100 Idaho families on welfare is \$283.

Idaho already spends about \$4 million to help pay the child care costs of the working poor and welfare recipients. It provides subsidies of up to 90 percent, based on a family's income. And it plans to spend more.

With welfare reform requiring recipients to begin working, the state anticipates allocating \$12 million next year on child care.

But where that money will come from is not entirely clear though Department of Health and Welfare officials believe most of it will be federal money.

It's a good bet, even at that level, that the money won't go far enough. A Congressional Budget Office study says because of welfare reform, the nation will need \$1.4 billion more during the next six years for child care and early education than it intends to spend.

The amount of funding is only half of a troubling picture.

Idaho intends to limit how long welfare and former welfare recipients can receive child care assistance. The state would continue to provide day care subsidies for the first year after a welfare recipient ceases collecting benefits and enters the work force.

Beyond that, only those living close enough to the poverty line to satisfy the state's poverty guidelines would continue to receive some child care help.

On a minimum-wage income of less than \$10,000 a year, expecting many working poor families to be able to cover day care costs is unrealistic.

Then they may face the choice between providing inadequate care for their children or losing their jobs.

Moreover, most states have a poor record of encouraging quality day care programs for the disadvantaged. Idaho's history is even worse. It was among the last of the states to impose licensing standards for day care centers, and those standards continue to be the least stringent of any in the country.

Idaho has more at stake than ending welfare dependency. Many children living in low-income families are at risk of failing at school and succumbing to delinquency. Ignoring the problem can be costly later. Just spend an afternoon in criminal court. Virtually every person facing a prison sentence suffers from an inadequate education.

Idaho has a paradoxical set of priorities. It spends so little on early child care that it winds up spending a good deal more on prisons.

English debate easily solved

From the Orange County Register

Maybe the Ebonics controversy can be ended before it gets too far.

According to some scholars, many African-Americans speak not just a dialect of English, but a separate language, Ebonics — an invented name combining "Ebony" and "phonics" to mean "black sounds." The Oakland, Calif., school district is trying to get federal taxpayers' money to use Ebonics as part of its bilingual education program.

But last week on "Meet the Press," the Rev. Jesse Jackson, the nation's most visible African-American leader, put the lie to this cruel deception: "I understand the attempt to reach out to these children, but this is an unacceptable surrender, bordering on disgrace. It's teaching down to our children."

The controversy should be broken into two parts: Whether Ebonics really is a separate language, and whether, even if it is, it should be taught in schools.

The first question is best left to linguists to debate: What is a separate language and what is just a dialect?

Linguistic debates aside, African-American children have to live in the real world and the language of our country — and of trade around the

world — is standard English.

Programs that delay their mastery of standard English do them no good.

As the Rev. Jackson pointed out, if children aren't taught standard English, they cannot "get in the University of California. They cannot get a job at NBC or CBS or ABC unless they can master this language, and I'll tell you they can master it if they are challenged to do so."

He might have been speaking about any group of children exposed to bilingual education as practiced in California today.

Bilingual education is meant to assist non-English speaking children in their early school years by allowing them to learn in their native languages as they master English. But too often, the evidence shows, such programs simply delay the day that mastery is achieved.

Some members of other groups subjected to bilingual education are recognizing the deception. Groups of parents of Hispanic students in the Ninth Street School in Los Angeles, for example, mounted a protest earlier in the year against the programs because in too many cases their children were not learning English.

So let the linguists discuss and analyze Ebonics and let black children learn English — as quickly as possible.



Gingrich, Clinton have much in common

They're much alike, Newt and Bill. A couple of small-town boys, overachievers who seized the chance for political stardom, exuberant schmoozers who'll gab until the last listener snores. Like prize fighters with similar moves, Newt Gingrich and Bill Clinton are mirror images.

Now they have something in common besides ample eggs, Diane roots and chunky waistlines.

At what should be their peaks of triumph, the House speaker and the president will be dinged political animals.

Both were wounded in Washington's money chase. They were driven to win, to keep power. Maybe legal corners were shodded. They stare from opposite ends of Pennsylvania Avenue, leaders with dented heads.

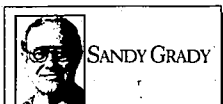
Oh, sure, Republicans will re-elect Gingrich as speaker. Never mind how raucously Democrats jeer about ethics charges. And sure, the bells and horns will be noisy for Clinton's second inaugural.

But I expect there will be a hollowness in the rituals, a queasy sense of blight about the 1997 re-emergence of Gingrich and Clinton.

The lone songs are wrong. It's not better the second time around.

Think back to Jan. 5, 1995, the day Gingrich was all-conquering King of the Hill. When he walked into the House of Representatives, the first Republican speaker in 40 years, he was floating on helium like a Macy's balloon.

In his victory speech to the House that



SANDY GRADY

was slightly shorter than a Castro harangue, Gingrich pontificated, "This is overwhelming — I'm overwhelmed by the historic moment."

But Newt may be underwhelmed when the rite is repeated Jan. 7.

"It's going to be stormy, rough and tough," said Rep. Peter King, R-N.Y., a Gingrich supporter.

Unlike the jubilee two years ago, when sullen Democrats grudgingly handed over the gavel, they'll fight like wildcats to steal Newt's party. They hate Gingrich, detest what he did to Jim Wright, fume he's too tainted to be speaker.

"He should resign," said Rep. Martin Frost, D-Texas. "If not, he should be censured by the House."

"How can we have a speaker, second in line to be president, who's lied to Congress?" said Rep. David Bonior, D-Mich., who pursues Gingrich like a hound from hell.

They can't block Gingrich's re-election. With a 20-vote Republican edge, his juggernaut's greased. And Gingrich beautifully choreographed his confession of guilt — sort of — when Congress was out and normal Americans were

wrapping Christmas presents.

Sure, the ethics panel said Gingrich "did not reflect creditably on the House" when he fudged tax laws. And sure, the panel charged Newt gave it "inaccurate, incomplete and unreliable" information.

Does that legal muck mean Newt lied? Either way, his abills, blaming it on accountants and lawyers, wouldn't sway a steady eye IRS auditor.

In effect, Gingrich copped a plea, much as did Spiro Agnew when feds caught him red-handed.

Instead of the combative Newt, he was slyly contrite. "I was overconfident and in some ways naive. ... I brought down on the people's House a controversy which could weaken the faith people have in government."

He had that right. Will Gingrich's two-step dance work? Probably. The ethics panel must hustle to hit Newt with a reprimand (translation, a wrist slap.) Then the full House must agree before Newt takes his gavel. Watch Dems try to gang-tackle that walz.

Goodbye, civility. The Jan. 7 rabbit-punching, groin-gouging and hell-raising will make any Andrew Golota fight seem genteel.

Sure, they're alike: Small-town over-reachers who grabbed too hard to hang onto power.

But Gingrich and Clinton may have pawmed an irredeemable jewel — their moral authority.

Sandy Grady writes for the Philadelphia Daily News.

A peek at what looms in coming new year

As the old year ends, our annual look ahead to what might happen in 1997:

CARL P. LEUBSDORF

JANUARY — Lamar Alexander forms presidential exploratory committee for 2000. With Democratic National Committee \$10 million in debt, John Huang is named new Democratic national chairman.

FEBRUARY — Tom Patten is edged by one vote by the Rev. Sun Myung Moon as GOP national chairman. Paula Jones drops suit against President Clinton but denies any secret deal. President's inaugural speech sets new record of 2 hours, 37 minutes.

MARCH — Paula Jones is named ambassador to Indonesia. Vice President Al Gore buys summer home in Iowa, denies any connection with possible 2000 presidential run. House announces investigation of election defeat of California Rep. Bob Dornan. The other John Huang, named new budget director, announces plans to sell Asian development bonds to reduce deficit. Jack Kemp, on third trip of year to Iowa, calls for delay in 2000 presidential politics.

APRIL — Texas Sen. Sen. Fred Thompson forms presidential exploratory committee. Special counsel Kenneth Starr announces Travelgate indictments; first lady, not indicted, is named as the driving force. President says he is 1,000 percent behind the first lady. Senate joins House in passing constitutional amendment requiring a balanced budget.

APRIL — First 23 states ratify new bal-

anced-budget amendment. Clinton's approval level drops below 50 percent for first time in more than a year. Gore buys ski lodge in New Hampshire but denies any connection with presidential politics.

MAY — Jack Kemp forms 2000 presidential exploratory committee. Tony Blair becomes first Laborite prime minister of Great Britain in 18 years. As Clinton's approval drops below 40, reports surface that the president is reconsidering support for the first lady. On visit to China, Gore announces plans for a bridge to the East.

JUNE — Hillary Rodham Clinton resigns as first lady. The president announces that, to reduce the White House staff, Tipper Gore will serve as both first and second lady. House Speaker Newt Gingrich predicts budget agreement by August recess.

JULY — Gingrich forms 2000 exploratory committee. Rangers lose 15 in a row. Gov. George W. Bush takes a leave to assume helm of team. Indiana becomes 33rd state to ratify balanced-budget amendment, but significant opposition arises in 17 states. Budget director Huang announces budget will be balanced in fiscal 1998, thanks to over-subscription of Asian development bond sale.

AUGUST — Congress leaves for August recess without passing budget agree-

ment. Rangers rebound to .500, and Gov. Bush returns to Austin. Travelgate defendants are acquitted, and special counsel Starr resigns. He is succeeded by New York Sen. Al D'Amato.

SEPTEMBER — Congress passes historic balanced-budget agreement despite almost solid Democratic opposition; Clinton signs it. Budget director Huang resigns to open travel agency. After lengthy investigation, House throws out 1,000 fraudulent ballots in the California race, but Loretta Sanchez remains victorious by two votes over former Rep. Dornan. He announces plans to seek presidency again in 2000.

OCTOBER — Speaker Gingrich, his disapproval ratings in midteens, resigns to become director of the National Zoo. He is succeeded by House Majority Leader Dick Armey.

NOVEMBER — Speaker Armey announces presidential exploratory committee. Democrats regain Virginia governorship, but Republicans are re-elected in New Jersey and New York City. Former Kansas Sen. Bob Dole says he is weighing public demands he make one more presidential bid in 2000.

DECEMBER — Former first lady Hillary Rodham forms presidential exploratory committee for 2000. So does Red Cross President Elizabeth Dole.

Carl P. Leubsdorf is Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News. Readers may write to him at the Dallas Morning News Washington Bureau, 1012 National Press Building, Washington, DC, 20045.

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By Gary Trudeau

Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley

Guatemala guerrillas, government sign pact ending war

GUATEMALA CITY — War-weary guerrilla and government leaders on Sunday signed an accord ending 36 years of civil conflict, vowing to tackle the poverty, repression and discrimination that sparked the fighting.

The solemn ceremony, observed by some 1,200 foreign dignitaries and special guests inside the National Palace, brought Central America's last and longest civil war to a close.

Heads of state, including President Ernesto Zedillo of Mexico and presidents from all of Central America's nations, applauded as each of the four top rebel leaders and representatives of the government signed the agreement reached after six years of negotiations brokered by the United Nations.

Rebel commanders Rolando Moran, Pablo Monsanto, Carlos Gonzalez and Jorge Rosal signed the agreement reached after six years of negotiations brokered by the United Nations. Rebel commanders Rolando Moran declared. "The war ends and Guatemala is the only victor."

Moran called the signing the "most important date in the history of our people in the last 50 years."



Francisco Tipaz adds finishing touches to a giant dove on top of his pickup truck Sunday in Guatemala City, Guatemala, at the start of a memorial march to remember those killed in 36 years of civil war.

However, some Guatemalans and others closely linked to events said all sides would have to struggle to guard against renewed hostilities.

Rebel leaders wearing dark suits shook hands and each hugged head government negotiator Gustavo Porras, with whom they had wrangled with over five points for so many years in Mexico City hotels.

development and reconciliation." Rebel leaders wearing dark suits shook hands and each hugged head government negotiator Gustavo Porras, with whom they had wrangled with over five points for so many years in Mexico City hotels.

Civil war began with '60s revolt

The Associated Press

The Guatemala National Revolutionary Unity, or URNG, allies four leftist rebel groups that have been fighting a series of right-wing governments for more than three decades.

The conflict can be traced back to a 1960 revolt by Guatemalan military officers, angered that their government had allowed the CIA to use national territory to train Cuban exiles for the ill-fated Bay of Pigs invasion.

The officers later formed a guerrilla army and soon several other rebel groups were launched attacks in the countryside. The rebels originally sought to topple the government and replace it with a Marxist one. Their ideological tilt faded with the collapse of the former Soviet Union.

The three rebel armies and the Guatemalan Workers Party joined forces as the URNG and launched a scorched-earth campaign against counterinsurgency, when the army and their civilian defense patrols razed hundreds of villages suspected of rebel sympathies, often burning down all the

homes and killing all the inhabitants.

The campaign decimated the rebels' ranks, destroyed much of their base support and gave Guatemala one of the worst human rights records in the Western Hemisphere.

Estimates on the number of rebels still in the mountains have ranged from 1,000 to 2,000. The rebels say they have about 3,000. Most are Indians, and about half appear to be teenagers from rural areas with little education.

But they are well-organized and well-armed, mostly with AK-47 and M16 rifles, electronically detonated mines and anti-tank artillery, and shortwave radio transmitters for daily contact with the rebel command in Mexico City.

Under the peace accord to be signed Sunday, the rebels are to give up all those weapons and their uniforms during the first few months of 1997 under the oversight of U.N. peacekeepers.

Afterward, the rebels will enter a reintegration program that will provide them with housing, education and other training to help prepare them for civilian life.

Israel rejects offer to share control of shrine

JERUSALEM (AP) — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejected Palestinian demands for shared control of a disputed religious shrine in Hebron, saying Sunday that Israel alone will patrol the Tomb of the Patriarchs.

On the verge of an agreement over an Israeli troop withdrawal from most of Hebron, the last West Bank city under Israeli control, Netanyahu also said Israel would remain in Hebron "forever."

Palestinian negotiator Hassan Asfour said Netanyahu's declara-



Benjamin Netanyahu

reached this week. The redeployment of Israeli troops originally was scheduled for March under

his terms ends New Year's day. U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Boutros Ghali signed the final peace agreement for the world body.

He complained both sides for having the political will to "leave confrontation behind and turn their energies to peace

development and reconciliation."

Rebel leaders wearing dark suits shook hands and each hugged head government negotiator Gustavo Porras, with whom they had wrangled with over five points for so many years in Mexico City hotels.

Rebel leaders wearing dark suits shook hands and each hugged head government negotiator Gustavo Porras, with whom they had wrangled with over five points for so many years in Mexico City hotels.

At the moment, only unarmed Palestinian workers are present at the site, where Israeli settler Baruch Goldstein opened fire on Muslim worshippers, killing 29, on Feb. 25, 1994.

Israel labor strike shuts down services - for a while

LOD, Israel (AP) — Tens of thousands of Israeli workers walked off their jobs Sunday, shutting down banks, government offices and media outlets and causing chaos at the airport.

The strike ended after about five hours, when authorities agreed to drop a contempt-of-court order against a top union leader. An unrelated strike was scheduled for Monday to protest proposed budget cuts and privatization plans.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the strike by the Histadrut trade union, long affiliated with the opposition Labor party, was political. "This country does not belong to the trade union," he said on Israel radio,

Some workers return to work in S. Korea

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Subway workers in the capital returned to the job Monday, a sign that South Korea's largest labor protest ever might be easing. But major industries were idled by hundreds of thousands of strikers.

Workers began walking off the job five days ago and vowed to continue their protest until the government abolishes a new labor law that they say threatens job security.

Subway workers in the southern city of Pusan and unionized workers at 14 major hospitals in Seoul and provincial cities said they were ending their protests.

where he appealed to workers to ignore the strike call. "This is an irresponsible, politically motivated strike." Israel radio went off the air except for hourly news bulletins. The water, electric and telephone companies were working on an emergency basis.

North Korea apologizes for submarine incident

Los Angeles Times

TOKYO — North Korea took a key step Sunday toward easing tensions with the United States by expressing "deep regret" for a September incident in which one of its submarines ran aground on a South Korean coast while on a spying mission.

The South Korean government, which had insisted on an apology for the incursion before negotia-

tion "negates the spirit of peace."

Both sides say an agreement on turning over 80 percent of Hebron to Palestinian control could be reached this week. The redeployment of Israeli troops originally was scheduled for March under

previous accords, but was delayed after a series of suicide bombings in Israel that killed 83 people.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat met Israeli Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai late Sunday in the Gaza Strip to iron out some differences before U.S. mediator Dennis Ross returns to the area on Monday.

Mordechai's spokesman Ari Benayahu said the aim of the meeting was to "bridge the gaps on some of the remaining security issues and to try and set a meeting between Prime Minister

Netanyahu and Chairman Arafat some time this week."

Palestinian officials said Arafat would insist on Israeli-Palestinian joint patrols at the Tomb of the Patriarchs, known to Muslims as the Ibrahim Mosque.

It is revered by Muslims and Jews as the burial site of biblical figures including Abraham and Sarah.

Egypt says 240 arrested linked to Muslim Brotherhood

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Egyptian officials said 240 people it says are linked to an outlawed Islamic group in the largest crackdown on Muslim activists in more than a year.

The Interior Ministry said Sunday authorities were questioning 200 members of the

"Kobouim," which it said was a violent branch of the Muslim Brotherhood, the country's largest Islamic group.

The other 40 were attached to the Brotherhood's secret political cells, it said. Six from that group were released. The arrests were first reported Sunday by Al-

Abraam, Egypt's leading daily.

The Kobouim, which means "supporters of Korb," is named for Brotherhood leader Sayed Korb, who was executed in 1966 on charges of attempting to overthrow the government.

The ministry said the Kobouim members were arrested in nine

provinces, but gave no further details.

The other 40 arrests were made Thursday in industrial areas south of Cairo and were said to involve people suspected of printing or distributing leaflets urging the overthrow of the government.

Alleged militants kill villagers; bomb explodes

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP) — Attackers claiming to be Islamic militants sealed off a village and went on a two-hour rampage Sunday, slashing and hacking 28 villagers to death, the government said.

The massacre came two hours before a car bomb exploded near the capital, Algiers, wounding at least 20 people.

Assaults opened the night assault on the village of Ain Defla, 90 miles south of Algiers, by cutting off roads and phones, government security forces said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The attackers, who said they were with the Armed Islamic Group, cut villagers' throats with knives and axes, the government said.

The Armed Islamic Group, one of the country's most violent rebel factions, has claimed responsibility for similar attacks in recent years. Random killings and attacks have become common in Algeria during the North African country's 5-year-old insurgency.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the car bombing later Sunday in the Algiers suburb of El Harrac.

The bomb exploded outside a cafe near a police station, injuring at least 20 people, authorities said. Hospital sources speaking on condition of anonymity put the number of wounded at 25.

Two car bombings in the capital last week killed 13 people and wounded more than 130.

Algeria's insurgency, which has killed more than 20,000 people, began after the government canceled 1992 parliamentary elections that the Islamic Salvation Front was expected to win. The insurgents seek the establishment of a government based on Islamic law.

Times-News Classified 733-0931

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ALL SET

AROUND THE VALLEY

Avalanche blocks traffic near Ketchum Sunday

KETCHUM - An avalanche at Hulen Meadows caused traffic problems Sunday evening, according to Blaine County Sheriff's Department dispatcher.

Traffic was blocked on Idaho Highway 75 about four miles north of Ketchum at about 7 p.m. Sunday. Blaine County Sheriff's deputies and state police cleared the highway shortly afterward.

Details weren't available at press time Sunday.

2 men killed after snowmobile hits a cow

HAILLEY - Two young men were killed Saturday night when their fast-traveling snowmobile crashed into a cow that had wandered into the middle of a country road.

Artemio Zarate Hernandez, 17, of Asuncion, Mexico, died before ambulance workers arrived; Jose Leopoldo Hernandez, 25, of Inwood, Calif., died later at Wood River Medical Center in Hailley, said Sgt. Ron Taylor of the Blaine County Sheriff's Department.

The pair had been joyriding with another snowmobiler that evening when one of their three snowmobiles got stuck in a ditch; the pair doubled up on one machine and started heading back to a ranch for help towing the stranded vehicle, their friend trailing behind them in another snowmobile, Taylor said.

Speeding toward the ranch, the men apparently didn't see the black Angus cow standing in the middle of Price Lane; their third snowmobile hit the animal at about 70 mph, Taylor said. Their friend, the third snowmobiler, reported seeing the men's headlights vanish ahead of him, then discovering the wreckage.

The friend, whom Taylor declined to name except to say that he is a teen-age boy, sped off to the ranch and called 911 at about 10:25 p.m., Taylor said. Officials arrived to find the men and their 500 green and black Arctic Cat snowmobile along the road. The cow lay in a ditch about 75 yards away, seemingly lifeless; but later it got to its feet and blended in with the rest of its herd. Officials are still investigating the accident.

Council wades into issue of storm-water management

TWIN FALLS - The City Council waded into the issue of storm-water management this afternoon. Council members will interview a trio of consulting engineers vying to write a storm water management plan. The winning firm will identify areas with potential storm-water sanitation problems - and suggest potential solutions.

The council also will consider bids for a one-ton truck for the city's Water Department.

City council begins at 3 p.m. in City Hall. It is free and open to the public.

Blaine board considers ambulance, gravel bids

HAILLEY - The Blaine County Board of Commissioners will meet from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Jan. 6.

Commissioners will consider an ambulance bid, bids for gravel crushing and inspect the jail. An improvement permit for Hyndman Creek Road will be considered, along with a resolution to consider validation of a portion of Parker Gulch Road.

The meeting is open to the public.

Woman, passengers injured in Friday morning accident

TWIN FALLS - A woman from New Mexico and two passengers in her car were injured Friday morning in a wreck on slick roads on U.S. Highway 93.

Idaho State Police reports say a pickup truck pulling a camp trailer was hit from behind by a car about 10:11 a.m. The wreck was 6.5 miles north of the Nevada border. The truck, driven by Albert Roark, 70, of Boise, was driving slowly because of slick roads, the report said.

The car was driven by Mary Contreras, 34, of Las Cruces, N.M. Contreras and two passengers were transported to Magic Valley Regional Medical Center by a Jackson ambulance.

Contreras was listed in serious condition at the hospital Friday night.

State parks yearlong passes available now for \$20

ACEQUIA - Yearlong passes to enter Idaho's state parks, such as Walcott Park northeast of Rupert, are on sale now through the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation.

Passes purchased before Jan. 31 are \$20, a \$10 savings off the regular price. Starting this year, daily entrance fees will be charged for use of Walcott Park, the newest of Idaho's state parks.

Passes are good for all state parks. To order, write to Annual Passport, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, 5657 Warm Springs Ave., Boise, ID 83712-0057.

Compiled from staff reports



Karl Ruprecht gets a bird in his sights while on a bird count at Vinyard Lake Saturday afternoon with Ryan Peck, left, and Steve VanZandt.

Wing watchers

Local birders spot 65 species in group's annual count

By John Ruprecht
 Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Driving or walking around Twin Falls, you're likely to see a good number of different birds. But just how many species of birds could you identify on one given day, if you were to search for them?

That's the question local and national bird watchers attempt to answer every year at the annual National Audubon Society Christmas Bird Count - when more than 45,000 volunteers from all 50 states have one calendar day to record every individual bird and bird species they encounter.

Some 22 volunteers from Twin Falls' Prairie Falcon Audubon Chapter braved into four groups and spent Saturday scouring the chapter's 15-mile diameter area, spotting 65 species of birds. The species total was higher than last year's and compares favorably with some of the group's best years, according to chapter records.

The canyons proved to be bird havens Saturday, with groups finding success at



An American dipper, one of 65 species birds spotted Saturday afternoon, sings on a rock near Vinyard Lake.

Dierkes Lake, Shoshone Falls, Rock Creek Park, Vinyard Lake, Blue Lakes Country Club and Canyon Springs Golf Course, not to mention various country roads and city bird feeders.

