

The Time

Twin Falls, Idaho/92nd year, No. 358

Wednesday, December 24, 1997

50 cents

GOOD MORNING

Visit us online at www.magicvalley.com

WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy and breezy by afternoon. Brisk west winds. Highs near 25. Lows 5 to 15.
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MAGIC VALLEY

Greetings and goodies: Walk a mile with a postman during the busy season.
Page B1

Border battle: Gooding County officials are worried about ambulance services coming from outside the county.
Page B1

SPORTS

What's Bruln: The Twin Falls girls entertained Skyview the same day the boys entered into the A-1 state rankings.
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Punched out: Shaquille O'Neal's recovery took a turn for the worse when he fractured his shooting wrist on a punching bag.
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Punched out II: Evander Holyfield didn't like the money, so April's title fight with Lennox Lewis is now off.
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FOOD & HOME

Pretty Lady: This extra special poinsettia has a name.
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Bread of life: Puddings, sandwiches and more - all in celebration of bread.
Page C1

OPINION

Virginia's answer: Of course there's a Santa Claus. Don't let anybody tell you otherwise.
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Dec. 24 Last shopping day before Christmas

Classified

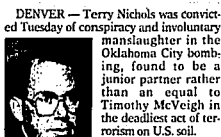
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Nichols guilty in bomb plot

Manslaughter verdict met with anger, surprise

The Associated Press



Terry Nichols

DENVER — Terry Nichols was convicted Tuesday of conspiracy and involuntary manslaughter in the Oklahoma City bombing, found to be a junior partner rather than an equal to Timothy McVeigh in the deadliest act of terrorism on U.S. soil.

Nichols, who still could get the death penalty for conspiracy, was somber and frowned as the verdict was read. Two jurors went softly along with several of the victims and relatives in the courtroom.

Jurors deliberated 41 hours over six days to conclude that the circumstantial prosecution case built on fertilizer receipts, phone records and Ryder truck

The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Gathered beneath tents to escape a gloomy, rainy day, survivors and relatives of those killed in the federal building bombing reacted to the Terry Nichols verdict with anger, surprise and relief.

"How dare that jury think that 168 deaths is involuntary manslaughter," said Darlene Welch, whose 4-year-old niece, Ashley Eckles, died in the 1995 blast in Oklahoma City.

"I will never understand and I just pray sightings was not enough to make him equal to McVeigh.

Nichols was safe in his Kansas farmhouse more than 200 miles away at the time of the blast and was portrayed by his

'How dare that jury think that 168 deaths is involuntary manslaughter.'

— Darlene Welch, aunt of a bombing victim

to God that if they let that sucker go that we've been through."

lawyers as a family man "building a life, not a bomb." When the seven-man, five-man panel returns for the sentencing phase Monday, Nichols is expected to rely heavily on that family to help him get life

Nichols was convicted Tuesday of conspiring with Timothy McVeigh to blow up the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building and convicted of involuntary manslaughter in the deaths of eight federal agents who worked there.

The U.S. District Court jury in Denver acquitted him of weapons and explosives charges.

Marsha Kight, who lost her daughter, Frankie Merrill, who was killed in Denver "how does your heart feel now?"

Please see ANGER, Page A2

— LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW —



The first snowfall of the season is a joyous occasion for 5-year-old Jordan Car of Twin Falls. Jordan made her own blizzard by throwing handfuls of the white stuff in the air and running through the mist.

Roads may be slick for jolly ol' St. Nick

By William Brock Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — 'Twas the day before Christmas and all through the land, most roads were all snowy, some sprinkled with sand.

The National Weather Service said the snow is unlikely to stop. An inch in the valleys, more on mountaintops.

Daytime highs in the 20s are likely in Twin. But up near Stanley, the forecast was grim.

The mercury was headed Down Under for sure. And at 15 below, few critters would stir. The daytime high, for those who were counting, would hover near 10 without ever mounting.

Alas and alack, the transportation department did say, be mighty damn careful, as you go on your way.

Well-traveled roads were shined up and icy, which often makes driving conditions quip.

Capt. Dave Neal, of the Idaho State Police, was advising all drivers the roads were like grease. The high mountain passes are apt to be slick, so his advice was not to drive quick.

Be wary when crossing bridges and overpasses, often the site of horrific car



J.R. Miller guides a sliding train of shopping carts while Brandon Titmus and Stephen Smith push the load across slippery snow Tuesday afternoon at the Fred Meyer store. Motorists also were treated with slick roads during busy traffic hours Tuesday.

masty but not even slow it. Add extra time and don't be in a hurry. Steer a straight course when the snow starts to drift. If the roads are good, then you'll be fine, but if they're not, you'll spend extra time.

Be wary when crossing bridges and overpasses, often the site of horrific car

J.R. Miller guides a sliding train of shopping carts while Brandon Titmus and Stephen Smith push the load across slippery snow Tuesday afternoon at the Fred Meyer store. Motorists also were treated with slick roads during busy traffic hours Tuesday.

crashes. The reason is cool air above and below — which is why drivers should dress them quite slow.

One last thing, said Neal, who's alive: Seat belts for all, and for all, a safe drive.

Times-News staff writer William Brock can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 264.



Alisha Perry

no immediate family. "I just couldn't leave that here that."

Since receiving the packages and the 41 cards, 10 people have written back to thank the officer and tell stories about their old friend.

"Thank you so much for your kindness and consideration," wrote Ms. Taylor's friend, Betty Conroy, who lives in a small Pennsylvania town. "If you're ever up

this way, stop up to see me."

Dorothy Hagerty, Ms. Taylor's oldest cousin, said she was shocked when she got the Christmas card because she didn't even know her cousin was sick.

"It restored my faith in police officers," Ms. Hagerty said from her home in St. Petersburg, Fla.

From the letters, Ms. Perry was able to learn more about the woman she never knew.

Ms. Taylor was an only child. Her father died when she was young, and she lived with her mother most of her life.

Ms. Taylor's mother was extremely protective and forbade her daughter from going to college and pursuing her dream

Teen-ager pleads guilty in shooting

By Kent McClary Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Sam Fuller said Tuesday he was guilty of shooting a Twin Falls man as he and his friends assaulted the man in Rock Creek Canyon last summer.

Fuller, 15, pleaded guilty Tuesday to a reduced charge of aggravated battery. He was charged with attempted first-degree murder after Brad Davis, 15, was shot point-blank in the back and held early the morning of June 19.

Davis was among a group of teenagers partying in the canyon that night. Fuller and six other boys went to the canyon to settle a grudge with Davis, Twin Falls police say. Davis was shot twice in the ensuing fight.

Fuller could face up to 30 years in prison, but Tuesday's arguments centered mostly on whether he would be able to spend Christmas at home with his family.

Twin Falls County Chief Deputy Prosecutor Jonathan Brody said the amended charge carries the same maximum penalty as the attempted murder charge — up to 15 years' prison, plus 15 years for use of a firearm. Brody told visiting District Judge James May of Blaine County that prosecutors would seek prison time for Fuller.

Sentencing is set Feb. 5.

Defense attorney Keith Raark said he didn't think the evidence supported the attempted-murder charge, but conceded a jury probably would find Fuller guilty of aggravated assault or aggravated battery.

As part of the agreement, Fuller would have to get a general equivalency diploma and pay restitution to Davis. Fuller also would have to produce the ammunition and pistol used.

Doctors need the weapon because the two bullets Fuller fired are still inside Davis, said Karen Thomas, Davis' mother. If Davis suffers ill effects from the bullets, they would have to be removed. Thomas said, and doctors want to know what they're dealing with.

Detectives investigating the shooting never found the gun. Fuller supposedly threw the gun over Shoshone Falls, Thomas said.

Twin Falls police say Fuller was known to carry a .25-caliber handgun.

Fuller's father, Royce Fuller of Twin Falls, said he did not know his son had a pistol. He said he doesn't know where the gun was, but he has been unable to talk freely to Sam Fuller while visiting in jail.

The bulk of argument Tuesday was on Raark's motion to reduce Sam Fuller's bail while he awaits his February sentencing. The bail is now \$25,000. Raark suggested \$25,000 cash, surety or property so Fuller's parents and grandparents could pledge property as collateral for his release.

Please see PLEADS, Page A2

Officer who found woman's body mails Christmas cards, gifts

The Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA — When 77-year-old Margaret Taylor died alone in her home this month, she left a table full of unfinished business: Christmas cards and wrapped presents that were never sent.

But the police officer who found the body took care of that.

Officer Alisha Perry stamped the cards and mailed them along with the packages, sending along a note telling Ms. Taylor's friends that she had died.

"I'm sure she would have wanted you to have them," wrote Ms. Perry, who got involved after neighbors told her Ms. Taylor had few friends nearby and

of studying art. Instead, Ms. Taylor took care of her mother and retired after decades of work as a saleswoman at a local department store.

She never married.

She kept in touch with Ms. Hagerty and her other cousins mostly by exchanging cards during holidays. They rarely, if ever, saw each other.

Ms. Perry, who is married and has a son and a daughter, said she usually distances herself from her work, acting as the dispassionate professional. But this case was different.

"I just think that any person with any sort of compassion would have done the same thing," she said.

THE REGION

Camas Prairie

High: 20 Low: 8
Partly cloudy after fog, and low clouds dissipate. Local afternoon wind. Mostly sunny Christmas after fog and clouds dissipate.

Treasure Valley

High: 33 Low: 16
Patchy fog and low clouds this morning. Mostly sunny by afternoon. Sunny Christmas after fog and low clouds dissipate.

Sawtooth Mountains/ Wood River Valley

High: 16 Low: 9
Partly cloudy after fog, and low clouds dissipate. Local afternoon wind. Mostly sunny Christmas after fog and low clouds dissipate.

Eastern Idaho

High: 17 Low: 3
Scattered snow showers. Northeast wind 7-15 mph. Change of snow showers tonight. Mostly cloudy Christmas.

Northern Idaho

High: 33 Low: 25
Isolated snow showers early, then partial clearing by tonight with areas of clouds and fog by Thursday morning. Light winds.

Northern Utah

High: 26 Low: 10
Snow likely accumulating 1-2 inches more by noon Thursday. Light winds. Strong descending winds. Strong canyon winds by Thursday.

Northern Nevada

High: 23 Low: 8
Isolated snow showers. Continued cold. Partly cloudy tonight and Christmas Day.

MAGIC VALLEY FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Christmas	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High: 27 Low: 11 Slight change of snow showers, then partly cloudy and breezy.	High: 26 Low: 12 Mostly sunny after fog and low clouds dissipate. Continued cold.	High: 24 Low: 12 Morning fog and low clouds, then sunny.	High: 26 Low: 14 Morning fog and low clouds, then sunny.	High: 28 Low: 20 Chance of snow. Continued cold.

IDAHO Weather

Wednesday, Dec. 24
AccuWeather® forecast for daytime conditions and high temperatures

Coeur D'Alene	28°
Idaho Falls	17°
Boise	30°
Twin Falls	27°
Pocatello	21°

NATIONAL Weather

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Tune to the National Weather Service radio band at WHF-FM 162.4 or 162.55 MHz. The Internet address for Idaho Transportation Department road reports is: <http://www.state.idaho.gov/traffic.htm>

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER

Twin Falls	Precipitation
Yesterday 24	9
Month to date	2.46
Normal	40
Year to date	2.88
Normal year to date	2.84

Idaho	Highs/Lows
Boise	29/21
Burley	22/11
Fairfield	m/7
Hayden	m/7
Idaho Falls	16/6
Jerome	19/9
Leaviston	15/10
Malad	24/2
Malla	13/2
McCall	20/-2
Pocatello	19/2
Salmon	19/1
Stanley	11/12
Sun Valley	m/1

The Nation

City	Max	Min	Pcp
Albuquerque	13	3	.10
Atlanta	50	44	...
Boston	14	21	...
Chicago	37	32	...
Dallas	45	15	.86
Denver	45	22	...
Des Moines	12	10	...
Detroit	10	20	.05
Honolulu	84	70	...
Houston	62	56	.54
Indianapolis	17	15	...
Kansas City	38	35	...
Las Vegas	53	42	...
Los Angeles	65	46	...
Memphis	48	41	...
Miami Beach	81	71	...
Minneapolis	31	20	...
Minneapolis	32	28	...
New Orleans	61	59	.22
New York	41	35	...
Oklahoma City	17	15	...
Omaha	32	29	...
Phoenix	54	40	.09
Portland, Ore.	41	32	.18
Reno	40	14	...
Salt Lake City	48	14	...
Salt Lake City	12	16	...
San Francisco	57	38	...
Seattle	40	38	...
Spokane	30	22	.01
Washington	55	35	...

Canadian Cities	High	Low
Calgary	29	12
Edmonton	23	12
Toronto	11	29
Vancouver	39	35

Jury convicts 'Carlos the Jackal'

PARIS (AP) — A French court on Wednesday convicted the aging revolutionary known as "Carlos the Jackal" of the 1975 murders of three people, including two French investigators, and sentenced him to life in prison.

The verdict capped an eight-day trial in which the Venezuelan-born Ilich Ramirez Sanchez, linked to some of the Cold War's most sensational terrorist attacks, was unable to refute evidence tying him to the 1975 shootings of the two investigators and a Lebanese national in an apartment in Paris' Latin Quarter.

"Viva la revolution!" Ramirez proclaimed after hearing the verdict. He smiled at the audience and shook his fist in the air four times as police guards ushered him from the courtroom.

The nine-member jury deliberated for nearly four hours before convicting Ramirez of the shootings of investigators Raymond Dous and Jean Donati, and Palestinian militant Michel Munkhal, who Ramirez said betrayed him.

The two agents of the DST — France's FBI — were investigating attacks earlier that year on Israel's El Al airlines at Orly Airport when they were gunned down.

Kaczynski's lawyers offer to withdraw insanity defense in Unabomber case

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Theodore Kaczynski's lawyers offered to withdraw his mental illness defense if they could see schizophrenia as an argument to save his life should he be convicted of being the Unabomber, lawyers disclosed in court Tuesday. The government turned down the deal.

U.S. District Judge Crawford Burrell Jr. said he is prohibited from entering into such negotiations. He said he will decide what role psychological testimony will play in the trial before opening statements, now set for Jan. 5.

With all parties virtually conceding that a guilty finding is likely, Burrell also ordered defense lawyers to notify him within 10 days if they plan to introduce psychiatric evidence in their bid to save Kaczynski's life in the penalty phase.

Guilty

Continued from A1

Under the instructions from U.S. District Judge Richard Macy said, the jury was allowed to consider the lesser charges only if they were unable to find premeditation in the eight first-degree murder charges, covering the federal agents who died in the blast.

Involuntary manslaughter, which alone carries no more than six years behind bars, was defined for the jury as "the unlawful killing of a human being without malice." This would be a "lawful act done without due caution, which might produce death."

After the jury was dismissed, defense attorney Michael Tigar and New Mexico on Tuesday. Southern California and Midwest: The Southwest storm headed eastward during the afternoon, spreading more snows across the Plains from the Texas Panhandle into Kansas and Oklahoma. Related thunderstorms brought hail and flash flood watches for parts of Texas and Louisiana.

Northeast Snow fell across much of upstate New York and northern New England, with up to 8 inches in Maine by midafternoon. Schools opened late or closed in upstate New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

Across the Nation

Idaho: An upper level disturbance provided cloudy skies with areas of light snow in central and southern Idaho Tuesday afternoon. A ZF300 plane, satellite and radar indicated most of the snow was located over the east central mountains as well as south central and southeastern Idaho. Snow accumulations were light to that point. However, moderate snow had developed in the Burley area. Cold temperatures prevailed across Idaho with low locations clearing above the freezing mark. Light snow persisted across southeastern Idaho, with significant accumulation by this morning.

Southwest: A storm draped snow on Arizona

Anger

Continued from A1

"Sometimes I feel like it's bleeding," she said, her voice cracking as she choked back tears. "It's just so much. Forty some hours and six days, involuntary manslaughter. It's just tough to take."

District Attorney Bob Macy shook his head in disbelief at the verdict and promised to seek state murder charges.

"I am very surprised. I'm familiar with the evidence. I have a hard time understanding how the jury could reach that verdict," Macy said. "I will move forward with the state case as quickly as possible."

Raymond Washburn, who was on the third floor when the bomb went off said, "The verdict came down and it something we have to live with. If he gets the death

Pleads

Continued from A1

May ruled bond would be left as is. Fuller jerked his head in disappointment when he had announced the ruling, as if he had been slapped.

Before that decision, Roark leaned his arguments heavily on what he said was Sam Fuller's diagnosis as a "victim" of attention deficit disorder and hyperactivity.

Roark said Fuller has been prescribed Ritalin to counteract the symptoms.

"We need to know if it is going to work in something other than a penal setting," he told May.

Fuller's age has left him in solitary confinement for most of his 17 months in Twin Falls County Jail, Roark said, with no exercise and no television.

Reduced bond and release on house arrest would "permit a 15-year-old boy to be home with his family for Christmas," Roark told Macy.

In rebuttal, Brody said over Fuller's juvenile record, which includes drug use, fighting, suspensions from school and probation violations.

In September 1995, Fuller assaulted a student — who spoke mostly Russian — while riding on a school bus, Brody said. Fuller also was suspended from the school attached to the juvenile detention center for fighting, Brody said.

Fuller tested positive in December 1996 and again in February 1997 for marijuana use, and overdosed on prescription drugs, Brody said.

"He also was involved in a case of malicious injury to property, Brody said.

"Himself said Davis won't be home for Christmas. Davis is physically capable of going home but will stay away for safety, she said.

Doctors say Davis is lucky to be alive, because the bullet in his head probably would have caused death if it had been closer to the center of the brain, Brody said.

Davis was shot in the top of the back of his head and in the back. He is partly paralyzed and has motor-control loss, memory loss and vision difficulties, Brody said.

Davis was discharged from Elks Rehabilitation Hospital July 29, Thomas said.

"He has a wonderful outlook, and a wonderful attitude," Thomas said. "He has a lot of natural inner strength. I've seen a lot of

INTERSTATE AMUSEMENT THEATRES...

Wishes Everyone A Happy Holiday Season!

SEE OUR AD IN TODAY'S PAPER FOR THIS WEEK'S MOVIE LINE-UP OR CALL THE INFORMATION LINE AT 734-2400.

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Vicki L. Ferrera, circulation director

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Guilty

Continued from A1

As Nichols was led from the courtroom, he looked stunned and licked his lips. Tigar took his hand and patted him on the shoulder. His brother, James, stood in the courtroom and muttered: "It ain't fair."

At the site of the bombing in Oklahoma City, a hush settled over a small group of bombing victims and family members as they heard the verdict under media tents in a driving rain.

"I don't think anything a jury comes up with would surprise anyone," Jim Denny, whose two young children, Brandon and Rebecca, were injured in the bombing.

Oklahoma County District Attorney Bob Macy shook his head in disbelief as the innocent verdicts were read. He said he would immediately seek 160 state murder charges against Nichols for the others who died in the blast.

"I am very surprised. I'm familiar with the evidence. I have a hard time understanding how the jury could reach that verdict," Macy said.

Anger

Continued from A1

hard time understanding how the jury could reach that verdict," Macy said. "I will move forward with the state case as quickly as possible."

Raymond Washburn, who was on the third floor when the bomb went off said, "The verdict came down and it something we have to live with. If he gets the death

penalty will be satisfied."

Aren Almon Kok, whose year-old daughter, Beverly, was injured from the bomb scene by a fire-fighter said justice had been done.

"I think the jury did a good job," she said. "I'm very happy with the outcome. When the initials are over, it'll be a time for healing. I'm hoping there won't be a state trial."

Dr. Paul Heath, a bombing survivor who longer suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder and relatives, said he can live with the verdict.

"The jury struggled but I'm satisfied that they did their job," he said. "I think any jury that's selected the way this jury is selected gives a fair verdict."

positive changes out of him."

Brody said Fuller has not taken advantage of opportunities for treatment of anger and other problems. "His parents haven't proven fully capable of getting him treated and getting him controlled," Brody said, arguing against Roark's request for home release.

"They've always had him in their home, and there have always been laws against committing crimes, and it's still happened," Brody said.

Roark said Fuller said his son had graduated from an anger-management course. He and his wife had to find their son help for his attention deficit disorder, he said, because the country's juvenile detention center wouldn't provide help.

"He's a pretty good kid. Fighting at school, but kids are going to be kids, and teachers and cops aren't going to be able to stop it," Royce Fuller said. "I'm not saying he's no angel, but he's not as bad as (Brody is) making him seem."

Royce Fuller admitted his son has had his share of run-ins with the law.

"He's had his share of problems, but every time he's violated on probation, he's gone to jail. It's not like he ran," Royce Fuller said. "I put it in him, if you've done wrong, you've got to face up to it."

May is handling the case after the original trial judge, District Judge Renger Burdick, declared a conflict and turned the case over because Thomas is a probation and parole officer for Twin Falls County.

NATION IN BRIEF

INS to help immigrants know rights

Global warming pact may win approval

WASHINGTON — Some members of Congress are "in heavy denial" about global warming but Congress eventually will approve a landmark agreement to reduce fuel emissions by industrialized countries, Undersecretary of State Timothy Wirth said Tuesday.

In a farewell news conference as he prepares to head broadcast executive Ted Turner's \$1 billion foundation to assist the United Nations, Wirth said he was no surprise that the accord was under attack on Capitol Hill.

"I mean, there are a number of people on the Hill who are in significant denial about the issue of climate overall," Wirth said. And so are their constituents, the former Colorado senator said.

He said opposition to the climate control agreement was reminiscent of the way parts of the energy industry had opposed unleaded gasoline, arguing that it would destroy engines and then the economy.

Microsoft says it complies with court order

WASHINGTON — Microsoft Corp. Tuesday disputed the Justice Department's contention it was flouting a court order by offering "a dysfunctional version" of its Windows 95 software to computer makers who don't want the company's Internet Explorer browser program.

In court papers filed here, Microsoft argued that it was doing exactly what the Justice Department sought and U.S. District Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson ordered Dec. 11 when he barred the company from requiring manufacturers to purchase a bundled version of Windows 95 and the Internet Explorer web browser.

Microsoft was "in full compliance" with the court order when it offered manufacturers a stripped-down version of Windows software without the browser, the company said in court papers. Microsoft had warned computer makers that removing the browser from more recent versions of Windows 95 would disable the program.

"There is no way to remove part of the Internet Explorer 4.0 ... without also 'degrading' other functionality of Windows 95 because the exact same code provides both types of functionality," Microsoft told the court.

Man beaten by teens at his family's tree lot

HILLSBORO, Ore. — A man was beaten nearly to death at his family's Christmas tree lot by as many as a dozen teenagers after arguing with them the night before about tossing bottles near the property.

One of two boys armed with baseball bats smashed Richard Underwood Jr. in the head during the fight. Underwood's brother, an uncle and a family friend suffered minor injuries.

"Police arrested a mob of 15 for disorderly conduct and another for investigation of assault. Investigators were questioning about 30 boys identified as either participating in or witnessing the Dec. 16 attack.

The boys range from 15 to 19, police said. Five to eight of them stood by and watched the fight, which involved eight to 12 teenagers.

Pioneering technique saves dying girl's life

MIAMI — All her life, 6-year-old Ashley Phillips has wanted to play and run and jump like her twin sister.

She soon may get her wish, despite being born with a diseased heart that has made almost any physical activity extremely difficult.

Doctors used a pioneering surgical technique to mend her heart last week. She almost died during the repair attempt. But by Wednesday she was in stable condition, and her progress surprised even the doctors.

"It is the best Christmas wish you can get," the girl's mother, Nicole Phillips, said Monday as Ashley recovered at Miami Children's Hospital. "They've taken six years of my life that was mine, Iason, didn't even believe her. 'I told her she was a fruit-bull,' Sanderson said.

Lottery winner says dream told numbers

CONCORD, N.H. — The numbers came to her in a dream and now the former telephone operator and her husband, who wrestles under the name "The Wolfman," are sharing a \$66 million lottery prize.

Mary Sanderson woke up last Wednesday with six numbers dancing in her head. She played them that afternoon at a store in Manchester and won the multistate Powerball lottery jackpot.

The numbers were 3-13-18-45, and the Powerball was 20. "They came to me in a dream, and no, it didn't have anything to do with the Psychic Network," she said. When she won, her husband, Iason, didn't even believe her. "I told her she was a fruit-bull," Sanderson said.

Sanderson, 32, said he will keep his job as a printer at Yankee Screen Printing, though he did give his boss back the raise he recently received. He will also continue wrestling for charity under the name "The Wolfman." Mrs. Sanderson, 36, has already quit her telephone company job.

San Francisco outlaws most tobacco ads

SAN FRANCISCO — Joining a nationwide trend, San Francisco passed a tough ordinance that would outlaw tobacco advertising in most of the city.

The Board of Supervisors on Monday unanimously banned tobacco ads on billboards, bus shelters, sandwich boards, banners, signs and posters visible from the street. Violators could be fined up to \$100.

The ordinance, which still needs Mayor Willie Brown's approval, permits tobacco advertising on vehicles and on billboards facing most highways. Stores can run advertising inside as long as it can't be seen from outside.

Woman hurt at Macy's parade out of coma

NEW YORK — A spectator who was injured when a giant balloon at the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade went out of control has emerged from a coma, her lawyer said.

Kathleen Caronna, 34, had been in a coma at St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital for almost a month and was listed in serious but stable condition Monday.

World Bank OKs \$3 billion loan to S. Korea

WASHINGTON — The World Bank approved a \$3 billion loan to South Korea Tuesday, providing the money with unusual speed to stave off loan defaults that could send shock waves through the global financial system.

Normally, major World Bank loans take as long as a year to negotiate.

Officials said the action, part of a record \$57 billion bailout package, was aimed at achieving long-term stabilization and growth in the world's 11th largest economy.

Continued from who reports

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government says it will do more to make sure that immigrants — even ones who enter the United States illegally — know their civil rights and how to register a complaint if abused by border control officials.

"We insist on proper treatment, on humane treatment, on polite treatment of people that are coming into the country whether their documents are correct or not," Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner said at a news conference Tuesday.

Human rights groups have compiled reports of beatings, shootings, rapes and even deaths that allegedly have occurred at the hands of border patrol agents. And immigration advocates complain that although the INS has nearly doubled patrols in the past four years, its resources for dealing with complaints of civil rights abuses have not kept pace.

English-Spanish posters and complaint forms have been displayed in immigration processing centers since 1996, but next year, the INS also will distribute pamphlets and organize community meetings to explain how to make



Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner gestures during a news conference at the INS in Washington, Tuesday, to discuss an advisory panel report on the agency.

a complaint, Meissner said.

The agency also will publicly distribute copies of its policies on the use of force, firearms, pursuit, searches and its powers to arrest, interrogate and detain people.

A new training program will introduce INS employees to immigrant community leaders, and INS supervisors will get hand-

books that include instructions on how to properly investigate complaints.

Meissner announced the plans in response to findings by a citizens' advisory panel created by Congress to recommend ways the INS can better handle complaints against its employees.

The panel of private citizens,

Department of Justice and INS officials, and a representative of the Mexican government conducted a two-year review and concluded in a Sept. 30 report that the public lacks information about and confidence in the INS complaint process.

"There's too much confusion. Too many people fall through the cracks," said panel member Edward J. Tully, director of research for FBI National Executive Institute Associates in Fredericksburg, Va.

Poor coordination between internal INS investigations and criminal probes by the Justice Department also create the "potential for serious violations to go unactioned," the citizens' panel said. Meissner has responded by requesting an interagency working group to review new complaints and ongoing cases on a weekly basis.

The INS in 1997 received about 230 complaints involving allegations of physical abuse, down from about 350 in 1996, according to John Chase, director of the INS Office of Internal Audit. Total grievances were up to about 1,800 this year from 1,553 last year.

A hold-the-line budget plan; no big tax change

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton will seek more federal spending for education while providing targeted tax breaks in areas including position control and child care in his new budget.

But the spending plan the president sends Congress in February will reject Republican calls for a major overhaul of the tax code or an acceleration in the deadline for negotiations to surplus.

Instead, Clinton's proposed budget for the fiscal year that begins

next Oct. 1 will take a hold-the-line approach that conforms to the broad outlines of last summer's balanced budget agreement, administration officials said Tuesday.

The president has decided to reject calls from Republicans to offer a major tax simplification plan in his budget, which will be sent to Congress Feb. 2, although Clinton aides said this does not rule out the possibility of an administration tax simplification proposal later in the year.

But any plan will have to meet Clinton's goals that it be fair to the middle class, good for the economy and not overturn the goal of reaching balance by the 2002 deadline set in the balanced budget agreement, officials said.

"For those who are actively pushing reforms it is important for them to get very detailed and specific about how much it will cost who would be hurt and who would benefit," Gene Sperling, head of the president's National Economic

Council, said in an interview.

Various Republicans and even some of Clinton's fellow Democrats have come forward with tax reform proposals, including major simplification that would allow taxpayers to file their returns on a post card and total elimination of the personal income tax in favor of a national sales tax.

Anti-cystic fibrosis inhalant gains approval

WASHINGTON (AP) — A few puffs from an inhaler and cystic fibrosis patient Brett Barker now can fend off the dangerous lung infections that once regularly hospitalized the Seattle teen-ager.

Dr. Peter D. Brant, Drug Administration approved the nation's first inhaled antibiotic Tuesday, a medicine called Tobo that promises to improve the lungs of thousands of patients like Barker.

Cystic fibrosis is so lethal that most patients die before they're 30, so patients had clamored for the new inhaler. Manufacturer Pathogenesis Inc. said the drug will be available by prescription the week of Jan. 5.

"I can change the quality of life for a patient. They feel better, they function better, they have more exercise capacity," said Robert J. Beall, president of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation.

"I was breathing easier and coughing less. ... I noticed at school, in P.E., I could keep up with my friends during the running days," said Barker, 15, who had been hospitalized every six months for lung infections but had been hospitalized during two years of testing Tobo.

Cystic fibrosis is an incurable genetic disease that afflicts about 30,000 Americans. Most patients die of lung failure as thick, sticky mucus clogs their airways and traps bacteria that cause infection.

Particularly dangerous is Pseudomonas aeruginosa, a bacterium that afflicts 80 percent of CF patients by adulthood — and that increases their risk of death by eight times.

The standard treatment is intravenous tobramycin, usually given in a hospital. But even the best

patients lose 2 percent of lung function every year, and doctors can't give higher, more effective doses because the drug's path through the bloodstream can severely damage kidneys and cause dizziness.

So doctors hunted ways to get tobramycin straight into the lungs. Tobo, or tobramycin for inhalation, appears to increase patients' lung function up to 11 percent during six months of treatment, an important improvement.

It is inhaled twice daily for 28 days. Patients then take a 28-day break before starting the therapy cycle again, a regimen designed to reduce chances that the bacteria mutate into untreatable strains.

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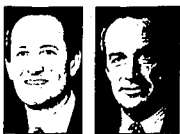
The Times-News

IDAHO/WEST

Idaho delegation opposes another oversight agency at waste sites

The Associated Press

Members of Idaho's congressional delegation on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency intends to duplicate other federal efforts at a New Mexico nuclear waste repository, a case of "mission creep."
Sens. Larry Craig and Dirk Kempthorne, as well as Congressman Michael Crapo, have told EPA Administrator Carol Browner they oppose her agency's plans to duplicate the role of the U.S. Energy Department in certifying the safety of sites currently holding transuranic waste bound for storage at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant.
The three Republicans said Tuesday that would only cost more and cause further delays as the Energy Department works to open WIPP. The EPA's policy change was buried in 260 pages



Mike Crapo Dirk Kempthorne

of procedures detailing that agency's October decision to certify the safety of WIPP, pending public review.
They said EPA's new role has not been addressed in supporting documents and exceeds what Congress intended for Browner's agency regarding WIPP certification.
The three lawmakers noted Congress fully intended for the EPA to play a part in ensuring the underground operation is

safe. But they contend the EPA is proposing to go beyond that responsibility by inspecting sites such as the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, where transuranic waste bound for New Mexico is currently held.
"Waste generator site certification by the Department of Energy — with EPA as an observer, but not certifying authority — is and has been a basic tenet of DOE's operational plan for WIPP," the lawmakers wrote.
The trio also pointed out EPA inspectors have taken part in seven Energy Department audits of waste generator operations since 1995, and 11 other quality performance assessments for WIPP.
Never once did those inspectors express any concerns about the Energy Department's quality assurance work, they said.

Idaho river among heritage nominees

WASHINGTON (AP) — Nearly two dozen rivers in the West are among those being considered nationally as candidates for President Clinton's new river heritage program.
Communities across the United States have submitted 126 nominations asking that their local rivers be among the 10 American Heritage Rivers to be designated by President Clinton next year. The application deadline was Dec. 10.
Residents of Columbia County,

Ore., nominated their stretch of the Columbia River for the honor.
Oregon's Willamette River also is on the list of candidates, as are the Huerfano and Snakehead rivers in Washington state.
The Clearwater River was nominated in both Idaho and Montana. Montanians also nominated the Yellowstone and Missouri rivers.
Other candidates include the San Joaquin River in California, South Platte River in Colorado

and Rio Grand River in New Mexico.
President Clinton unveiled the initiative in his State of the Union Address last January as a way to provide national recognition to voluntary river restoration efforts.
Although it calls for no new spending, it has drawn sharp criticism from several West conservatives, including Reps. Helen Chenoweth, R-Idaho, and George Nethercutt, R-Wash.
Chenoweth, Reps. Richard Pombo, R-Calif., Bob Schaffer, R-Colo., and Don Young, R-Alaska, chairman of the House Resources Committee, have filed suit to block the program.

SNOW PLAY



Kristy Bozarth, 12, left, and her brother Scott, 14, enjoy the snow and a game with their dog Sabrina Tuesday at their home near Rainier, Wash.

Murders spook Bingham jury pool

BLACKFOOT (AP) — Many prospective Bingham County jurors are not doing their civic duty by returning questionnaires to the county clerk's office.
With two first-degree murder trials scheduled in January and February, county officials are urging residents to turn in their completed forms, as required by law.
Twice a year, a computer selects 1,500 names from a master list of 10,000 registered voters and motorists to receive questionnaires.
Lately, more people have failed

to return them.
"We've had a real problem," Jensen said.
Recipients have 10 days to return the forms. If they fail, reminder cards are sent. They then have another 10 days to return the questionnaires.
If there is no response, the people are notified they have 10 days to explain their inaction before a magistrate.
"They receive an order to show cause which means they have to haul their carcass in to court and tell it to the judge," Jensen said.

The court seldom fires individuals in the matter, but this time the clerk's office has asked it to do so.
Jensen does not understand why people do not want to do their part.
"We get all kinds of stories," she said. "But people need to realize that if they were defendants, they would want the best jury made up of the widest cross-section of society possible to hear their case."
Jensen said simply doing one's civic duty saves county officials valuable time and expense.

WEST IN BRIEF

Utah historian S. George Ellsworth dies

LOGAN — S. George Ellsworth, noted Utah historian, author and teacher, died Monday at age 80.
Ellsworth, who died of kidney failure, was a retired Utah State University History professor.
Ellsworth joined the USU faculty in 1951 and began a career that would put him at the forefront of Utah historians. He retired in 1983 after teaching scores of students Utah, U.S. ancient and Greek history. He served as chairman of the history department for three years in the 1970s and was named the university's top teacher several times. Ellsworth is survived by his wife, Maria Ellsworth, an author who often worked with her husband on writing projects; and two sons, Mark and Steven. Funeral arrangements are pending.

Washington picks trail river crossing site

SPOKANE — A former railroad crossing just west of downtown has been selected as the site of a new bridge to complete a portion of the Centennial Trail across the Spokane River.
The state Parks and Recreation Commission mailed a proposal for putting the wooden bridge atop existing concrete abutments in the river at High Bridge Park, planners said Monday.
Now, planners hope to convince the U.S. Forest Service to hold up \$200 to \$400,000 grant, first approved in 1991 but never used because a site had not been selected. Forest Service money is involved because the bridge would be a showcase project for wood construction.

County clerk rejects flood referendum

GRANGEVILLE — Despite the signatures of more than 2,300 people calling for a special election to repeal an Idaho County flood-plain ordinance, County Clerk Rose Gehring said no election will be held.
"The decision to not hold an election is made in good faith and in reliance on legal advice I sought and received from various sources including the Idaho attorney general's office and the Idaho County prosecuting attorney's office," Gehring said Monday in a prepared statement.
Deputy Attorney General William von Tegen told Gehring in a Dec. 16 letter that "the instant referendum petition is likely not a valid method of amending or repealing the zoning ordinance."

Police double reward over school damage

IDAHO FALLS — School district officials have doubled a reward to \$2,600 for information regarding vandalism at a local junior high last week.
Police say Taylorview Junior High School was broken into early last Wednesday. Computers were smashed, windows broken and tables and bookcases knocked over.
Police estimate the vandals did about \$30,000 in damage to the school, about a third less than an original estimate.
Wednesday's incident marked the third time in four months the school was vandalized.

Compiled from wire reports

El Niño may prove to be friend to park's bison

BOZEMAN, Mont. (AP) — The bison of Yellowstone National Park may have found a new best friend: El Niño.
The Pacific weather phenomenon blowing warm air across the continent may be doing more to keep the bison safely within the park than all the lawsuits, court orders and protests combined.
By this time last year, 49 bison had been shot in the field or shipped to slaughter along the park's western border.
So far this winter, none have been shot or slaughtered and the park's bison are staying mostly inside the park, Yellowstone spokeswoman Stacy Churchwell told the Bozeman Daily Chronicle. A few bison have wandered outside the park's western border but so far the manage-

ment tool of choice has been to chase them back into the park, the newspaper reported Tuesday.
The El Niño weather pattern is creating warm, dry weather across the Northern Rockies this winter — annoying skiers and making farmers who depend on irrigation uneasy. It also is leaving Yellowstone Park with a relatively light coating of snow and, so far at least, keeping the bison at home.
Last winter, heavy snow had accumulated by this time.
At the park's west entrance near West Yellowstone, Mont.,

the snow was 17 inches deep on Monday. On Dec. 22, 1996, it was 36 inches deep.
At Canyon Village, just north of the bison-rich Hayden Valley, there is 18 inches of snow now. A year earlier there was 52 inches, almost three times as much.
Across the park, snow depth was from 60 percent to 300 percent greater last year. Only at Mammoth Hot Springs, one of the driest locations in the park, are snow depths comparable. There are five inches this year and there were six inches of snow last year.
Plus, abundant summer rains

produced plenty of feed this summer, although figures comparing production of the two years were not available. The shallower snow also makes the more abundant feed easier to reach and could keep bison in the park.
Numbers of bison also are down, partly because almost 1,100 of them were shot or shipped to slaughter last winter and partly because many other animals froze or starved to death in the park during the bitter winter.
There were 3,400 bison in Yellowstone in the fall of 1996.