While the Twin Falls Christmas count didn't provide anything as spectacular as the tufted duck identified in Hagerman's count a week earlier, there were several highlights, including the following:

- Howard Hudak spotted a mountain bluebird - Idaho's state bird - in a marshy area about two miles west of the Canyon Springs Golf Course. The bird is rare at this elevation in the winter.
- Owls were out in force at Jake and Gene Reichard's farm south of Jerome. Mike O'Brien, co-manager of the Nature Conservancy's Thousand Springs Preserve, saw 11 barn owls and a couple of great-horned owls in Reichard's trees.

"I've never seen so many owls in my life," O'Brien said. "Owls popped out of every evergreen tree."

Barn owls are vole specialists, and the impressive number of voles in the valley this year, along with adequate habitat, seems to be helping these long-legged, heart-shaped faced owls thrive, O'Brien said.

Please see WATCHERS, Page B3

911 records say response to Buhl fire was speedy

By Kent McClary
 Times-News writer

BUHL - A Buhl house fire that killed two toddlers drew a concentrated and speedy response from fire agencies, according to tapes of 911 calls.

Emergency personnel didn't know children were trapped in the Dec. 18 fire until arriving on-scene. Neighbors trying to help the family had nothing but praise for the work of Buhl police, firefighters and medics.

But several neighbors voiced concern that response to the fire seemed delayed.

Records from the emergency dispatch center say police officers were on the

How to call 911

To get emergency services en route quickly, SIRCOWM dispatchers say they'll want to know:

1. The address of the emergency. At the least, they'll want to know the address you're calling from. Post your house address and your own phone number on your phone, so a guest in your house could make an emergency call.
2. What kind of an emergency it is. What is going on? The dispatcher needs to know whether to send a fire truck, an ambulance or police.

Depending on the emergency, dispatchers have whole lists of questions to ask. A call that someone is having a heart attack, or a call to report domestic violence, will have its own set of questions.

- Dispatchers say they:
- may ask for a phone number to call the caller back;
 - may ask for the caller's name, depending upon the emergency;
 - may repeat information back to the caller to make certain it is correct;
 - will tell the caller when it is OK to hang up.

scene of the fire within a minute of the call, and firefighters were at the house

in two minutes. In an article in the Dec. 20 edition of

The Times-News, the neighbor who initially called for help said he felt response was delayed. The story included an outline of response times.

The neighbor, Gaylard Eggleston, said he was outside his home when a woman ran around the corner of his neighbor's house and told him to call 911 because her babies were dying.

Eggleston estimated response to the call at 10 minutes.

"I was shook up. I'd never done anything like this. It could've been one minute, two minutes, but it seemed like 30 minutes," Eggleston said. "Time just drug and drug and drug, and there wasn't anything I could do."

Please see E311, Page B3

Volunteer helps migrants, low-income people

By John Thompson
 Times-News writer

BURLEY - His dimly lit downtown office is more like a hallway with a desk at one end.

Black and white paint chips flake off an old plywood sign hanging above the door. It reads, "Idaho Network Neighborhood."

Inside, unframed posters, some with motivational messages, line the walls. Worn-out chairs sit atop carpet remnants covering the concrete floor.

Behind a desk piled high with papers and books, Adan Ramirez toils in service of his fellow man. A champion of the blue-collar worker, Ramirez devotes most of his time to helping solve the problems that low-income families face.

The 64-year-old former sheep shearer travels the books. Adan Ramirez toils in service of his fellow man. A champion of the blue-collar worker, Ramirez devotes most of his time to helping solve the problems that low-income families face.

The 64-year-old former sheep shearer travels the books. Adan Ramirez toils in service of his fellow man. A champion of the blue-collar worker, Ramirez devotes most of his time to helping solve the problems that low-income families face.



Adan Ramirez, an active volunteer in the Mini-Cassia area, is a leader in efforts to improve life for migrant workers and low-income people. Other equipment for people with disabilities and donates it to Access Idaho.

About Adan Ramirez

Age: 64
 Hometown: Burley
 Profession: retired sheep shearer, farm worker
 Hobbies: reading and watching television
 Good deeds: volunteer work for several organizations

"People think I'm crazy, but I'm really not," he said. "Helping other people makes me feel that I'm a human being. People should get more involved and work together to help humanity."

In 1992, Ramirez had triple bypass heart surgery. The experience changed his outlook, he said.

"Before, I didn't always accept people as they are, but I became aware that we are all just one step away from a catastrophic illness."

Lobbying against cuts in Medicare and Medicaid and promoting a sum-

Know an everyday hero?

Anyone who does something extraordinary - neighbors, scoutmasters, church group members, hospital volunteers, tutors - without getting paid for it, qualifies. So do professionals, such as care givers and teachers, who contribute something extra.

Send nominations to Everyday Heroes, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83403, or fax us at 734-5538. We'll need your name and phone number, the name of your everyday hero and a few sentences about the person.

mer fiesta are two of his goals for 1997, he said.

He also volunteers as a Spanish interpreter and helps Mexicans apply for U.S. citizenship.

"I like people to know that I'm a Mexican," he said. "I'm proud of my heritage."

Kevin Bushman, a friend, said Ramirez isn't afraid to get up say what's on his mind in a room full of Ph.D.s, and he often does.

"He isn't interested in getting recognized or tooting his own horn, he just wants to help people," Bushman said. "He's a professional volunteer."

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Nasty Northwest storms touch many people's lives

BELLINGHAM, Wash. (AP) — A 71-year-old woman was seriously injured when her legs were crushed as a car skidded out of control on a snowy city street.

Dorothy Hooper had her right leg amputated Friday night, hours after she was pinned between the skidding car and a parked car after a trip to run errands.

"All I needed was two more seconds," said David Kinsler, a friend who rents a room from her. "I had her in my hands, and I didn't do enough."

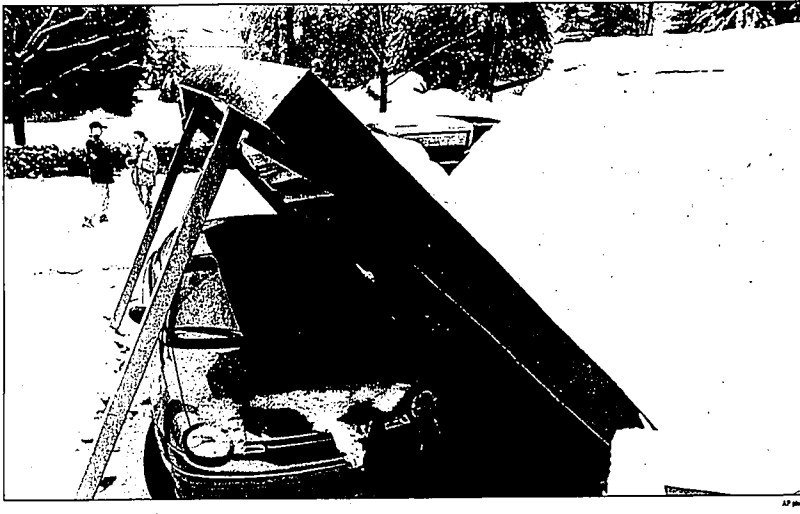
Police Lt. Jack Hanson said the woman was being helped by Kinsler over a berm of snow. As Kinsler tried to kick the snow down, a car driven by Florencio Gonzalez Cruz skidded toward them.

Cruz, 28, of Bellingham, was cited on charges of giving false information about his identity at the scene of an accident, driving too fast for conditions, driving with a suspended license and driving without insurance, Hanson said.

EVERSON, Wash. — Tom and Janet Boyhan's pack llamas have come to the high Sierras, where only their necks and heads poked out of the snow, but even they felt the cold winds that blew 7-foot drifts against their three-sided shed Saturday.

"When you see an animal with a fair amount of wool on him and he's shivering, it's time to take some measures," Tom Boyhan said after moving the animals into an enclosed barn. "This is the worst I've ever seen it."

BLAINE, Wash. — Florence Van Luven's home resembled a Currier-and-Ives print during the weekend, but she's seen worse.



Toby Sabol, left and Stefanie Zabriske examine automobile damage at their Bellevue, Wash., apartment complex Sunday. A winter storm blanketed the Pacific northwest with snow and rain during the weekend.

She said last week's storm was nothing like a cold blast in 1955, when the temperature dropped 34 degrees in five hours, nor the storm that dumped 23 inches of snow in four days in March 1951.

Not that she wanted any worse after being kept off the roads for a week because of snowy-icy roads. "It's picture-postcard perfect,"

she said, "but it's hard to get around."

KENNEWICK, Wash. — If you've ever been pushed in snowy weather by a much larger vehicle that splattered your windshield with slush, the state Transportation Department has

some information that might make you smile.

Crash statistics provide some indication that pickup trucks and vans may end up in more than their share of weather-related crashes.

Trucks and vans were involved in 22 percent of the good-weather accidents in Benton, Franklin,

Adams, Yakima and Walla Walla counties between 1990 and 1994, according to police information and compiled by the Transportation Department. When snow and ice enter the picture, the number of accidents involving trucks and vans increases to 42.5 percent.

Doug Welch of Doug's Towing

thinks he knows why. "The four-wheel-drive guys think they can do anything," Welch said, "but four wheels locked up and skidding on the ice is still four wheels locked up and skidding on the ice."

TACOMA — Bad weather has helped bring out good neighbors in the Puget Sound area.

Just ask Carolee Jenkins, who lives near Lake Steilacoom, who

"This is a neat neighborhood," the recently widowed woman said Saturday as she and neighbors watched Tacoma City Light crews cutting tree limbs from their power lines.

"One guy's got a gas water heater, so we're showering there," she said. "I've got a motor home, so we've got coffee."

She said she planned to host two neighbors overnight in her RV, along with others who just come to play cards.

In Lakewood, 14-year-old Stobahn Willis watched her mother make chili in a friend's cold apartment complex Saturday. It gave her an idea.

With the help of friend Dianna Lowell and the Red Cross, the teen-ager got Domino's Pizza to donate food for the entire complex.

"There's just all these people with children around here," she said. "They're living on crackers..."

"I can't stand for children to go hungry."

Kevin Hulseby, store manager for the local Domino's, said the store donated 12 large pizzas.

"We've always done things for the Special Olympics and other worthy causes," he said. "There's elderly people and kids who weren't eating. You can't say no to that."

ON THE AGENDA

Following is a list of governmental meetings that are scheduled this week in the Magic Valley. This list is compiled from advance schedules. The Times-News suggests that you confirm the information by calling the appropriate clerk's office before attending.

TODAY Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse.

TUESDAY Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse.

THURSDAY Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse.

FRIDAY Twin Falls County commissioners, 8:30 a.m., courthouse.

THIS WEEK AT CSI

The following is a schedule of meetings and events that will take place this week at the College of Southern Idaho.

TUESDAY The college is closed.

WEDNESDAY The college is closed.

THURSDAY The college offices re-open.

THURSDAY Military tutoring will be held at 8 a.m. in Shields 203.

SERVICES

Earl Woodrow Willis, of Gooding, 9:30 a.m. today, Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

Richard Martin Choate, of Burley, 10 a.m. Tuesday, Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel. Friends may call one hour before the funeral on Tuesday at the funeral chapel.

Jay Sheldon Crumrine, of Hazelton, 1 p.m. Tuesday, White Mortuary, Twin Falls. Friends may call from 4 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral chapel.

Cory Gil Ruiz, infant son of Tomas and Kalli VanLeeuwen of Murtaugh, 10:30 a.m. today, White Mortuary, Twin Falls.

Helen M. (Deeds) Pelley, of Richfield, 10:30 a.m. Tuesday, Assembly of God Church, Richfield. Friends may call from 1 to 7 p.m. today at Demaray's Shoshone Chapel.

Chery Lou (Sleight) Choate, of Burley, 2 p.m. Tuesday, Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel. Friends may call from 7 to 8 p.m. today at the funeral chapel.

Elsie Lovina Bourquin, of Rupert, 11 a.m. today, Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel. Friends may call one hour before the funeral on Monday at the funeral chapel.

Holt Stocking, of Paul, 11 a.m. Tuesday, Emerson Ward LDS Chapel, Paul. Friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel and one hour before the funeral on Tuesday at the church.

Thelma Otis (Riley) Clark, of Buhl, 2 p.m. Tuesday, First Assembly of God Church, Buhl. Friends may call from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at the Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

Marion O. Smith Langdon, of New Plymouth and formerly of Twin Falls, burial, 1 p.m. today, Sunset Memorial Park, Twin Falls. A reception for family and friends will follow at the First Baptist Church, Twin Falls, (Shaffer-Jensen Memorial Chapel in Payette).

Matthew Luke Uecker, son of Fred and Betsy Uecker of Gooding, memorial service, 2 p.m. Wednesday, Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

Members of the Immanuel Foundation and Fraternity of Preparation claim their right to worship was violated. In two federal court cases the United States Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) of 1993, a controversial law that has spawned more than 300 lawsuits nationally and is now being reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court.

DEATH NOTICES

Roy Daniel Sutterfield, of Twin Falls, 1 p.m. today, White Mortuary, Twin Falls.

Jean L. MacRae Gibson RUPERT — Jean Louise MacRae Gibson, a 72-year-old Rupert resident, died Saturday, Dec. 28, 1996 at her home in Rupert. Funeral services are pending and will be announced by the Hansen Mortuary Rupert chapel.

and former Burley resident, died Saturday, Dec. 28, 1996, at his home in Rexburg. Arrangements are under the direction of Payne Mortuary in Burley.

Anton "Tony" Rambur, of Twin Falls, funeral Mass, 2 p.m. today, St. Edward's Catholic Church, Twin Falls, (Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls).

CONNIE HENDRIX WENDELL — Connie Hendrix, 44, a Wendell resident, died Saturday of natural causes at St. Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise. Services are pending at Demaray's Wendell Chapel.

Clarence Gummow BURLEY — Clarence Gummow, an 83-year-old Rexburg resident

Glenn VandenBos, of Twin Falls, 3 p.m. today, Twin Falls First Church of the Nazarene, second service, 2 p.m. Tuesday, Flahiff Funeral Chapel, Caldwell.

Utah activist wages battle against pornography

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Tom Young is fighting an enemy he has never seen. And never wants to.

Nude magazines like Hustler or Gallery? "I know what's in them," he says.

Triple-X movies like "Sex Trek" or "Sticky Lips"? "I've been told what they're like."

Internet sex-chat home pages like "Dr. Kink's Foreplay Forum"? Those may pose the most insidious threat of all, Young says.

But "I've never seen one. I just got my computer hooked up last week," he shrugs.

It hardly matters. Like a scientist disposing of nuclear waste, Young doesn't need to handle volatile material to comprehend its danger.

America is at risk of rotting from within, he says, and the proof comes through his phone lines nearly every day.

Pornography addicts, living a shadowy existence with an increasingly desperate need for gratification, number in the thousands even in Utah, he says.

It's a silent epidemic that threatens America's morals, but also its physical health, Young believes. He traces the time line that executed serial killer Ted Bundy claimed he followed: Pornography led to sexual addi-

tion and sexual perversion and eventually sexual violence. The FBI says nearly 80 percent of serial murderers had sex magazines.

"I've never seen one. I just got my computer hooked up last week."

—Tom Young, chairman, Citizens for Positive Community Values, speaking about

Internet home pages

He supports organizations like the American Families Association and Eagle Forum, conservative issues by eradicating pornography, sexually explicit movies and books.

But as chairman of the Citizens for Positive Community Values, Young focuses his energy in another direction. His main objective is treating pornography's victims and alerting its prey.

"The stuff is everywhere you turn. We don't have the wherewithal to fight a billion-dollar industry. I don't know that we could ever stamp it out, though that would be our desire," Young says.

"We are trying to warn the public against the usage. It is a serious public-health hazard."

An Attorney General's National Commission on Pornography in 1986 concluded the exposure to sexually violent materials makes one more likely to commit sexual assaults, and that even nonviolent pornography contributes to aggression against women. Victims of such abuse number in the millions each year, the FBI says.

"How many women and children are going to be battered and abused before we say, 'Hey, this stuff is a menace?'" Young asks.

Religious group sues over eviction

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A group of religious separatists has filed two new lawsuits against Beaver County officials after being evicted from a ranch for failing to pay a decade's worth of property taxes.

Members of the Immanuel Foundation and Fraternity of Preparation claim their right to worship was violated. In two federal court cases the United States Supreme Court ruled in favor of the Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) of 1993, a controversial law that has spawned more than 300 lawsuits nationally and is now being reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court.

It was first sought by a coalition of faiths including the Mormon Church and was cosponsored by Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah. It requires a "compelling government interest" for authorities to infringe on religious expression.

In the Beaver County case, the Immanuel Foundation wants more than \$2 million in damages for their June 24 eviction from a fenced, 640-acre enclave at Vance Springs, 40 miles west of Milford. Six adults and an infant were escorted off the ranch by the Beaver County sheriff after refusing to pay property taxes since moving there to establish a "religious retreat" in 1986.

The group has refused to register with the state or Internal Revenue Service as a tax-exempt

religious organization, explaining it doesn't need government approval to worship. A Nevada company bought the ranch from the county at a past-due tax sale in 1993, but foundation members refused to vacate until they were forcibly removed from the property by Beaver County deputies in June.

In two nearly identical lawsuits, foundation officials Dwight Hughes writes in court documents that he "holds a sincere religious belief that the state of Utah government and its county subdivisions are part of Babylon."

Babylon is "where any government holds authority to enforce laws of tyranny upon the foolish people known as the 'common herd,'" Hughes writes.

With the county forcibly evicting him from non-Babylonian holy ground to sinful society, he said he faces damnation.

With various twists, the foundation's argument of religious freedom has been the same in seven federal lawsuits the group has filed in U.S. District Court since February 1994 over the remote ranch property. Group members, none of whom is licensed by the Utah Bar, act as their own attorneys in filing court documents that an appeals judge once characterized as "a mishmash of legalisms."

The foundation lost its first five

federal lawsuits and the two current cases were referred by district judges to U.S. Magistrate Ronald Boyce for review and recommendation.

In August, Boyce conducted a similar review on another foundation lawsuit against the county and determined the group had not stated an "arguable basis" for judicial relief, a decision that terminates the lawsuit.

Salt Lake City attorney Dale Lambert, who has represented Beaver County officials in the foundation's litigation, uses a similar defense in the latest cases, arguing that the group has yet to state grounds for their claim.

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Dispatch center releases tape of fire calls

By Kent McClary
Times-News writer

Here is a chronology of the response to the Dec. 18 fatal fire at 1215 12th Ave. N. in Buhl, based on Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center records.

The times presented are times recorded by the dispatch center's computer as data entries were made into the computer.

10:18:33 a.m.: The first call reporting the fire was recorded. The call was answered on the second ring.

The call, from next-door neighbor Gaylard Eggleston, lasted about 28 seconds, between the dispatcher picking up the call to the click of Eggleston hanging up.

Dispatcher: 911, what's your emergency?

Eggleston, excitedly, hurriedly: Aah, I don't know, some woman came running out of the house, and said 911, it's 120 12th St. Hurry. Fast!

Dispatcher: Well, what's going on?

Eggleston: I don't know, she just came out and said call one 911.

Dispatcher: Can you find out what's going on?

Eggleston: Well, what if it's too late?

Dispatcher: I'll ...

Eggleston: Send somebody over right now!

Dispatcher: I will! But you try and find out what's going on, and I'll send 'em out. Go find out what I'm on in hand.

Eggleston: What if it's too late?

Dispatcher: I'll dispatch 'em now!
(Click of Eggleston hanging up.)

911 also took another call from a man in the house across Locust Street from the fire. A different dispatcher took the call.

E911

Continued from B1

Buhl Fire Chief Mark Grimes reviewed a copy of Eggleston's call and three 911 calls that followed it.

"My overall impression was that the calls were handled professionally," Grimes said, echoing comments an ambulance driver made in the story about Eggleston. "In this case, the calling party didn't have all the information."

"I can understand from the dispatch point of view that they can't send a police car, a fire engine, an ambulance and an Idaho Power truck to every call they get," Grimes said.

Eggleston's estimate of the time is understandable, Grimes said.

Hood hearing reconvenes today

The Times-News

RUPERT - The third day of the hearing to determine if one of the killing by Hood's plea agreement should stand may further develop his attorney's theory that others were involved in the killing of a 17-year-old.

Reconvening today at 1:30 p.m. in Minidoka County's 5th District Court, the proceeding will start with the prosecution resting its case, allowing Hood's attorney, Mark Manweiler, to unveil his theory of conspiracy.

Watchers

Continued from B1

Steve VanZandt and his party observed an American dipper at close range singing on a rock in the stream that feeds Vinyard Lake.

"It was like seeing the dipper and hearing its beautiful song," he said. "That was one of the high lights for me."

Another group noticed an American kestrel - North America's smallest falcon - sit on a power line eating a small rodent. Surprisingly, the bird was spotted on Falls Avenue across from the College of Southern Idaho, proving you can see birds in action even in the city.

The national count, now in its 97th year, reveals interesting and scientifically useful information on the early-winter distribution patterns of various bird species and the overall health of the environment.

In this area, the usual suspects - European starlings, house sparrows, blue-billed magpies and chipping sparrows - seem to be flourishing. Over 2,700 starlings were counted Saturday, and the sparrows, magpies and crows

The man, speaking calmly and slowly, said he didn't know the address of the house, or the fire.

Dispatcher: Is this a house? Or a big white house on the corner.

Dispatcher: Big white house, fire.

Caller: Yeah, and it's about one block, maybe two from the fire department.

Dispatcher: There's a fire.

Caller: Yes.

Dispatcher: At the 100 block ...

Dispatcher (second dispatcher, at SIRCOMM): Of what ...

Dispatcher on phone: Of ... 12th Avenue North.

Dispatcher in background: On fire.

Dispatcher on phone: A house. Is there any people in it?

Caller: Well, I don't know. There are a lot of people around there yelling and screaming.

10:18:42 a.m.: The first officials responded. A SIRCOMM dispatcher alerted a Buhl Police Department officer of unknown truck number at 120 12th St. in Buhl.

Sgt. Larry House and Reserve officer Bill Fullmer were in the Buhl police station, two streets away from the house. They were on the scene in seconds, and tried their best to help the family.

10:20:40 a.m.: The first Buhl fire truck was dispatched. Firefighters happened to be working on the truck on the driveway outside the station, and headed to the scene.

The dispatcher handling the call would have been juggling equipment and the caller, while getting information to another dispatcher and alerting rescue units, said SIRCOMM assistant supervisor Beth Cheney.

You can imagine sitting at your desk, with a phone in your hand, a radio to operate, and a computer to operate, then add the paging system," Cheney said. The dispatcher would have

turned around from her computer or dispatch station, and pressed the button to start the radio that calls out to the Buhl Quick Response Unit.

10:21:19 a.m.: The first Magic Valley Regional Medical Center ambulance was dispatched. It reported being on route at 10:23.

10:23 a.m.: The QRU was called, the SIRCOMM report said. Calling the EMTs and getting an acknowledgement took 23 seconds.

SIRCOMM took a third call from a panicked woman who later identified herself as LaDonna Seeley, the owner of the house. Seeley called from across the street, at the home of Ruth and Roy Cook.

Dispatcher: 911, what is your emergency?

Older woman caller, breathing hard: Is anybody comin' to 126 12th Ave. N.?

Dispatcher: Yes ma'am, we're dispatching a fire ...

Caller (sobbing, talking over Dispatcher): there's a three little kids down there, burnt up.

Dispatcher: They're what?

Caller (voice strong): There's two little kids down in the basement burnt up.

Dispatcher: All right. Who's, who's I speaking to?

Caller: It's their grandma. Oh, they're there OK.

Dispatcher: OK, what's your name, honey?

Caller: Oh, God. (phone key beep as phone disconnected)

Dispatchers called the Cook house back, first talking to Ruth Cook, then to Seeley. The Cooks' house had become a clinic by necessity: Seeley family members gathered in the living room while the rescue effort got underway.

Background sounds were audible over the Cooks' telephone, and were heart-rending: children crying, obviously in pain; mothers sobbing for the children they

couldn't reach because of the fire.