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WORLD

Market dive signals tough times for S. Korea economy

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — South Korea's beleaguered stock market suffered its steepest drop ever Tuesday as the country awaited a new \$3 billion loan from the World Bank.

At the same time, the president-elect warned that South Korea may not be able to pay its bills.

The selloff was prompted by another lowering of the nation's credit rating, which put further pressure on Korea's chances of obtaining new bank loans or keeping foreign investors in its financial markets.

It also raised questions about whether a \$57 billion bailout arranged by the International Monetary Fund will be enough to stem the crisis.

"The reality is that we have no money," President-elect Kim Dae-jung said after discussions with top U.S. officials. "We don't know if we can manage tomorrow or the day after. I worry about this day and night."

The 181-nation World Bank was expected to approve a \$3 billion loan to South Korea late Tuesday. That followed a decision last week by the Asian Development Bank to provide a \$4 billion loan.

The two loans are part of the IMF bailout, but are expected to provide more immediate financing to help Korea meet its short-term debts of \$15 million due by year's end.

But the country has another \$1 billion due in January, and debts maturing in the next 12 months total around \$100 billion.

"Unless you can persuade commercial banks and other lenders to roll over the debt, \$57 billion from the IMF is not going to be enough," said Sung Won Sohn, chief economist at Norwest Corp. in Minneapolis.

Standard and Poor's lowered South Korea's long-term credit rating four notches, putting it even deeper into the junk-bond ranks than Moody's Investors Service had the day before. The new rating is on a level with countries such as Pakistan and the Dominican Republic.

The downgrades hurt the stock market directly because many investment funds that aren't allowed



A Korean Exchange Bank clerk adjusts the conversion rate of the Korean won against the U.S. dollar Tuesday at the bank in Seoul.

to invest in countries with such low ratings had to sell Korean holdings. The benchmark Korean Composite Stock Index plunged 7.5 percent, shedding 29.70 points to 366.36 and bringing its losses since mid-June to 54 percent. The Korean market rallied last week and is still short of its 10-year low of 350.68 reached earlier in the month.

Gunmen kill at least 45 in Mexico

ACTEAL, Mexico (AP) — A column of gunmen descended on an Indian village, opened fire with AK-47's and hunted down those who tried to flee, including terrified mothers with babies.

In all, 45 people were killed in southern Mexico's worst explosion of violence since a leftist uprising three years ago.

Word of the massacre, which occurred midday Monday, was spread Tuesday by survivors and peasant groups, who said about 70 gunmen loyal to a local faction of Mexico's ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party marched through the village firing indiscriminately.

The attack came as villagers were in the church, praying for an end to the violence that has festered in impoverished Chiapas state.

"We were in the church praying when we heard the shots and everyone went running in every direction," said Juan Vazquez Luna, 15, whose mother, father and four sisters were killed. Three other siblings were wounded.

Villagers fled down the mountainside toward the river, they said. Women hauled babies in shawls. Men carried toddlers by the waist. People tripped on the undergrowth as they rushed down the hill.

The gunmen followed them, continuing to fire, witnesses said. Some in the packed crowd along the river were covered in blood.

Forty-five people were killed and 11 were wounded Monday in the massacre at Acteal, according to Chiapas state Gov. Julio Cesar Ruiz. It was the deadliest attack since rebels of the Zapatista National Liberation Army rose up to demand rights for Indians in January 1994, a conflict that killed 139 people.

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WORLD IN BRIEF

N. Korean aid talks slow over monitoring

BEIJING — Talks between North and South Korean Red Cross officials on delivering food to the famine-stricken North slowed Tuesday over Seoul's demands for proof that donations are reaching starving North Koreans.

After more than 90 minutes of talks at a Beijing hotel, officials said they would consult with headquarters and return for a third day of meetings Wednesday.

Chang Moon-ik, a spokesman for the South Korean Embassy in Beijing, told reporters there would be "domestic political repercussions" if the South Korean Red Cross failed to obtain concessions.

South Korean officials are worried that aid is being diverted to the North Korean military, and want to send observers along with food shipments.

Southeast Asian countries focus on haze

SINGAPORE — Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia agreed on a plan Tuesday to fight haze in Southeast Asia, following one of the region's worst environmental crises.

The regional accord was reached during a two-day meeting in Singapore of health and environment officials from the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

Under the plan, Malaysia will work out policies on combating haze-producing fires, Singapore will monitor the blazes and Indonesia will bolster its firefighting capacity.

The regional haze problem stems primarily from traditional agricultural practices in Indonesia of burning land to clear it. Aggravated this year by El Nino, a climate change phenomenon that delayed monsoon rains, the fires raged out of control for months, causing massive pollution and respiratory problems.

Restless Yeltsin returns to work at Kremlin

MOSCOW — In a compromise with his doctors, President Boris Yeltsin spent three hours working Tuesday at the Kremlin before returning to the sanitarium where he has been recovering from a bad cold.

Yeltsin met with half a dozen top aides, signed several decrees and issued recommendations to parliament, presidential spokesman Sergei Yastzhenzkiy said.

The best medicine for the president is coming back to work," Yastzhenzkiy told a news conference.

Yeltsin also sent New Year's greetings to foreign leaders, including President Clinton. In that message, Yeltsin cited the inclusion of Russia into the G-7 and the signing of a Russia-NATO treaty as key achievements in 1997 and stressed the importance of Russian-U.S. cooperation, Yastzhenzkiy said.

Officials edge away from Ebola in deaths

NAIROBI, Kenya — Some residents of northeastern Kenya have died from an undiagnosed illness, medical experts confirmed Tuesday as they tentatively ruled out Ebola hemorrhagic fever as the cause.

The experts also said they were unable to confirm the number of deaths, which local newspapers said was up to 143 by Tuesday.

The newspapers said the dead had suffered from diarrhea, vomiting and bleeding from the nose and mouth.

Virologist Dr. Peter Tukei, who attended a meeting Tuesday on the issue at the World Health Organization's regional headquarters in Nairobi, also discussed Ebola, saying bleeding from the mouth and nose can be absent in severe cases of dysentery.

Compiled from wire reports

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EDITORIAL

Yes Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

Nearly a century ago, young Virginia O'Hanlon sent the editor of *The New York Sun* a question that still perplexes parents: "Is there a Santa Claus?" Her letter was turned over to Francis P. Church, and his eloquent reply was published in *The Sun* on Dec. 23, 1897. *The Times-News* is pleased to reprint its wisdom on yet another Christmas Eve.

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of the *Sun*:

"Dear editor:
I am 8 years old.
Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.
Papa says 'If you see it in *The Sun*, it's so!'
Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?
Virginia O'Hanlon
115 West 95th Street"

Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect - an ant - in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.
Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to

your life its highest beauty and joy. Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virgins. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance to make tolerable the existence. We should have no enjoyment, except in sense and sight.

The eternal light which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus; but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart.

Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance can push aside the curtain and view and picture the supernatural beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.

No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.



God with us: What if we knew it to be true?

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and his name shall be called Emmanuel" (which means, God with us).
—Matthew 1:22-23

JANIE MCALISTER POPE

God with us. All-powerful, all-knowing, unbound by time, so "other" that our limited minds cannot grasp his fullness. God WITH us. Not over or away, not like a distant judge or absentee landlord. Beside us. A constant companion. God with US. Failing, failing, ungrateful, self-seeking, confused, undeserving humankind. It's an astounding concept when you think about it - which we don't for the most part. Even at Christmas, we give little thought to the idea of God among us. We isolate God's nearness to a baby born two millennia and half a world away. Christianity asserts that in the person of Jesus, the producer of this world stepped into his own play and took a key role. But we sometimes behave as though he bowed out after one short act, perhaps to reappear before the final curtain call. Was God only with us for 33 years? Or did the brief life of Jesus reveal in a

direct, dramatic way what had always been true and remains true today: God is with us? And if we know this to be true - if we were to have an acute awareness every day that God is alongside us - how would it affect how we live? How would it change how we feel, how we act? We might be more inclined to laugh, to take some matters less seriously because we could see them in God's perspective. We might especially laugh at ourselves, not in derision but out of a more clear view of our comic self-importance. We might be more inclined to cry, especially when we came across the wounded and the outcast and the poor. If we saw God's tears, too, we might be more willing to share what we have been given and to reach out to those in need. We might loosen our grip on things and people, trusting that our own needs will be met. We would open our homes and our hearts. We would actively look for ways to make our community a better place - a nurturing, wholesome place. We would be less likely to callously reject those who differ from us for we could see God at our side welcoming them.

We might carry ourselves a little taller, knowing the company we keep. We might be more aware of wonder. And grace. We would see it all around us. Our own misfortunes would still hurt, but they would be easier to bear with a friend's comforting arm around us. We might avail ourselves of the wisdom of the ages. We might even seek advice before charging wildly into a new challenge. We would be confident without arrogance, strong without bullying, gentle without frailty. We would take on the character of the one closest to us. If we were aware each moment of the love enveloping us, how could we fail to love? If we were aware each moment of the care surrounding us, how could we fail to hope? If we were aware each moment of the peace enfolding us, how could we fail to rejoice? Yes, everything might be different if only God were with us, here and now. The message of Christmas: He is.

Janie McAlister Pope is deputy editor of the editorial pages of *The Charlotte Observer*, P.O. Box 30308, Charlotte, N.C. 28230-0308.

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LETTERS

A heart-felt thank you to readers
Long ago, a little girl was curious about the reality of Santa Claus and asked her father to explain. In order to adequately satisfy her curiosity, her father suggested that she write a letter to the editor of the local paper and ask his opinion. All of you are aware of the beautiful story written by the editor and titled "Yes, Virginia, There is a Santa Claus." That question answered with that story can all remember from long past and makes us remember this holiday season.

This story of the sacred Christmas holiday has become the meaning of the word "miracle," believe in miracles. They happen. Miracles have occurred in my life. Not once but several times.

Finding an answer to my search for my brother is one, and I am thankful for that. I am grateful to your newspaper for giving me the space to make my quest known. I must thank all of you kind people who assisted by sending clippings from the paper, those who sent lovely cards and caring letters, letting me know that you all know the sorrow of loss but knowing also the love one has for another excels all other experiences.

If I have one wish for this holiday, it would be to be able to thank each of you for your letters, cards and telephone calls. They came by the dozens. Maybe this letter to your local paper will be the next best way to fulfill that wish at this time. What a lovely and caring place I'd like to know how my brother wanted to stay there.

I sincerely wish all of you a glorious holiday season and may your new year fulfill your wishes.

HAZEL ANNE M. BURNETT
Kerrville, Texas
(Editor's note: Hazel Burnett wrote to The

Times-News to ask for help in finding her brother, Floyd R. Moxley. Numerous readers responded with her that her letter had appeared to print the same day as her brother's funeral.)

El Reno would make a good dog
In response to the letter to the *Times-News* dated Dec. 17 by Betty Galvin: It was just last March (28) that you wrote your earlier harangue about our fine upstanding Republican congressman. This was on the same subject as your latest investigations. I should think you might consider getting on a new subject. Perhaps if you have to continue on this one, you'd like to comment on the reason these investigations into the present administration's conduct are necessary and proper.

Your comment about fixing, writing or otherwise contacting our talented and honorable congressman is right on the mark (the only one I could find), but your subject of the contact was, as usual, wrong. I would like to see you have added that we should do the contacting to let them know how much we appreciate all they are doing for their country and for us here in Idaho.

Please, if all your friends are sick (the people you talk to), by all means, get them well - listen to Rush Limbaugh each day and they will get over their sickness with a dose of the truth within one week. Guaranteed!

By the way, I read recently that if you want a friend you should get a dog. And then also noticed that Slippery Willy has done just that. Don't agree with the name, though, it should have named his dog friend in El Reno. Now there's a good friend to have.

ROBERT A. JOINSON
Hansen

Going on our out-of-date merry way

Merry Christmas!
What an odd thing to say.

Every December this expression blooms extravagantly for a week or two and then vanishes again. Because it's traditional, because we've heard it periodically all our life, we scarcely notice how queer it is. Merry? Who says "merry" anymore, except in playing for a while that has long been frozen hard, icebound and invariable. Yes, at Christmastime there's "Merry Christmas," and in a freshman's composition you might catch "a merry twinkle" in an old man's eye. Only if your tastes are antiquarian might you come across "the merry, merry month of May" or the charms of "Merry England." No one, certainly, "makes merry" anymore.

Merry is as out of date, out of fashion and out of favor as its cousins glee and mirth. It belongs on the endangered species list; in "Merry Christmas" and "merry twinkle" the poor old word is hanging on for dear life. Merry is not modern. Merry is not hot. Merry is not hip. Merry is not cool. Nonetheless, merry somehow thrives at this time of year. This is optimism's big season. Most of our lives is spent in a tug of war between hope and fear, with optimists pulled more one way, pessimists more the other. At Christmas and New Year's, hope and glad tidings gain the upper hand. People say "Merry Christmas" and "Happy New Year" to each other just for the fun of it, out of some happy instinct that would be inexplicable to them at any other time of year.

LAWRENCE G. PROULX

Pessimists also thrive in this season. Those who aren't temporarily converted find it especially annoying to see the optimists so swollen with hope and the egregious commercial pitchmen so swollen with avarice. Such fat targets they both make!

Nowhere is the battle between hope and fear more impassioned than in matters of health. A sudden dizziness, an unfamiliar pain, and immediately the mind wonders: Are we hearing the first shuffles in what may become a long, horrible battle?

Getting old poses a further challenge to hope. Things fall apart, the bladder cannot hold. What better reason for dismay than wrinkles and gray hair, joints croaker than the cellar stairs, several pairs of glasses to mix up and mislay? One had better have a sense of humor as the body's various parts and functions go on the friz.

Studies show that while pessimists are more likely to be right, optimists more likely to be happy. But any fact one hauls into the argument can be used equally well by either side. Take for example "We're all going to die," a bulwark of pessimism. If all this effort is to be rewarded by death, then why bother? Hand the line over to the optimists, though, and you get something like: Since we'll soon be in its grave, then why not join me now under this lovely mistletoe?

This century's art has been at the expense of the 19th's hopefulness. English writer Graham Greene once ended a short story by calling a dying man's affectionate gesture "only one more indication of a human being's capacity for self-deception, our baseless optimism that is so much more appalling than our despair." He was fortunate that he could write novels; he would never have made the grade at Hallmark.

New Year's resolutions? Come on. Things are never going to change; if we were going to quit smoking or pigging out every night before bed we'd have done it long ago. Let's not kid ourselves. You're reading a self-help book? What a sap!

The only thing sillier than these hopeful resolutions is pessimism. Things are never going to change, except for the worse? Many people say so, but deep down they don't really believe it. If they did, it would be Jack Kerouac rather than Santa Claus for whom the snack on the mantelpiece is left. Just about everyone wants to believe in life; scotching is just the noise made by someone whose optimism is out of shape. Obviously we moderns have a long way to go, but perhaps the journey will be easier if the pessimists and optimists within us make peace and cooperate. If we're optimists enough to keep putting one foot in front of the other and pessimists enough to wear a warm hat and check the map occasionally, then maybe, even if not all long after dark, we'll find the road once more to merry.

Lawrence G. Proulx is a health writer and editor for the *Washington Post*.

Doonesbury

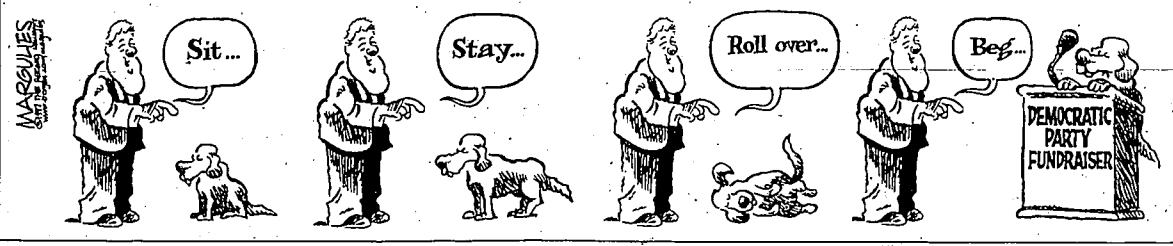
By Garry Trudeau

Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley

Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau



Now is an appropriate time to save the world's economy

This is the only time of year we can talk about "saving the world" without irony, so let's do it. We are about to be called upon to do pretty much just what the IRS — or it behooves us to invest some thought in exactly how we are about to invest \$100 billion (or take a couple of billion) in saving the world economy.

As William Greider, one of the few truly well-informed voices in journalism on the global economy, observes in the Dec. 15 issue of *The Nation*, "The apologists' claim that this is some strange 'Asian flu' — and thus no concern to Americans — is both condescending and ludicrously wrong. Americans will pay, dearly and directly, in multiple ways, the contagion of collapsing currencies and stock markets is vivid confirmation of the new internationalism that globalizing corporations and financiers have fashioned. But it is also the logical consequence of their reckless, unregulated global system."

I know — just what you wanted to hear at Christmas time: World currency collapse is upon us. O tidings of comfort and joy.

The first thing to do is understand how we got into this pickle. The *New York Times*, which, like



MOLLY IVINS

everyone else, is about six months to a year behind Greider, concluded on its front page Dec. 22 that what we have here is a global version of the S&L crisis. Unregulated bankers ran amok, and now we're being called upon to pay the tab. Well, yeah, but there are some larger economic fundamentals, as well.

Greider writes: "The widening gap between an expanding production base worldwide and the inability of consumers to buy all the new output is the central subtext of the present crisis. The multinationals know the reality of overcapacity because they control it daily."

What we have here is an enormous version of what Henry Ford figured out back in 1914. Ford unilaterally raised all his workers to \$5 an hour, it then unheard-of sum, on the sabbath grounds that he needed them to be able to buy the cars they were making. An industrialized system cannot flourish or even endure, he said,

if the mass of workers can't buy what they produce. This may strike you as a "doh" proposition, but as we all know, the stupidity of bankers is never to be underestimated.

Greider writes: "Insisting on freedom for the exploited workers — 'bringing the bottom up' instead of knocking higher wages down — is only one of the many stimulative measures demanded to reverse the negative cycle now gaining visible momentum. The Fed, Germany Bundesbank and other central banks need to start dropping interest rates, right now. Governments obsessed with cutting spending to appease bondholders need to re-examine the reigning orthodoxy, right now..."

"I think the current turmoil signals an end to the supply-side era that has ruled the world since Reagan's election in 1980. The doctrine was straightforward: Cut taxes (and government) to benefit the wealth holders and corporations so they will make new investments, that is, build new supply, more output. Wage inequalities, we were told, do not matter. Neither does the demand side of the economy. But now the truth has trickled down: This is wrong not just for people, but for economies."

Greider goes on to consider the implications of our trade deficit, and what he calls the "debt-soaked condition of the American consumer." (You know if you just kept reading long enough I was going to make you feel guilty about overspending on Christmas one more time, didn't you? Don't worry — if the experts aren't making us feel guilty for overspending, they're trying to make us feel guilty for not spending enough. I say we're not the guilty ones here, the bankers are, so let them eat guilt.)

Greider points out: "Despite the celebrating, the Clinton recovery is distinctive in that the median household income has still not recovered from the last recession and remains below the 1989 level. And household debt is at a dangerously high level — another reason the reflation of wages is a necessary part of any cure..."

"The obvious opening for maximum leverage intrudes here: Congress confronts the bailout packages that the Clinton administration hopes to execute for Southeast Asia, mainly through the IMF and World Bank, but also indirectly from the Treasury and the Federal Reserve..."