10:25:08 a.m.: The second Magic Valley Regional ambulance was dispatched.

10:27:28 a.m.: Children were reported to still be in the house.

A team of three firefighters entered the burning house, and put water on the flames, enough to control the fire. Firefighters believe the fire was started by a cigarette lighter that was found near a portable bed.

The firefighters then searched for the children. They found them on the floor in the back corner of the basement room, behind a bar.

The children had instinctively moved away from the fire, firefighters said.

The two children, each carried by a firefighter, were taken out of the house and into the Buhl QRU. That is when dispatchers were informed that the two children recovered were not breathing.

10:29 a.m.: The Buhl QRU was on its way. It arrived inside the minutes after 10:30.

With the severity of the emergency, and the number of people responding, radio calls could get blocked, Cheney said.

"At this point I can envision people yelling, and covering each other on the air with their radios," she said. "Only one person can talk at a time, and if anybody else keys the mike, it covers up everybody."

Dispatchers have to track everyone who is talking on the radio. "Think to your own life, if you play a game on the computer, listen to the radio, and listen to your kids in the background," Cheney said. "If you can do it, it's an advantage. It's something we all do here."

10:35:36 a.m.: The unit with the two children had left the scene, headed to meet the first hospital ambulance.

you do something enough times, you don't think about it, you just do it," Cheney said.

Training comes from handling calls every day, and from training classes.

The Idaho Peace Officer Standards and Training Academy in Meridian has two different week-long training courses, basic and advanced.

Other training comes from intensive sessions with emergency dispatch trainers, or medical dispatch trainers - 911 dispatchers are taught to coach first aid and CPR over the phone.

For SIRCOMM, dispatchers also learn to use the center's powerful computer-assisted dispatch system that makes up the Enhanced 911 system.

Low spud prices plague area growers

By Lori Bertlinski
Times-News writer

RUPERT - Several potato farmers throughout the Magic Valley will begin the new year Wednesday with the same problem they faced in 1996: selling a product no one wants to buy.

Nor necrosis, or leaf roll, ravaged several thousand acres of potatoes this year and continues to plague those stored in cellars. Rejected by major processors, the disease-plagued potatoes are being sold to dehydrators or feedlots for as low as \$1 per 100 pounds.

"Nearly two-thirds of my crop was exposed to leaf roll this year," said Minidoka County Commissioner John Rensberg, who farms potatoes in Rupert. "A lot of them are still in storage, and the rest are being sold to dehydrators."

Rensberg said usually 80 percent of his crop is sold to major processors under contracts that yield between \$5 and \$5.50 per 100 pounds. Earlier this year, the Potato Growers of Idaho couldn't reach processed-potato contract agreements, so he's getting about \$1.45 per 100 pounds from processors.

"My biggest concern, though, is that a year like this will affect us into the future as well," Rensberg said. "Most of the economic downturn that will occur won't be seen until 1997 or later."

Minidoka County Assessor Max Vaughn said taxes likely will shift within the next year as a result of 1996's decline in potato prices.

The tax shift occurs when farmers have a bad year and the value of farmland in the county lowers. Farmers pay less taxes, but the county's other property owners must make up the difference.

"In an ag-based economy, everyone is affected," Vaughn said. "When you have a decrease in one area, someone has to pick up the slack."

Vaughn said the effects may not be felt until 1998 when farmland values begin to decline. Farmers receive "ag exemptions" based on a five-

year average that calculates crop prices at harvest, water costs, fertilizer costs and seed costs. Questionnaires are being sent out that the county will use to calculate farmland values.

Instead of settling for a lower price this year, Declo farmer Brent Stoker said he's keeping half of his potato crop in storage in hopes that the market will improve next year.

"When the market reaches a point where I think I can break even, then I'll sell," he said. Stoker said most of his crop escaped net necrosis this year, but because of an overabundance of potatoes statewide, he received only \$3.50 per 100 pounds from processors.

"I've been lucky so far," he said. "I've had low test samples and I'm hoping I can stay below 10 percent and sell for some prices a different later."

If potatoes test above 5 percent for net necrosis, fresh pack houses will not accept them.

Fresh-pack quality potatoes were earning farmers \$6.75 to \$8 per 100-pound bag in early January, and 70- to 80-cent cartons were commanding \$25 to \$28. Demand was so strong that the Potato Growers of Idaho urged potato farmers to plant wheat or hay instead of potatoes to preserve strong prices.

Instead, several farmers planted additional acres of spuds, along with farmers in other potato-growing states in the Northwest. By July, 70- and 80-cent carton prices had fallen to \$17 to \$24.

"I'm glad I don't have any left at this point," said Declo potato farmer Shawn Hurst. "I've been fortunate. My farmer had to sell for \$1 a sack."

Although he sold most of his crop, Hurst said he lost between 50 cents and \$1 per sack because of net necrosis this year.

The disease does not affect yield, size or the outward appearance of potatoes. Spuds must be cut open and examined for browning that occurs in the potato's vascular system to detect the disease, which can be carried into production via seed and spread between plants by aphids.

"We'd like to see it take place before the 2002 Olympics," Rensberg said. "The potential for traffic will be fantastic and could be a big boon for the local economy."

Gateway rest stop billed as boon for Mini-Cassia

By Ken Levy

Times-News correspondent

RUPERT - A new "Gateway to Idaho" rest area is being planned for the Mini-Cassia area, officials say.

The rest stop and travelers information site is proposed for construction at the Declo/Albion exit on Interstate 84, at mile marker 216, according to Andrea Storjohann, resident engineer with the Idaho Department of Transportation.

The gateway concept provides travelers with a staffed visitor center complete with maps, information and displays of the area's high lights. Similar gateway rest areas are near Ontario, Ore., near Post Falls on Interstate and south of Malad on Interstate 15.

"The only reason we'd build it here, instead of closer to the Utah line, is we have to get close to a rest stop so we can find a person to staff it," Storjohann said.

She stressed that the proposal is

still tentative. Officials with the state own the land. Officials would have to buy land they choose some of the proposed site, such as the junction of Interstate 84 and Interstate 86.

The Mini-Cassia Transportation Committee's funding alternatives said Jim Evans, the committee's vice chairman and former governor of Idaho. "We recommended that site as ideal for both eastbound and westbound traffic."

A lot of people are concerned that the gateway would affect industry and that travelers wouldn't stop in Mini-Cassia town, Storjohann said.

A tourist information center is also proposed as part of the new Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce headquarters to be built in Heyburn, according to Dan Lloyd, the chamber's vice chairman.

"We're still studying this thing before we give our opinion on it," he said. "The investment in the commerce of the valley is a key factor here."

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dived witnesses who swore Mack, Reeves and Mines couldn't have been with Hood at the time he testified.

Prosecutors, believing Hood lied to them, want his pleas to two counts of voluntary manslaughter struck through the five-day hearing. Then they plan to charge Hood with two counts of first-degree murder and seek the death penalty.

Manweiler is trying to show Hood told the truth, or at least a close-enough resemblance of the real story.

the birders agreed. However, the lack of light made fine details on birds hard to detect, especially near twilight, as VanZandt's group found out.

As his group was leaving Vinyard Lake at about 4:30 p.m., it spied a medium-sized bird perched in the top of a dead tree, silhouetted against the late-afternoon sky.

"Is that a kestrel or a shrike?" asked Karl Ruprecht, raising his binoculars to his eyes.

"It's looking in its tail, which is very kestrel-like," VanZandt offered, after taking a long look.

"But it's sitting so horizontal ..." countered Ruprecht, who believed it was a shrike.

"It's looking in its tail, mainly not to record the bird, decided because they couldn't positively identify it, but partly because they knew another party had already spotted a shrike earlier that day."

Besides, the birders were in high spirits after the day's only prairie falcon - the bird for which the local chapter is named - flew just feet over their heads as they had approached their cars minutes earlier.

IDAHO/WEST

Once America's most powerful Indian, now a prisoner

WINDOW ROCK, Ariz. (AP) — Every morning, medicine man Jim Mason steps out of his dirt-floored hogan and faces the sun rising over the red mesas and desert sage of the Navajo Nation.

He closes his eyes tightly, raises his arm over his head and rubs a pinch of corn pollen between his fingers. The golden dust rises on the morning breeze.



Navajo medicine man Jim Mason prepares a prayer ceremony for the return of former Navajo Nation leader Peter MacDonald, pictured on his wall at right, inside his home near Flagstaff, N.M.

With this sacrifice, the medicine man prays in his native tongue for the return of a man once considered the most powerful Indian in America.

Peter MacDonald, the 68-year-old former leader of the Navajo Nation, spends his days in a federal prison, recovering from a heart attack. He has served four years of a 14-year sentence for instigating a bloody riot to regain power that left two people dead. He also was convicted of accepting thousands of dollars in bribes and kickbacks — charges that shamed a nation riddled in poverty and yearning for respect.

But after much discussion and spul-searching, the Navajo Nation has forgiven its fallen leader. And now, it wants the U.S. government to do the same.

"The Navajo people have a tradition of forgiveness and respect for former leaders," says Navajo President Albert Hale, who was elected two years ago after campaigning heavily in support of MacDonald's freedom.

"I want him to be home so he can spend the rest of his days at home with his family and in the community."

Former President Jimmy Carter and MacDonald's old nemesis, former Sen. Barry

Goldwater, have joined the tribal campaign to free MacDonald. Both have written to President Clinton urging his sentence be commuted. The request is under consideration; according to a Department of Justice spokesman.

But not all Navajos are ready to forgive. Tom LaPahe, a tribal council member who helped throw MacDonald out of office seven years ago, says his corruption made the Navajo Nation a "laughingstock."

"He sold his people," LaPahe says. "You can't get lower than that."

Over LaPahe's objections, the tribal council last year officially pardoned MacDonald, who was convicted by both federal and

tribal courts.

If Clinton doesn't commute the sentence, tribal members fear MacDonald will suffer the same fate as the infamous Apache chief Geronimo, who died a prisoner of war in 1909 at Fort Sill, Okla.

For an Indian, there is little else as humiliating.

"He's dying physically and mentally," says Vern Lee, the Navajo leading the campaign to free MacDonald. "If you take him away from his land, he begins to wither."

As is Navajo custom, MacDonald's umbilical cord was buried where he was born — in the Carrizo Mountains of Arizona during a spring sheep drive in 1928 — forever tying

him to his homeland.

His parents named him Hoshkoishih, for "the who claps with power." Schoolteachers Americanized his name, but he didn't lose his native language. In World War II, he put it to use as a Navajo "code talker" who stamped the Japanese.

When he returned from war, MacDonald earned an electrical engineering degree from the University of Oklahoma and worked for Hughes Aircraft Co. in California before returning to the reservation in the mid-1960s. He rose quickly through the tribal ranks, and in 1970 — amid a national groundswell of Indian pride — was elected to his first of four terms as chairman of America's largest Indian tribe.

A mesmerizing, passionate orator, especially in his native tongue, MacDonald lambasted federal paternalism as oppressive and a threat to tribal sovereignty. During one of many battles with the federal government, he threatened to have agents shot on sight if they tried to usurp tribal police authority.

After 12 years, it was Peter MacDonald vs. the federal government and we are winning," says Bill Donovan, a reporter for the Navajo Times who has covered him since his election in 1970. "People liked that."

At the same time, millions of federal dollars were streaming in under the "war on poverty" program — money MacDonald said was owed to the Indians. He demanded energy corporations

pay taxes on their oil and coal mining operations, believing they had been taking advantage of the Navajos.

The tribal government budget tripled under MacDonald's authority, from \$19 million to \$57 million, and the number of tribal employees more than doubled. Housing, roads, hospitals and shopping centers began springing up across the reservation. "The Giant is Waking," one newspaper headline declared at the time.

But MacDonald's power began to crumble as allegations surfaced that he was taking bribes in exchange for corporate contracts on the reservation. His contention that he was simply following a Navajo custom of accepting gifts did little to satisfy his accusers.

He lived lavishly, with fancy cars, an expensive home, private school for his children and jet-setting vacations. It was quite a contrast to many Navajos, who still had no running water or electricity.

"There was a lot of Richard Daley in him," Donovan says, comparing MacDonald to the late Chicago mayor. "Under the Navajo system, there was a lot of opportunity for patronage — and he went for it hook, line and sinker."

"People who were getting the money regarded him as the greatest leader the Navajos ever had," Donovan says. However, "a lot of people referred to him as a Third World dictator."

including free limousines for his immigration, a BMW and an all-expenses-paid trip to Hawaii.

Even MacDonald's own son, Rocky, testified against him, saying MacDonald used the term "gold balls" as code words to demand money from a middle man in a multimillion-dollar real estate deal. Each golf ball meant \$1,000. "Peter MacDollars," his critics called him.

Outraged by the congressional revelations, the tribal council threw MacDonald out of office.

Five months later, on July 20, 1989, he ordered his former police chief to "assist with the orderly restoration" of his administration. On that summer day, his supporters, some armed with baseball bats and two-by-fours, marched to the tribal headquarters at Window Rock. A melee broke out and two of MacDonald's supporters were killed.

Although MacDonald was home during the riot, he was convicted by a federal jury in 1992 of instigating it. For first, a tribal court jailed him for bribery and ethics charges stemming from the Senate hearings. Another federal jury convicted MacDonald of fraud, racketeering and extortion over a deal with a computer company operating on the reservation.

MacDonald, who declined to be interviewed, is now at the Federal Medical Center in Fort Worth, Texas, a low-security prison where he was transferred because of his poor health. Without a presidential commutation, he faces 10 more years in prison.

University makes old photos available on the Internet

MOSCOW (AP) — It's 1903, east of Wallace. A passenger rail car chuffs off the end of a rickety road trestle that has been ripped apart by a snowslide.

A photographer, casting a shadow in the snow, captures the moment — for the Internet.

The historic frame is among a handful of images that now can be seen on the University of Idaho Library computer web site. Next year, thanks to new money, the school will begin digitizing many more of the 150,000 pictures in its Historic Photograph Collection.

"That will make the pictures more available to the public at the university's library in Moscow and eventually to a worldwide computer audience via the Internet."

Digitization is an important step in preserving fragile materials. Terry Abraham, head of special collections. Researchers can look at computer images and no longer will need to touch the originals.

"People who want copies of the historic pictures will continue to fly the library to obtain prints and publication rights."

The digital images will not be good enough for high-quality reproduction, Abraham said, because the library cannot afford a top-notch scanner and the software to run it.

"We will concentrate on providing

"That's the first step in a long, long process."

— Terry Abraham, head of special collections

heyday of the Silver Valley mining district. They are some of the most requested pictures in the library collection, so likely will be among the first that are digitized, Abraham said.

The same goes for pictures of the university campus and activities.

The school received \$2,000 from the Idaho Heritage Trust and \$2,000 from the Library Associates to help purchase the necessary equipment. Plans call for digitizing more than 1,250 images in 1997.

"That's the first step in a long, long process," Abraham said.

It could take 30 to 40 years to make computerized copies of the entire collection, he said. The length of time will depend on how much the university can spend to pay students to operate the equipment.

To Abraham's knowledge, the University of Idaho Library is the only inland Northwest institution that is starting to digitize its photo collection. Regionally, the Oregon State Archives and University of British Columbia have put many of their photos on line, he said.

ing access to images, making a representation and not a reproducible picture," Abraham said. "We hate to see lousy copies of our photographs."

Grainy reproductions do not do justice to many of the historic photos, especially the exquisitely detailed ones taken with large-format cameras. That includes pictures from the Barnard-Stockbridge collection, such as those of the 1903 train wreck. They were printed from 8-by-10-inch glass negatives.

The Barnard-Stockbridge pictures came from a Wallace photo studio. They document life in the

Less mobility improves student test scores

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Fewer moves bring better student test scores, according to research by the Salt Lake City School District.

"If the kid stays in the school, we do a good job with him," said district assessment director Joan Reynolds.

In all, students who have

attended the same school three consecutive years scored up to 18 percentile points better on the state-mandated Stanford Achievement Test.

The problem is that last year about 30 percent of the students who enrolled in Salt Lake schools in the fall were elsewhere by the end of the school year.

Fifth-graders who have lived in the district at least three years equaled or were slightly below the state average in math and reading, according to 1995 test results. Students who had lived in the district less than three years scored in the 46th and 38th percentile, respectively. The national norm is 50.

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Idaho Lottery pulls plug on Hot Lotto

BOISE (AP) — Hot Lotto has turned cold, so Idaho Lottery officials have pulled the plug on the money-losing game after only nine months.

Idaho's only exclusively in-state lotto drawing was paying out \$10,000 to \$15,000 a week more than it was taking in during the last few months. It racked up total losses estimated at \$50,000 to \$75,000.

"If we have a game costing us money, we owe it to the state to pull that game and find a game that benefits Idaho," Lottery spokesman Pat Reilly said Friday.

Officials blame the problem in part on Hot Lotto's complexity.

There were three weekly jackpot drawings, a weekly sweepstakes, varying odds depending on the day tickets were purchased and something called the "Five of 26 game."

"The lottery is such an impulse purchase," Reilly said. "You don't necessarily want to go through all these hoops to win

the game. You just want to look into the paper after the drawing."

Hot Lotto was the only "on-line" game carried by the Idaho Lottery exclusively for Idaho players. Powerball and Tri-West Lotto are multi-state games.

Hot Lotto did well at first, but at the end only 1,500 to 2,000 tickets were sold each week to win up to a \$40,000 prize.

"We thought we were on the verge of something pretty big," Reilly said. "You get extra plays for sweepstakes tickets if you bought early."

Instant scratch tickets, which produce 70 percent of Idaho

Lottery sales, have more mid-level prizes to keep players interested, he said.

Lottery officials will conduct a focus group to help determine why more players were not excited by Hot Lotto, and Reilly said there is no timetable to replace it with another on-line game.

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IDAHO/WEST

San Francisco's domestic partner legislation a worry to businesses

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — San Francisco is about to make a unique demand on thousands of companies — extend health insurance and other benefits to their employees' same-sex partners, or forfeit about doing business with the city.

A new ordinance will affect many of the roughly 10,000 U.S. companies that contract with the city to provide everything from banking services to office supplies.

Critics call the policy ill-conceived and costly, approved without ample study or public notice.

"We don't think it's good public policy for the city to tie its hands in the way this ordinance mandates," said Dennis Wyss, a spokesman for Bank of America, the nation's third-largest bank in San Francisco. "We're not sure we can get the highest-quality services for their money when the city keeps its options open."

Supporters say it's a basic antidiscrimination measure aimed at granting equalized domestic partners' status to those in San Francisco who are same-sex couples — the same rights enjoyed by married couples.

"It would be important to me

even if I didn't have a partner, simply as a moral matter," said Joe Leslie, a 52-year-old assistant vice president at Bank of America who, with his partner Michael, stands to benefit from the policy.

"If it's good enough for Mickey Mouse, it's good enough for San Francisco."

— Tom Ammannio, city supervisor

Leslie said he and Michael are "as loving as any married couple that ever walked this Earth," and for co-workers' spouses to receive better benefits is simply unfair.

"We do the same work, our spouses share it similarly the same. (Yet) they get benefits I don't get," Leslie said.

The Gap, Levi Strauss & Co. and the Walt Disney Co. already have started domestic partner policies. In San Francisco, Bank of America officials have discussed such a policy but have not enacted it.

"If it's good enough for Mickey Mouse, it's good enough for San Francisco," said city Supervisor Tom

Ammiano, the measure's co-author.

The city's Board of Supervisors gave the ordinance unanimous approval after considering it since last February. Mayor Willie Brown signed it in early November.

Brown and Ammannio said it is the first such city ordinance in the nation.

But there is no official effective date for the measure; city officials say they expect it to go into effect in six months, but they are still working on the details.

"That leaves companies without a clear idea of how they'll cope with the ordinance."

"We really feel the supervisors did not do their homework," said Carol Piasente, a spokeswoman for the city's 1,950-member Chamber of Commerce. "They're not prepared to answer all the questions that came up because they didn't think of all the details."

"We're continuing to look at how the ordinance affects us and our relationship with the city," said Wyss, whose bank employs 10,000 of its 93,000 workers in San Francisco and provides the city with checking services, among other things.

Environmentalists to sue over sinkers

BOISE (AP) — A Meridian fishing tackle company contends its sinkers are lead weights, and not release toxic material into the environment.

But two environmental groups maintain that the company still plans to file a public report under federal regulations regarding disclosure of toxic emissions.

U.S. District Judge Lynn Winmill has cleared the way for environmentalists to sue Computrol Inc. for failing to file the report.

The Idaho Sporting Congress and the Land and Water Fund of the Rockies sued Computrol, the nation's third-largest manufacturer of sport-fishing gear, last month for failing to release the five-year report. Companies are required to report the disclosures under the Community Right to Know Law.

"What we failed to report is that there were no releases," Computrol President Charles Scott said. "Our understanding is we're not subject to that reporting requirement."

Winmill ruled on Dec. 17 that the environmental groups could sue Computrol and that the law required timely disclosures.

"The decision sends a clear signal to companies throughout the West that citizens will come calling if they hide information about toxic materials that get into the environment," said Randall Weiner, an attorney for the environmental groups.

"This suit is intended to get Computrol to employ non-toxic alternatives to lead in its fishing weights, which are readily available," said Laird Lucas, director of the Land and Water Fund's Idaho office. "Often, alternatives are cheaper for the company, as well as safer for the environment."

Computrol uses lead in fishing downriggers that pull lures and lines to great depths when trolling. The lead weights are a relatively small part of the company's overall product line, which is dominated by its sonar fish finders.

Scott said Computrol was open to alternatives to lead if they are cost-effective.

"If they can present alternatives, we will pursue them," he said.

The Land and Water Fund has notified other Idaho companies that it will sue them for violating the Right to Know Law as part of a campaign to get them to consider alternatives to the toxic materials they use in manufacturing, Weiner said.

"They picked others in the area," Scott said. "We just wouldn't settle."

Computrol was founded in Boise in 1980 by two Hewlett-Packard Co. employees. Because it is privately owned, it does not divulge sales figures. But in 1995 Scott said sales were between \$15 million and \$30 million.

The Community Right to Know Law was passed in 1986 after a chemical plant in Bhopal, India, released deadly gas that killed more than 2,000 people and injured tens of thousands.

Contraption lets people walk on water, across slick ice

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — Kootenai County may soon have a new tool to rescue people and animals who fall through ice on northern Idaho waterways.

"The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department unveiled Rescue Alive last week, a sled-like device which allows a rescuer to safely walk across the ice and pull a chilled victim aboard."

Sgt. Dan Sommes, commander of the marine division and also the regional representative for Angel Guard Project, the device's manufacturer, said Rescue Alive works better than a bear, which cannot always swimmer through ice well, and better than a hovercraft, which often cannot get close enough to reach a helpless victim.

Even if the ice breaks underfoot, the persons propelling Rescue Alive, the persons can still float.

Sommess and Deputy Kevin Mansford demonstrated the device Saturday, with Mansford voluntarily jumping through thin ice carrying the fringes of Hayden Lake.

The bears ran with the device

across the ice and used a tether to pull Mansford aboard. Hayden Lake firefighters pulled them back to shore with special floating rope.

The 80-pound device also has an on-board ice pick.

Rescue Alive has been used by emergency personnel on the East Coast for about two years, but Sommes said this is the first time it has been sold in the Northwest.

Hayden Lake Fire has also expressed interest in buying one. Sommes said this can be a good tool, since local rescuers have been searching for something to improve ice rescue success rates. By the time personnel and equipment is usually mustered, often victims have already succumbed to the water or the cold.

Sommess said that if Rescue Alive was available for Kootenai and Benewah County last year, two Benewah County teens may be alive today.

Southern California new drug-money hub

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Southern California has taken Miami's place as the nation's drug money-laundering capital, a law enforcement report says.

The region is "the money collection center for narcotics sales nationwide," according to the report prepared by FBI agent Eric Cooper and the Countywide Criminal Justice Coordination Committee.

The drug money is sent to Mexico to conceal its source, then is invested in the United States, the report said.

The migration of drug money to the West Coast began several years ago after a crackdown on the cocaine trade in Florida.