As Greider also notes, the International Monetary Fund's

usual forced-austerity measures — cut wages and public spending, raise interest rates so that endangered banks can clean up their balance sheets) not only induce needless suffering among people who were themselves innocent of excess but they're also pulling in the wrong direction — further depressing the global system and adding to the problem of inadequate demand.

There is a better way to do this — by stimulating growth and wages while nations clean up

their bad debts — away that works better, is fairer and puts us to help workers all over the globe and do some good for the environment while we're at it. Now all we have to do is convince Congress — and I think we're going to find a lot of Republicans on our side on this one.

And this one is, as they say in California, The Big One.

Molly Ivins is a columnist for the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

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Merry Christmas,
from
The Times-News.

LETTERS

Seems that money can buy anything at White House

An article in *Time* magazine June 9, 1997, exposed illegal and fraudulent activities in the White House (Vice President Gore) and the Department of Energy regarding nuclear waste "cleanup" contracts awarded by the DOE to Bill Haney of "Haney's Molten Metal Technology." Most of these are multimillion-dollar contracts and contract extensions.

Fraudulent activities also include renewing contracts over the objections of government scientists.

The Massachusetts businessman (Bill Haney) often gave large campaign contributions to the vice president and the Democratic Party and, in return, received several federal contracts and contract extensions from the DOE.

Examples: (1) Bill Haney gave \$15,000 from his firm to the Democratic Party on March 24, 1994, and received a \$9 million extension of his federal contract the same day; (b) he gave \$10,000 from his executives to the Clinton-Gore team on June 14, 1995, and received a \$10 million extension of his contract the same day; (c) he gave \$10,000 from his firm to the Democratic Party on May 7, 1996, and received an \$8 million extension of his contract on May 10, 1996; (d) he gave nothing directly, but partner Lockheed Martin donated \$100,000 to the Democratic Party on June 27, 1996, and received a \$27 million contract on Sept. 25, 1996, to the part-time formed with Lockheed Martin to develop a cleanup plan for a site in Richland, Wash.

Why has this illegal activity been allowed to continue for so long? Why didn't the appropriate Government Oversight Committee take corrective action long ago to stop this fraudulent and wasteful activity?

Our government is deeply in

debt and yet our own vice president and the DOE have collaborated to defraud the public out of millions of dollars.

Worse, government scientists objected to these contracts and extensions and repeatedly challenged the effectiveness of Bill Haney's Molten Metals Technology. In November 1995, these scientists recommended funding for Haney's cleanup contracts be stopped, and they are still unable to certify his cleanup equipment works effectively and satisfactorily.

In view of the above, I urge all Idaho citizens to contact their congressional delegates and request appropriate action be taken immediately to stop this wasteful and illegal activity.

Vice President Gore is also expected to be a presidential candidate in the 1998 general election. I urge everyone not to vote for Gore.

VAUGHN PETERSON
Burley

Horrible music helped dampen Christmas spirit

Well, we've been Christmas shopping. Our Christmas list includes one house, of all things. We've looked at a long string of dumps, trying to keep within our means. Along the way, we bought flannel sheets, a vacuum cleaner and a new computer. I don't know. I've spent so much money on things I just can't do without, like music on compact discs. I made the mistake of buying a CD featuring Mariah Carey and another by Michael Bolton. After scanning each disc, I threw both in the trash with some coffee grounds, sat down and wrote the following:

O lords of music, hear this prayer: Music was meant to be softly intoned, to be crooned and caroled, warbled and hummed. Crises! Whatever happened to the songstress and minstrel of old whose melodious voices sage clear every word?

Lords, if you please — spare me Michael Bolton's and Mariah Carey's car-splitting screams. I'm tired of squealing, nuzzles and moans, those high-pitched sounds are tearing my ears.

So, lords, to you I implore: Give me more low-down, baritone sounds. You know — like Wayne Jennings and Tanya Tucker's whiskey-drenched, guttural songs.

And, lords, what is it with heavy metal and rap? That ain't music, good lords — that's purely noise. Fact is, if you call my feelings to hang all out, I'll say it loud and clear right up front: That raucous gabble is downright crazy!

Well, lords of music, that's my prayer and simply put. You probably think it's dumb and foolish, even far out, but what the hey — I gave it a try. I ain't used to much pray'n, matter of fact, and this here prayer is asking a lot. But if you can only do me one simple thing, please! Take away those pig-squealing, car-splitting screams! Amen.

Like some of today's music, Christmas didn't turn out to be what the composer put down. And ain't it that we humans scurry around like so many ants, buying this, buying that, useless gifts that quickly wear out or wind up in the trash or the "returns here" desk?

Next year, I'm gonna join the Scrooge Society and probably, whoops! buy more CDs I won't like. But for now: Happy Ho Ho Ho to one and all.

BERT AND DOROTHY JEAN
EAMES
Burley

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COMICS

Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz

HE HAS THESE REINDEER SEE AND THEY FLY THROUGH THE AIR PULLING HIS SLED.

AND IF YOU BELIEVE THAT, I HAVE A GOLD BIRD NEST THAT I'll SELL YOU FOR A DOLLAR!

HAHAHAHA!

MERRY CHRISTMAS LITTLE FRIEND.

Dilbert By Scott Adams

HI. I'M DAN, THE TILOGICAL SCIENTIST THAT SOFTWARE YOU'RE WRITING WILL NEVER WORK, AND I CAN PROVE IT.

I DON'T MEAN TO BE RUDE, BUT IT'S NOT LOGICALLY POSSIBLE TO PROVE SOMETHING CAN'T BE DONE.

IT'S IMPOSSIBLE FOR MOST PEOPLE, BUT I'M A TRAINED SCIENTIST.

DID THE TRAINING INVOLVE ELECTRIC SHOCKS?

B.C. By Johnny Hart

DO YOU HAVE ANY GIFTS WITH A RELIGIOUS THEME?

CERTAINLY.

WE HAVE THIS WETLY ROADSIDE INN, WITH A "NO ROOM" SIGN THAT LIGHTS UP AND PLAYS "GRANDMA GOT RUN OVER BY A REINDEER."

Garfield By Jim Davis

I REMEMBER CHRISTMASSES BACK ON THE FARM...

CHRISTMAS EVE EVERYONE WOULD GATHER AROUND THE TREE-AND-SING CAROLS.

OH-HH BOY!

OF COURSE, THE COWS WOULD JUST HUM ALONG.

JUST A LITTLE MORE INFORMATION THAT IS NEEDED.

Hi and Lois By Chance Brown

WHERE ARE YOUR BRAND-NEW SHOES, DITTO?

I GAVE THEM TO DAWS TO BREAK IN FOR ME!

CHOMP SLURP

The Wizard of Id By Brant Parker & John Hart

"CLACKY CLUMP"

THAT'S GOTTA BE EITHER...

CLUMP CLACK!

REINDEER ON THE ROOF.

"OR I GET BURGER WEARING TAP SHOES"

Hagar the Horrible By Chris Brann

I'M GOING OUT TO DO MY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING, HELGA.

ONE OF THESE YEARS YOU'RE GOING TO BE SORRY YOU WANTED TO LAST MINUTE!

NONSENSE! WHAT COULD GO WRONG?

Beetle Bailey By Mort Walker

WILL YOU BE SANTA CLAUS FOR OUR PARTY?

I'LL HAVE TO WARM UP FOR IT.

HO HO HO HO!

HO HO HO HO

HE SHOULD HAVE STARTED WARMING UP IN SEPTEMBER.

Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

YOU MUST BE "DANCER".

REINDEER CHECK-IN DEC. 24

The Bom Loser By Art Sansom & Chip

REMEMBER THOSE IN NEED!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

WELL, THANK YOU, MRS. DUCKERLEBER! AND DOES YOUR GIFT QUALIFY FOR A CORPORATE MATCHING GIFT FROM YOUR PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT?

For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

AREN'T CHRISTMAS EVE GREAT, MOM?

YES.

IT'S THE ONLY TIME I SEE YOU PEOPLE HAVING SOMETHING UP!

Blondie By Dean Young & Stan Drake

BOY, IT'S AWFULLY CHILLY TODAY.

IT SURE IS.

AND THAT'S WHAT I HATE ABOUT THIS TIME OF YEAR.

YOU NEVER KNOW HOW TO DRESS IN THE MORNING.

Pickles By Brian Crane

WHAT ON EARTH ARE YOU DOING, NELSON?

IM PRACTICING FOR MY PART IN THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT.

REALLY? WHAT PART DO YOU HAVE?

IM ONE OF THE SHEPHERDS.

Dennis the Menace By Hank Ketcham

"I THINK I CAN STILL SEE A LITTLE BIT OF THE FLOOR."

The Family Circus By Bil Keane

"Know what? Baby Jesus was smarter than all three wise men put together."

A pearl from T. Jefferson

"In matters of principle, stand like a rock. In matters of taste, swim with the current." — Su said, Thomas Jefferson, who did a little of both.

Long before your time and mine, junk food was called "lubberwort."

Seek pleasure. Avoid pain. Su advised that philosophical Greek Epicurus. That convinced almost everybody he was smart. It's also true that Epicurus thought the sun was about two feet in diameter.

In 1934, France's Charles de Gaulle put out "The Army of the Future," a book of his bright ideas on how to mechanize warfare. From his German designers picked up considerable counsel to create their Panzer divisions. These in 1940 drove the Germans attack to defeat France. Morak: Your ego is of interest to the enemy.

Any young man in search of a romantic partner ought to watch the parade. Our Love and War man didn't say that. Odd id. In his "The Art of Love." He was of the opinion

WHAT'S WHAT?
L.M. Boyd

IF DECEMBER 24 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You are musical, have unusual voice; appreciate drama, theater and people who have talent, no matter what their financial status. Taurus, Libra, Scorpio promise playing interesting roles in your life; could be these letters or initials in names: E, O, X. Early this past year, you handled more responsibility, but don't worry; spotlight was on marital status. During 1998, you complete project, travel featured. August most memorable.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Let go of any tendency toward comfort of mediocrity. Focus on fullness, completion of exciting project, possibility of journey overseas. Libra plays exciting role.

TARUS (Feb. 20-May 20): Spiritual values highlighted; you won't soon forget this Christmas Eve. Attention gained from those who previously suspected indifferent. Questions concerning marriage born later.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Transform humor into profundity; family members consult you, involves music, spiritual values and that Christmas means. Emphasize on love, motivation, marital status.

CANCER (June 21-July 23): Christmas Eve celebration. You will receive banks, travel material that includes but not limited to. You also will be delighted by game involving skill and luck. Sagittarian featured.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23): Extra visitor should not be reason for dismay on this holiday. Delay or apparent shortage; give more providential. You'll be asked questions concerning Star of Bethlehem.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Very active Christmas Eve for you. Focus on reading and writing, teaching, providing entertainment for guests. Gemini means. "You make everything so clear, and I'm so appreciative."

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): Holiday music dominates; you'll make crystal clear that prayers for peace on earth are meaningful. People comment on seeing a new you. Aries, Taurus and another Libra will be involved.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Blend passion with sensitivity involving feelings. Focus on high world; you'll have right touch in making this holiday memorable, momentous. Gift received concerns welfare, vacation.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Secrets exchanged; could involve game that makes this holiday fun, as well as spiritual. What was hidden is revealed, be sure that each guest gets equal attention. Share responsibility.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): You will assert, "I am fascinated by the spirit of this holiday and I want to share my enthusiasm!" Complete project, maintain creative control, reach beyond narrow religious structure.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Make fresh start; emphasize bright lights, decorations. Christmas tree that shares meaning good will and joy. You'll receive compliments from those you admire — emphasize originality color.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Focus on family, share holiday with those present and others in distant cities by telephone. World traveler returns, is back in family bus. Cancer native will play major role.

Tuesday's Puzzle solved.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	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
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79	80	81	82	83	84	85	86	87	88	89	90	91
92	93	94	95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104

ACROSS

- Sausman's poods
- Go on snow
- Future sheep
- Over
- 15 Golf score
- 16 Beach towel
- 17 Treat with cartilage
- 19 Of the sun
- 20 Slightly shy
- 21 Cost per unit
- 22 Two high notes
- 23 Hattans
- 24 Randolph or Zachary
- 25 Wooden shoes
- 28 Holes in the together
- 31 Mugs and
- 32 Is concerned
- 33 Actress Gardner
- 34 Swiss range
- 35 Deadly poisons
- 36 Fed
- 37 Hot beverage
- 38 Sootiness
- 39 Mel of caroons
- 40 Medicinal tubes
- 42 Itty-bitty
- 43 Weighty volumes
- 44 Nightgown
- 45 Of a wedding
- 46 Hat a balm
- 47 Adorn of the diamond
- 48 Burning
- 49 Mince, maybe
- 52 Florida resort
- 54 Roy's Dale
- 55 Eat a balm
- 56 Aluminum company
- 57 Actress Taylor
- 58 Fur in stretch
- 59 Actress Close
- 51 Whipped messages
- 52 Squabbles
- 53 Kiss Me ...
- 54 Floppy ropes
- 55 Tokes on
- 56 Wreath of solar
- 57 Grizzly
- 58 13 certain
- 59 Ship Dealers
- 60 Post-workout
- 61 Woes
- 62 Working allies
- 63 Tons of
- 64 Skeddies
- 65 Ring of
- 66 Black Stone
- 67 Including GOP and Democrats
- 68 Ship Dealers
- 69 Post-workout
- 70 Bakers' chambers
- 71 My HE
- 72 France
- 73 Menor's fees
- 74 King of bread
- 75 Lawyer
- 76 Drink of Christmas
- 77 All together
- 78 Shapeless seat
- 79 41 Thyroid
- 80 All treatment
- 81 Mine car
- 82 Flue of an
- 83 Organization
- 84 South African pioneer
- 85 Speak wily
- 86 Hard to find
- 87 49 Computer
- 88 image
- 89 Comparative word
- 90 "Stano
- 91 "Street" network
- 92 Building wing

AROUND THE VALLEY

Local man killed in semi-truck collision

TWIN FALLS - A collision with a semi truck Monday night killed a man.
An Idaho State Police report said Michael W. Swisher, 38, of Twin Falls and Rupert was driving eastbound on Golf Course Road in Jerome County at 11:23 p.m.
Swisher failed to stop for the stop sign at the intersection with U.S. Highway 93, the report said. He pulled in front of a semi tractor trailer driven in the southbound lane by James Nobel, 30, of Tacoma, Wash., the report said.
The semi hit Swisher's car broadside, the report said. Swisher was not wearing a seat belt and died in the collision.

Freezing temperatures mean pipes must be protected

TWIN FALLS - With temperatures well below freezing, the city water department is urging homeowners to take defensive measures to protect their pipes.
One good idea is to open up cabinets under sinks, allowing warm air inside. Many sink cabinets abut exterior walls, and temperatures inside the cabinets are lower than in the rest of the house.
Another well-tested trick is to trickle cold water from faucets that are vulnerable to freezing. The logic is that running water is more difficult to freeze than still water.
Wrapping pipes in, 110-volt "heat tape" around vulnerable pipes is another strategy for protection of precious plumbing.

Turning holiday trees in for mulch can reduce landfill

TWIN FALLS - City residents can participate in an ongoing waste reduction program conducted by the Twin Falls City Street Department.
The program helps reduce waste ordinarily deposited in a landfill by chipping Christmas trees into mulch in the interest of environmentally sound waste management.
Trees need to have all ornaments, wires, lights and plastic bags removed. The drop off site, east of the Animal Shelter at Sixth Avenue West, will be open Friday through Jan. 5.
For more information, call Sherry Jeff at 736-7541.

Power company gives ways to lower heating bills

TWIN FALLS - Idaho Power Co. has several suggestions for keeping heating bills lower during this cold season.
The utility recommends lowering thermostat settings at night and during times when you're going to be away from home for an extended period.
The company also recommends checking furnace filters monthly and replacing dirty filters that can reduce furnace efficiency.
Another way to reduce heating bills is a heat pump tune-up. Idaho Power offers a \$20 rebate on tune-ups from participating furnace repair shops or dealers.

Rehab class for chronic lung disease begins Jan. 6

TWIN FALLS - A program designed to educate, physically rehabilitate and motivate people suffering from chronic lung disease begins Jan. 6.
Magic Valley Regional Medical Center offers the eight-week session.
The outpatient programs meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the county hospital. The cost is about \$1,000 and can be covered by insurance and Medicare.
The program works with people who suffer from conditions such as emphysema, chronic bronchitis, cystic fibrosis, asthma and other restrictive diseases. Patients will learn breathing techniques, disease management and ways to better manage activities of daily living, diet and oxygen use, as well as an exercise plan and how to deal with emotional aspects of living with a lung disease.
For more information, call the hospital's cardiopulmonary department at 737-2090.

Compiled from staff reports

TN Interactive

'Tis the season for leftovers. Have you ever had a bad experience from eating them?
The Times-News is preparing an article on holiday leftovers and food safety, and would like to talk with readers who've gotten sick on second-day fare, both takeout and home-prepared. If you'd like to share your story, give us a call.
Contact staff writer Steve Crump:
• By phone, 733-0931, Ext. 223.
• By fax, 734-5538.
• By e-mail, crump@magic-valley.com

Holiday mail route's not so bad



Ray Ford said it is not the letters, but the parcels, that make his job hectic this time of year.

Goodies and greetings await postal workers

By Pat Marcanotino
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - On his route, postal worker Ray Ford picked up a letter addressed to "Santa Claus, North Pole."
A sure sign it's Christmas time. And there were more signals along the way.
"In this cold weather, you don't see too many people, but the ones I see are generally happy," said Ford, 59, covering his route Tuesday along the president streets in Twin Falls.
"This morning I got a plate full of goodies," he said. "They do want to show you're appreciated by giving you something."
The accompanying card said, "Merry Christmas to Our Postman."
That's Ford.
For 25 years, he has walked from house to house with the mail. The day before Christmas Eve he won't particularly loaded down, he says. Monday was busier because mail collected over Sunday, but he still carries plenty of Christmas cards and packages.
At 7 a.m., Ford placed the mail onto his truck at the Pioneer Station on

Please see MAIL, Page 63

Ambulance responses cause concern in Gooding County

By Sharon Metcalf
Times-News correspondent

GOODING - Getting Gooding County's ambulance service in shape has been Krista Merrill's goal since spring.
Now, the director of the county's emergency medical services has another goal: to protect her turf.

Unistar, Jerome County's newly hired ambulance service, has responded to two or three ambulance calls in Gooding County.
Merrill said she would request the Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center 911 dispatch network to pull the tapes on the calls. And Merrill said she might ask Gooding County Prosecutor Phil Brown to ask if misdemeanor charges could be filed against Unistar.

A 1973 ordinance requires all ambulance services to get a county license to operate within Gooding County. Violations are punishable by up to a \$300 fine and a 30-day jail sentence.
During one call to SIRCOMM, a dispatcher requested an ambulance on the Bob Barton Highway towards Wendell, in Gooding County. Merrill said she then called SIRCOMM, and said the dispatcher was ignorant when she asked if SIRCOMM was going to dispatch Gooding EMS.

SIRCOMM and Unistar have different views on the issue.
SIRCOMM manager Gloria Falconberg was unaware of the incidents Merrill discussed with Gooding County commissioners Monday. Unistar would have been sent to Gooding County only if it had been requested for a particular run, or if SIRCOMM's computer system said Unistar should be sent to an address near the Jerome-Gooding county line.

Dave Davis, Unistar operations manager, says Unistar was unaware of the Gooding County ordinance until it had received a letter from county officials. In each Gooding County case, though, Unistar told SIRCOMM to call Gooding EMS. Unistar proceeded on the calls until Gooding EMS was dispatched and on the scene.

On the Bob Barton Highway call, Unistar notified Merrill that it was Gooding's call.
"Two of these calls were just five miles from Jerome on the county line," Davis said. "I would like to pull the tapes from SIRCOMM which will show that on all three calls, we instructed them to call Gooding."

"Two of these calls were just five miles from Jerome on the county line. I would like to pull the tapes from SIRCOMM which will show that on all three calls, we instructed them to call Gooding."

- Dave Davis, Unistar operations manager

Because the Public Employees Retirement System has become self-funded this year, entities can opt out of the system without the usual penalties. Commissioners listened to several proposals from companies who would replace PERSI with their own 401(k) retirement plans.
Commissioners requested employee presentations prepared by January or February. A change would require approval of 50 percent of employees, and two of the three commissioners.
Commissioners will seek remodeling advice for renovating the Fralin property, with a better idea of costs involved for plumbing, rewiring and other work. Sheriff Shaun Gough said he could assign a work crew to tear out a dummy wall in the middle classroom.

Judge sends burglar to work

'Good friends encourage you to do what's right,' judge says

By Penelope Reedy
Times-News writer

BURLEY - Raymundo Lara, 20, who pleaded guilty to burglarizing El Mexicana restaurant on Overland Avenue on Aug. 5, has been sentenced to 1 1/2 to 5 years in prison, suspended, three years probation and 90 days in jail with work release.

Lara must report to the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center on Christmas Day at 7 p.m.
District Judge George Granata Jr. said he was reluctant to grant probation, as Deputy Prosecutor Howard Smyser recommended, since Lara had an extensive juvenile record.
"People in this community are tired of people breaking into their homes and businesses," Granata said.
A tape deck, tapes, a microwave oven, a cellular phone and some cash were taken in the break-in.

Lara told the court he really didn't know why he did it.
"I was to be the watch, but I went inside," he said.
"Do you think being intoxicated makes you not responsible for this?" Granata asked. "Has anybody broken into your house? What would you think of that?"
"I'd be upset," Lara said.
"Based upon your juvenile record, I should clearly send you to Cottonwood," Granata said.
Lara said he has been sober since September and trying to stay away from his cohorts.
"Friends get you in trouble," Lara said.
"Good friends do," Granata replied. "Good friends encourage you to do what's right."

Times-News staff writer Penelope Reedy can be reached in Burley at 677-4042.

SEASON OF GIVING



Freddy Gonzalez, 7, and Alicia Gonzalez, 5, anxiously await the arrival of Santa to their Kimberly home Tuesday. A group of helpers from East End Providers also came along and left boxes of food and gifts for the children. The organization handed out 138 baskets for needy families in the Kimberly, Hansen and Murtaugh areas.

Cabbie couple calls it quits

By Kurt Flidemann
Times-News writer

BURLEY - At 11:59 p.m. tonight, the Mini-Cassia Cab Co. will be out of business, which means holiday revelers will need a designated driver to get home safely.

Owners of the Paul cab company, Floyd and Helen Fleetwood, said they are moving to New Plymouth and no longer want to pay the \$1,800-a-year insurance premiums.
"We are interested in a change of scenery," Floyd Fleetwood said.
The Idaho Transportation Department technician said the irregular hours were hard to handle, and he worried about his wife driving the Mercury Sable with drunken fares.
"There is quite a bit of night work," he said. "I didn't like sending my wife out there."
But bar-goers made up only about 50 percent of the clientele, Floyd Fleetwood said.
"We'd take people to the Twin Falls

airport from the Burley Inn," he said.
The Fleetwoods tried to sell their business, but three weeks of advertising yielded only one phone call.
"I was really surprised," Floyd Fleetwood said. "The business paid for itself."
But the cab company needed some patience to get on its feet, he said.
"I think if I had a little bit more time it would do a lot better," he said. "I really believe the business is here."
Dave McClure, the manager of the Office Lounge in Paul, said the Fleetwoods made a pickup at his bar a couple times every two weeks.
"I'm really sorry to see them go," he said. "There definitely is a need for their kind of business around here."
Dick Russell, owner of the Blue Room in Rupert, recalled a recent occasion when he himself could have used the couple's cab service.
"I sure would support a business like that all I could," he said. "For anybody that's coming in I think they could make a good living."

MAGIC VALLEY/IDAHO

FOR THE RECORD

IDAHO ROAD REPORT

BOISE (AP) - Tuesday road conditions from the Idaho Department of Transportation:

Idaho 55 - Boise-Horseshoe Bend, dry; Horseshoe Bend-Donnelly, wet, icy; Donnelly-McCall, broken snow floor.

75-Carey, dry; Arco-Idaho Falls, icy, broken snow floor; Idaho Falls-Adrian, icy; Adisan-Montana line, icy, broken snow floor.

State official signs 'landmark' contract for private prison

BOISE (AP) - Board of Correction Chairman John Hayden has signed a "landmark" contract to build and operate a 1,250-bed medium and maximum security state prison.

3,000 beds if needed. Eight qualified bids were opened in September.

DEATH NOTICES

Mabel L. Lohry - PAUL - Mabel D. Lohry, 87, of Paul, died Monday, Dec. 22, 1997, at the Highland Estates Care Center in Burley.

are suggested to the Hospice of the Wood River Valley, P.O. Box 4320, Ketchum, ID 83340, or the Blaine County Senior Center.

P.O. Box 28, Hailey, ID 83333. Arrangements are under the direction of the Wood River Chapel in Hailey.

William F. Torney Jr. HAILEY - William F. Torney Jr., 72, died Sunday, Dec. 21, 1997, at his home in Hailey after a long illness.

First Baptist Church in Burley, Idaho (Yates-Hoob) Funeral Chapel in St. Maries).

Services Rex Simpson of Buhl, 7 p.m. Friday at the Farmer Funeral Chapel, friends may call from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. today and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday at the funeral chapel.

GLENNIS FERRY A.J.E. (Jack) Sherman A.J.E. (Jack) Sherman, 79, of Glennis Ferry, died Sunday, Dec. 21, 1997, at his home.

Mountain States Tumor Institute, 151 E. Bannock, Boise, ID 83702.

HEYBURN Mary Kaye Moore, 44, of Heyburn, died on Monday, Dec. 22, 1997, at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Boise.

OGDEN, UTAH Ernest J. Conrad Ernest J. Conrad, 78, passed away Sunday, Dec. 21, 1997, at a local nursing home.

HEYBURN Mary Kaye Moore, 44, of Heyburn, died on Monday, Dec. 22, 1997, at St. Luke's Regional Medical Center in Boise.

OGDEN, UTAH Ernest J. Conrad Ernest J. Conrad, 78, passed away Sunday, Dec. 21, 1997, at a local nursing home.

The Times-News

U.S. Bankruptcy Court BOISE - Recent activity in U.S. Bankruptcy Court included the following:

Jerome; battery; notice of appearance rest in Jan. 18, 1998; Magistrate Judge Thomas II. Borreson.

Rightly; failure to renew driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$50 fine with \$25 suspended; \$67.20 court costs; \$67 bond.

Sentencings Dustin Barnes, 21, 400 West F. Jerome; hunting after legal hours; pleaded guilty; \$150 fine with \$100 suspended.

Dismissals Pablo Ramirez, 19, 322 W. 350 S. Jerome; leaving the scene of an accident; dismissed; failed to prove insurance.

Arraignments Travis Ron Adams, 22, 506 W. E. Jerome; domestic battery; pleaded guilty; \$150 fine with \$100 suspended.

Jerome County JEROME - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Jerome County included:

William J. Brunson, 23, 2277A E. 3300 S. Jerome; driving without proper license; pleaded guilty; \$150 fine with \$100 suspended.

Michael Wade McClain, 39, 919 E. 19th, Jerome; order to show cause/fines; no answer; pleaded guilty; \$500 bond.

Jeffrey B. Jones, 29, 110 E. Ave. D. Jerome; inattentive/unsafe driving; pleaded innocent; requested public defender.

Jeffrey Michael Walker, 31, 3567 E. 400 N. Kimberly; theft by unauthorized contact; \$200 bond; jury trial Feb. 4, 1998.

Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home 2551 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls, Idaho. 735-0011

Steve Haworth, 20, 310 W. Third, Jerome; shooting dogs after legal hours; \$150 fine with \$100 suspended.

Jeffrey Michael Walker, 31, 3567 E. 400 N. Kimberly; theft by unauthorized contact; \$200 bond; jury trial Feb. 4, 1998.

LeRoy Whitehawk, 18, 509 N. Lincoln, Jerome; attempted grand theft; pleaded guilty; \$100 fine with \$50 suspended.

Robert W. Wilson, 22, 520 Glacier, Jerome; fish and game violation; pleaded guilty; \$150 fine with \$100 suspended.

These are the faces behind our name. We are people just like you with a desire to live and raise our family in Idaho.

LeRoy Whitehawk, 18, 509 N. Lincoln, Jerome; attempted grand theft; pleaded guilty; \$100 fine with \$50 suspended.

Robert W. Wilson, 22, 520 Glacier, Jerome; fish and game violation; pleaded guilty; \$150 fine with \$100 suspended.

LeRoy Whitehawk, 18, 509 N. Lincoln, Jerome; attempted grand theft; pleaded guilty; \$100 fine with \$50 suspended.

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These are the faces behind our name. We are people just like you with a desire to live and raise our family in Idaho.

AUCTION CALENDAR THROUGH DECEMBER 27TH SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27 - 10 AM IDAHO'S LARGEST PUBLIC AUCTION!

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Adult told to stay away from minors

By Penelope Reedy
Times-News writer

BURLEY — Anthony Joe Studer II, 20, convicted of grand theft by possession in July 1996, was back in court Tuesday admitting to a Nov. 6 probation violation.

Court records say he violated probation by changing his residence without permission and having sex with a 16-year-old girl.

Deputy Prosecutor Howard Smyser told the court a letter had been confiscated from Studer at the jail. Smyser described it as a "love letter to a minor."

He asked 5th District Judge George

'Love letter' to 16-year-old gets convicted thief in trouble

Granata Jr. to stipulate in his decision that Studer have no contact with any minor females without an adult present. That would cover telephone calls, letters, or third-party messages.

"If you violate this, I'm going to arrest you as quickly as I can get an officer out there," Granata said.

Smyser said the parents of the girls were very concerned and wanted to be notified when Studer is released.

Granata reduced Studer's bond from

\$10,000 to \$5,000.

Studer pleaded guilty July 26, 1996, to possessing a Smith and Wesson .357-caliber Magnum belonging to Becky Bailes and two guns, a rifle and a 12-gauge shotgun belonging to his father, Andy Studer.

He admitted to another probation violation in January, for failing to attend anger management classes. Court records described his behavior as "out of control" since he refused to take his prescribed Ritalin.

Granata will give his final disposition on the Nov. 6 violation on Jan. 8, 1998.

Times-News staff writer Penelope Reedy can be reached in Burley at 677-4042.

Batt lauds companies' food contributions

BOISE (AP) — Gov. Phil Batt is praising the efforts of private companies like Albertson's Inc., in contributing to Idaho's food bank warehouses this holiday season.

The Boise-based grocery chain is donating five tons of food and personal items to the Idaho Foodbank Warehouse. It is estimated the donation will provide 7,500 meals to needy people statewide.

"We are well aware of the need for help and food this holiday season," Batt said Tuesday. "That's why we are making sure the state

continues to help out as well."

The Department of Health and Welfare is spending nearly \$500,000 in state funding over three years to administer the largest source of food for the needy. That comes as \$1 million through the U.S. Department of Agriculture from 1996 through 1998.

"Getting that food processed and delivered takes state money and time," Batt said. Idaho spent \$149,587 for the food bank program in 1996, \$143,000 this year and is expected to allot \$171,291 in 1998.

Group sues to force issue of gay teachers, laws

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A newly formed morality group on Tuesday sued Utah law enforcement and school officials, alleging they failed to protect students exposed to a lesbian high school teacher.

The lawsuit by Citizens of Nebo School District for Moral and Legal Values came two months after Wendy Weaver and the American Civil Liberties Union sued the district for firing her as volleyball coach and ordering her not to publicly discuss her sexuality.

Tuesday's lawsuit, filed by conservative crusader Matthew Hilton, asks a 9th District Court judge to determine whether a series of alleged incidents involving Weaver violated the state's Constitution, impinged on parents' responsibilities, amounted to child abuse or contributed to the delinquency of her students.

Carole Gnade, the Utah ACLU's executive director, was dumbstruck at what she termed the "widespread media" contained in the 27-page document.

"This is a really mean thing to do at Christmas," she said.

Weaver, a Spanish Fork High School psychology teacher, divorced her husband, left the Mormon church and moved in with her female companion last spring.

In July, the district abruptly fired her as the school's award-winning volleyball coach of 18 years and ordered her silence under threat of her job. Weaver's federal civil rights action contends the gag order is unconstitutional.

Hilton's lawsuit alleges that Weaver, a 40-year-old mother of two and the school's most successful coach, had "hot-tub parties" at her house with team members,

had them play touch football clad only in shorts and bras, discouraged and punished team members involved with boys and set up a mentor network on the team.

It claims that "many of those who were involved in the younger girl-older girl network" later announced that they were lesbians.

The lawsuit also claims Weaver spent long periods alone with students behind closed doors, witnessed pairs of team members go behind closed doors and saw overt displays of affections between girls.

Finally, it claims that Weaver discriminated the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints to students both in and out of the classroom and may have practiced psychology without a license by administering personality profiles tests to her students as part of classroom activities.

"I expected them to get dirty," said Weaver, who expressed shock at the allegations. "I would like to control" since he refused to take his prescribed Ritalin.

Hilton, a lawyer who has litigated a variety of issues involving parental rights and morality and religion in schools, is not asking for damages, injunctions or fees.

What he wants is a judge to decide whether the defendants failed in their duty to protect Weaver's students and team members by not enforcing statutes ranging from the practicing psychology without a license to requirements to report child abuse.

Besides Weaver, the defendants include Utah Attorney General Jan Graham, the state school board, the state's professional licensing division and the Utah County attorney.

Victim's death may be linked to prostitute slayings

SPOKANE (AP) — Investigators said Tuesday the slaying of a woman whose body was found dumped south of the city may be linked to a string of unsolved homicides targeting prostitutes.

The woman, whose body was found Thursday, was identified Tuesday as Shawn L. Johnson, a 36-year-old who had been missing since Oct. 29.

Johnson had no convictions for prostitution, but investigators believe she associated with local prostitutes, Spokane County sheriff's officials said.

Last month, authorities identified Johnson as one of three missing women they hoped to contact. Investigators said the three women may have had information in the slayings of four Spokane-area women killed since last summer. All four were believed to have worked as prostitutes.

In addition, five other women believed to have been prostitutes

were killed in the area from February 1990 to June 1996, authorities have said.

None of the cases have been solved and no arrests have been made.

"I believe that some of these crimes are related — how many I really wouldn't care to even guess," Undersheriff Mike Aubrey said Tuesday.

Johnson's body was found near Hangman Valley Golf Course, about a mile from the site where the remains of another homicide victim were found Nov. 5. That victim, Darla Sue Scott, had worked as a prostitute and died of a gunshot wound to the head, investigators said.

Detectives believe Johnson had been shot at another site and her body dumped near the golf course.

Investigators would not say how long they believe Johnson's body had been at the site.

A task force of two city police detectives and two sheriff's

detectives began working full-time on the string of prostitute slayings Monday. The group will receive support from other investigators as needed, assistant Spokane police chief Roger Bragdon said.

Detectives already have researched serial killings, reviewed the files of the latest local prostitute killings and set up a computer program to look for links between the cases. But until Monday, the detectives had worked on the case only part-time.

In mid-January, FBI experts will arrive in Spokane to review case files and offer advice, Sheriff John Goldman said.

"The first thing our people have to do is prove or disprove the serial aspects of the case," Bragdon said. "We haven't been able to prove anything yet."

Most of the women were either shot or strangled and their bodies dumped in out-of-the-way places. Most were either nude or partially clothed.

Light-rail exec quits California job amid controversy

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The man hired to head up the Utah Transit Authority's light-rail operations is leaving his current job with the San Francisco transit system under the shadow of a federal investigation.

David Stumpa, 41, leaves his job as chief of maintenance for San Francisco's Muni on Jan. 9.

The departure for Utah comes at the start of an extensive audit at Muni following a report last month by the National Transportation Safety Board assailing Muni's safety record.

Stumpa was quoted by the San Francisco Examiner as saying the audit was not a factor in his decision.

There is "no link whatsoever to the safety audit or anything to do with it," he told the newspaper last week. "It was an opportunity to be part of an exciting rail system start-up. It was a personal choice."

leading from Ohio to Los Angeles with a flatbed truck and tried to make an end run around the snow by dropping down through Texas to Roswell.

"I decided I would try the southern route and it was just as bad or worse than over there," he said from Price's Truck Stop.

The heavy snow also pulled down power lines in Roswell, leaving many people in the dark or without heat in the city of about 48,000 people in southeastern New Mexico. The mercury fell to 30 degrees at Roswell, which sits on the Pecos River at an elevation of about 3,700 feet.

"We were too short-handed to go out and check on all of the elderly people without electricity," said Becky Hamner, a Chavez County Sheriff's administrator. "The sheriff's posse worked all night rescuing who they could."

Storm strands travelers in New Mexico before hitting Plains

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A second day of thick, wet snow stranded travelers along major New Mexico highways on Tuesday and shut down the town of Roswell, where so much snow all at once is an alien presence.

The National Guard was sent out with all-terrain vehicles to help clear major highways, and Gov. Gary Johnson declared a state of emergency for counties in the southeast, opening the door to disaster relief money.

Nearly a foot of snow brought travel to a halt in Roswell, better known as the place where believers crashed an alien spaceship 50 years ago. A foot of snow is about as much as Roswell gets in an entire year.


Snow stopped falling at about 8 a.m., but roads in and out of Roswell were still closed by midday.

Bill Seaff of Tempe, Ariz., was

**As of December 1st,
Dr. Gilbert K. Crane has moved.**

Dr. Crane specializes in
Orthopedic Surgery and Sports Medicine.
His new office is located at:

**1263 Bennett, Suite 1
Burley, Idaho
678-9760**




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Mail

Continued from B1

Fillmore Street. He takes about five hours to make the route. Ford walks seven to eight miles each workday — that's about 460 steps on what's called a "park and loop" route. That is, he parks his truck and walks to houses in usually older sections without mailboxes near the street.

Except for pressing dogs, the letter carrier moves quickly and quietly.

With temperatures in the teens, Ford's breath steamed out in puffs, and he left footprints in the frosted grass. He cut through the chill at a good pace, occasionally blowing on his ungloved hand to warm it.

"I've gone used to the cold. It doesn't bother me," he said.

"There's been driving routes (available). I didn't want them. I like walking. I guess you can say

"This morning I got a plate full of goodies. They do want to show you're appreciated by giving you something."

— Ray Ford, Twin Falls postal worker

it's intriguing."

About 3,000 parcels were delivered Sunday just to Twin Falls. More boxes remained in bins at the Pioneer postal station on Fillmore Street for distribution within the next few days. The number of boxes is up 250 percent from the rest of the year.

"We are delivering on Christmas Day, express and priority mail and any package

that looks like it could be a present," said Mary Hurd, carrier supervisor. Christmas wrapping is a dead giveaway the package is a gift, but if it's wrapped with plain brown paper, handwritten addresses are a good indicator.

Holiday greeting cards boost the volume of letter-sized first-class mail 20 percent — that means mail pouches bulging with 50,000 to 80,000 pieces per day to city residents, Hurd said. "What helps carriers is automatic machines that sort up to 65 percent of the mail into the order it will be delivered, cutting down how much mail the carrier handles."