Last year, about 85 percent of the cash taken in by the Federal Reserve Bank in Los Angeles was in the form of \$100 bills, "the denomination of choice among drug traffickers," said Cooper's report, issued earlier this month.

The Federal Reserve Bank also took in \$13.6 billion more in cash than it issued for its district, compared to \$8 billion or \$9 billion in previous years.

Residents pity burms

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — A family of four wandering burms departs on specific bandits from Kootenai County residents for two years before being rescued.

"The weary family, including a pregnant burro, is being raised to safety by Panhandle Equine Rescue Inc."

Cheryl Rhodes, president of the nonprofit organization, said the pregnant animal probably would not have lived much longer without assistance.

"We have our doubts, in her condition, that she would have made it," Rhodes said.

"She's pretty well fed down." The burro's plight began about two years ago when their owner moved to Nevada, Rhodes said, and told a neighbor to "throw them a bone of hay."



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PEOPLE



Retired Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu of South Africa kisses the hand of his granddaughter Nyaniso Burris during her baptismal at All Saints Episcopal Church in Worcester, Mass., Sunday. The Reverend Mark Beckwith, who assisted, is at left.

Archbishop describes end of apartheid as victory for all

WORCESTER, Mass. (AP) — The end of South African apartheid was a victory for everyone, retired Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu said in a sermon of thanks Sunday before baptizing his baby granddaughter.

"The miracle of South Africa would have been totally impossible without your love and prayers," Tutu told about 500 people who filled the pews of 100-year-old All Saints Episcopal Church. "The victory over injustice is also your victory."

Tutu's granddaughter, Nyaniso Lindivi Burris, whose name means "truth awaited" in the Xhosa language of South Africa, was born Dec. 12. She is

his fifth grandchild.

Her mother, Mpho Tutu, runs an after-school program at All Saints and directs the South African Children's Advancement Fund Ltd., an organization that helps create day care centers in South Africa.

The baby's father, Joseph Burris, is a sports reporter for The Boston Globe.

Tutu, who won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for his work to end apartheid, brought greetings from "the new, free and Democratic South Africa."

He now heads South Africa's Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which was appointed to uncover apartheid-era crimes.

Station evacuated but 'bomb' is sex toy

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) — A mysterious ticking from a suitcase prompted the evacuation of several dozen people Sunday from the city's train station. The noise turned out to be a vibrating sex toy.

Police evacuated the building after Amtrak personnel reported a "ticking sound" coming from the piece of luggage in the stor-

age area, Lt. Robert Thibodeau said. The bag had been checked in advance by a passenger traveling to Atlanta on Monday.

Employees tried to call the phone number listed on the baggage tag, but called police after discovering the number had been disconnected.

Officers then found the vibrator.

Japan discovers power of grass-roots movement

MITAKE, Japan (AP) — Like other out-of-the-way, easy-going places in Japan, Mitake rarely saw its 20,000 residents challenge authority.

But that was before its outspoken mayor tried to keep an industrial waste disposal facility out of the former mining town, and he was nearly murdered by thugs in his apartment building.

No arrests have been made, but police suspect organized crime in the Oct. 30 bludgeoning of Mayor Yoshio Yanagawa, including gangs who stood to profit from the waste plant.

The crime prompted Mitake to take an unusual step: to schedule a referendum giving voters a chance to demand that the state government reverse its approval of the facility.

"We never believed they would resort to this," Takako Okamoto, 42, a housewife, said of the ambush on Yanagawa. "But now my determination is stronger than ever."

Mitake, 170 miles west of Tokyo, is one of several communities in Japan that are turning to referendums to present their demands to the government.

Although the referendums aren't binding, they are winning praise nationwide as striking



Mitake Mayor Yoshio Yanagawa waves flowers received from a nurse as he is discharged from a hospital in Tajimi City in Gifu Prefecture, central Japan.

examples of grass-roots action in the face of a political system that tends to demand respectful compliance from citizens.

Earlier this year, residents of the northwestern town of Maki voted "No" to a planned nuclear power plant. Okinawans used a referendum to demand a reduction of the U.S. military bases on their southern islands.

"What frightened me was that no one would be able to speak up after the mayor got attacked," said Tamotsu Tanaka, 59, a bus-

nessman who pushed for the Mitake referendum. "This may be a hiccup town. But the flame of democracy hasn't died here yet."

Within a week of the assault, Tanaka and other volunteers had collected 1,151 signatures, far more than the 303 required by law for the referendum. It must be held before June, and it will ask whether the village residents want the facility.

"There is no other way they can have their voice heard," said Jun-ichi Kyogoku, honorary pro-

fessor of political science at Tokyo University.

Yanagawa, 63, the mayor, is also sticking to his stand. Hospitalized for 40 days, he returned to work Dec. 9. Surgical scars still show on his head, and his arm is delicately bandaged in a sling.

"To try to defeat someone through violence is unforgivable," Yanagawa said in an apartment he is using as an office as he recuperates. "I may have been hurt physically, but they haven't done a bit of harm to my spirit."

Ganpachi Suzuki, spokesman for Toshiwa Kogyo, the company proposing the plant, denied any involvement in the attack.

Planned for construction by a river that provides drinking water to several million people, the plant will collect rubber, plastic, wood scraps and other industrial waste from major manufacturers across the nation.

Opponents fear it will cause air and water pollution.

Since 1991, Toshiwa Kogyo has invested millions of dollars to move a dozen homes from the site. The company has also promised Mitake \$31 million — about half Mitake's annual budget — over 15 years in compensation.

Device May Increase Gas Mileage by 22% TEST DATA

BOSTON — National Fuelsaver Corp. of Boston has developed a low cost automotive accessory called the Platinum Gasaver which is guaranteed to increase gas mileage by 22% while meeting all federal and state emission standards.

With a simple connection to a vacuum line, the Gasaver adds microscopic quantities of platinum to the air-fuel mixture entering the engine.

Platinum has the unique ability to make non-burning fuel burn. With platinum in the flame zone, you increase the percentage of fuel burning in the engine from 68% to 90%.

Normally that additional 22% of the fuel would only burn when it came in contact with the platinum surfaces of the catalytic converter.

Unfortunately, the converter process takes place outside of the engine, where the energy produced cannot be harnessed to drive the vehicle.

But with platinum in the combustion chambers, 22% more of each gallon burns inside the engine so that 22% fewer gallons are required to drive the same distance.

After studying this process for five years, the government concluded: "Independent testing shows greater fuel savings with the Gasaver than the 22% claimed by the developer."

In addition to government confirmation of its fuel saving claims, the Gasaver has received patents for raising gasoline octane, and has been approved for reducing emissions to acceptable levels.

Joel Robinson, the developer, commented: "We've already sold over 250,000 Gasavers. To our surprise, as many people buy the Gasaver because it extends engine life by cleaning out the abrasive carbon deposits as buy it to increase gas mileage."

For further information call: 1-800-LESS-GAS 1-800-537-7427.

This advertisement appeared originally as editorial material in another newspaper.

The government studied test data on vehicles made by several auto makers.

Listed below is the data from a fleet of 15 identical 5-liter vehicles:

Vehicle Number	M.P.G. without Gasaver	M.P.G. with Gasaver	Percent Improvement
59	12.0	17.8	48.3%
63	11.3	16.6	46.9%
53	14.1	20.7	46.8%
51	13.0	18.8	44.6%
56	12.2	17.1	40.2%
64	9.6	13.3	38.5%
60	13.3	17.9	34.6%
55	9.8	13.1	33.7%
68	14.3	18.4	28.7%
50	10.8	13.9	28.7%
62	14.1	17.6	24.8%
66	15.8	17.5	10.8%
57	14.4	15.9	10.4%
54	13.1	14.0	6.9%
65	12.9	11.3	-12.4%
Average	12.7	16.3	28.3%



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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

66 We grew to hate the University of Oklahoma, so we can grow to dislike those folks, too.

99

—New Boise State coach Houston Nutt, noting that he and his wife Diana, both Oklahoma State alumni, are aware of the Idaho-Boise State rivalry

SCOREBOARD

Pro football
Pittsburgh 42 Indianapolis 14
San Francisco 14 Philadelphia 0

Pro basketball
New Jersey 110 Indiana 102
Miami '95 Milwaukee 94
L.A. Lakers 115 Philadelphia 102
San Antonio at Portland

College football
No. 21 Iowa 27 Texas Tech 0

College basketball
Men
Washington 81 E. Washington 54
No. 4 Michigan 85 Washington State 79
No. 16 Louisiana 89 No. 25 BC 82, OT
No. 17 Xavier, Ohio 95 Kansas State 54

Women
No. 22 Arkansas 77 No. 6 Tennessee 75
No. 7 Alabama 73 Miami 43
No. 8 North Carolina State 77 Rutgers 54
No. 9 W. Kentucky 85 San Carolina 82, 2OT
No. 10 Virginia 85 Florida International 64
No. 14 Vanderbilt 67 No. 12 Texas 66
G. Washington 54 No. 16 Wisconsin 67
Illinois 73 No. 16 Wisconsin 67
No. 17 Auburn 80 NW Louisiana 57
No. 19 Kansas 85 St. Joseph's 60
No. 20 North Carolina 76 Mississippi State 49
No. 21 Clemson 69 Hofstra 59

IN BRIEF

Detmer injures leg muscle against Niners

SAN FRANCISCO — Philadelphia Eagles quarterback and former BYU Cougar Ty Detmer hurt his right hamstring when he was sacked in the third quarter of Sunday's playoff game against the San Francisco 49ers and was replaced by Mark Rypien.

Detmer, who threw two costly interceptions to end Eagles scoring chances earlier in the game, was hurt when he was sacked by Bryant Young.

Rypien played in only one game during the regular season for the Eagles.

Point guard leads Ducks to early unbeaten record

PORTLAND, Ore. — The quiet leader of the only unbeaten Pac-10 team entering the conference season, Kenya Wilkins is off to a shining start in his senior season.

Wilkins has directed No. 24 Oregon (9-0) to its best start in 22 years. And, in two of those games, Wilkins took over and transformed what seemed to be likely losses into nail-biting victories.

U.S. takes lead in junior hockey tournament

GENEVA — Chris Hajt's goal with 3:59 remaining gave the United States a 2-1 victory Sunday over the Czech Republic, moving the Americans into first place in Group A at the world junior hockey championships.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

Niners shut out Eagles

Philadelphia moves the ball, but mistakes near goal prove costly

The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — For all they have in common, the major differences in the San Francisco 49ers and Philadelphia Eagles were obvious Sunday. The 49ers had Steve Young, Jerry Rice and an overpowering defense. The Eagles didn't.

Sharing the same offensive scheme and plenty of player and coaching links, the 49ers and Eagles met on a soupy field in the NFL playoffs. San Francisco won 14-0 in an NFC wild-card game.

"It's good to win on the swampy tundra of Candlestick," San Francisco coach George Seifert said.

Young, who bruised his ribs while shedding tacklers on a 9-yard scoring run, kept playing and added a scoring pass to Rice. San Francisco's defense also shut down the Eagles' version of the 49ers' attack as Philadelphia failed to score for the first time in a postseason game.

"He took a shot on the ribs, but he was able to play. We'll just have to see how he is," Seifert said of Young, described as questionable for next Saturday's game at Green Bay.

"We played very effective mud football today," Young said. "I don't care about what the stats say, we played an effective ballgame. The defense comes up with some big plays and we go home with a 14-0 win."

The 49ers (13-4) get a rematch of last year's divisional playoff, won by the Packers 27-17. "We just have something to prove to ourselves," Rice said. "We want to go in as a team and somehow win. We feel like our chances are good."

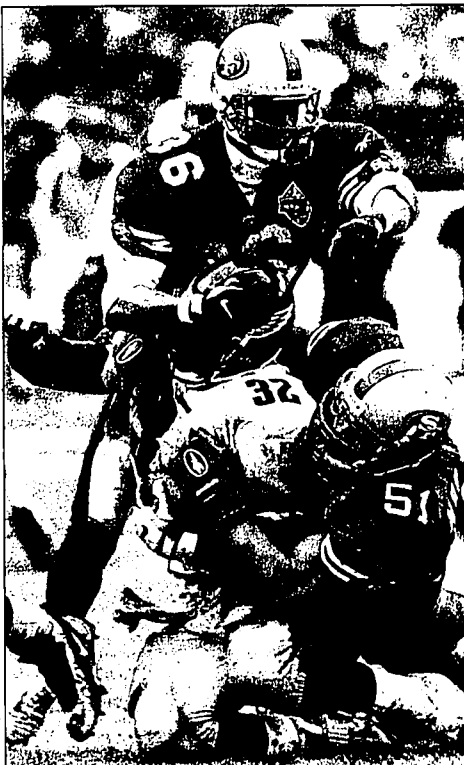
The Eagles, coached by former 49ers defensive coordinator Ray Rhodes and with six ex-San Francisco players on their roster, lost quarterback Ty Detmer to a hamstring injury after he was sacked by Bryant Young midway through the third quarter.

Mark Rypien replaced Detmer, who had moved the Eagles up and down the field, but twice threw interceptions at the goal line. "They know us and we were very familiar with them. But a couple of plays, made the difference," Philadelphia tight end Jimmie Johnson said. "It's very unfortunate. We were able to move the ball up and down the field at will and not come away with any plays and blunder and not come away with any points."

Rhodes said the Eagles couldn't overcome the mistakes they made deep in San Francisco territory.

"This was not a good game for Ty and I think everyone knows that," he said. "The turnovers in the red area, you can't do that. You can't leave that area without any points."

Up 7-0, San Francisco scored again on a 3-yard scoring pass from Young to



San Francisco safety Merton Hanks (36) and Philadelphia running back Ricky Watters during the second quarter of Sunday's NFC wild-card game in San Francisco.

Rice with 4:47 left in the third quarter. Rice set up the touchdown with an amazing one-handed catch, hauling in Young's throw as he sprinted across the middle of the field for a 36-yard gain to the Eagles 3.

"Sometimes you throw your hands up in the air and the ball is there," Rice said. "We did enough to win it."

The Eagles, shut out for the first time since a 23-0 regular-season loss at Washington on Sept. 30, 1991, advanced beyond the San Francisco 20 three times in the first half. They came away empty each time, with Detmer twice turning the ball over on interceptions. Another scoring chance was erased on a missed field goal.

No miracle this year for Colts in Pittsburgh

Bettis, Stewart help Steelers smother Indianapolis; Patriots up next Sunday



Pittsburgh receiver Charles Johnson hauls in a Mike Tomczak pass for a long gain as Indianapolis' Eugene Daniel pursues during first-half action in Sunday's AFC wild-card game in Pittsburgh.

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — There are no miracles left in the Indianapolis Colts, and still no way for them to win in Pittsburgh. The playoffs are back, and so are the Steelers.

The Steelers didn't let the Colts hang around until the last play as they did in the AFC Championship game last season, finishing them off much earlier behind Jerome Bettis' running and Kordell Stewart's playmaking to win 42-14 Sunday.

Saving their best for the postseason, just as the Cowboys did Saturday in beating up on Minnesota 40-15, the Steelers — losers of three of four down the stretch — travel to New England for a divisional playoff game Sunday.

"The NFL is always, 'What have you done lately?' and a lot of people were counting

us out, jumping off the bandwagon," defensive end Brentson Buckner said. "But the last time I looked, we're still the defending AFC champions, and now let's see what we can do."

The Steelers offense was an unpredictable as the sunny, 56-degree weather in late December, as quarterback Mike Tomczak was alternately terrific and terrible. His passes to Charles Johnson were largely responsible for the Steelers' quick 13-0 lead, but he threw two interceptions that gave the momentum and a 14-13 half-time lead to the Colts, who are 0-10 in Three Rivers Stadium.

"I know what people were saying, 'Oh, it's going to be another dramatic finish, the Colts are going to hang on,'" said Johnson, who made five

Please see STEELERS, Page C2

Buffalo lineman Smith named top defender in the NFL

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Bruce Smith knew he was the best defensive player in the NFL. On Sunday, it became official.

Smith, the star defensive end of the Buffalo Bills, was the runaway winner of the Defensive Player of the Year voting conducted by The Associated Press. He also won the award in 1990.

He received 56 of 93 votes from a nationwide panel of sports writers in 1996, conducted before the playoffs. The Bills were eliminated from the postseason by Jacksonville on Saturday.

"It means a great deal," said Smith, who had 13 1/2 sacks behind Kevin Greene for the league lead. "It's fun. It makes you walk tall and stand proud."

Smith, the top pick in the 1985 draft, had a superb season. The 33-year-old defensive end was a force against the run — considered his only weakness in earlier years — and almost unstoppable when rushing the passer. Smith certainly seems headed for the Hall of Fame when his career is finished.

"If it was anyone else, I would say I'm amazed," said teammate Bryce Paup,

who was voted the top defender last year and readily credits Smith for his success in 1995. "He is so much better than anybody else, that for him to win it is not anything extraordinary."

Smith feels the same way, and he's not afraid to let it be known. In fact, he's complained loudly and frequently about being underpaid. The Bills have promised to discuss a new deal after the season and he couldn't have made a better statement before negotiations begin.

"I think a person should be paid for how they play," Smith said. "If this is an example of how I played, there

New coach promises wins at BSU

The Associated Press

BOISE — New head football coach Houston Nutt greeted Boise State boosters with a pledge to put every athlete for the Broncos right away, despite getting a late start and being unfamiliar with the region.

"I know we're a little behind," Nutt said Saturday as he was introduced to Boise State supporters and local reporters. "But you'll be surprised at how good a recruiting year we'll have."

The 39-year-old Nutt, who has been head coach at Murray State in Kentucky for the past four years, was named on Friday to succeed Pokey Allen as head coach of the Broncos.

Allen resigned on Dec. 11 after renewed growth of cancer in his lungs was discovered. He was on medical leave for all but the last two games of the 1996 season as Boise State struggled to a 2-10 record in its first season of NCAA Division I-A competition.

Nutt, who said his prayers were with Allen in a Missoula, Mont., hospital on Saturday, said he understood the Broncos will miss turns around completely in 1997.

"I'm not going to promise you much," the Arkansas native said with a thick southern accent. "I am going to promise you this: We're going to have fun, guys. And the way we spell fun is win."

He would admit to no particular timetable as Boise State prepares for its second year in the Big West Conference. He said he understands the importance of developing a quality program on the field and in the classroom.

"We've got one rule; we want to do what's right," Nutt said. "We want to do what's right even when nobody's looking."

Nutt said he probably would bring four or five of his Murray State assistants with him to Boise, and getting his staff put together was at the top of his agenda, along with recruiting.

Nutt guided Murray State, a I-AA team, to a 31-16 record in four seasons. The Racers improved from 4-7 in his first year to 5-6 in 1994, 11-1 in 1995 and 11-2 in 1996. Murray State advanced to the second round of the I-AA playoffs this year.

Iowa throttles Red Raiders in Alamo City

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO — Sedrick Shaw rushed for 113 yards and upstaged Texas Tech's Byron Hanzpand as No. 21 Iowa shut out the Red Raiders 27-0 Sunday night in the Alamo Bowl.

Shaw, Iowa's career rushing leader, carried 20 times in surpassing his season average of 91 yards per game. Hanzpand, a 2,000-yard rusher, carried 18 times for 64 yards, falling far short of his 190-yard season average.

The Red Raiders have faced eight of the nation's top 20 rushers this season, and only Northwest's Darnell Aury managed to reach his season average.

Publicity surrounding Hanzpand all week had overshadowed Shaw, who hails from Austin's LBJ High School. Hanzpand plans to announce Monday whether he will forego his final year of eligibility and turn pro.

The Hawkeyes (9-3) finished their thrashing of the Red Raiders (7-5) with a 14-yard touchdown run by Rodney Filer with 2:03 left, capping a 99-yard drive.

It was the first shutout of Texas Tech since a 31-0 loss to Arkansas in 1987. Iowa got on the scoreboard in its first quarter after Plec Atkins intercepted a pass by Texas Tech quarterback Zebbie Lethridge at the Red Raiders 47 and ran it to the 39.

A 13-yard pass from Nutt Sherman to Tim Dwight tied two runs by Shaw moved Iowa to the 1. Sherman ran it in for the touchdown with 11:21 remaining in the period, putting the Hawkeyes on top 6-0.

shouldn't be any excuse why I'm not the highest paid defensive player in the league. I should set the market this year. This is like a fairy tale. Things have fallen into place. I've taken a lot of hard work and effort and dedication on my part. It's taken putting my ego in my back pocket for 16 games, which is not easy."

In becoming the third player to win the award at least two times, Smith is the first to spread the honor over such a long period. Lawrence Taylor won it in 1981, '82 and '86, while Mike Singletary took it in 1985 and '88.

SPORTS LINE
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The Times-News

SPORTS

Shaq, Jones keep Lakers rolling

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP) — Shaquille O'Neal scored 28 points in 28 minutes and Eddie Jones had 20 points and seven steals as the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Philadelphia 76ers 115-102 Sunday night for their 12th victory in 15 games.

The Sixers, who have lost 12 of their last 13, were led by Jerry Stackhouse and rookie Allen Iverson with 21 points each. Derrick Coleman and Clarence Weatherspoon added 19 points.

Pro basketball

The Lakers took a 10-point lead into the fourth quarter and used a 13-4 run to go ahead 100-83 with 8:03 left. The run included a layup by Terry Knight, a 3-pointer by Derek Fisher and a jumper by Byron Scott after a steal by Jones.

Weatherspoon then started an 8-0 spurt by the Sixers with a slam dunk and capped it with a 20-footer that narrowed the gap to 100-91 with 5:45 left. But Philadelphia got no closer as O'Neal scored his last six points in the final 5V minutes.

Most of the credit for the victory went to Fisher, who had 12 points, and Knight, who had 13 points and 10 rebounds.

Knight, who played center for most of the second quarter in the fourth-placed O'Neal before moving to power forward in the third period, brought some life to a sputtering Laker offense that shot only 44 percent in the first half.

The team led by more than five points until Fisher's 3-pointer extended the Lakers' lead to 73-66 with 3:21 left in the third. It sparked an 11-4 spurt that Fisher capped with a fast-break layup, a steal off Iverson at midcourt and two free throws after Iverson fouled him with 1:36 left in the quarter.

The 76ers trailed 54-53 at halftime despite a 24-16 rebounding edge and 16 points each by Coleman and Stackhouse. O'Neal, who recorded the 17th 20-point, 20-rebound game of his career on Nov. 26 at Philadelphia, sat out the final 7:49 of the second quarter with 10 points, three rebounds and three fouls in 11 minutes.

Heat 95, Bucks 94

MILWAUKEE — Behind a season-high 36 points from Tim Hardaway, including 18 in the fourth quarter, the Heat won their 14th straight road game Sunday night with a 95-94 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks.



New Jersey's Tony Massenburg and Indiana's Antonio Davis battle for a loose ball during the first quarter Sunday in Indianapolis.

Miami's Alonzo Mourning, Gary Grant and Sasha Danilovic were out with back injuries and Kurt Thomas had a sprained right ankle.

Hardaway took up the slack, scoring 11 points in the first period and going 7-for-9 in the fourth, including a pair of 3-pointers.

The 1977-78 Lakers hold the NBA record of 15 consecutive road victories, and the 1994-95 Utah Jazz won 15 in a row.

Nets 110, Pacers 102, OT

INDIANAPOLIS — Rookie Kerry Kittles scored 28 points, including a 3-pointer and a jumper during a 7-0 run in overtime, to lead New Jersey past Indiana 110-102 Sunday.

It was just the third road win of the season for the Nets, who beat the Pacers at home on Friday night.

Reggie Miller scored 37 points for the Pacers, including 17 in the fourth quarter to lead an Indiana comeback. But after hitting 6 of 10 shots in the fourth period,

Miller was 1-for-3 with three turnovers in the overtime.

"The guys really fought their way back into the game and I blew it for them with some dumb mistakes," Miller said. "I was trying to do too much."

Trail Blazers 110, Spurs 86

PORTLAND, Ore. — Isaiah Rider scored 19 points while playing less than three quarters to lead four Portland starters in double figures as the Trail Blazers routed listless San Antonio.