Some what affecting the holiday wave is a significant decrease in bulk mail, known as junk mail to some. The post-holiday delivery of bulk mail, along

with late gift packages and Christmas cards, add up to another rush.

Back on the president streets, Ford takes a 10-minute break, usually spent in his warm truck.

"I sit and let 10 minutes go by," he said. "Then he's off again."


These days, he feels like Santa. "Especially when you take a package to a house and a little kid looks up at you and says, 'Oh boy, it's from Grandma,'" Ford said. "I like my job."

Times-News staff writer Pat Marcantonio can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 242.

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To further his education Dr. Flint is doing a residency training in Ocular Disease. The office will be closed indefinitely. If you need your records forwarded to another doctor, contact our office before December 31, 1997.



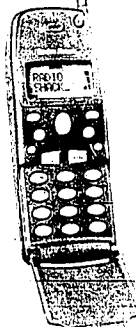
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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

Patrick Ewing will guarantee another championship—actually he already has—for the New York Knicks and he'll get to the finals the way he always does—with tickers from Michael (Jordan).

—Steve Rosenblom of the Chicago Tribune, months before Ewing's season-ending injury

SCOREBOARD

High school girls' basketball

Twin Falls 60.....Skyview 42

IN BRIEF

Reds pay Cooke more than double Bucs' cash

CINCINNATI — Former College of Southern Idaho left-hander Steve Cooke, released by the Pittsburgh Pirates last week, has signed a one-year contract with the Cincinnati Reds that guarantees him \$725,000.

Cooke was drafted by the Pirates in 1983. He was 25-36 in five seasons with Pittsburgh, where he made \$300,000 last season. Cooke, 27, was 9-15 as the Pirates' fifth starter last season. He started 32 games and had a 4.30 earned run average but was released to free a spot in the rotation for one of the Pirates' young pitchers, the team said.

Under the terms of the deal agreed to Monday, Cooke gets \$300,000 next season. The sides set a mutual option for 1999 at \$1.2 million with a \$425,000 buyout.

Twin Falls grapplers fare well during Nevada meet

RENO, Nev. — Twin Falls High School's wrestling team placed 15th out of 59 schools at the Sierra Nevada Classic, which ended Tuesday.

The Bruins had five wrestlers place at the competition: Jori Tate placed fourth at 112 pounds; Brady VanEngelen placed fifth at 160 pounds; Rob McMillan placed sixth at 15 pounds; Sam Garner placed ninth at 171 pounds; and Adam Joslin placed ninth at 189 pounds.

Twin Falls will play host to a dual against Capital at 1 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30 at Twin Falls High School.

Ex-CSI player's team wins 1st game without him

MOBILE, Ala. — Toby Madison hit five 3-pointers and scored 22 points Monday to lead South Alabama to a 69-52 win over Washington in the Jaguars' first game without point guard Rusty Yoder, who has decided to undergo surgery to repair a shoulder injury that has plagued him for more than a year.

Yoder, a first-team senior who played at the College of Southern Idaho, suffered a torn labrum last season and played in pain through the first four games of this year, in which he averaged 11 points. But he aggravated the injury in a 64-56 loss to Indiana on Dec. 15.

After sitting out last Tuesday's game against Missouri-Kansas City, he decided he needed the surgery, meaning he won't be able to return for the Jaguars (4-2) this season.

"We've talked several times and on Saturday he confirmed that he wanted to go ahead with surgery as soon as possible," said South Alabama coach Bob Weidlich. "To say we are going to miss him is an understatement."

Last year, Yoder started 22 of 30 games and averaged 10.5 points and 3.2 assists for the Jags, who made the NCAA tournament.

He was recognized as the team's floor leader for his good decision making and rugged defense.

He will have surgery Jan. 6. He said he will seek a medical redshirt to return to the Jaguars next season, unless Bill Musselman, the coach who recruited him, can land him on a team overseas.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

Hagerman moves into No. 1 spot

The Associated Press

Troy's nine-point loss to Garfield-Palouse, Wash., allowed Hagerman to assume the No. 1 spot among A-1 teams in this week's Associated Press Idaho high school basketball poll.

All the other top teams held their ground in voting by the state's sports writers and broadcasters.

Unbeaten Capital defeated crusty rivals Boise and Borah to keep the lead unanimously among the biggest schools

Complete poll - B6

and knock the previously third-ranked Braves out of the A-1 poll.

Highland's two victories kept the Rams in the second spot, and Pocatello moved up two spots to No. 3 with victories over Blackfoot and Ruby. Twin Falls entered the poll at fourth and Skyline fell to fifth after splitting two games last week.

Idle Bishop Kelly stayed atop the A-2 rankings, just ahead of unbeaten Preston, which won both games last week. Despite two victories of its own, Moscow fell two spots to No. 5, as Snake River and undefeated Emmett each jumped a spot.

Declo became the unanimous choice atop the A-3 poll with two victories, including a 4-7-point trouncing of Glens Ferry.

Trojan's two losses dropped the Redskins out of the rankings and unde-

feated Firch moved up two spots to No. 2 with two victories.

Polatch stayed in the third spot with a 30-point victory over Clearwater Valley, and Parma moved up one spot to fourth. The last spot in the A-3 poll went to newcomer Wellend.

Troy's loss pushed the Trojans back to No. 2 among the smallest schools, while Carey leapfrogged idle Lakeside for No. 3.

The North Gem Cowboys, despite a 1-4 record, moved into the final spot.

Surprising Bruins

Girls squad downs Skyview for best start in 5 years

By Karen Baumer
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — It wasn't the 30-point drubbing of earlier this season, but the Twin Falls girls' basketball team used a 20-point fourth quarter to defeat Skyview 60-42 Tuesday night.

With the win, the Bruins are off to their best start in five years and, at 56 with eight games remaining after the holiday break, are within one win of their best season.

"They are a lot better. They've improved a lot since early in the year," Twin Falls coach Lawrence Pfeifferle said of Skyview.

Trailing 12-10 after the first quarter, Twin Falls went on a tear in the second period, leading by as much as 11 points. The difference in the quarter was the Bruins' ability to break the press and score easy buckets inside by Kerri Peterson, who scored 10 of her 22 points to give Twin Falls the 32-23 lead at the half.

A hot hand by Skyview's Elopida Valle pulled the Hawks within five points two minutes into the third quarter. After a Chrissy Paiz free throw, Twin Falls took its lead back to nine on a 3-pointer by Misty Oplin.

Valle answered with a layup and another layup by Sarah Tiller out into the Bruin lead again. Both teams scored before Lisa Sina added two more for Skyview on a putback with two seconds on the clock.

That was as close as the Hawks would get.

Oplin hit another 3-pointer two minutes into the fourth and the Bruins rolled from there, sparked by Amanda Young off the bench.

Young tipped the ball to Paiz for the steal and was rewarded with a Paiz pass back to her for the layup. The next time down the court, Young stole the ball and took it all the way for two more and a 47-37 Bruin lead.

Skyview scored only five more points — its total for the quarter — and Twin Falls hit 7-of-10 free throws down the



Misty Oplin is swarmed by a group of Skyview defenders in the Bruins' 60-42 victory Saturday.

stretch to pull away. "I was proud of how the girls played," said Skyview coach Cindi Pasta of her players. "We had that breakdown in the fourth quarter and they got a couple easy baskets. We put them on the free-

throw line and that was the difference." Peterson's offensive output was the other difference.

"Kerri had a good night offensively," Pfeifferle said. "We were going to get some easy baskets. We put them on the free-

Please see GIRLS, Page B6

Shaq punches himself out 2 more weeks

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Shaquille O'Neal scored a knockout, Of himself.

The Los Angeles Lakers center, already out five weeks with a strained abdominal muscle, will miss at least two more weeks because of a hairline fracture of his shooting wrist, an injury incurred two weeks ago from punching a heavy bag.

The injury was not diagnosed until Monday or pain persisted in O'Neal's right wrist. The Lakers said he has not been fitted for a cast.

"The fact is, he probably wasn't going to come back sooner anyway because of

his abdominal injury," team spokesman John Black said Tuesday. "This is a freak injury. It's not like this guy did anything bad or did anything wrong. Of course we're not happy that he's hurt, but he didn't do anything wrong and these things do happen."

Black said the Lakers were unaware O'Neal was working out on a heavy bag. "We don't prescribe his workouts or

his treatment nor do we personally monitor them," he said.

"We were told by Shaquille how the injury occurred. ... He was working out in a gym under the supervision of a well-respected trainer and conditioning person."

O'Neal, who has been sidelined since Nov. 19, was examined Tuesday in Vancouver, British Columbia, by Dr. Andrew Seals and Dr. Ross Davidson with respect to his abdominal injury.

Their diagnosis concurred with the earlier diagnoses of team doctor Steve Lombardi and Dr. Miguel Velaz — that O'Neal is suffering from an abdominal strain.



Shaquille O'Neal

Black said the Lakers were unaware O'Neal was working out on a heavy bag. "We don't prescribe his workouts or

Ravens linebacker easily grabs defensive rookie honors

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Peter Boulware made the difficult switch from defensive end to linebacker to become a pass-rushing star for the Baltimore Ravens, and on Tuesday was selected NFL Defensive Rookie of the Year by The Associated Press.

Boulware, the fourth pick in this year's draft, finished with 11.5 sacks, second in the AFC. He overcame his early struggles in pass coverage, so impressing a nationwide panel of 48 sports writers and broadcasters that he dominated the voting.

Chosen on 36 ballots, Boulware easily outdistanced Miami linebacker Derrick Rodgers and New Orleans safety Sammy Knight, both receiving three votes. Miami end Jason Taylor got two votes and Detroit cornerback Bryant Westbrook had one.

"It's a privilege to be picked,"

Rookies of the year

The National Football League's Defensive Rookie of the Year named by the Associated Press and selected each year by a nationwide panel of sportswriters and broadcasters:

- 1967—Lem Barney, Detroit, CB
- 1968—Claude Humphrey, Atlanta, E
- 1969—Joe Greene, Pittsburgh, T
- 1970—Bruce Taylor, San Francisco, CB
- 1971—Isiah Robertson, Los Angeles, LB
- 1972—Wittle Buchanan, Green Bay, CB
- 1973—Wally Chambers, Chicago, T
- 1974—Jack Lambert, Pittsburgh, LB
- 1975—Robert Brazile, Houston, LB



Peter Boulware

- 1976—Mike Haynes, New England, S
- 1977—A.J. Duhon, Miami, T
- 1978—Al Oliver, Detroit, E
- 1979—Jim Haslett, Buffalo, LB
- 1980—Buddy Curry and Al Richardson, Atlanta, LB
- 1981—Lawrence Taylor, N.Y. Giants, LB
- 1982—Chip Banks, Cleveland, LB
- 1983—Vernon Maxwell, Baltimore, LB
- 1984—Bill Maas, Kansas City, TE
- 1985—Dwaine Baker, Indianapolis, LB
- 1986—John Odenkirk, Miami, LB
- 1987—Shane Conlan, Buffalo, LB
- 1988—Eric Millikan, N.Y. Jets, S
- 1989—Derrick Thomas, Kansas City, LB
- 1990—Mark Carrier, Chicago, S
- 1991—Mike Croft, Denver, LB
- 1992—Dwaine Carter, Kansas City, LB
- 1993—Dana Stubblefield, San Francisco, T
- 1994—Tim Brown, Miami, T
- 1995—Hugh Douglas, N.Y. Jets, DE
- 1996—Simon Rice, Arizona, DE
- 1997—Peter Boulware, Baltimore, LB

Boulware said. "I am humbled by it, just because there are a lot of great players

out there. For them to choose me out of all those guys, it's an honor. I'm thankful

Smelling like a Rose in Pasadena

Wolfenies, Cougars face off on New Year's

When No. 1 Michigan plays No. 8 Washington State in the Rose Bowl on Jan. 1, the result will be memorable no matter what the outcome.

The Wolverines (14-0) are looking for their first national title since 1948 and the Big Ten is looking for its first national championship since Ohio State in '68. In any case, the Rose Bowl gets No. 1 team for the first time since the end of the '79 season.

The Cougars (10-1), who have been playing football since 1894, are in their first Rose Bowl in 67 years and only their seventh bowl overall. That's an average of one bowl every 15 years.

"This is the Rose Bowl, so we're going to enjoy every minute we have down here," Cougars quarterback Ryan Leaf said.

Michigan's take is simple: "We came out here to win a championship," said Brian Griese, Leaf's counterpart.

The pressure's on Michigan. In particular, Heisman Trophy winning cornerback Charles Woodson, the first primarily defensive player to win the award.

"They've got a great passing attack, one we haven't seen all season," Woodson said. "We're going to get some action back there."

Leaf, the 6-foot-5 junior who may be playing his last game for the Cougars, completed 210 of 375 passes for 3,637 yards and 33 touchdowns.

His corps of receivers, the "Fab Five" if you will, is led by Kevin McKenzie (50-833, 10 TDs) and Chris Jackson (49-916, 11 TDs) and three other running backs: Michael Black, who somehow managed 1,157 yards.

Washington State, with a 4.25 points per game average, is second to Nebraska in scoring, while Michigan is tops in the nation in three defensive categories — total defense (206.9 yards), points (8.9) and pass efficiency.

But the game could boil down to this: the Cougars' defense (25 points and 330 yards per game) vs. the Wolverines' offense (274 points and 388.4 yards per game).

In Miami, No. 2 Nebraska and No. 3 Tennessee, which meet in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 2, have become Big Washington State fans. A win by the Cougars means Huskers (12-0) vs. Vols (11-1) becomes a national title game in coach Tom Osborne's finale for Nebraska.

The bowl season gets going on Christmas, with Michigan state playing Washington in the Aloha Bowl.

In between, there are intriguing coaching matchups: Florida (Steve Spurrier) vs. Penn State (Joe Paterno) in the Citrus and Ohio State (John Cooper, 2-6 in bowls for the Buckeyes) vs. Florida in bowls for the Buckeyes vs. Florida

Please see COLLEGE, Page B5

SPORTS

SCORES AND STATS

BASKETBALL

NBA standings

Table showing NBA Eastern Conference standings with columns for team, games played, wins, losses, and percentages.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Table showing NBA Western Conference standings with columns for team, games played, wins, losses, and percentages.

NBA box scores

Articles 102, Hornets 96. Summary of game highlights and final statistics.

College basketball

Articles 102, Hornets 96. Summary of game highlights and final statistics.

High school poll

Articles 102, Hornets 96. Summary of game highlights and final statistics.

College basketball

Articles 102, Hornets 96. Summary of game highlights and final statistics.

Baseball

Articles 102, Hornets 96. Summary of game highlights and final statistics.

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Baseball

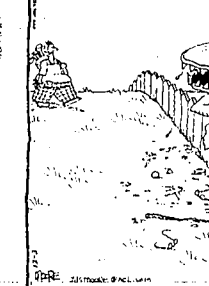
Articles 102, Hornets 96. Summary of game highlights and final statistics.

ON THE AIR TELEVISION

- College basketball, Arkansas vs. American FSR 10 a.m.
College basketball, Michigan vs. Murray State FSR 12:30 p.m.
Soc. U.S. Disabled Alpine National ESPN 1 p.m.
College basketball, Iowa State vs. TCU FSR 3 p.m.
College basketball, Spayevic vs. LCU FSR 5:30 p.m.
Figure skating, State International Champions Finals FOX 7 p.m.
Arctic Awards for Courage in Sports ESPN 8 p.m.
Swimming, Hawaiian International Ocean Challenge ESPN 11 p.m.

IN THE BLEACHERS

By Shawn Moor



"Mr. Golfer! Oh, Mr. Golfer! Here's your ball, Mr. Golfer!"

The golfer's first putt and the manager's advice to take a second shot.

High school poll

Table showing high school basketball poll results for various regions.

Football

NFL draft round.

NFL draft round details.

NFL draft round details.

NFL draft round details.

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NFL draft round details.

HOCKEY

NHL standings

Table showing NHL Eastern Conference standings.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Table showing NHL Western Conference standings.

NHL box scores

Articles 102, Hornets 96. Summary of game highlights and final statistics.

SKIING

Ski report

Summary of ski conditions and reports.

SKIING

Ski report

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Pro basketball

Rodney Rogers scored 20 points and Darrick Martin 19 for the Clippers...

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Jackson nets 500th win

CHICAGO (AP) — Phil Jackson reached the 500-victory mark faster than any coach in NBA history as the Chicago Bulls got 27 points from Michael Jordan and a season-high 25 rebounds from Dennis Rodman to defeat the Los Angeles Clippers 94-89 Tuesday night.

Jackson got No. 500 in his 682nd game — one earlier than Pat Riley accomplished the feat.

Pro basketball

Rodney Rogers scored 20 points and Darrick Martin 19 for the Clippers, who led for most of the night before losing for the seventh time in eight games.

Articles 102, Hornets 96. Summary of game highlights and final statistics.

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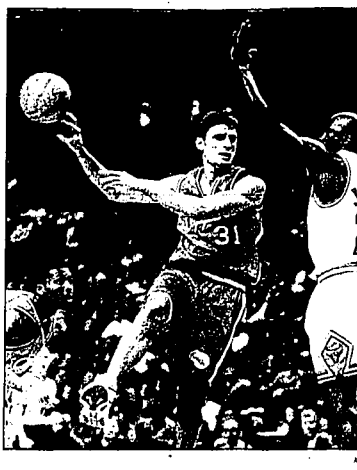
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Los Angeles Clipper Brent Barry dishes the ball off as Chicago's Michael Jordan plays defense during Tuesday's game in Chicago.

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Oh Christmas tree:
Cathy Walworth tells you
how to use yours wisely.
Page C2

FOOD & HOME

INSIDE

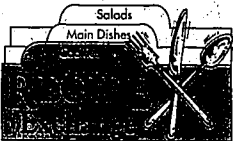
James Duley C3

Food Editor: Denise Turner - 733-0931, Ext. 243

The Times-News

Wednesday, December 24, 1997

Section C



Glaze makes Date Cake special

By Denise Turner
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Joan Barkley of Eden sent in a recipe for date cake, which was published in last week's recipe exchange. She usually puts a glaze over the icing. Here is the original recipe and the additional recipe for the glaze.

ORANGE DATE CAKE

- 1 cup shortening
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 1/2 cups sifted flour (sift, then measure)
- 1 cup nutmeats (chopped)
- 1 cup dates (chopped)
- 1 1/3 cups buttermilk
- 4 eggs (separated)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 tablespoons grated orange rind

Mix sugar and shortening, then add egg yolks. Sift flour, salt, soda and baking powder together, then alternate flour and buttermilk (first flour, then milk, ending with flour). Add nuts, dates and orange rind. Then add beaten egg whites. Put into angel food cake pan (lined with wax paper) and bake 1 1/2 hours at 325 degrees.

Icing: Heat 1 cup orange juice (takes 3 oranges) and 2 cups sugar until sugar is glaze. Pour hot icing over hot baked cake.

Glaze: Cook 3/4-cup white-Karo syrup, 1 tablespoon water and pinch of cream of tartar to medium stage (drop a little in water and it spreads out when taken out of water). Place plastic or paper dollies on top of cooled cake to create a design. With a tablespoon, spread glaze around and on design on top of cake.

Moving on to the not-ferreating category, Ila Bruner of Twin Falls sent in recipes for hand cream and lotion. These had both been requested by a reader a few weeks ago.

"My mother always kept this on hand," Bruner wrote of the lotion. "She got the recipe from her uncle, who was a carpenter, and it really kept his hands in good shape."