Gary Trent added 17 points, Arvydas Sabonis had 15 points and 11 rebounds and Kenny Anderson had 13 points and 10 assists. All three sat out the final quarter.

The Spurs lost their second in a row since David Robinson was injured again, this time with a broken left foot, and San Antonio starter scored more than seven points.

ISU basketball player in trouble again

AMES, Iowa (AP) — Just weeks since he was sentenced in a disorderly conduct case, Iowa State basketball player Kenny Pratt was arrested on assault and several other charges.

Police said Pratt was arrested Saturday night in the aftermath of a traffic wreck in the downtown area. He was released after posting bond.

"Kenny Pratt is suspended from our team until the charges have been addressed by the legal system," Iowa State coach Tim Floyd said in a statement released Sunday. Iowa State said Floyd would have no further comment on the issue.

Last season's second-leading scorer and rebounder for the Cyclones, Pratt was academically ineligible for the first six games of this season. He returned to action Dec. 21, scoring 12 points and grabbing four rebounds to help defeat East Tennessee State.

Wolverines recover from upset, outlast stubborn Washington State

HONOLULU (AP) — A little pep talk about being aggressive was enough to help No. 4 Michigan rebound from a stunning defeat.

One day after dropping a one-point squeaker to Memphis in the opening round of the Rainbow Classic, the Wolverines (9-1) got a 19-point performance from Brandon Hughes in an 85-79 victory over stubborn Washington State on Sunday.

Coach Steve Fisher said he took Hughes aside before the consolation round game and gave him a father-son lecture. "He became aggressive today," Fisher said. "I talked to him before the game after he told me he felt tentative. He was more aggressive and he was really looking for his shot. He sank a 3-pointer early and it loosened him up a bit."

Michigan held a seemingly comfortable 75-65 lead with 2:12 to play, but nearly blew it as the Cougars (7-3) got within three points with 28 seconds remaining.

Accuracy at the free throw line

Men's college basketball

salvaged the win for the Wolverines, who went without a field goal over the game's final six minutes. They made 16 of 20 free throws during that span.

Michigan will play Pittsburgh, a 60-42 winner over North-western, on Monday for fifth place.

No. 16 Louisville 89, No. 25 Boston College 85, 2 OT

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Boston College put Louisville's unbeaten record in jeopardy Sunday until a big second-half run put the Cardinals in position to win in a double overtime.

A 24-5 Louisville spurt in the second half more than overcame a nine-point halftime deficit and, after Boston College forced overtime by scoring the last six points of regulation, Alex Sanders took over the second overtime.

The 6-foot-7 sophomore scored Louisville's first six points in the second extra period, lifting the 17th-ranked Cardinals to an 89-85

victory over No. 25 Boston College on Sunday. Louisville, which trailed 33-24 at the half, hit 11 of 13 shots during the 24-5 run in the second half to lead 50-42 with 10:42 left.

Boston College (6-2) had one stretch during the game with turnovers of five consecutive possessions, and Louisville converted them into eight points.

No. 17 Xavier, Ohio 95, Kansas St. 54

CINCINNATI — Darnell Williams and Torraye Briggs pruned the muscle inside, and an unrelenting press rattled Kansas State as Xavier rolled to an 89-54 victory.

The win gave Xavier a 9-0 record for the first time in school history. The Musketeers started 8-0 in 1992-93.

Williams had 21 points and six rebounds and Briggs had 16 points and 16 rebounds for Xavier. Lenny Brown scored 16 points and T.J. Johnson 15.

Mark Young's 14 points in the first half kept Kansas State in the game, and he finished with 22.

Freshman leads GW to upset of Blue Devils

GREENSBORO, N.C. (AP) — Freshman reserve guard Mario Eglington scored nine of her 17 points and high 19 points in the final five minutes Sunday as George Washington upset No. 13 Duke 54-48 Sunday in the Big Four Women's Classic.

Eglington was nearly perfect shooting on the game, going 5-of-6 from the field and hitting all three of her 3-pointers. The freshman also hit all six of her free throws — the final four coming in the last 4:07 — to tie the win for the Colonials (4-1).

George Washington led by as much as 32-18 in the second half thanks to poor shooting and turnovers by the Blue Devils (9-2).

Duke went 13-for-53 for the

Women's college basketball

game, and 3-for-23 in the first half — a paltry 13 percent.

No. 9, W. Kentucky 85, S. Cal. 82, 2 OT

LOS ANGELES — Shea Lunsford had 17 points, 11 rebounds and five steals Sunday to lead No. 9 Western Kentucky to an 85-82 double-overtime victory over Southern California in the Pac-10/Sun Belt Challenge.

Leslie Johnson scored 16 points and grabbed eight rebounds and Jaime Wale had 15 points in seven rebounds for Western Kentucky (7-2), which trailed 29-12 midway through the

first half before battling back.

The teams were tied 64-41 at the end of regulation and 76-76 after the first overtime. USC led at halftime 37-33.

No. 14 Vanderbilt 67, No. 12 Texas 65

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Lisa Ostrom made two crucial free throws in the final minute and rolled to a 21-point performance that led No. 14 Vanderbilt to a 67-65 victory Sunday over No. 12 Texas for the championship of the MCI-First American Classic.

Ostrom also had eight rebounds for Vanderbilt (7-2), which won for the fourth time in five games against Texas (6-2).

Steelers

Continued from C1 catches for 103 yards. "Uhh, nope. Look somewhere else. We weren't going to let that happen again."

Not with the Colts limited to only 22 yards while being held to 20 in the second half. Jim Harbaugh, who nearly beat the Steelers with a last-play desperation pass in January, need 15-20 stitches to close a gash on his jaw and chipped a tooth while going for 107 for 32 for 134 yards and an interception.

"We knew they had a great defense. They're No. 2 in the NFL, you know," Harbaugh said. "We made it interesting for a while, we fought and scratched in the first half but after that..."

One quarterback couldn't finish off the Colts, but two could as

Stewart finished what Tomczak started in the first quarter, running for two touchdowns — one in each half — and 48 yards.

"It's the playoffs, and you've got to check your ego at the door," said Tomczak, who was 13-for-21 for 176 yards despite the two interceptions. "If I had a problem with (the QB rotation), I say so, but it's the playoffs, and we'll do whatever it takes to get back to the Super Bowl."

Bettis, who guesses his sore ankle is only 80 percent healed, scored on the Steelers' first two drives of the second half as the Steelers kept the ball for about 1:59 of the third quarter. The second score came after Pro Bowl safety Carmel Lake recovered a fumble after appearing to distract the Colts by inadvertently jumping outside. "I thought he

jumped ... but there are a lot of points scored, so I can't blame the whole ballgame on that," Colts coach Lindy Infante said.

It would have been even worse if Tomczak, who was 5-for-5 on the Steelers' go-ahead drive to start the third quarter, hadn't slipped back into the slump that dogged him throughout the second half of the season.

The Colts had yet to cross the 50-yard line when Eugene Daniel stepped in front of Tomczak's pass intended for Ernie Mills and returned it 59 yards for a touchdown. The Colts' next possession, Ray McElroy intercepted a tipped pass, leading to Harbaugh's 48-yard completion to Marvin Harrison. Two plays later, Aaron Bailey's 9-yard TD capped the 31 seconds left in the first half gave the Colts the lead.

FOOTBALL

NFL playoff schedule

Table with columns for Division, Date, and Time. Includes games like Jacksonville @ Tampa Bay, Pittsburgh @ Cleveland, etc.

NFL playoff summaries

Philadelphia 37, Cincinnati 30. Pittsburgh 37, Tampa Bay 19. Kansas City 37, Denver 19.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

Table listing individual player statistics for various teams, including touchdowns, interceptions, and sacks.

BASKETBALL

NBA standings

Table showing NBA standings for Eastern and Western Conferences.

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Large table of sports scores and statistics for various leagues including NFL, NBA, MLB, and college sports.

ON THE AIR

TELEVISION

Table listing television broadcasts for college basketball, NFL, and MLB.

HOCKEY

NHL standings

Table showing NHL standings for Eastern and Western Conferences.

SKINKING

SKI REPORT

Table listing ski resorts and their conditions.

TRANSACTIONS

Table listing player transactions and trades between teams.

SPORTS

With Colorado, Washington, Holiday Bowl gets respectable

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Past Holiday Bowl has featured Heisman Trophy winners and a coach that decided a national championship. It's taken 19 years, though, to get its best matchup...

Colorado coach Rick Neuheisel said "I think it will be an exciting game, a fun game to watch. I think it's got everything you look for in a bowl game..."

quarterback Brock Huard, only to lose 45-42 on a last-second field goal. The slim senior class helped bring the Huskies through the probation, and Lambright would like them to go out on a high note...

Hard to pick Cotton: Top BYU offense vs. top K. State defenders

DALLAS (AP) — One of the nation's most sophisticated passing attacks faces one of college football's finest secondaries in the Cotton Bowl. And the way Brigham Young quarterback Steve Sarkisian sees it, the winner of that matchup will likely win the game...

Conference champs to a 13-1 record. Normally, the Cougars would feast on the kind of man-to-man coverage favored by No. 14 Kansas State (9-2). But these are not typical defensive backs...

very well," Sarkisian said. "They're probably one of the top defenses in the country and I think some people believe we're one of the top offenses in the country. It's not as though the Cougars haven't seen Kansas State's defensive alignment..."

Bowl failures, Michigan stick in Cooper's craw

COSTA MESA, Calif. (AP) — Ohio State coach John Cooper has been cheerful and accommodating all week to media representatives covering the Buckeyes' preparations for their date with Arizona State in the Rose Bowl. There is only one sore spot...

An unsuspecting West Coast writer made the mistake of asking Cooper on Saturday why his Buckeyes have had "an inability to win" against Michigan and in bowl games. "What are you asking me?" Cooper snapped, his voice rising...

other top 25 programs and there haven't been a state of embarrassing legal problems off the field. Cooper has won 71 percent of his games at Ohio State and a share of two Big Ten titles...

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STRAW, HAY, 3rd crop. Will deliver. 3/2 ton mid-um. 660-9300 or 684-9300

WE BUY USED SADDLES & EQUIPMENT FOR CASH! Also old silver bits & spurs. VICKER'S WESTERN'S STORE 733-7099

807 CLOTHING

SKI PANTS Killer Loop, black, men's small. \$70. 324-5416.

809 COMPUTERS

386 IBM Compatible, runs well, \$250 or best offer. call 531-8605.

COMPUTER Full blown P-90 Net Surfur. \$1500. Call oves. 736-8776.

Classified... for people everywhere! 733-0931.

810 FIRWOOD

STOVE, Wood burning stove, Bosco, 10 yrs. old. \$300/offer. Call 423-4578.

811 FURNITURE & CARPET

DINETTE SET, Beautiful w/1 leaf, 6 upholstered chairs. \$275.00. 734-0033

FUTON BED, excellent cond. rarely used. \$140. Please call 733-6215.

MATTRESSES, King size. Hotel returns. \$150 a set. 734-8881.

MATTRESSES, Queen size. Hotel returns. \$130. Also full size for \$99. Call 734-8881.

25' TV. New double bed, crib, new 2 x 15' carpet, pile, Min Tak 18 spd bike. Call 736-2060.

815 LAWN & GARDEN

HAILEY Nursery will buy 10-30 Spruce or Pine trees. Call 789-3161 or 834-4634.

816 EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

HEALTH RIDER, New hardly used. \$425. Call 734-9006.

NORDIC-TRACK Walk It treadmill. Hardly used. \$300. 734-6250.

PIANO oak upright Grand piano, approx. 100 yrs. old, excellent condition. \$600. Call 678-3681.

817 MISC FOR SALE

There are no "free rides". Before you do business with a company, check it out with the Better Business Bureau. For more information about avoiding travel/vacation scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center at 1-800-878-7660.

ATTENTION: DIABETICS If you have Medicare or insurance you could be eligible to receive your diabetic supplies at no cost. (Insulin dependent only) Call 1-800-337-4144.

Blair Billiards & Darts located at 2634 Addison Ave. E. Call 736-8075.

FAX YOUR AD

TIMES CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538

KYOSHO Double Dario radio controlled monster truck. \$200. New body assembles. \$150. Call 471-5542.

CHAINS, truck, 2 pair of singles. Brand name. Call 733-4111. 10:00-12:21. 11-45. Never used. \$130 set. 837-4405. Call (209) 748-6240

NINTENDO 64 system, brand new, \$350. Also, Free delivery. 733-8320.

PIANO Spinet, Wurlitzer, \$800. Router, brand new, DoWell 1 1/2 hp heavy duty 1 1/2. Good. \$100. Call 536-6206

PIANO, beautiful oak 90 yr. upright. \$1500/offer. HOPE CHEST, \$75. TUB, CUPBATH, \$100. \$100. \$700. NORDIC RIDER, \$250. Call 208-734-6390.

REMEMBER That birthday ad you placed some time ago in The Times-Herald? Now is the time to come pick up your prizes. Stop by The Customer Service Dept. today!

818 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

DRUM LESSONS Rogal Tom Drums instructor, John Cugno, is now accepting students. Call an appl. 708-2878

GUITAR Gibson Les-P, solid body, elec. \$400. Peavey classic 50 amp. \$400. 543-8845 evas.

PIANO Player, fully automated, Bur Walnut. Like new w/bench. \$3999. 733-3905.

PIANOS - WHOLESALE Consoles from \$495. Grand from \$1,895. FREE delivery. Call 678-2717.

820 PETS & SUPPLIES

AMERICAN Eskimo puppies UKC (like mini-Siberian Husky). 4 wks old, adults weigh 20 lbs. \$200. Call 734-3175.

DALMATIANS - puppies, 7 wks old, 5 year old male. All registered. Moving to Alaska. 487-2772.

FREE to good home only. 3 Parakeets without cage. Ask for Rosie! 733-6252.

FREE: 2 male Cock or Spaniel puppy. Collie X puppies, 7 weeks. Call 736-1661.

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ROTTWEILER male up. \$200. Call 678-4469.

SHIH TZU 7 mo. old female. Lots of energy. House broken. \$75. 733-4533

SHIH TZUS, 2 males, 1st shots & dewormed. \$200. Females \$250. 3 weeks old. Please call 423-5613.

SIBERIAN HUSKIES AKC, blue eyes, great w/kids. 1 red male. 734-8042.

SPRINGER SPANIEL pups, purchased, ready for Christmas. \$100 543-5429

WEIMARANERS, AKC. Outstanding. Ask for Nancy. (208) 734-3159.

WOLF Pups. 8 weeks old. \$200 each. Call 736-6070

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BUTTONS: unusual or old. Also looking for other button lovers. Call Mary Lou, 423-5525.

PEDAL CARS wanted, bring to the Filter Fairgrounds this weekend 127 & B. Especially wanted 30s, 40s, & 50s cars &/or a 60's boat. 788-9292

PICK-UP 2 or 4 WH Dr. 3300-1500 prefer V-8. 127 & B. Especially wanted 6 or 8' folding ladder, 6 or 8' folding ladders. 423-4800/733-8838

POTTERY, ROSEVILLE, Hill or similar pottery. 734-3727.

ROOFING - METAL, 1/2" USED AKC 2X6's 2X8's 2X10's or 2X12's, 16'-20' long. Call 733-1540.

INSERT, fireplace, wanted for Christmas. 208-678-0188 or 208-431-1821.

SEWING MACHINE, wanted to buy, good, used. Bernina. Call 734-3044.

SHIH TZU PUPPY to buy for Christmas. Prefer male, but will take female. 622-4774.

SHIH TZU, Lhasa Apso or Pomeranian, female wanted, prefer adult. Call 438-6993

SNOWBLOW, pick up mount, used, broken or otherwise wanted to buy. Call (202) 755-8128

TOOLS, wanted to buy, good, used. All kinds. Call 543-4679 evas. or leave message.

DICK DEY THE LAST SALE OF 1996! INVENTORY REDUCTION

PRICES GOOD THRU DEC. 31ST

ONLY \$1996

1987 SUZUKI SAMARI 4X4, #T248

1978 GMC CONVERSION VAN GREAT & ROOMY

1980 CHEVY 1/2 T PICKUP CAMPER SHELL, #T-197

1977 JEEP WAGONEER 4X4 EXCELLENT MECHANICAL CONDITION

ONLY \$2996

1986 OLDS TORONADO ONLY 93,000 MILES

1973 JEEP WAGONEER 4X4 #T-120-1, ONLY 70,000 MILES

1987 CHEVY CONV. SPORTS VAN #T-236

1979 CHEVY TRANS VAN CAMPER ONLY 69,000 MILES, #T-235

1988 GRAND AM 97,000 MILES, #C-233

1984 FORD BRONCO 4X4 LOW MILES, #T-232

1989 DODGE DYNASTY 4 DOOR, #C-225

1989 DODGE CARAVAN SE #T-226

1987 HONDA CIVIC 4 DOOR, ONLY 98,000 MILES, #C-252

1989 FORD ESCORT GT 2 DOOR, ONLY 69,000 MILES, #C-190

1989 MERCURY WAGON LS #C-192

1987 FORD F150 PICKUP CAMPER SHELL, #T-1881

1988 BUICK REGAL LMT #C-202

1988 CHEVY CORSICA 4 DOOR, ONLY 96,000 MILES, #T-205

1988 DODGE AIRES LE WAGON #C-208

1989 SUBARU JUSTY ONLY 82,000, #C-210

1984 FORD RANGER 4X4 #T-221

ONLY \$3996

1988 GMC SAFARI VAN #T-189

1989 SAFARI CARGO VAN ONLY 65,000 MILES, #T-207

1986 FORD F150 SHORT BOX 4X4, #T-218-1

Buy • Trade • Consign 645 2nd Ave. S. • 733-8844



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V-6 Power, Shift-On-The-Fly 4WD, AM/FM/CD, 5 Speed or Auto., 4 Comparably Equipped Pathfinder To Choose From!

#65034...SAVE OVER \$3500 Now **\$22,222**

#65048...SAVE OVER \$4000 Now **\$23,999**

#65018...SAVE OVER \$3500 Now **\$24,480**

#65051...SAVE OVER \$4000 Now **\$24,832**

1996 NISSAN 4x4 XE REGULAR CAB

#65049...SAVE OVER \$2500 Now **\$13,497**

#65056...SAVE OVER \$2500 Now **\$13,442**

1996 NISSAN 4x2
Tough & Economical, Double Wall Cargo Bed, Driver's Airbag, 4 Comparably Equipped 4x2's To Choose From!

Prices Starting As Low As **\$9,298**

1996 NISSAN QUEST GXE
This Is Not An Ordinary Mini-Van!

#65057...SAVE OVER \$4500 Now **\$22,500**

1996 NISSAN MAXIMA GLE SEDAN
The Perfect Combination of Luxury & Performance

#64008...SAVE OVER \$3000 Now **\$25,608**

#64005...SAVE OVER \$4000 Now **\$23,396**

1996 NISSAN ALTIMA
The Affordable Luxury Car!

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1996 NISSAN SENTRA GXE
Sporty, Safe & Very Affordable!

#64036...SAVE OVER \$2500 Now **\$12,999**

#64037...SAVE OVER \$2500 Now **\$13,889**

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1996 NISSAN 200SX
Roomy, Fun To Drive and Very Economical!

#64033...SAVE OVER \$1500 Now **\$13,999**

#64032...SAVE OVER \$1500 Now **\$12,619**

#64031...SAVE OVER \$1500 Now **\$12,619**

Cary's
WESTLAND
Motors

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All prices plus tax, title & \$69.00 Dealer Documentation Fee. Units subject to prior sale. All prices good through January 2, 1997

POOR

THE ACES ON BRIDGE^(b) Bobby Wolff

"Never explain. Your friends do not need it and your enemies will not believe you anyway."
—Elbert Hubbard

"I went the wrong way in diamonds," explained South. "After West promised length in spades, I placed East with more diamonds than spades."

"You made your own bed," answered North. "Had you planned more carefully, you would have had no guess to make."

South took his spade ace, drew trumps, and exited with a low spade. West allowed East to win, and East shifted to the club to South. South didn't cover and dummy's ace won. Next, South cashed dummy's diamond ace and led a diamond to his 10, losing to West's queen. West exited safely in diamonds, and South's last hope was in finding East with the club king. It wasn't there, and South was left with four losers and one down.

Should South have fished the other way in diamonds? Going the wrong way was the least of his crimes. Instead of playing diamonds himself, he should have persisted in the black suits.

After South draws trumps and exits with his last spade, East wins and shifts to clubs to trap South's queen. No matter... South wins dummy's ace and exits with another club, losing his queen to West's king. Now, regardless of how the defenders manage to take their two club winners, the defender left on lead will offer a ruff and shift. This ensures only three losers for South, giving him his vulnerable game.

TRAILERS Wanted: Used trailers, needing work or for sale. Used trailers, tires & axles. All in fair condition & reasonable price. Call 423-4809

WASHERS/DRYERS. Buying washers, dryers, Kenmore, Whirlpool, GE, working or not. 736-4805.

WATCHES, BUYING Long Limbo Boise collector. Will pay top dollar for gold, silver & axles. All in fair condition & reasonable price. Call 423-4809

WELDER/GENERATOR, portable, engine driven, wanted to buy. 438-5110.

WHEEL CHAIR, motorized or Scooter for an adult. Call 733-7483

NORTH
 ♠ 2
 ♥ K 10 8 7 2
 ♦ A J 6
 ♣ A 7 5

WEST
 ♠ K Q 10 8 5 3
 ♥ 6
 ♦ Q 7 5
 ♣ K J 6

EAST
 ♠ J 9 4
 ♥ 5 3
 ♦ A 9 8 4 2
 ♣ 10 9 8 3

SOUTH
 ♠ A 6
 ♥ A Q J 9 4
 ♦ K 10 3
 ♣ Q 4 2

Vulnerable: Both
 Dealer: East

The bidding:
 East South West North
 Pass 1♥ 2♠ 4♥
 Opening lead: Spade Pass

LEAD WITH THE ACES

South holds:
 ♠ K J 9 8
 ♥ K 10 7 6
 ♦ J 10 5
 ♣ Q 2

East South West North
 Pass 2NT All pass

ANSWER: Diamond Jack Dealer might be on thin ice. Choose the passive lead instead of the risky lead of a major suit. Best not to do his work for him.

North-South vulnerable. Dealer: West. Deal from the 1996 Bridge World Cup. © 1996 by the American Contract Bridge League.

MAXIM '90, 21' open bow boat with 70 HP V6, low hrs. Excel. shape. Please call 734-1767.

People who something to sell and people who want to buy... what that advertisement is all about.

POLARIS, 650 cc motor w/193 parts & hrs. Life. Call 539-0000. Call 543-5683.

905 GUNS/RIFLES
 GUN AND COLLECTIBLE SHOW
 January 4th & 5th
 Sc. 9-6 & Sun. 9-4
 Shilo Convention Center
 780 Lineasy Blvd
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 (208)746-5555
 Admission \$3.50

HECKLER & KOCK 91 Portugal. Parantary rifle with scope. \$1250. Call 324-9225 oves & winds.

REMINGTON Model 700 mtn. rifle, caliber 280 w/ 3rd Texas World Class scope. \$450. 733-1867.

906 HOT TUBS/POOLS
 HOT TUB, for trade, \$3500 in value. Trade for small PU or 4 wheeler. Call 543-4679 oves. or leave msg.

907 MOTOR HOMES & RVs
 DODGE, Surveyor. Moving, must sail 11/77. 21. Class C, 440 engine. AC, self contained. 734-1767.

FLEETWOOD, Flair, 1990. In value. Trade for small PU or 4 wheeler. Call 543-4679 oves. or leave msg.

ITASCA, Family Illinois force sale. 1995. 34' Sunracer white out. 2 AC, lg. generator, roof solar panel. Water purifier, TV & VCR. Queen bed. Only 15K mis. \$49,900. Please call 208-543-8318.

SPORTSCOACH 1977. 32, with generator, 2 roof AC, rear new radial tires, rebuilt 454 engine, \$6300. Will accept older tire as part trade. 324-4249 or 324-7239

908 SNOW VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT
 ARCTIC CAT 1995 2800. New motor, pipes & 1 1/2" paddle track, exc. cond. \$5900/offer 676-2439

ARCTIC CAT (2) Cougars, long tracks, low miles, extras '95, w/tilt trailer, \$8500/offer. 734-7962

MASHER SKI SALES 1518 Overland. Butley. Open Tues. through Sat. 9:30a.m.-5:30p.m.

Used ski packages starting at \$59 & up. New accessories. Variety for beginner to pro. Full service. New Hogger boards, & used variety. Lowest prices. Current 800-line welcome. Phone orders direct delivery. Visa/MC. Save alot. 678-3307

OVER 25 USED SNOW MOBILEs to choose from. Starting from \$399. Your Magic Valley Supermarket for snowmobiles. Kawasaki, Suzuki, Polaris of Twin Falls 734-4060

POLARIS '92 XCR-440. excel. cond. 4200 miles. Asking 2300/offer. Call altor 6pm. 788-4755.

POLARIS - 1995 650 FXL extra 12. SKS oil. \$4895. 1996 650 Ultra. \$4895. 1997 utility. \$4995. 1995 440 Trail. \$595. Call 734-1767, Stanley.

Get something to sell? Sell it the low cost way... with classified. 733-0931.

POLARIS 1983 Indyl 600. low miles, \$1200. Call 654-2168.

POLARIS 1994 Summit; 1995 Skidoo Summit; 1991 Polaris RM. Gurney & Lawn and Power Sports 438-0556.

POLARIS, 1979, Centuri- on 510. Please call 208-825-5635.

SKI GEAR boots (9), skis (185 cm), poles, used only 1 season, exc. cond. \$280 or offer. 735-0293

SKIDOO 780 long track, Mech 2, '94. Echo trim (185 cm), new seat, new clutches, exc. cond. low miles. \$4500. Selling new for \$3000. 734-6719.

SNOW VEHICLE 1990 Yamaha Phasor 2, low mi. PSI pipe, 38 flat side carbs. Low mi. excel. cond. \$1800. Call altor 6:30 pm. 866-7699.

TRAVEL TRAILERS
 NU WA HITCHER '81, 21 ft. 5th wheel, AC, awning, jacks, \$5595.
 BROCKMAN RV 208-203-732-187 800-773-3167
 60 RVs in stock. 10% down on any.

UTILITY TRAILERS
 PICKUP BOX TRAILER '83 Chevy LW8 blue PU box trailer. \$200 543-8322.

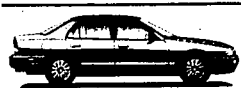
IT'S ROY RAYMOND'S YEAR-END CLEARANCE

MITSUBISHI



97 MIRAGE
 NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS, O.A.C.
\$13,288*

*Sale price after rebate, does not include tax, \$8 title fee, or dealer doc fee of \$39.91. Stock # 100318



97 GALANT
 NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS, O.A.C.
\$17,488*

*Sale price after rebate, does not include tax, \$8 title fee, or dealer doc fee of \$39.91. Stock # E007148



97 ECLIPSE RS
 NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS, O.A.C.
\$17,488*

*Sale price after rebate, does not include tax, \$8 title fee, or dealer doc fee of \$39.91. Stock # E011766

Charmac TRAILERS



6' x 12' CARGO SHUTTLE
 TANDUM AXLE • 8' SEE DOOR
 NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS
\$119/mo*

*O.A.C. The total purchase price of \$1299.00. \$119.00 per month for 12 months. \$119.00 per month plus \$1.00 per month for 12 months. \$119.00 per month plus \$1.00 per month for 12 months. \$119.00 per month plus \$1.00 per month for 12 months. Stock #111202



96 YUKON, 2-HORSE BUMPER PULL
 FOLD DOWN FEED DOORS • TACK ROOM • FLOOR MATS
 NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS
\$139/mo*

*O.A.C. The total purchase price of \$1299.00. \$139.00 per month for 12 months. \$139.00 per month plus \$1.00 per month for 12 months. \$139.00 per month plus \$1.00 per month for 12 months. \$139.00 per month plus \$1.00 per month for 12 months. Stock #111202



97 SNOW SHUTTLE SPORT
 TREAD BRITE • 4-PLACE
 MODULAR WHEELS • SIDE DOOR
 NO PAYMENTS FOR 90 DAYS
\$139/mo*

*O.A.C. The total purchase price of \$1299.00. \$139.00 per month for 12 months. \$139.00 per month plus \$1.00 per month for 12 months. \$139.00 per month plus \$1.00 per month for 12 months. \$139.00 per month plus \$1.00 per month for 12 months. Stock #111202

ROY RAYMOND FORD
 The Value Store
 1-800-473-5797
 1213 BLUE LAKES BLVD., N. TWIN FALLS, IDAHO 83431

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5 DAYS ONLY • 12-26 THRU 12-31

All Remaining 1996 Mazdas Less Than Invoice • All 1997's In Stock At Invoice

Plus...

4.8% APR for 48 Months • 6.9% APR for 60 Months

No Payments 'Til March 1997

1997 Volkswagens At Invoice!

0% APR for 24 Months

2.9% APR for 36 Months

4.9% APR for 48 Months

5.9% APR for 60 Months

Excludes TDI & K2 Galls, OAC Mazda or VW Credit. Sale price includes rebates. Invoice may not reflect dealer's actual cost. Plus tax, title & \$74.50 Dealer Doc Fee.

1984 VW RABBIT #42349.....	\$677	1984 GMC CONV. VAN #12330.....	\$3977	1987 FORD RANGER EXT. CAB 4X4 #11264.....	\$6977
1982 MERCURY CAPRI #42388.....	\$777	1984 CHEVY C-10 PICKUP #32307.....	\$3977	1989 CHEVY BLAZER S-10 4X4 #12819.....	\$6977
1983 HONDA ACCORD #12906.....	\$977	1985 CHEVY C-20 CONV. VAN #11284.....	\$3977	1988 GMC JIMMY S-10 4X4 #12545.....	\$6977
1986 FORD TAURUS #42385.....	\$1477	1987 DODGE RAMCHARGER 4X4 #12903.....	\$3977	1994 MAZDA B2300 PICKUP #12847.....	\$6997
1983 SUBARU GL 4X4 #142845.....	\$1477	1986 JEEP CHEROKEE 4X4 #12797.....	\$3977	1992 FORD F-150 #12621.....	\$6977
1972 MERCEDES 280 SE #12893.....	\$1977	1990 FORD TEMPO #12723.....	\$3977	1988 FORD F-150 4X4 #12882.....	\$7977
1982 MAZDA B2000 PICKUP #12908.....	\$1977	1988 HONDA CIVIC #12867.....	\$3977	1994 CHEVY S-10 4X4 #32387.....	\$8977
1985 MERCURY TOPAZ #12324.....	\$1977	1989 MERCURY SABLE #23853.....	\$3977	1994 MAZDA B3000 LB #12876.....	\$8977
1978 CHEVY C-20 PICKUP #12794.....	\$1977	1990 OLDS CUTLASS #23844.....	\$5977	1989 FORD BRONCO XLT 4X4 #12912.....	\$8977
1978 FORD F-150 4X4 #42373.....	\$1977	1990 JEEP COMANCHE 4X4 #12340.....	\$5977	1991 FORD EXPLORER XLT 4X4 #12989.....	\$11,977
1985 HONDA ACCORD #12902.....	\$2977	1986 JEEP CHEROKEE 4X4 #12907.....	\$5977	1993 CHEVY CAMARO #12776.....	\$11,997
1988 FORD TAURUS #12878.....	\$2977	1991 FORD RANGER PICKUP #32372.....	\$5977	1994 MERCURY SABLE #12741.....	\$11,977
1985 TOYOTA TERCEL WGN. #12913.....	\$2977	1987 PONTIAC FIREBIRD #12869.....	\$5977	1993 MAZDA MPV #32902.....	\$12,977
1991 PLYMOUTH COLT #12901.....	\$2977	1992 PONTIAC GRAND AM #12820.....	\$5977	1991 FORD F-250 4X4 EXT. CAB #12881.....	\$12,977
1988 VW GOLF #42370.....	\$3977	1994 MAZDA 323 #12360.....	\$6977		

All prices plus tax, title & \$74.50 Dealer Doc Fee.

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Chris Jordan Mazda/Volkswagen

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1000 TRANSPORTATION

1001 AVIATION KIT PLANE Cub yellow. Canolite fabric, always hangered, 98% finished ultra light local. No. 1001. Call 543-4640 after 5 PM.

PIPER '87 PA28-140, 150 hp. Climf Prop, Horton Std, all AD's. Nov. 96 annual. 543-5100 or eves & weekends, 543-4132.

1002 AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES

CHEVY, 1/2 ton accessories, 1987-1995. Honda, Heil's 96, 110 downs, 788-8913, Halley.

TIRE CHAINS, 16" heavy duty snow chains, fit 3/4 ton Pickup, \$50. 734-4471.

TIRES Like new set of XW4, Michelin radial, 205/70-15. Mount & balance, \$280, 733-1887.

1005 ANTIQUE AUTOS & COLLECTIBLES

OLDS 1947 4 door, Hydraulic drive. Needs engine work. \$1195. 733-9207

1008 SEMI & HEAVY EQUIPMENT LOADER - 1998 John Deere 644 E, cab, 3 yd bucket, 600k hrs, ready for work, \$58,000 or will rent. Call 733-5781

UTILITY TRAILER Full, flat bed, 500k hours, air ride, good condition, 2000/675/263, days, 878-4468 eve.

1007 TRUCKS

CHEVY 75 350 engine, \$1000/offer. See at 232 Diamond Ave., Twin Falls, ID. Call 436-4889.

FORD '84 Ranger, V6, automatic, AC, & shell. \$2750/offer. 733-0292

FORD '87 (2) XLT Lariat-F350's, 460 engines, 1-121K miles. Many options on both. Both in excel. cond. Will sell your choice. 733-8888 days, eves. 733-5272.

FORD '92 F150, 300 6 cyl, EFI, 5 spd, AM/FM AC, 5 spd, 120K miles. Ford '91 F250, 351, 4.10 RE, 5 spd, AM/FM, AC, 120K miles, \$3999. Ford '90 F250, 351, 4.10 RE, 5 spd, AM/FM, AC, 120K miles, \$3999. Ford '85 F150, Mechanic Special, runs, needs engine, 6 cyl, 4 spd, 3.55 RE, 100K miles, \$1000. Fleet Reduction Alexander-Martin, Inc. 324-2309 or 733-3523

FORD Ranger, '90, 5 spd, 2.3 liter, 4 cyl, 57K miles. CD player, tinted glass, window shades, Neody new tires. Bed liner, very clean. \$4850. 536-6187.

HOMES as low as \$330 down, \$330 a month at \$900. Call 734-3262.

NISSAN '91 5spd, \$3900. Call 324-5339.

NISSAN 1987 Pickup, White, 89K miles, \$2800, 736-9293.

TOYOTA '93 pickup, Low mileage, excel. cond, \$9000. Call 734-3262.

TOYOTA, 1992, PU, like new cond, 51000, cast-anto, 5 spd, AC, 78K miles, Leer Topper w/dia door, \$6900. Call 208-733-9285

1009 4 X 4'S CHEVY '80 1/2 ton 4X4, 350 engine, 89,000 original miles. Call 111-8107, days or 733-0644 eves.

CHEVY '86 1/2 ton, full size New engine, trans & tires. \$4800. Call 328-4422.

CHEVY '89 Sport Side, 302 engine, matching shell. Excellent condition. 734-3022

CHEVY '94 Cheyenne, 5 spd, 350 V8, 4X4, \$12,500. Call 878-5607 or eves. 736-4822.

CHEVY '95 Silverado 3100 1/2 ton 4X4, Loaded, 151,500 Call 878-0707 or eves. 736-4822.

CHEVY '93, 1-ton lifted, new clutch, etc. 396, 4 spd, 41K. \$4000-48322.

CHEVY, Silverado cab, 300, 1993, 1/2 ton, exc. cond. 41K miles. 4.3, towing pkg. Dual batteries, bucket seats, black vinyl interior. Loaded! Super clean! \$16,900. Call 324-7600 or 324-4469 eves.

Buy, sell, rent or swap with a classified ad. 733-0331.

DODGE 73 4X4 3/4 ton, V8, 520, lots of power, \$1250. 324-2788 or 324-1150.

DODGE, 1992, 1/2 ton, 4X4 with utility body, V8, AT, PS, AC, clean & well maintained, \$6500. Call 878-5400 or 431-3434.

FORD '87 Bronco 63K miles. Loaded! Has everything! \$7950. Eves 736-1999

'91 Explorer, Great cond. \$11,400. Call 735-8830 or 734-1891.

FORD '97 Expedition, Eddie Bauer, leather, load ed, tow package. Call 878-5316 or 878-9393.

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POOR

The unbelievable things you have to do as a new home owner

I had a hilarious joke that I was going to start this column with, but I can't find it. I can't find anything. We just moved into a new old house, and all our possessions, including dirty underwear and dust balls the size of adult cocker spaniels, have been carefully wrapped in paper and put inside cardboard boxes that were taped securely shut by professional movers (motto: "Just Try To Find Your Remote Control").



The one thing I can find is incomprehensible legal documents relating to the purchase of the house. We have boxes of those. We don't have room to store them all. We're thinking of holding a yard sale with a sign that says "incomprehensible legal documents — never read by owners!"

We got these documents at the real-estate closing ceremony, where our lawyer and the seller apparently had a side bet to see who could get his clients to sign their names the most times. I'm pretty sure that at one point in there we signed some kind of tariff agreement with Belgium. It would not surprise me if, one of these days, large men appeared on my doorstep and said, "Mr. Barry, we have come to take you to the arena where, in accordance with the binding contract you signed when you purchased your house, you must fight Zomba The Death Snake."

We're actually being signing documents for a couple of months, dating back to when we made our first offer on the house, and our real-estate agent had us sign an official warning from the state of Florida informing us that, if we purchased this house, we should not eat the paint. Really. We also signed a state document concerning radon gas, but I can't remember much about that one, except that radon gas is colorless and odorless and the state of Florida wants us, as home-buyers, to be nervous about it.

Because of the radon gas danger I'm trying not to breathe too much as I open boxes, hunting for food. I have no idea which of these boxes the food is in, and even if I find it, I'm sure each individual Triscuit will be wrapped by professional movers in a sheet of paper the size of a soccer field. If I don't find some food soon, I may eat a couple of roofing shingles. I figure, as a consumer, that they must be safe, because otherwise the state of Florida would have warned us about them.

The reason I'm concerned about nourishment is that I want to be strong for when the workmen tell us how much they're going to charge us for crawling under the house. It is necessary because we bought an older home, constructed in the early 1900s, when electricity did not go as fast as it does today. Back in those days, the typical house required only about one electrical volt, which would mosey at a sedate pace from room to room on wires that were handmaided out of beeswax.

So our electrical system needs to be upgraded, which means that workmen have to crawl under the house, which is something that I personally would not do for Bill Gates' entire net worth. This is South Florida, which proudly bills itself as "The Big Hairy Irate Spider Capital Of The Nation." There are established spider families that have been living under this house for many generations. They have little hairy incomprehensible documents proving that they are the legal owners, and they are not fond of intruders. I suspect that at various sites under the house there are large walls of spider webs, shaped vaguely like workmen, left over from previous attempts to upgrade the electrical system.

On top of this, I have no idea how electricity works, or what it should reasonably cost to get more of it. So the workmen can't improve my life by installing a system, they can say, "OK, Mr. Barry, to get the correct wattage so your house won't burn to the ground every time you use the toaster, we're going to have to replace your volt, plus we have to install a complete new set of ampers, plus you really should change the filter on your radon-gas generator, for a total of \$2,973.64 for labor and parts, plus the standard \$117 million for crawling under the house."

These figures of course do not include any improvements to plumbing system, which is also pretty odd and which I believe operates on some kind of underground windmill. So we could be writing a lot of checks, if we ever find our checkbook. But I can't look for it right now. Right now, according to the men at the door, I must, as a homeowner, fight Zomba.

Dave Barry is a humor columnist for the Miami Herald. Write to him c/o Tropical Magazine, The Miami Herald, One Herald Plaza, Miami, Fla. 33132.

Cold comfort

When the weather outside is frightful, prepare yourself

The Washington Post

One week into winter, it's arrived with a vengeance. Don't be left out in the cold. Remember these tips:

Protect your body

• Avoid hypothermia by wearing warm clothes and not staying out too long. Hypothermia occurs when the body loses heat from the skin faster than it can generate. Children and the elderly are at greatest risk. Symptoms include drowsiness and slower breathing and heart rates. Seek medical help immediately and get to a warmer place.

• When out in the cold, be alert for signs of frostbite, the condition that occurs when skin freezes. It is caused when the body's blood supply is diverted from the extremities to keep vital organs warm. The skin will first look flushed, then turn white, gray and finally grayish blue. Since the area is numb, people sometimes don't realize they are in trouble.

• If frostbite occurs, seek medical help at once, remove cold or wet clothing and get to a warm place. Do not rub the frozen areas, because the tissue can be further injured.

• Stay away from alcohol while out in the cold since it dilates blood vessels. That can keep the needed blood flow away from internal organs.

Butten up your overcoat

• Dress appropriately to stave off the cold. Start with layers of lightweight, loose-fitting clothing, rather than one heavy garment. The layers help trap body heat. Among the best insulating fabrics are wool and silk.

• Body heat can easily escape through your head if you don't cover it. Wear a hat in cold weather, preferably one that covers your ears.

• Don't forget gloves and boots, especially in the snow. Boots that are water repellent will protect your feet and keep them dry.

• You will retain body heat longer if you avoid getting clothing wet. Change socks and other wet

items as soon as possible.

Take care of your skin

• The cold temperatures and dry air of winter can be particularly brutal to the skin, leaving it chapped, sore and sometimes cracked.

Therefore, dermatologists recommend that people bathe and shower less frequently than in warm weather. Showers dry the skin less than baths do, according to Cleveland Clinic Foundation dermatologist William Bergfeld. Use warm, not hot, water to reduce drying of skin and cut back on soap, reserving it for the "vital areas."

Consider using a soap/moisturizer combination to reduce skin drying. Apply moisturizer religiously during the winter months. New York University dermatologist Darrell Rigel recommends using it at least twice a day during winter months, particularly if you already have dry skin.

Lotions contain less moisturizing power than creams, Rigel said. The best time to apply moisturizer is immediately after showering or bathing, when creams or lotions will help seal in moisture left over from bathing.

Towel off after bathing, but leave a little moisture on the skin, then apply creams or lotions promptly. Don't lick your lips. "Saliva has enzymes that break down the moisture barrier of the skin," said dermatologist Kelly Hood, who practices in Plymouth Meeting, Pa. Frequently apply petroleum jelly or lip balms to reduce chapping in the winter.

• Wear protective glasses outdoors. Sunglasses can shield against ultraviolet rays, but they also protect against the cold and wind that takes a toll on the eyes.

• Get a humidifier or place pans of water on radiators to cut down on dryness caused by forced heat.

• Don't overlook special foot



Sheila Buckley uses a broom to clear off snow from her car parked on Excelsior Avenue in Butte, Mont., Thursday. More than 16 inches of snow fell the following day.



Heavy ice from Wednesday's storm clings to lamps, signs and sidewalks as Heidi Amy Elchenbom maneuvers on slippery ground in Tountville, Ore., last week. Indoors, the feet dry out, a cycle that sets up the feet for dry skin.

LOOKING GOOD

8 careerwear traps to avoid

The Orlando Sentinel

About 60 percent of women reaching for top executive or professional positions hurt their chances by dressing poorly, says John T. Molloy, author of "New Women's Dress for Success."

According to the author, most women who dress for failure fall into one of the following eight traps:

- Allowing your background to kill your career. If you come from a less sophisticated background, don't rely on your own taste or that of store clerks. Learn by cross-shopping — by studying similar garments in the lowest and highest priced stores in town. This will upgrade your taste in clothing quickly. Then start a special clothing fund so you can shop in upscale stores.

- Falling into the fashion trap. In most workplaces, women who wear fashionable clothing are viewed as lightweight who cannot be trusted with important matters.
- Following advice of self-appointed experts. Many clothing consultants are skilled at picking attractive clothing but often are unfamiliar with the requirements of a traditional business environment.

- Confusing sex appeal with success appeal. When attractive women dress in a sexy fashion, most men make passes at them, date them and perhaps marry them. But they seldom promote them or trust them with important assignments.
- Miscalculating how men perceive your image. Most men do not recognize the fact that men and women see clothing differently. What a woman wears as stylish, a man



Dressing too casually can be a career fashion trap for women. In the workplace, formal dress carries authority. often sees as inappropriate for business.

- Dressing too casually. If a man dresses casually, he loses some of his authority. If a woman dresses casually in a male-dominated environment, she loses all her authority.
- Thinking you are too successful to follow the rules. Success does not give women the right to ignore the dress-code rules.
- Dressing to smush the glass ceiling. Women assume the style that helped them get into middle management will take them to the top. It will not.

HEALTH NOTES

Travel with care

The holiday season is one of the busiest times for family travel. The National Safe Kids Campaign is urging motorists who will be traveling with children to take steps to make it a safe time as well. Wear your safety belt and make sure young children are in a child safety seat and older children are buckled up. For information on travel safety for children, call the National Safe Kids Campaign at 202-662-0600.

Easy on the whiskey

Bah, humpbug to the Christmas cheer? A team of Dutch medical researchers warns that expensive, smooth-tasting brands of single malt Scotch whiskey carry higher levels of a cancer-causing chemical than less costly Irish whiskey and American bourbon. They reported in a letter to the *Lancet*, a British medical journal, that tests of 18 brands of whiskey found the greatest concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), a cancer-causing chemical, in such smoky single malt brands as Laphroaig and Oban. Even so, the researchers concluded that the amount is too small to be responsible for the higher rates of bowel, mouth and throat cancers among alcohol drinkers over nondrinkers.

Allergic to cats?

People who love cats but are allergic to them are faced with a difficult

choice. They can forgo feline company, hang onto their cats and put up with their symptoms, or undergo a regimen that involves about 25 shots over several months, followed by frequent boosters.

The injections reduce allergy symptoms but don't necessarily abolish them, and the treatment itself sometimes provokes severe allergic reactions. Results of a new study suggest that another option may be on the horizon. Researchers at Johns Hopkins School of Medicine and New England Medical Center tested an experimental vaccine in 55 non-allergic people and found that four injections, given one week apart, prevented good symptom relief with relatively minor side effects.

Pull over, Sonny

Teen-agers and young adults diagnosed as having attention deficit disorder (ADD) are significantly more likely to be cited for speeding and other traffic violations than their peers who don't have the disorder. A small study by University of Massachusetts researchers suggests. The study, published in the December issue of the journal *Pediatrics*, compared the driving records of 25 people between the ages of 17 and 30 who were diagnosed with ADD with 25 non-ADD counterparts who had been matched for age, sex and educational level.

Compiled from wire reports

HEALTH & FASHION

PERSONAL TRAINER

Push-up variations

Push-ups are old favorites for developing upper body strength. They force your deltoid muscles, pectorals and triceps to lift the weight of your body.

Different push-up techniques can be used to put more or less load on your muscles. For a demanding workout, use a heavy-load push-up style. For a moderate or mild workout, use one of the styles that load your muscles less heavily.

Modified push-up



Many people cannot at first do classic push-ups in good form. This style, with the knees on the floor, reduces the load on your arms.

When you can do 20 modified push-ups without stopping, you're probably ready to move on to classic push-ups.

Classic push-up



This is not so easy a exercise. Hold your body straight and lower your chest to the floor, don't press. Inset shows push-ups or lock your elbows at the top of the push-up.

Deltoid push-up



This style makes the deltoids and trapezius muscles in your shoulders carry the weight of your torso.

Keep your body flexed at the same angle as you slowly lower your head to the floor.