HAND LOTION

- 1 1/8 ounce glycerine
- 1 1/8 ounce bay rum
- 1 1/8 ounce witch hazel
- 5/8 ounce Arnica

Mix and shake.

"I cut this from a newspaper (I have no idea of which paper or date) some time ago," Bruner wrote of the recipe for hand cream. "It was submitted by Mrs. Doreen Hilbert."

HAND CREAM

- 12 ounces glycerine
 - 12 ounce pure ammonia
 - 4 ounces steric acid
 - 1/2 ounce beeswax (1/4 of round)
 - 1/2 teaspoon pure Borax
 - 16 ounces warm water (2 cups)
- Add Borax to water. Dissolve and set aside. Melt glycerine, steric acid and beeswax (shaved) in earthen bowl over hot water. Use wooden spoon and stir until melted and clear. Remove from heat and add ammonia. Mix in well-ventilated room. Stir until milky, and then add Borax and water mixture. Beat with mixer until creamy and fluffy. Add 1 teaspoon cologne and food coloring if desired, while still beating. Store in tightly-covered jar.

Requests
• A reader is searching for a peanut butter cookie recipe and a chocolate chip cookie recipe printed on the same page in *The Times-News Food and Home* section last year.

• A chili cook requested a recipe for potato fudge, using potato flakes.
• A Twin Falls cook is looking for recipes for hot holiday drinks (non-alcoholic), especially using apricot juice.

Requests for recipes or recipes to share should be sent to Recipe Exchange, Denise Turner, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548. Please include name, address and phone number.

Christmas comes for Pretty Lady

Filer woman's TLC pays off with poinsettia

By H.R. Wetzel
Times-News correspondent

FILER - Every parent knows that nurturing a 3-year-old requires lots of tender loving care - bedtime must be enforced, diets carefully monitored and, at this time of year, the disciplines are frequently mixed with a daily encouragement to "be good because Christmas is coming."

These responsibilities have been diligently carried out for three years by Mineva Joslin of Filer. What is unique about this woman is that her 3-year-old is a poinsettia plant named Pretty Lady.

Mineva and Wayne Joslin have been married for 53 years and, every year, Wayne has given his wife a poinsettia plant for a Christmas gift.

"But he didn't have to get me one this year, nor last year, because I still had Pretty Lady," Mineva Joslin said.

Then she added, with a twinkle in her eyes, "Of course, every once in a while he throws in a bouquet of roses."

Wayne Joslin bought "Pretty Lady" in 1995 at Albertson's.

"It started growing all by itself and got so bushy I didn't know what to do with her," Mineva Joslin said of the plant. "So I called Roland at Mountain States Nursery in Buhl. He told me to bring in an eight-inch pot and he'd fix it for me. Well, I thought I better take a 10-inch pot, but when I got there, he said I had more pot than plant. It's a good thing I did though, because that poinsettia started growing until she got to be 4 feet tall and 4 feet wide."

Joslin had to rearrange all of the furniture in her living room to make room for the plant.

"I had her trimmed last year, but then I took some little pieces of foam rubber and put them on the branches so the string wouldn't hurt her and I could tie her branches up to a stake," Joslin said.

"That kept her from spreading out so far. She's in real good shape this year."

Having a beloved 3-year-old in the Joslin home brings a lot of pleasure, but it also requires perseverance, hard work and faithful attention to the needs of the plant.

"For nine weeks before Christmas I have to put her in the dark for 13 hours every day," Mineva Joslin said. "I take her from her place by the window in the front room and put her to bed in a dark



Mineva Joslin of Filer tends her 3-year-old poinsettia plant to a new window to continue its bath of night.

DARRY ORSHAD/The Times-News

room at 7 p.m. every night. When I shut the door, I always tell her, 'Now you get prettier because Christmas is coming.' Then I get her up at 8 a.m. She's more fascinating every day."

Each branch has a crown of red. Some have as many as seven or eight red leaves at the end of a branch, and one has 20 little red leaves on it.

"It's really interesting to watch because, when I first put her in the dark, her stems or branches all turn red," Joslin said. "The leaves are green but the stems get red."

The plant eventually got so heavy and large that the Joslins had to put the pot on a stand with wheels and attach a rope so the Mineva Joslin could pull the huge plant back and forth for its daily rest in the dark.

She carefully follows the feeding instructions her friend at the nursery gave her.

"And at least once, you have to flush her out - that means you let water run clear through her," Joslin said.

Roland Hutchinson, from Mountain States Plants, said of Joslin, "She must be doing everything right because, normally, a poinsettia won't last like that. The lights have to be just right, no drafts blowing on

Please see POINSETTIA, Page C5



Serve the staff of life at your next party

Ah, bread. Over the years we've broken it, toasted it, broiled it, topped and savored it. As an integral part of our holidays, religious ceremonies and festive gatherings, bread reigns supreme, because to celebrate bread is to celebrate life.

For winter gatherings, serve warm bread puddings, suggests Barbara Albright, a dietitian and contributing writer of "Disney's Family Cookbook." On Sunday mornings and New Year's, you can make a French toast.

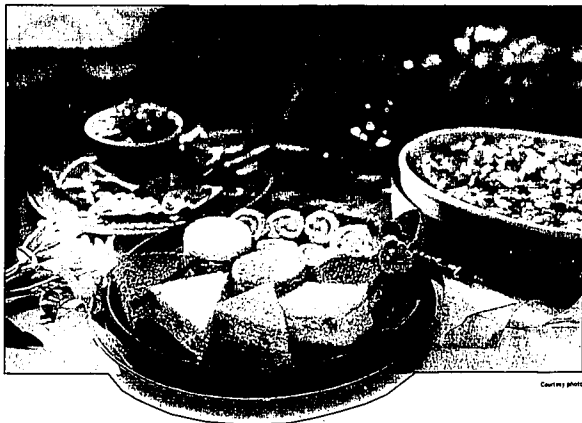
Bread is as easily dressed up as it is dressed down. And because it's made from simple, wholesome ingredients - water, flour, yeast - it's no wonder that it's such an important part of every culture's diet, says Albright.

SOUTHWESTERN SALSA & CHILI PITA CHIPS

Makes approximately 72 chips and 3 cups of salsa.

- Chili Pita Chips: 6 5 1/2-inch white or whole wheat pita bread pockets
 - 3 tablespoons olive oil
 - Chili powder to season
- Preheat oven to 350 F. Split each pita bread horizontally into two rounds.

Please see BREAD, Page C5



Courtesy photo

Chip and dip, too sandwiches and puddings are wonderful dishes to serve at all those cozy winter gatherings.

Ring in the New Year right with these ideas

The beginning of a new year is worthy of a great celebration, but as the busy holiday season comes to a close, the thought of another party can seem overwhelming. It doesn't have to be. Here are three very different but very easy ways to ring in the new year.

A COZY DINNER WITH FRIENDS

A simple but elegant dinner party with just a few close friends is my idea of a perfect New Year's Eve. Instead of a big, multi-course meal - which may make everyone drowsy before the clock strikes 12 - serve casual courses throughout the evening. Offer mugs of



ASK
MARTHA
Martha Stewart

soup as guests arrive; make omelets or individual pizzas and Caesar salads to order; and at midnight, surprise everyone with dramatic, oversized homemade fortune cookies. The guests can break them open and read aloud the fortunes

that you wrote just for them.

- GLAZED FORTUNE COOKIES (makes 15)
 - Nonstick cooking spray
 - 5 tablespoons unsalted butter
 - 4 large egg whites
 - 1 cup superfine sugar
 - 1 cup all-purpose flour, sifted
 - Pinch of salt
 - 3 tablespoons heavy cream
 - 1 teaspoon almond extract
- Heat oven to 400 degrees F. Spray a cookie sheet liberally with cooking spray. Melt butter in a small saucepan over low heat; set aside. In the bowl of an electric mixer, combine egg whites

and sugar and beat on medium speed for about 30 seconds. Add flour and salt and beat until combined. Add butter, heavy cream and almond extract and beat until combined, about 30 seconds. Pour 1 tablespoon batter onto half of the baking sheet, and spread with the back of the spoon into a thin 5-inch circle; repeat on the other half of the sheet. Bake until the edges turn golden brown, about 8 minutes.

Transfer baking sheet to a heat-resistant surface. Working as quickly as possible, slide a spatula on each spatula,

Please see MARTHA, Page C5

FOOD & HOME

Don't just throw the tree out when the holidays are over

What's going to happen to your tree after the wrappings have been ripped, the foothill has been spiked and the indignities have passed?
Put it out with the trash and it takes up a lot of room in the landfill. Let's explore some better options:
• Set the whole tree in the garden. The leaves will dry, fall off and help acidify the soil. In the spring, set the bare-branched tree upright in the middle of the vegetable garden. You'll have to anchor the bottom branches in the soil. Plant pole beans, peas or sweet peas around the base of the tree, and when climb the tree structure, you have an attractive, functional, free garden accent.
• Make a bird-feeding station. Wire the tree to a post or the deck, or nail it to



GREEN THUMBPRINTS
Cathy Walworth

The birds will love the sheltered diner.
• Cut off the tree branches and lay them over plants you want mulched and protected from the rest of the winter. Again, the needles will fall and enrich the soil, while the network of branches forms a canopy over roses, bulbs, perennials or ground covers.
• Put the whole tree out a ways from the house if you have the room. Just lay it down in an open area. Ask your neighbors if they will donate their cut Christmas trees to help make a large pile — the more the better. In no time at all, you will notice an increase in bird songs in your neighborhood because of the bird habitat you built with old Christmas trees. Wild birds love the shelter and cover from predators that the old trees give.

• Let the tree dry out for a time, then mulch it in a chipper. Cut the branches off so that you have nice, straight pieces to work with, and run the whole thing through the mulcher-chipper. Evergreen wood chips smell great, add acidity to the soil and, like any mulch, help keep the mud out of the house when you put it on pathways.
• DO NOT burn the Christmas tree.
This was the story about the guy who thought it would be a good idea to feed the dried-up Christmas tree into the fireplace, pointy-end first. The tree ignited so fast that his whole house was in flames before he could say, "Oop!" Nothing is more flammable than a dried-out evergreen tree. Don't be a statistic.
• If all else fails, many cities offer a

time and place to recycle old Christmas trees. If you will take the time to deliver the completely undecorated tree to the designated spot, workers will happily turn your old tree into mulch to be used on city property. The soil will be enriched all over town, the landfill doesn't get filled and you feel good about the whole thing.
Merry Christmas!
P.S. to rose growers in the Banana Belt: We've seen three days in the 20s. Now you can prune your roses down to knee high and mulch them in.

Spacious Thompson features lots of space

A wide, old-fashioned porch wraps around the entire front facade of the country-style Thompson, offering a gracious welcome to visitors while providing plenty of space for a porch swing and a couple of rocking chairs.
Inside, a wood dowel staircase ascends to the right side of the vaulted entrance to a second floor landing which overlooks the entry. This space is naturally illuminated by a window at the second floor level. A small powder room is conveniently close to the front door.
Amenities in the comfortable country kitchen include an eating bar, pantry, eating nook and built-in dishwasher. A fireplace warms the family room when evenings turn chilly, and the laundry room, which features a laundry chute from the second floor, is but a few steps away. Double French doors open onto a rear deck.
Another fireplace nestles into the back corner of the living room, a large room brightened by bay windows.
All of the bedrooms are upstairs. A half-round window caps the lower windows in the gabled front-facing master suite. Amenities include a large walk-in closet, vanity counter, spa and shower.
The Thompson's other two bedrooms share a bathroom that can be entered from either bedroom, without going into the hallway. It also has twin vanities.
For a review plan, including scaled floor plans, elevations, section and artist's conception, send \$15 to Associated Designs, 1100 Jacobs Dr., Dept. W, Eugene, Ore. 97402. Please specify the Thompson 10-018 and include a return address when ordering. A catalog featuring more than 250 home plans is available for \$12. For more information call (800) 634-0123.

The Thompson 10-018
Living Area 2100 sq. ft.
Overall Dimensions 66' x 44'

Deck, Garage, Dining 12' x 11', Kitchen, Family 10' x 10', Living 15'7" x 15'7", Foyer, Up, Bedroom 12' x 12', Bedroom 10' x 11', Master Suite 11'2" x 12', Bath, Open to Below, Porch, Down, Hallway.

Diligent shoppers can furnish with fashion

to be found in stores — like T.J. Maxx or Ross — that generally focus on clothing, and stock furnishings or accessories in small, tucked-away departments.
Kmart has Martha Stewart's line of kitchen accessories — relatively stylish napkins, tablecloths, chair cushions, and area rugs in neutral-match patterns and colors. The napkins, coordinating napkin rings, and place mats were all priced at less than \$2 each.
Interior designer John Kelly of Philadelphia spends a lot of time buying antiques in New York or expensive furniture in Philadelphia's Marketplace Design Center. But he also shops discount stores, tracking prices and picking up accessories.
Kelly, whose design work encompasses everything from yachts to full-scale house interiors

to clients who want him to choose a new set of sheets for the kids' room, says there are a few strategies to a successful cheapie shopping expedition.
"I look for the kind of things I see in high-end department stores, and linen and home stores," he says. "I look for brand names."
Price comparisons are essential, he says.
One of his first rules is to know what items he wants. Paradoxically, he says, he's also always ready to buy something he likes at a discount store — even if it isn't on his immediate "must-have" list.
Kelly spent a recent afternoon trolling through low- and moderately priced stores in Lower Bucks County, Pa., assessing the home decor possibilities. At one, he gestured at a pile of decorative pillows.
"You're not going to want them to last forever, anyway," Kelly said. "So, even if they're seconds, they can be a good value."
He uses the same reasoning for buying children's items — cartoon character sheets, bright bedspreads, cute lamps.
"Well-known brand names in bedding and towels are among the staples of low-to-moderately priced homewares departments. The Cannon and Fieldcrest brands, among others, are usually plentifully stocked. Higher priced brands are also available, but more sporadically.
This brings Kelly to the question of quantity. Before he commits to buying an item he might want more of later, he tries to figure out whether the supply is going to be steady.

Home cooking lives in hearty 1-dish dinners

(Yield: 6 servings)
4 ounces egg noodles, cooked according to package directions, drained
1 (10 1/2-ounce) can cream of mushroom soup
2/3 cup water
2 teaspoons jarred pimientos
4 ounces American cheese, sliced
2 hard-cooked eggs, sliced
10 stuffed green olives, sliced
1 1/2-cup can tuna, drained
Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Place mushroom soup and water in a medium saucepan. Place on medium heat. Stir until smooth. Add pimientos and cheese; stir on heat until cheese melts. Remove from heat. Reserve 3 or 4 slices of egg and 7 or 8 slices of olive for garnish. Combine remaining egg and olive slices and tuna with the cooked noodles. Place noodle mixture in a shallow, 2-quart baking pan. Pour mushroom mixture on top; mix lightly. Bake in a preheated oven for 30 minutes.
MEXICAN-STYLE CHICKEN AND RICE CASSEROLE
(Yield: 8 servings)
1 tablespoon vegetable oil or olive oil
3 large onion, chopped
1 small green bell pepper, cored, seeded, chopped
1 garlic clove, minced
1 (15 1/2-ounce) can red kidney beans, drained
1 (14 1/2-ounce) can whole tomatoes, undrained, roughly chopped
1 (14 1/2-ounce) can chicken broth
1 (4-ounce) can mild diced green chilies, undrained
2 cups frozen corn kernels
3/4 cup uncooked long-grained white rice
1 teaspoon chili powder
Salt and pepper to taste
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon garlic salt
2 teaspoons paprika

1 (1/2- to 3-pound) frying chicken, cut into 8 pieces, skin removed if desired
Preheat oven to 375 degrees. Heat oil in a large pot or Dutch oven over medium-high heat; add onion, bell pepper and garlic; cook and stir until vegetables are softened. Add beans, tomatoes, broth, chilies, corn, rice, chili powder, salt and pepper; stir to blend. Pour into a 13-by-9-inch baking dish.
In a gallon plastic bag combine flour, garlic salt and paprika; shake to mix. Add chicken pieces; shake to coat. Place chicken in a single layer on top of rice; press lightly into rice. Cover tightly with aluminum foil. Bake in preheated oven for 1 hour and 15 minutes or until chicken is fork tender, juices run clear, rice is tender and liquid is absorbed. Remove foil; bake an additional 15 minutes to brown chicken.
—Source: "Casseroles, Soups and Stews" from Classic Pillsbury Cookbook

Resolve to try this recipe

The Baltimore Sun

Add sour cream blueberry cake and hot crab dip to your list of tasty treats for new year's celebrations.

BAUER'S HOT CRAB DIP
2 (8-ounce) packages cream cheese, at room temperature
1 cup sour cream
1 1/2 teaspoons dry mustard
2 to 3 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce
3 shakes garlic salt
1/4 teaspoon Old Bay seasoning
3 tablespoons mayonnaise
1 pound crab meat, picked for shells
1/2 cup grated Parmesan cheese
Whip cream cheese. Add remaining ingredients, except the Parmesan and paprika, and blend. Top with the cheese and a sprinkle of paprika. Bake at 350 degrees until lightly browned and bubbly, about 20 minutes. Makes about 4 cups. Serve on hot baguette slices if desired.

WILSON'S SOUR-CREAM BLUEBERRY CAKE
1/2 cup soft butter or margarine
1 cup sugar
3 eggs
2 cups sifted all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 cup dairy sour cream
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 teaspoon ground cardamom (optional)
2 cups blueberries
1/2 cup brown sugar
Cream butter and sugar; add eggs one at a time, beating well after each addition. Sift flour, baking powder, baking soda and salt together. Add this flour mixture gradually to the egg mixture, alternating with sour cream. End with the flour mixture. Stir in vanilla and cardamom. Fold in 1 cup blueberries. Pour half the batter into a well-greased and floured pan, 9-by-13-by-2 inches. Cover with remaining blueberries. Sprinkle with brown sugar. Top with remaining batter. Bake at 325 degrees for 50 to 60 minutes. Cool slightly, serve.

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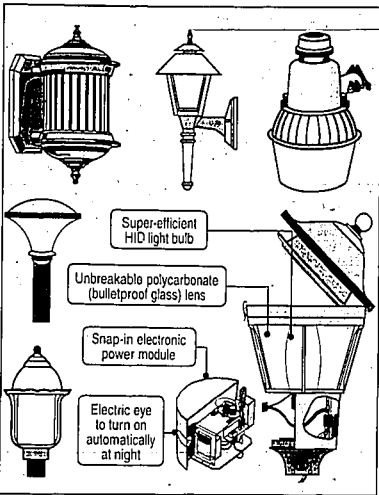
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These lights provide added security, look sharp as well



Super-efficient security lights come in a variety of styles.

Deur Jim: Our area has problems with vandals and break-ins. I want to install outdoor security lighting without making my electric bills skyrocket.

What types of attractive security lights are best? **Donna F.**

Deur Donna: Outdoor security lighting is probably the best method to deter vandals and thieves.

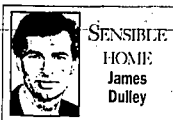
The most efficient super-bright lights cost only a couple of cents per night to operate.

Some even have a polycarbonate (bulletproof glass) lens so they are virtually impossible to break.

The newest and most efficient security lights are durable and available in many attractive styles - antique light posts and lanterns, contemporary real wood bollard lights for use near a deck or pool, wall floodlights, in-ground lights, etc.

Don't just go out and buy the cheapest floodlights on sale at your hardware store. The few dollars you save initially will quickly flow out of your wallet to the electric utility company. For convenience, select a fixture with an electric eye so it goes on automatically at night and off in the morning.