Raised push-up



A very challenging style. Putting your feet on a step or raised surface increases the load on your arms. The higher you raise your feet, the more you shift weight to your arms.

Can do done with or without strong, stable handstands called "fists," which allow a deeper, more strenuous push-up.

SOURCE: Wellness Guide to Living/Fitness, University of California at Berkeley

KRF Infographic: LOU KNAFF

Differin emerges as competitor to Retin-A for acne treatment

DEAR PAULA: I have been battling acne for some time and have tried a lot of different things. Retin-A didn't work well for me and I got tired of taking antibiotics. It has been a long time since I have been to my dermatologist and was wondering if there is anything new out there before I invest the money in a doctor's appointment.

—LAURA, PORTLAND, ORE.

DEAR LAURA: In the world of prescription acne treatments, Retin-A has been in a class by itself for many years. Now it has some stiff competition in the form of Differin, generically known as Adapalene (\$40 for 45 grams), a new topical medication for acne from the folks who make Cetaphil. If skin cells are left to do their own thing they can easily accumulate, building up inside the pores and creating an environment in which blemishes can flourish. Aside from topical and oral antibiotics that primarily addressed the issue of killing off the bacteria responsible for producing blemishes, Retin-A was the only prescription product



COSMETICS Q & A
Paula Begoun

available that helped exfoliate skin cells (especially inside the pores).

The two-step process of exfoliating and disinfecting acne skin has long been dermatologists' remedy of choice. Over-the-counter acne products duplicate this treatment by exfoliating the skin with items such as buff puffs or lotions that contain salicylic acid or alpha hydroxy acid, and disinfecting with toners that contain 2.5 to 10 percent benzoyl peroxide (or my recommendation of 3 percent hydrogen peroxide).

All of this is well and good, and it works for more than half of the people who can tolerate the treatment, but therein lies the rub. Tolerance.

Retin-A, salicylic acid, and higher percentages of AHAs (10 percent or greater) can all be highly irritating, and that isn't a pretty picture when you realize that irritated skin can add to acne problems.

Ironically, making matters worse, Retin-A comes in two forms: a gel that contains alcohol, which can further irritate the skin, and a cream that contains isopropyl myristate, which is known for causing breakouts.

Even Dr. James Leyden, an associate of Dr. Albert Kligman, the original patent holder for Retin-A, has said, "Retinoid (Retin-A) therapy ... due to the side effects, has always been a double-edged sword, limiting its use in many patients." (I was one of those patients. Retin-A left my face so red and inflamed I thought it was going to blister.)

Where does Differin fit into this picture? Differin is a retinoid, similar to Retin-A, but in clinical studies it was proved to be significantly less irritating. It also seems to have a radar-like ability to positively

affect the skin-cell lining of the pores, substantially improving exfoliation and helping to prevent blockage. Furthermore, Differin comes in a lightweight gel formula that is barely felt on the skin and contains little more than water and a cellulose thickening agent.

Should you consider Differin? If you have tried Retin-A and had as miserable a time as I had with it, or if you just want to see if Differin can work better for you (which it may), and you are not considering Accutane (the only real cure for acne and only skin), Differin is definitely an option. It is priced the same as Retin-A, but like Retin-A it requires a prescription, which means an appointment with a doctor.

That adds to the initial cost, but it's the only way to check this stuff out.

Paula Begoun is the author of several books on cosmetics, including "Don't Go to the Cosmetics Counter Without Me" (Beginning Press, \$13.95), a non-nonsense paperback guide to brand-name cosmetics.

Triglycerides may play role in heart disease

The Baltimore Sun

From the sugar-covered butter balls that your mother makes to roast beef, cheesecake and even the delicate fizz of champagne, it's the season for fats.

Complaid with too little exercise during busy holidays, these foods can be enough to tip some people into a heart attack. Even the healthy put on pounds—three to five, on average.

Carefully, researchers are learning more about fats, the chemical form in which they exist in foods and in the body. Called triglycerides, the substances were the subject of a recent study by researchers at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

They found that these fats, at levels much lower than previously thought, can increase a person's risk of heart disease. According to another new report, by researchers in Chicago, triglycerides can change the blood's consistency from a flowing river into a milkshake, thick and sluggish, and more likely to form blood clots.

"There are several lines of data that have now shown that triglycerides are more important than we thought they were before," said Dr. Robert S. Rosenson, of Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center.

At the University of Maryland, other researchers have come up

with a potential antidote:

Taking huge doses of vitamins before chomping on high fat foods like a cheeseburger and fries may protect blood vessels.

"We joke now that maybe McDonald's should serve you the meal ... or mix them in the food," said Dr. Gary D. Plotnick, professor of medicine and director of echocardiography at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Plotnick's study, though, is small, and the results preliminary. What is certain is that triglycerides, often neglected as attention has focused on cholesterol, are emerging as an independent risk factor for heart disease. In a few years, many people may keep track of their triglyceride levels, just as they do with cholesterol.

The two are different compounds. Cholesterol is a waxy substance; triglycerides are fats. But both are in the blood, both can contribute to heart disease, and both have so-called "good" and "bad" forms.

Bad triglycerides, for instance, are generally found in foods rich in saturated fat, such as ice cream, cheese, hot dogs and fried foods. Good triglycerides, which can reduce one's level of fat, are found in certain fish—salmon, sardines, mackerel, herring, and tuna packed in water.

As early as 1959, scientists knew that bad triglycerides were a potential risk factor for heart disease. But early findings that linked a genetically based high cholesterol disorder with heart attack risk hogged the attention, doctors said.

"Cholesterol really was in the limelight for so many years. ... Now we realize that we may have been missing the boat for so many years with triglycerides," said Dr. Michael Miller, director of preventive cardiology at the University of Maryland Medical Center.

When blood is drawn and left overnight, triglycerides appear as a creamy layer on the blood. After a person eats fatty foods, triglycerides will clear from the bloodstream in several hours. But people with higher levels, over time, risk having the triglycerides contribute to a buildup of plaque in the arteries.

"We often see more people with heart attacks over the holidays. Some say it's due to the cold, but the fact is all these things (overeating, not exercising, drinking alcohol) that are taking place influence triglycerides in very dramatic ways," said Rosenson, director of the Preventive Cardiology Center at Rush in Chicago.

Rosenson has shown that higher levels of triglycerides thicken the body's blood. That makes it harder for the heart to pump, prevents the blood from delivering nutrients to tissues and, by increasing the drag

on blood vessels, damages their linings. The thicker blood raises the chances of a blood clot, Rosenson said, and most heart attacks are caused by blood clots.

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WEDDING

WOOD-RICHARDSON

BURLEY - Roland and Colleen Wood of Burley announce the marriage of their daughter, Jennifer Wood, to Christopher Richardson, son of Terri Reeves of Mishawaka, Ind., and John Richardson of San Diego, Calif., on Dec. 27 in the Logan Utah LDS Temple.



Christopher and Jennifer Richardson

Wood is a 1994 graduate of Burley High School and a 1996 graduate of Ricks College. She is continuing her education at Brigham Young University, studying business finance.

Richardson is a 1990 graduate of Mishawaka High School and a 1996 graduate of Ricks College. He served a two-year mission in the Idaho Nevada Mission. He is continuing his education at BYU, majoring in English.

A reception will be held in their honor from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday at Sweetheart Manor in Burley.

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BRIEFLY IN FASHION

Boxers vs. briefs

You heard it here first. (Or second, if you read TV Guide). In an article on who's sexy on television, "X-Files" alien-hunting hunk David Duchovny reveals that he wears boxer briefs, underwear that he describes as a hybrid. "I wear boxers, but they're kind of tight around the leg." In that same TV Guide article, the newest "Baywatch" beauty, Traci Bingham, says she's not crazy about her now-famous red swimsuit. "It's not that flattering," says the show's first African-American woman. "I wanted it to be higher on the hips."

Ties that don't bind

If the man in your life is 6-feet, 4-inches tall or taller or weighs in at 235 pounds or above, finding a clothing gift can be a big problem. If you're considering a tie, make sure that you get one that is 62 inches long, says Mark Rosenfeld, president of Torre clothing for big and tall men in South Philadelphia. After circumnavigating a large neck, a regular tie, which is 57 inches long, will stop well short of her level—a fashion no-no.

Compiled from wire reports

Estate Shape...strategic talk on wills, trusts, probate & estate planning. POWER OF ATTORNEY. QUESTION: What is power of attorney? What are its uses and limitations? Dennis S. Voorhees. A power of attorney is written authority given by one person (the "principal") to another (the "agent" or "attorney-in-fact") to act on the principal's behalf in dealings with third parties. For example, one spouse can give the other spouse power of attorney to sell their house. This commonly occurs when one spouse is unable to attend a real estate closing. Powers of attorney fall into two basic categories: healthcare and financial. A healthcare power of attorney appoints an agent to communicate medical decisions for an incapacitated principal. A financial power of attorney authorizes another to manage and conduct the principal's property, business, and affairs to the same extent as the principal could. The authority granted in a power of attorney can be broad and sweeping or limited and specific. TIP: Only give a financial power of attorney to another when (1) necessity dictates and (2) the agent is of proven character. Compliments: Voorhees Law Office • 208 736-6000 Pierce Street and Addison Ave. • Send your questions to: P.O. Box 2, Twin Falls, ID 83303

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POOR

Doctors take aim at bacterium streptococcus

The Washington Post

Parents of young children know the bacterium streptococcus as the germ that brings children's complaints of a sore throat. But strep encompasses a wide range of diseases that can cause symptoms from scarlet fever to the deadly toxic shock syndrome.

More than 80 varieties of group A strep alone have been identified. "The strep problem is huge," said Edward Kaplan, director of the World Health Organization's (WHO) Strep Reference Laboratory in Minnesota.

WHO labs and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) regularly detect new varieties of strep. "Our lab can identify 80 percent of the strains that we get from the United States and Western Europe," Kaplan said. "But we can only identify a much smaller percentage of the strains from Southeast Asia. That means there are many types we don't know what they are."

Strep is becoming so prevalent that it ranks as one of the leading causes of infectious diseases worldwide.

The major causes of strep infection are groups A and B. Group A, which causes strep throat infections, impetigo and scarlet fever, is still toxic shock and the infection known as "flesh-eating strep," is responsible for the largest share of disease.

"Worldwide, group A strep is a huge cause of illness," said Anne Schuchat, an epidemiologist at the CDC. "The long-term effects of group A strep infection, such as heart disease and kidney disease, are a big problem in countries where prompt treatment of strep throat is not available."

But group B strep infections are more likely to be the cause of severe bloodstream infections, known as sepsis. "Overall illness would be more common due to group A strep," Schuchat said. "But invasive infections, such as those that are in the bloodstream, are due to group B strep more often than group A."

In announcing the promising results of an experimental vaccine last month, researchers moved a step closer to overcoming group B streptococcus, one of the most common causes of newborn infection and death.

The team of scientists from Harvard University and Baylor College of Medicine in Houston, reported that an experimental vaccine is proving effective against group B strep, which affects 8,000 babies born in the United States every year.

While the infection in newborns has prompted the drive for a vaccine, health officials also are concerned about the rising incidence of group B strep infections in adults. The CDC reports that the number of adult infections nearly doubled during the 1980s and continues to increase. Strep B infections can lead to pneumonia. They also can cause meningitis and sepsis.

Among adults, those at greatest risk are the elderly, especially those who have neurological problems such as a stroke. So too are adults with such chronic conditions as cirrhosis of the liver, diabetes and HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) infection.

The group B bacteria are different from the more familiar type of bacteria that cause strep throat. Group B bacteria colonize areas of the body, including the bowel and rectum. Ten to 30 percent of women carry the bacteria in their genital tracts, but

it generally produces no symptoms in the mother if the bacteria stay in the genital area.

Group B strep can prove deadly, however, if something happens that allows it to spread. In adults, reduced immunity resulting from cancer treatment or a chronic illness such as diabetes could produce enough stress to prompt an acute strep B infection.

In infected pregnant women, labor contractions can force the bacteria into the amniotic fluid, where they can be swallowed or inhaled by the baby. This happens to about half the infected women, leading to complications in two of every 1,000 infants born in the United States, according to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID).

Group B strep is one of the leading causes of pneumonia in newborns and is more common than other well-known infections such as congenital syphilis and rubella. The disease is fatal to 10 percent of infected newborns. Roughly 20 percent of the most seriously ill suffer permanent damage, including mental retardation, hearing loss and blindness.

Strep throat affects up to 5 million each year

The Washington Post

Some children develop a sudden, high fever. Others are stricken with a funny taste and such a severe sore throat that they feel as if they can't swallow. However it occurs, strep throat means a few days of illness and a lot of inconvenience for millions of children and their parents each year.

While cases of the bacterial illness are not reported to state health departments, estimates extrapolated from antibiotic use and visits to doctors' offices suggest that as many as 5 million cases occur each year in the United States, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

Unlike other bacterial infections, strep throat has shown only minimal resistance to antibiotics, said Edward Kaplan, director of the World Health Organization's Strep Reference Laboratory in Minneapolis. "Even in the test tube, its sensitivity to antibiotics has not changed," he said.

The disease is caused by group A strep, and while strep throat is not a serious illness, it generally is treated with antibiotics. Left untreated, strep throat can develop into rheumatic fever, a complication that causes heart joint pain and symptoms. In this country, because so many people receive treatment, this complication is rare, but in developing countries the problem is rampant.

The most accurate diagnosis for group A strep is done by taking a throat culture. The throat is briefly swabbed with a cotton-tipped stick. The material collected may be tested by tube, its sensitivity to antibiotics has not changed, he said.

What the tests cannot accurately do, however, is distinguish between strep carriers and children with active strep infections. In both instances, the throat is colonized by group A strep bacteria. Studies suggest, Kaplan said, that if 100

children come in to a doctor's office complaining of a sore throat, about 30 to 40 percent will test positive on a throat culture for strep. But based on blood tests that measure antibody response during the next couple of weeks, only about half of those children have active strep infections. The other half, Kaplan said, are thought to be strep carriers who happen to have another type of throat infection at the time they are tested.

Scientists hope to avoid the problem with a vaccine against the bacteria that causes strep throat, said Benjamin Schwartz, chief of the CDC's childhood and vaccine preventable disease section. Researchers, he said, are beginning to test a group A strep vaccine in people.

Seniors need to stay fit and trim, too

NEW YORK (AP) — As we get older, one essential fact to keep in mind is that the way an older person feels can be directly related to physical activity. Walking can make you feel younger than sitting.

It's now generally recognized that perhaps half of what we accept as aging is known to be hypokinesia, a disease of "disuse" — failure to do the things that will maintain the function of muscles and bones.

Since a quarter of the American population will be 65 or over by 2010, many organizations are taking actions to encourage continued activity by older people. To give one vivid example, the United States Lawn Tennis Association now has rankings for players 85 and over.

A growing number of hospitals now offer fitness programs specifically designed for older people. For instance, Mary Black Hospital in Spartanburg, N.C. offers a program called Fit and

Firm. It consists of weekly classes divided between aerobic exercises, using such equipment as stationary bikes and strength exercises, in which participants work out on Nautilus machines.

At Coral Springs Medical Center in Coral Springs, Fla., the senior fitness program has similar features, but also gives emphasis to maintaining flexibility. The program has a tracer certified by the American Association who leads older people through exercises that stretch legs, arms and fingers, as well as an aerobic exercise routine.

Seniors can check with hospitals in their area for similar programs. If there are none, ask if one can be started.

Working out on your own is another possibility. The best exercises are low-impact activities that don't stress on the skeletal system by repetitive pounding. Riding a bike, swimming or just plain walking can do the job

for many people. For anyone who decides on walking, brisk is better than slow.

Another idea that has gained general acceptance is one that suggests the way older people think can affect their physical well-being. The new medical field, called psychoneuroimmunology, is based on the premise that positive thinking can have positive effects on the immune system, bolstering the body's response to infectious disease and other maladies.

It's not always easy to think positive, however. Some suggestions have been offered by Philip C. Kendall, a psychologist at Temple University who studied health thinking under a grant from the National Institute of Mental Health.

Don't expect everything to go well and to be liked by everyone. Keep your mind focused on the good things in life and on the people you like.

When good things happen to you, take credit for them. When bad things happen, don't blame yourself.

If you continually have bad thoughts, find a friend or relative (husband or wife) you can tell them to, so that you can have an outside assessment of potentially faulty attitudes. If necessary, consult a therapist.

When difficulties occur, approach them as just problems that can be solved. For each difficulty, make a plan and try it out. If it doesn't work, try another. Don't give up and lapse into an attitude that nothing can help.

And if you don't believe that such tactics can help, remember the placebo effect. A placebo is a pill that looks and tastes real but doesn't contain a medically active substance. In study after study, at least 30 percent of patients benefit from treatment with a placebo — a strong indicator of the way the mind and body interact.

Surgeon finds simple solution to complex heart defect

Knight-Ridder News Service

Fifteen-month-old McKeeley Anderson's bright eyes, rosy cheeks and bubbly inquisitiveness prove that a broken heart indeed can be fixed.

All it took was an innovative procedure developed by pioneering University of Minnesota surgeon Dr. John Foker, who has a knack for finding simple solutions to complex medical problems.

"Now you can become a big girl," Jennifer Andersen told her daughter recently as she prepared the toddler for the long drive home to Sioux Falls, S.D., where McKeeley's two older sisters were waiting.

When Foker told a visiting cardiac surgeon that McKeeley's left ventricle had grown from a severe "minus 5.5" standard deviation to normal size in a few short weeks, she said, "No way!" Foker invited her to check McKeeley herself. "That's fantastic," she said, giving Foker a high-five.

Shortly after McKeeley was born,

doctors in Sioux Falls discovered she had a rare birth defect that did not allow the center of her heart to form properly.

Not only did her heart have a large hole between the upper and lower chambers, but it also had valves that were not closing properly. In addition, her aorta — the large artery that carries blood from the heart to the rest of her body — was virtually closed.

Worse yet, McKeeley's left ventricle — the heart's main pumping chamber — was so small it would not support her blood pressure. As a result, she was being kept alive by her right ventricle, which was pumping some blood into her lungs, as it is designed to do, and sending it back and forth her aorta and other blood vessels, which it is not supposed to do.

McKeeley's complex defect is so rare that pediatricians with large practices may see only one case during their entire careers, Foker said.

By the time McKeeley was 11 days old, surgeons in Sioux Falls

had to take her into the operating room and open her aorta. While the procedure helped, it only bought her a little extra time.

Three months later, doctors there sent McKeeley to the university's Foker for further treatment. He began with a fairly simple operation during which he installed a band around her pulmonary artery. The band reduced the pressure of the blood flowing into her lungs and also forced more blood to circulate through her body.

Once again, McKeeley was helped — but only temporarily. And her options were not promising.

The standard treatment for her condition — a series of major operations during which arteries are repositioned so that the right ventricle becomes the heart's only

pumping chamber — only lasts for eight to 15 years or so.

"You just write off the left ventricle," Foker said. Although patients do well initially, they begin to build up fluid in their lungs and their hearts start to fail" after a decade or two, he said.

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HEALTH & FASHION

Bedroom inhibitions leave couple's relationship at risk

DEAR ABBY: I am a 41-year-old woman who has been married for 10 years during which time I've had a few long-term relationships.

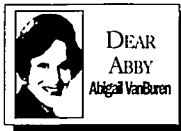
I have always been a passionate woman with the men I have cared about, and they have reciprocated. I have learned a lot about myself and men as a result.

Five months ago, after a long absence from a relationship or dating, I met a man who is two years older than I am. He is extremely well-mannered and sensitive. He's affectionate and seems to care about me. We share many interests and values, and best of all, he makes me laugh.

He is healthy and in excellent shape. There is one issue, however, that deeply concerns me. I know that he enjoys sex, but I am sorry to say he is a lousy lover.

He told me that he has never been "in the mood" in bed. I don't think one has to be "wild and crazy" to be a good lover; however, he doesn't even like to kiss. This makes me sad because I think kissing is an important part of foreplay and particularly important during romantic moments.

I now find myself holding back when I am intimate with him, and becoming more inhibited as well. After sex, I'm left feeling frustrated, unsatisfied and sad. I don't like to put so much emphasis on sex, but I think I deserve



DEAR ABBY
Abby Varburton

more consideration.

Our relationship is flourishing except for the physical part. I care very much for this man, but I long to be kissed and caressed, and I doubt our relationship can endure without intimacy. Should I approach him about this? And can I expect him to change?

—NEEDING MORE IN MINNEAPOLIS
SEXUAL NEEDING MORE: Social taboos, restrictive upbringing and unfortunate early experiences can cause sexual inhibitions.

You can help your lover change only if he is willing to cooperate. Honest communication is a must. There are many excellent books available to help partners improve their intimacy skills. Find a few and read them together.

A sex therapist can also help guide you to a more fulfilling sex life. Ask your physician to refer you to one.

—DEAR ABBY: The 83-year-old great-grandmother from Indio, Calif., who wrote to praise the joys of life after getting a hearing

aid in middle age, has done a great service for the hearing-impaired community in general.

Utilizing hearing devices at any age offers an opportunity for fulfilling the human need for communication and life participation. The majority of children diagnosed for hearing loss within the first three years of life and fitted with appropriate aids have a wonderful opportunity to develop speech and language skills with the ability to function in the normal hearing world. This is known as the auditory-verbal approach to helping deaf and hard-of-hearing children, and "looking old" is the last thing these children would imagine.

The mother who would not wear hearing aids because she thought they would make her look old might have an easier time if she could imagine the delight young people have when they realize they can actually hear. There is much research still being done to help all levels of hearing loss, and there are now hearing aids available that are hardly visible. Please let your readers know that there are also community services available to help put them in touch with audiologists who are certified to dispense hearing aids and make appropriate medical referrals.

—JOSEPHINE WILSON, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, HEAR CENTER, PASADENA, CALIF.

Law guarding HMOs from suit challenged in courts, Congress

The Washington Post

You suffer from prolonged, severe headaches and your doctor diagnoses a brain aneurysm called an MRI. But your managed-care health plan says no, that expensive test is not needed.

Or you are diagnosed with breast cancer and your doctor recommends a bone-marrow transplant. But your health maintenance organization contends the expensive procedure is an experimental treatment and refuses to pay for it.

Can you sue your health plan to force it to cover the treatment? And if a family member dies because treatment was denied, can you sue for damages?

The answer, surprising in this litigious society, is that if the health coverage comes through a plan provided by the employer, the patient has only limited ability to sue HMOs and managed-care plans.

These plans, which cover more than half of all Americans, until recently have fended off malpractice suits by wielding a federal law that regulates employee benefits. But that defense is under attack in the courts and in Congress. Labor Secretary Robert Reich, whose department enforces the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), said it should be changed to allow patients to sue HMOs.

"If the courts don't do it, Congress should," he said. The law was designed to protect pensions and other benefits. But with the growth of managed care, where employers and HMOs can limit what treatments and tests are allowed, ERISA has emerged as "the most important law affecting health care in the United States," says Columbia University lawyer-doctor William M. Sage.

When a person's health insurance is part of a benefits package supplied and partially paid by the employer, ERISA pre-empts state malpractice laws and moves cases against managed-care organizations into the federal courts, which shield the health-care groups against malpractice suits.

That means patients covered by HMOs and other managed-care organizations can sue doctors for malpractice in state courts, but generally cannot sue the health plans.

Further, if the health plan is sued, ERISA limits the amount a patient can collect to the cost of

the treatment that was denied and legal fees, forbidding compensatory or punitive awards. Such awards, often for lost productivity or pain and suffering, are where the big money comes in liability cases.

"Now for the first time managed care companies have to look over their shoulders because what they are doing may subject them to liability."

—Wayne Blackmon, psychiatrist

deciding arguments made by HMOs and managed-care plans, says Arthur Rosenfeld, Kaiser-Permanente president and regional counsel in Oakland.

"I don't think Congress ever intended it to be as broad as the courts have interpreted. It is a murky issue that I would like to see clarified. I don't think it is a matter of the HMOs hiding behind ERISA. The HMO is just following the law."

In recent years, three federal appeals courts have issued rulings that erode the protection ERISA has claimed from ERISA. They found that HMO doctors are acting as agents of the managed-care organization, allowing it to be sued for malpractice in state courts. The Department of Labor filed friend of the court briefs opposing the health plans' use of the ERISA defense.

"Now for the first time managed-care companies have to look over their shoulders because what they are doing may subject them to liability," said Wayne Blackmon, a psychiatrist who heads the District of Columbia Medical Society and goes to law school in his spare time.

TO DO FOR YOU

Senior center offers free blood pressure checks

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Senior Citizens Center will offer blood pressure checks from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m. on Tuesdays and from 10 a.m. to noon on Fridays at the center.

Administrative volunteer nurses will administer the checks free of charge.

Free injury evaluation for area high school athletes

TWIN FALLS — The Center for Physical Rehabilitation is offering free injury evaluations for all Magic Valley area high school athletes throughout the 1996-97 school year. These evaluations will be performed by Troy Schneider, a Nationally Certified Athletic Trainer. These evaluations will be from 8 a.m. to noon weekdays by appointment only.

Upon completion of the evaluation, recommendations will be made as to whether the athlete can return to action, needs physical therapy, referral to a physician. No treatment or charges will occur unless authorized by the parents. A copy of the evaluation and recommendations will be provided to the parents, student athlete and the coach.

Jerome medical center offers childbirth classes

JEROME — A five-week series of prepared childbirth and parenting classes will be offered in January from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on Thursdays beginning Thursday at St. Benedict's Family Medical Center Conference Room. The fee for the series is \$30. Please bring payment to the first class.

The classes, taught by a registered nurse from St. Benedict's Family Medical Center, emphasizes preparation for labor and birth, changes during pregnancy and newborn care. The classes can help answer your questions and make informed choices about your childbirth and parenting experiences. The second class in the series qualifies as a refresher class for persons who have taken the classes previously.

Please wear loose, comfortable clothes. Bring 2 pillows and a blanket (optional) to each class. Informational highlights of the preparation classes include: In-depth review of labor and delivery process, relaxation/coping techniques, Caesarean births, breast-feeding, tour of the birth

Anger management workshop offered

TWIN FALLS — A four-week anger management workshop will begin Jan. 6 in Suite 3 of the Twin Falls Professional Center (across from Hastings), 1159 Falls Ave. E.

Instructor will be Howard Carroll, M.Ed., Licensed Professional Counselor. The fee is \$60 for the four sessions. Classes are limited to the first 15 people who register and pay their tuition. Participants must register by Thursday.

For more information, call Carroll at 734-1330 or 1-800-388-3761.

To do for you is a calendar listing of health-related activities, events and education. Information should be submitted by Thursday for publication in the following Monday's Health & Fashion section. Mail notices to: The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls 83303, or deliver to our office at 132 Third St. W.

Attention disorder linked to traffic violations

The Washington Post

Teenagers and young adults diagnosed as having attention deficit disorder (ADD) significantly more likely to be cited for speeding and other traffic violations than their peers who don't have the disorder, a small study by University of Massachusetts researchers suggests.

The study, published in the December issue of the Journal of Pediatric, compared the driving records of 25 people between the ages of 17 and 30 who were diagnosed with ADD with 23 non-ADD counterparts who had been matched for age, sex and educational level.

Subjects diagnosed with ADD were required to meet criteria for inattention and hyperactivity established by the American Psychiatric Association. Those with other mental or motor disorders, a history of epilepsy or a previous head injury were excluded.

Five people in the ADD group were taking medication used to

treat ADD, the most common of which is Ritalin, an amphetamine-like stimulant. Those taking stimulants were asked to stay

off medication for 24 hours before the test to avoid the performance-enhancing effect of these drugs.

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Hi, I'm Dr. Dave Conrad. You may find this surprising, but I used to dislike chiropractors. Now I am one. Obviously something had to happen to change my point of view. I believe that many of you people out there may suffer needlessly, now or in the future, because you have misconceptions about chiropractic. Why don't you let me set the record straight for you. Attend one of our weekly public information presentations, or come in for a complimentary consultation. It doesn't cost anything to find out if chiropractic might be right for you.



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CALENDAR of EVENTS

MVRMC wishes you, your family a safe and happy holiday!

- ★ One lucky baby born at Magic Valley Regional during 1996 will be awarded college tuition at the Idaho university of their choice. It's our way of welcoming your baby into the world, and welcoming you to our Women and Infants Center. The drawing for the 1996 winner will be held on January 15, 1997. For more information, call 737-2955.
- Arthritis Support Group * Tuesday, January 7, 7 - 9 p.m., Doctor's Meeting Room. For more information call 737-2050.
- Prepared Childbirth Course * Tuesdays, January 7 - February 4, 7-9:30 p.m., Education Center. Pre-registration required. Call 737-2900.
- FAMILY Farm Safety Day Camp * Saturday, January 11, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. with check in from 8:30 - 8:50 a.m., College of Southern Idaho Evergreen Building. Registrations due January 6. Purpose: To provide families and their employees with the opportunity for hands-on training in agricultural safety, health and first aid. Fee: \$3 per person* which includes lunch, snacks and materials (*scholarships are also available). To register call MVRMC Occupational Health at 737-2906 or the Magic Valley SAFE KIDS at 737-2430.
- Especially during Christmas and New Year's, take care of your friends, family and yourself. Pass along these "Tips for Safe Holiday Parties" to be sure this year's festivities live up to your expectations:
 - If you drive, do not drink; if you drink, do not drive!
 - Provide guests with an attractive selection of non-alcoholic beverages.
 - Never serve alcohol to anyone under age 21, for whom it is an illegal drug.
 - Provide guests with nutritious food. Eating will slow alcohol's effects.
 - Appoint a bartender to monitor guests' drinking and serve measured, standard drinks rather than doubles or "holiday specials."
 - Do not serve alcohol to an intoxicated guest! Stop serving alcohol 90 hours before the party ends.
 - Choose fruit juices instead of carbonated mixers. Carbonation speeds alcohol absorption.
 - Be sure that drinking does not become the primary focus or activity at your party.

If you require special accommodations, call 737-2102 or TDD 737-2980 at least 24 hours in advance of the event.

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POOR

Looking ultra-chic can be ultra-cheap this new year

By Elinor J. Brecher
Knight-Ridder News Service

Our First Law of Dressing for New Year's Eve: Never wear anything to a party that — if someone slips champagne (or worse) all over it — will cause you to become sufficiently distraught as to ruin the entire evening.

Sure, you'd look fabulous in Donna Karan's \$3,000 shimmering beaded sheath, Manolo Blahnik's \$1,495 naughty glitter high-heeled slides or a \$695 Marc Jacobs panne velvet tank top. Who wouldn't?

Sure, it's one of the few times during the year that you abandon yourself to fashion fantasy and dress all the way up.

But given the inherent wildness of many soires long about midnight, why risk incurring irreparable injury to clothes that cost two or three paychecks?

Instead, we submit that you can look great for as little as \$200 (give or take a few bucks). Then, if some drunken reveler drops a carab canape in your lap, you dab on some club soda and go on about your merry-making.

What it takes is some astute shopping, and adherence to our Second Law of Dressing for New Year's Eve: Inexpensive party clothes don't look cheap when you keep it simple.

And how lucky for you that what's hot for the holiday season just happens to be elegant simplicity and the inherent allure of bare skin.

Dresses are long, body-hugging columns or short and flouncy. The fabrics of choice are velvet, velour and anything shimmery, like Luxe. Evening bags are bony but dainty and pleasantly retro. And shoes are sexy and strappy — but kick off those stilettos before you hit the dance floor.

Of course, New Year's Eve wouldn't live up to its hype without the glitz. But our advice is to apply it judiciously, with sparkly accessories like belts, jewelry or hair clips, and iridescence around the eyes, rather than wallowing in sequins.

You should dazzle; not the clothes.

"Black is still numero uno," advises Rose Prielles, merchandise counselor of ready-to-wear at the Macy's in Avventura, Fla. Black on black, or mixed with silver, light blue, orange or other fruit colors for a preview-of-spring combo.

And, she says, "You don't have to do a dress. You can easily do a shimmery top and black bottom. You can go into the junior department for an inexpensive black skirt or pants" in velvet or satin.

"You can put a \$100 top with a junior bottom and look like a million," says Prielles, who notes that first-delivery holiday clothes already are on sale at substantial discount.

Here are three moderately priced outfits that incorporate several of the moment trends, yet leave you plenty of cash for a

cab ride home if you've had a bit too much bubbly.

Browns of all shades were among fall's huge colors, and remain popular. We found a short, twirly dress in silvery taupe at Marshall's that combines several elements you'll see this spring: a '70s-inspired, daisy-patterned lace overskirt over a shiny satin skirt (\$49.99). The waist is empire, the bodice velvet, with spaghetti straps.

We paired it with satin slings in the same taupe brown (\$19.99), gold-toned and rhinestone daisy earrings (both from Marshall's, \$7.99), the now classic "diamond" tennis bracelet (vermel, from Bloomingdale's, \$29.99), a satin headband (\$6), and a coffee-colored, metal-mesh bag with a chain shoulder strap (\$12, both from Upton's). The partyhose — sheer, silky taupe from JCFenney, \$3.50 — create a seamless line from dress to shoes. Total cost: \$129.46.

There's a reason purple is called the royal color — it always looks rich, regal and important. A purple column dress cut on the bias, which features a wide swath of gleaming satin, is from Syms, and carries a major label (which we're not allowed to mention) for \$55. The perfect accessory: a mini Kelly bag in poly "fauxle" from Bloomingdale's (\$35).

Add sexy, strappy sandals from Syms (\$40. No on the partyhose; yes on the pedicure), topped off with Bloomie's Deco-inspired, gold-tone earrings (\$65). Total cost: \$195.

Road to dream bridal gown is paved with patience, choices

By Jean Patteson
The Orlando Sentinel

Q. My daughter recently announced her engagement. She and her fiance plan to get married next October. No sooner had she gotten the engagement ring on her finger than she was buying bridal magazines and visiting bridal shops looking for the perfect wedding dress. Unfortunately, her enthusiasm quickly turned to confusion and depression. She says there are so many options, and everything seems so expensive, she just doesn't know how she'll ever find a gown she likes and can afford. What should be a pleasurable experience is turning into a nightmare. I am trying to be encouraging and supportive. But as a first-time mother of the bride, I have no experience to draw on. How do we find that perfect dress without going crazy in the process?

A. First, take comfort from the fact that your situation is not unusual. For most brides, finding the perfect wedding gown is a top priority — and a major headache.

For starters, your daughter needs to take a deep breath and calm down. Then, before paging through those magazines again or visiting any more bridal shops, she should make some decisions about the style of dress she wants, where she wants to buy it and how much she can afford to spend.

The style of dress is determined by a combination of fac-

tors, including the time and place of the wedding and the bride's personal style. In general, the grander the ceremony and reception, the more formal the gown. But obviously your daughter's own taste, size and shape should be considered.

She can buy a gown at a full-service bridal boutique or at a bridal salon in a department store, where she can try on sample gowns and then order her choice in the size, color and fabric she wants. (And remember, it can take up to six months for an order to be delivered.) Or she can go to a no-frills bridal discount store, where she can immediately purchase a gown off the rack. Other options include buying through a mail-order service or a bridal consignment store.

And finally, she needs to set a budget. This will limit her search to just those dresses she can afford. While the average wedding dress costs about \$800, they can be found for as little as \$400 — or for as much as \$2,000 or more. And then there's the cost of the veil, headpiece, shoes, gloves, jewelry and underwear to consider.

But before you and your daughter make any moves, I suggest you page through a new "work by authors Denise and Alan Fields, whose first book, "Bridal Bargains," was a best seller a few years ago. Their latest effort is "Bridal Gown Guide" (Windsor Peak Press, \$9.95).

It is packed with helpful information, including their seven steps "for finding the bridal gown that's perfect for you." The book offers tips on how to navigate bridal shops, how to avoid scams (and there are plenty in the bridal business), and how to save money.

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Caution cited on single malt whiskey, balloon inflating

The Washington Post

Bah, humbug to Christmas cheer!

A team of Dutch medical researchers warns that expensive, smooth-tasting brands of single malt Scotch whiskey carry higher levels of a cancer-causing chemical than less costly Irish whiskey and American bourbon.

They reported in a letter to the Lancet, a British medical journal, that tests of 18 brands of whiskey found the greatest concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), a cancer-causing chemical, in such smoky single malt brands as Laphroaig and Oban. Even so, the researchers concluded that the amount is too small to be responsible for the higher rates of bowel, mouth and throat cancers among alcohol drinkers over nondrinkers.

"The researchers, headed by Jos Kleinjans of the University of Maastricht in Holland, said the PAHs come from the peat that produces the distinctive smooth taste of single malts."

Balderdash! retorted the Scotch Whisky Association. "We regard this as nothing other than an irresponsible piece of sensationalism," said spokesman

Campbell Evans. Burnt toast contains more PAHs than a glass of malt whiskey, he declared.

"If people drink malt whiskey in moderation they won't be doing themselves harm, they will be doing themselves a lot of good" in helping to prevent heart disease, he added.

As if the attack on whiskey isn't enough, a group of doctors from Belfast report in the British Medical Journal that blowing up balloons for Yuletide parties can damage your lungs, causing air bubbles to spread under the skin. They cited the case of a 24-year-old man hospitalized with lung problems after blowing up 20 party balloons in an hour.

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Matinees Today!

Jack Lemmon James Garner
My Fellow Americans (PG)
Today 1:10-3:10-5:10-7:10-9:10

Glenn Close - Jeff Daniels
Dinner's 101 Dalmatians (G)
Today 12:45-2:50-4:55-7:00-9:05

MICHELLE PFEIFFER
GEORGE CLOONEY
Sometimes love
at first sight
can take all day.

ONE FINE DAY

Today 12:45-2:50-4:55-7:00-9:05

BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA

BEAVIS
BUTT-HEAD
Coming to a
screen bigger
than your TV.

Today 1:10-3:10-5:10-7:10-9:10

Twin Cinema 12
1100 Eastlund • Twin Falls

Movie Info: 734-2400

BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD DO AMERICA
Coming to a screen bigger than your TV.

Today 12:00-2:00-4:00-6:10-8:00-10:00

EMILIO ESTEVEZ
D3 THE MIGHTY DUCKS

Elites Show Today 12:00-2:15
Adults \$2.50 - Kids \$1.25 These Shows Only

Matinee Prices:
For Show Starting 12:00pm to 4:00pm
Adults \$4.00 - Kids 12 and Under \$2.00
Bargain Hour: 4:01pm to 6:00pm
Adults \$4.00 - Kids 12 and Under \$2.00.

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BILL TAYLOR • JULIETTE LEWIS
MIRANDA RICHARDSON

The continuing story of Terms of Endearment!

The EVENING STAR

Today 1:45-4:15-6:45-9:15

MEL GIBSON
A RON HOWARD FILM
RANSOM

"THE MOST EXCITING THRILLER OF THE YEAR!"
Today 4:45-7:15-9:30

"CLEVER, HIP AND SCARY!"
The New Thriller from Wes Craven
SCREAM

Someone has taken that love of scary movies one step too far.
Today 5:35-7:40-9:45

The Preacher's Wife
with WASHINGTON
with JENNY HOUTSON
Today 1:45-4:15-6:45-9:15

BUGS BUNNY MICHAEL JORDAN
Got ready to Jam!
SPAGNAP

Today 1:00-3:00

JOHN TRAVOLTA
ANDIE MacDOWELL
WILLIAM HURT

Today 12:30-2:45-5:00-7:15-9:30

MICHAEL
He's an angel.
Not a saint.
Today 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:00-9:20

BUCKLE UP!
Two Dads,
One Toy,
No Prisoners.
Today 12:30-2:45-5:00-7:15-9:30

Jingle All the Way

Today 12:30-2:45-5:00-7:15-9:30

JOHN TRAVOLTA
DALMATIANS
GLENN CLOSE
"PHENOMENAL!"
Today 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:00-9:20

MY FELLOW AMERICANS
JACK LEMMON
JAMES GARNER
DAN AYKROYD
Today 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:00-9:20

MICHELLE PFEIFFER
GEORGE CLOONEY
Sometimes love
at first sight
can take all day.

ONE FINE DAY

Today 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:00-9:20

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ONE FINE DAY

Today 12:00-2:20-4:40-7:00-9:20

COMICS

Peanuts
By Charles M. Schulz

YES, SIR... IS THIS WHERE YOU'RE SELLING ATHLETE'S AUTOGRAPHS?
I'D LIKE A BASEBALL WITH JOE SHLABOTNIK'S AUTOGRAPH. WHO IS HE? HE'S MY HERO!
IS HE HERE? WELL... JUST ASK HIM TO SIGN A BALL, AND I'LL PAY FOR IT...
I USED TO HAVE A LASSE DGS DISH, BUT SHE NEVER SIGNED IT...

Dilbert
By Scott Adams

NO ROOMS?? IF THE POPE SHOWED UP, WOULD YOU HAVE A ROOM FOR HIM?
YES.
OKAY, THEN GIVE ME HIS ROOM!
I AM SO CLEVER.
LET'S SEE YOU SQUIRM OUT OF THAT LOGIC, WEASEL-GEAR!

B.C.
By Jimmy Hart

I GOT ON TOO MUCH EYE LINER!
HOW DO YOU KNOW THAT?
A FACEDON JUST MADE A PASS AT ME!

Garfield
By Jim Davis

I'VE CALLED EVERY GIRL I KNOW, GARFIELD.
NONE OF THEM WILL GO OUT WITH ME ON NEW YEAR'S EVE.
I'M GETTING DESPERATE.
I FIGURED THAT WHEN YOU DIED THE TIME AND TEMPERATURE WOULD...

Hi and Lois
By Charles Brown

WHAT ARE YOU HAVING, HI?
WHAT ARE YOU HAVING, LOIS?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO HAVE.
DID YOU DECIDE WHAT YOU'RE HAVING?
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE IF YOU WERE HAVING SOMETHING?

The Wizard of Id
By Brand Parker & Johnny Hart

TURNKEY, CAN YOU GET ME AN ENCYCLOPEDIA?
DONT BE SILLY...
THERE'S NOT ENOUGH ROOM IN THERE TO KIDE ONE OF THOSE THINGS!

Hagar the Horrible
By Mort Walker

I REALLY SHOULD COUNT MY BLESSINGS... IVE GOT A NICE LITTLE HOME... TWO GREAT KIDS...
HAGAR! COME LET ME SMELL YOUR BREATH!
AND A WIFE WHO UNDERSTANDS ME!

Beetle Bailey
By Mort Walker

BEETLE!
AREN'T YOU GOING TO ANSWER HIM BEETLE?
NO, IT ISN'T A GOOD IDEA.
BEETLE!
IF YOU DID IT ONCE, THEY EXPECT YOU TO ANSWER EVERY TIME.

Frank and Ernest
By Bob Thaves

...IF YOU ARE WILLING TO PUNCH FIFTEEN BUTTONS IN ORDER TO REACH A PERSON INSTEAD OF ONE NOW...

The Bon Loser
By Art Sansom & Chip

CHIEF, CONTINUALLY DERIDING ME AND MY IDEAS IS COUNTER-PRODUCTIVE FOR EVERYONE!
MODERN TECHNIQUES OF BUSINESS PSYCHOLOGY CALL FOR KEEPING COMMUNICATION LINES OPEN AND POSITIVE!
THINK ABOUT IT, IF I COULDNT COMPLAIN ABOUT YOU, I'D HAVE NOTHING TO SAY TO YOU AT ALL!

For Better or For Worse
By Lynn Johnston

YOU CHILDREN STRONGHEART, YOU'VE BEEN REALLY GOOD. I'VE DECIDED TO SIGN A NEW CONTRACT WITH YOU!
LINDSEY'S ENJOY? VISITING RELATIVES IN JAPAN.
SO IT'S JUST US? A FEW OF THE CLUT PAT PACK TOGETHER TO FINISH IN THE NEXT YEAR?
WELL, I THINK SMALL PARTIES ARE THE BEST PARTY!
IT GIVES US A CHANCE TO TALK ABOUT EVERYONE ELSE!

Blondie
By Dean Young & Stan Drake

THANK YOU, HAVE A GOOD DAY.
HOW COME YOU WISHED ME A GOOD DAY, AND THE MAN IN FRONT OF ME A GOOD DAY?
HE DOES MORE BUSINESS WITH US.

Relics
By Brian Crane

YOU'VE IT TAKEN IN THE MIDDLE OF THE ROAD?
SORRY, I DON'T DO IT.
WHY NOT?
THERE'S AN ODD NUMBER.

Doonesville
By Mark Mattoon

WHY DOES IT NEVER OCCUR TO YOU THAT YOU'RE A MEMBER OF THE 'SOUTH'?

The Family Circus
By Bill Keane

Jeffy's only three fingers old, but I'm five! So I'm a whole handfull.

Toupees preceded lipstick

Five track called a "pick-up" was announced in the magazine's 1992. The most unforgettable thing a teacher can do is make a student improve in a class. Such has been the finding in numerous surveys of both youngsters and parents. These questions are they "never forget."
Remembering around the Internet: Did I say horses face away from the wind? Wrong! Into the wind. Cows face away from the wind.
Claim is men wear hairpieces before women wore lipstick.
It was the sage Robin Moore who advised, "Never accept rides from strange men, and remember that all men are strange."
If "tupes" isn't the only word in English pronounced the same with or without its last four letters, name another.
On the books of Nova Scotia's L. Arden is a requirement of farmers there sign when they walk behind their bulls.

WHAT'S WHAT? L.M. Boyd

Ford, those two greats, both arrived in 1908, and Stewart has endured long beyond the Tin Lizzie. Did I say horses face away from the wind? Wrong! Into the wind. Cows face away from the wind.
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HOROSCOPE Sydney Omar

IF DECEMBER 30 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: Friends on many occasions insist, "You should be a stand-up comedian!" Your sense of humor, at times ribald, brings laughter to those who recognize your wit. Gemini, Sagittarius people will be excelling roles in your life. Priorities will be in order next year. During 1997, emphasis will be on change, travel, variety, marital status. March and December will be most memorable months.
ARIES (March 21-April 19): Change of occupation distinct possibility. Written material plays important role. Focus on regular care of pets, informing dependents. "Enough is enough!" Virgo is in picture.
TAURUS (April 20-May 20): All's well that ends well. Lunar position emphasizes freedom, creativity, style, sex appeal. Much in your life decision concerning marriage looms large. Libra figures prominently.
GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Maintain aura of mystery, don't tell all, look behind scenes for information. Individual you trust will in manner defying explanation. Keep guard up, protect self at close quarters.
CANCER (June 21-July 22): Business transaction represents challenge, change, investment of time and money. On personal level, relationship could be too hot not to cool down. Capricorn plays dramatic role.
LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Refuse to be limited. Open lines of communication, locate overseas representative. Added recognition due, travel could be necessary, sweep aside distance, language barriers. Aries in picture.
VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Clear conscience. No need to feel guilty about ending relationship during which you were for granted.
LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You're being pulled in two directions - finally you have a direct social affair. Be so into your own life! Cancer native attempts to install doubt. Respond, "I love you but I have decided to let you go."
SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Burden lifted, popularity surges, you could be asked to direct social affairs. Be so into date on news, fashion, personalities who grab spotlight. Relative in distant city SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): What was locked up will be released - one you locate key. Emphasis on responsibility, recognition, introduction to powerful individual. Material requires for grand success.
CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look beyond previous expectations. Focus on philosophy, theology, individuals who claim "paranormal power." What was hidden will be revealed, your reactions revealed. You'll be told, "We have complete faith in you." Interest in the occult surfaces. Taurus plays outstanding role.
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Dream could prove prophetic. Take notes - psychic activities much in evidence. Refuse to be misled into giving up beliefs. You are on right track and you'll know it. Virgo represented.

12/30/96

16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33
34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51
52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69

Saturday's Puzzle solved:

01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72	73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91	92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100
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