By selecting the proper types of efficient light fixtures, it will



SENSIBLE HOME
James Duley

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also enhance the beauty of landscaping.

The quality of the light given off, and how people and colors look under it, is determined by the type of bulb.

High-intensity discharge (HID) bulbs provide the most light output for the least amount of electricity. For example, one 2-watt high-pressure sodium bulb provides more light than five standard 40-watt incandescent bulbs combined.

HID bulbs and fixtures are more expensive initially, but the

bulbs last up to 20,000 hours instead of only 700 to 1,000 hours like a standard bulb. This is a plus for fixtures in hard-to-reach locations.

The most common types of security HID bulbs used for residential lighting are high-pressure sodium, metal halide and mercury vapor.

High-pressure sodium gives a warm golden glow and enhances the natural colors of bricks, stones, pine bark, etc.

Metal halide is a "cool" white light good for emphasizing blues and greens.

Like a mercury vapor light, enhances plants and focal points around a garden.

Mercury vapor lights also provide an excellent true-looking moonlighting effect.

Low-pressure sodium bulbs, often used in supermarket parking lots, are the most efficient, but the color quality is poor (monochromatic yellow) and they are slow to start up. They are usually only available at commercial lighting outlets.

Fiber optic security lights are the newest, easiest and safest to install yourself. A single powerful bulb can light several locations around your house and yard. You just run safe plastic cables instead of electrical

wiring to each fixture. Write for Update Bulletin No. 839 - buyer's guide of 17 HID security/decorative-light manufacturers, styles, bulb types, bulb efficiency and cost-to-operate charts.

Please include \$3 and a business-size SAE. Or visit The Times-News Online's NewsLink page at www.majvalley.com to contact James Duley by e-mail.

Write to James Duley, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, Ohio 45244.

Deur Jim: I am planning to add a third bathroom to my house. When I went to the home center, there were many types of plastic pipe. Which types of pipe are used for what? **Paul F.**

Deur Paul: Instead of trying to remember their long chemical names, the basic types of plastic pipe you will find are ABS, PVC, CPVC and PB. Large black ABS and large white PVC pipes are usually used for drains and vents.

Smaller diameter PB and CPVC are used for the water supply lines to the sinks, toilets and showers. If you cannot tell them apart by color, their abbreviations are usually printed somewhere on them.

Beyond the basics, some handsaws are a cut above

By Nick Harder
The Orange County Register

Though technical advances have made today's handsaws vastly superior to the first saws more than 4,000 years ago, the basics remain.

They still cut with a forward or backward motion. They're still used by most carpenters who want exact cuts. They require proper care to work well and last.

Here are a few basics about

• **Teeth:** This is really what sets one handsaw apart from others. It may appear at a glance that all teeth are set one behind the other.

But if you look closely, you'll see that every other one is very slightly angled left or right. A cut by these varied teeth permits a groove (or "kerf") that is slightly wider than the saw blade. Without a kerf, a saw blade would quickly stick.

With a few exceptions, you can lump saw teeth into two styles: Crosscut is ideal for cutting across the grain because every tooth is tilted back a fraction and filed at an angle.

The result? Very few wood fibers are cut and the sawed area is smooth. Rip is for cutting with the grain. Large teeth with upright leading edges perpendicular (90 degrees) to the level of the teeth.

What also determines how a saw should be used is the number of teeth (points) in an inch. The more teeth, the finer the cut. Smaller teeth cut more finely than large ones.

• **Handles:** It may seem like there's a dizzying array of handle styles.

In truth, you can place most handles in one of these categories: Pistol grip is an open handle. It is very much like holding the base of a pistol. Most small saws use a version of this except for backsaws and other finnik saws.

Closed handle is, as its name implies, wood or plastic. It is formed so the fingers of a hand can fit within the handle. Prevalent on the larger saws. Straight handle - in line with the length of the blade, this handle is used on such small saws as drywall saws and jab saws.

• **How to cut:** Make sure your saw handle is tight, that your saw is free of oil (a maintenance procedure), and that the wood you're going to saw is free of nails and screws.

Unless the saw's instructional material suggests a particular angle, the saw itself can sometimes determine how you cut. For instance, if you're using a saw that cuts best when you pull, it may be best to have the piece you're cutting started so your weight helps pull the saw backward.

Therefore, using an upward cutting angle definitely would not be best.

For most saws except those that are pulled to cut, begin your stroke with one or two pulls

toward you before you go a forward stroke.

That should cut a small notch in what you're sawing and make it much easier to stay in the groove. Then begin your forward and backward strokes.

Do the opposite with reverse saws. Let the saw do the work. Use short slow strokes at first to get established followed by long, even strokes.

• **Saw maintenance:** For wood saws, give it slight finish of oil before use.

Remember to wipe it off before using. When through, use a cloth to brush off sawdust, then apply a light coat of oil. This helps to reduce rust. Don't lay a saw flat when storing. Over time, that tends to bend the blade and allows rust a better chance to build up on the top surface.

There's also more opportunity for its teeth to be damaged. Hang a saw by its blade or handle.

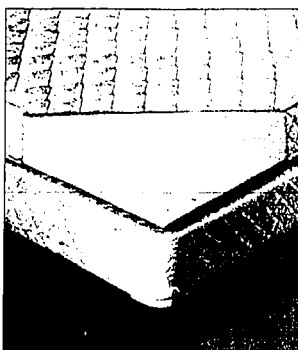
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FOOD & HOME

Spiral-cut slices put honey-baked ham on the map

By Sylvia Rector
Knight-Ridder News Service

All Harry Hoenselaar was trying to do was make a machine that would carve ham off the bone in one perfect, consistent, meaningful slice.

People shouldn't have to struggle with a big piece of pork every time they wanted to make a sandwich, the restaurateur and butcher figured, and the pieces should be pretty.

Hoenselaar, an incurable tinkerer, kept messing around in the wooden garage of his home in Detroit in the late 1940s, sure he could make a machine the restaurant industry would love. Using a kitchen knife, scrap wood, a metal pie tin and a washing machine motor, he thought he was building a better mousetrap.

But there were no serious buyers. "He thinks you're rejection letters. We still have some of them," says his eldest granddaughter, Mary Lou Anderson, 42, of Troy, Mich.

Ultimately, in addition to the old machine, Hoenselaar wound up creating a whole new product category — the spiral

sliced ham — and a family business of 270 stores that claims to be the largest privately held pork retailer in the country.

This year, his Honey Baked Ham Co., born in Detroit, is celebrating its 40th anniversary. The patents on the spiral slicer expired in 1980, and scores of imitators jumped into the market.

Now passing into the hands of Hoenselaar's grandchildren, Honey Baked is looking for ways to grow this year, it began charting a future still based on Grandpa's ham — a slightly smoked product with a sweet, crunchy glaze that's still made with his original recipe.

The recipe he developed for the glaze is a secret blend of sugar, herbs and spices, says Anderson, who worked with her grandfather. She was 19 when he died in 1974 of ALS, or Lou Gehrig's disease.

Anderson's brother, Lou Schmidt Jr., is the Michigan division's vice president of strategic planning. Her mother, Mary Jane Schmidt, is a member of the corporate board, and her father, Lou Schmidt Sr., remains division president and CEO.

but also has other business interests. Stores are located in 37 states, with main offices in the Cincinnati, Detroit, Boston and Atlanta metropolitan areas.

But the hams come only from selected corn-fed pigs inspected and slaughtered in South Dakota and Nebraska. Each is individually checked for leanness before being cured for 48 to 72 hours using Hoenselaar's recipe.

Here are some ham recipes:

LEAN BEAN AND CORN CHOWDER
(Makes 4 servings, about 1 1/2 cups per serving)

1 teaspoon vegetable oil
4 ounces (1 cup) diced baked ham or sliced chorizo sausage
1 medium onion, peeled, ends removed, chopped
1 clove garlic, peeled, ends removed, chopped

1 teaspoon cumin
1/4 teaspoon oregano
1 can (14 1/2 ounces) chicken broth
1 can (15 1/4 ounces) corn, drained and rinsed
2 cans (15 1/2 ounces each) black beans, drained, rinsed and divided

1/2 cup water
1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro
1/4 teaspoon freshly ground pepper
In a large saucepan, heat the vegetable oil over high heat. Add the ham or sausage and brown, stirring, about 2 minutes. Stir in the onion and garlic, and cook 1 minute. Stir in cumin and oregano, and cook 30 seconds or until fragrant. Add the chicken broth, corn and 1/2 cup of the beans. Continue to cook.

In a blender or food processor fitted with the steel blade, puree the remaining beans with the water until smooth. Stir the pureed beans into the soup mixture. Cover and bring to a boil. Reduce heat. Cover and simmer for 2 minutes. Stir in the cilantro and pepper and serve.
—From "100 Great Soup, Stew & Chili Recipes"

HAM AND CHEESE QUICHE
(Makes 8 servings, 1 wedge per serving)

1/2 teaspoon shortening
1 1/2 cups ground or diced cooked ham
1/2 pound crisp cooked bacon, cut into 1/2-inch pieces
1 cup shredded cheddar cheese
1 cup shredded Swiss cheese (a blend of Monterey Jack and Colby)
1 small onion, peeled, ends removed, chopped
1/2 jar (about 2 1/2 ounces) sliced mushrooms
2 cups milk
4 eggs, beaten, or 1 cup egg substitute
1/2 cup biscuit baking mix
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon pepper
Preheat the oven to 400 degrees. Using shortening, grease a deep, 9-inch pie pan. Layer the ham, bacon, cheddar and Swiss cheese, onion and mushrooms in the prepared pan; set aside.
In a medium bowl, combine the milk, eggs, biscuit mix, salt and pepper. Beat well. Pour the milk mixture over the layered ham-and-cheese mixture. Bake for 10 minutes.
Reduce the oven temperature to 350 degrees and continue baking for 40 to 45 minutes or until a knife inserted in the center comes out clean.
Remove from the oven. Cut into wedges and serve.
—From Honey Baked Ham Co.

'All My Children' star shines in the kitchen too

By Donna Lee
Providence Journal-Bulletin

Soap opera fans know Robin Mattson as Janet Green on "All My Children," the lady you wouldn't want as an enemy.

In real life, she's a talented chef who was trained as a professional chef at a culinary school in California, during a hiatus between roles on "Santa Barbara" (now popular in Russia) and "All My Children."

She has published a very good cookbook, "Soap Opera Cafe: The Skinny on Food from a Daytime Star" (Warner Books, \$20).

She lives in visit restaurant kitchens and leans from chefs; George Germon and Johanne Killeen of Al Forno in Providence, R.I., were on "The Main Ingredient," a cooking series which Mattson hosted on Lifetime cable. She also writes a weekly cooking column for Soap Opera News.

The cookbook includes many photos and anecdotes from Mattson and friends — a melange that ranges from TV stars such as Susan Lucci and Rosie O'Donnell to culinary greats like Daniel Boulud of Restaurant Daniel in New York. Many of Mattson's recipes are reduced-fat, appetizing and easy.

On "All My Children," Janet Green has a long-term relationship with behavior — from throwing her sister down a well to kidnapping Harold the dog. More recently, Janet has turned sweet, and is having a slow-building romance with Trevor, her former enemy.

"That's going to heat up — there might even be a soap-opera wedding," hints Mattson's manager and beau, Henry Newman (they met five years ago on a blind date).

The book offers recipes such as cappuccino angel food cake, stuffed artichokes, vegetable paella, jambalaya, white pizza with broccoli and roasted garlic, Susan Lucci's ziti with broccoli, lobster salad with lemongrass vinaigrette, an appetizer of nachitos nanchitos with cumin yogurt sauce and Walt Willey's (Jack on "AMC") kale-potato stew.

Here are samples from the book.

These shrimp can be an appetizer or a quick entree. They go well with salad and saffron rice pilaf.

GARLIC SHRIMP
(Serves 4 to 6)
1 pound large shrimp (16 to 20 per pound)

1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil
3 cloves garlic, minced
1/4 cup dry white wine
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
1 tablespoon chopped fresh parsley
Salt, freshly ground black pepper
Shall and devein shrimp, leaving shell on.

Heat a large nonstick skillet over high heat for 1 minute. Add oil and garlic; cook for 1 to 1 1/2 minutes, until garlic is softened and fragrant but not brown.

Quickly add shrimp to the skillet and cook, tossing and turning them, until they are pink, loosely curled and just opaque throughout, 2 to 3 minutes. Add wine,

lemon juice and parsley. Cook-stir 1 minute more. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Saffron Rice Pilaf:
(Serves 6 to 8)

1/2 cup olive oil
1/2 Vidalia or other sweet onion, finely chopped
1 cup long-grain white rice (not converted)

2 cups chicken stock
1/2 teaspoon saffron
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 medium red bell pepper, cut into 1/4-inch dice

10 ounces fresh spinach leaves, rinsed thoroughly and coarsely shredded
Heat olive oil in medium nonstick saucepan. Add onion and cook over medium-high heat, stirring occasionally, until onion begins to soften, 2 to 3 minutes. Add rice and cook, stirring, 1 to 2 minutes.

Pour in the stock, crumble in the saffron, and add the salt. Bring to a boil, reduced heat to low, cover and simmer for 20 minutes. Meanwhile, coat a large nonstick skillet with nonstick cooking spray.

Add the bell pepper and cook until softened but bright red, about 3 minutes. Add spinach and cook, stirring often, until spinach wilts.

Remove from the heat and set aside. When rice is done, gently stir in pepper and spinach mixture; fluff and serve.

Although not low-fat, these are favorites of Alexis Mantia, cast as Janet Green's daughter Amanda on "All My Children."

LETTUCE SUGAR COOKIES

(Makes about 4 dozen)
2 sticks (1/2 pound) butter
1 1/4 cups granulated sugar
1 egg, beaten
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
2 1/3 cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking powder
1/4 teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons colored sugar crystals
In a large mixing bowl, cream butter with 1 cup sugar with a wooden spoon. Add egg and vanilla and beat until well combined. In a small bowl, dissolve baking soda in the lemon juice and mix in. Sift together the flour, baking powder and salt. Gradually add the dry ingredients to the butter mixture and blend well.

Shape into a round disc and wrap in plastic. Refrigerate at least one hour, or overnight.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Coat 2 large cookie sheets with nonstick cooking spray.

In a small dish, mix remaining 1/4 cup granulated sugar with the colored sugar. Shape the dough into 1-inch balls. One at a time, roll the dough balls in the colored sugar, place on the cookie sheet and press down with the palm of your hand to flatten slightly. Repeat with as many cookies as you can fit on the sheet, leaving at least 1 inch between.

Bake 8 to 10 minutes. The cookies should not brown. Transfer to a wire rack to cool. Repeat as many times as necessary with the remaining cookie dough and colored sugar.

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This black-eyed peas recipe carries a kick

By Charlotte Balcomb Lane
Knight-Ridder News Service

Tradition says that if you eat black-eyed peas on New Year's Day, you will have good luck for the next 364 days. Black-eyed peas may or may not bring a year's worth of luck, but this fresh, crunchy Black-Eyed Pea Salad will definitely entice a winter menu.

In this low-fat, high-fiber salad, the musky flavor of the beans contrasts deliciously with crunchy bell pepper, fresh tomato and chopped green onion. The peas get extra kick because they're cooked with a whole Scotch bonnet or jalapeno pepper. But don't worry; using the whole pepper means the peas don't get too spicy, they just develop a peppery flavor.

BLACK-EYED PEA SALAD
(Makes 6 servings)

1 (16-ounce) bag frozen black-eyed peas or 1 pound fresh black-eyed peas
1/4 teaspoon salt
1 (14 1/2-ounce) can vegetable broth, preferably low sodium
1 cup water
1 teaspoon sugar
1 Scotch bonnet pepper or jalapeno pepper, rinsed but left whole
1 bay leaf
2 tablespoons cider vinegar

1 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme or 1 teaspoon fresh thyme leaves
1 green pepper, seeded and chopped (about 1 cup)
1 medium ripe tomato, diced (about 1 cup)
1 green onion, chopped

In a large kettle, combine the frozen black-eyed peas, salt, vegetable broth, water, sugar, Scotch Bonnet or jalapeno pepper and bay leaf. Bring to a boil. Reduce heat, cover and simmer for 20 minutes. (If using fresh black-eyed peas, cook for length of time recommended on package.)

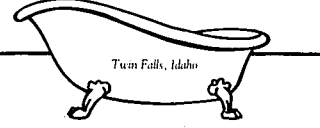
Turn off heat and allow peas to cool in the cooking broth for 2 hours or overnight before finishing salad. (You can prepare the peas the day before and refrigerate them overnight.) There should be about 1 1/4 cups of cooking liquid left in the kettle. Discard the Scotch bonnet or jalapeno pepper and bay leaf. Stir the cider vinegar and olive oil into the cooking liquid to make a light dressing. Add the thyme, green pepper, tomato and green onion and toss to mix well. Serve chilled or at room temperature.

Nutritional information per serving: Calories, 133; fat, 3 grams (19 percent of calories from fat); protein, 7 grams; carbohydrate, 21 grams; cholesterol, 0 milligrams; sodium, 182 milligrams.

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White House chefs prepare year round

Candy Sagon
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Remember way-back in June, when most people were buying bathing suits and stocking up on suntan lotion? That's when White House pastry chef Roland Mesnier began baking for Christmas.

At First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton's planning of the unveiling of the White House Christmas tree earlier this month, one of the biggest shows of her first year in the White House was learning how early Christmas preparations must begin.

Although this year a cost-conscious White House has cut back by a third on the number of holiday parties and receptions it is hosting, Mesnier and his longtime assistant, Franette McCulloch, still must bake for nearly six months to provide the 80,000 nibble-size pieces of cake and cookies for the hordes of guests invited to the president's house this month. (And that's in addition to the hundreds of gallons of eggnog, thousands of boiled shrimp and dozens and dozens of guests invited to the president's house this month. (And that's in addition to the hundreds of gallons of eggnog, thousands of boiled shrimp and dozens and dozens of guests invited to the president's house this month.)

So how do Mesnier and McCulloch keep up the Christmas spirit for six months? Like this: Ito ho, ho, 250 fruitcakes into the refrigerator by July. On, Donner! On,

Bread

Continued from C1

Lightly brush the rough sides with the olive oil. Lightly sprinkle with salt and pepper on the surfaces. Cut each pit round into wedges. Arrange the triangles on a baking sheet and bake for 5 to 10 minutes, or until lightly toasted. Serve with Southwestern salsa or use as an accompaniment with soups and salads. Store leftover chips in an airtight container at cool room temperature for up to 5 days.

Southwestern Salsa:
3 cups chopped tomatoes
1/2 cup chopped fresh cilantro
1/2 cup chopped red onion
1/2 cup chopped, fresh corn or frozen corn
1/2 cup cooked black beans or drained, rinsed canned black beans

1 jalapeno pepper (optional), seeded and finely chopped
1/2 cup of one (about 1/4 cup)
1/4 teaspoon salt

In a large bowl, combine all ingredients, mix well.

Approximate nutrition analysis per serving (12 chips and 1/2 cup salsa): calories, 282; protein, 8 g; carbohydrates, 46 g; dietary fiber, 4 g; fat, 8 g; sodium, 431 mg.

CINNAMON ORANGE

FRENCH TOAST

Makes 16 triangles.
3 large eggs
3/4 cup skim milk
1 tablespoon granulated sugar
1/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon grated orange peel
Finch of salt
8 slices sandwich bread.

1 tablespoon butter
1 tablespoon confectioners sugar
1 cup life syrup (about 1 tablespoon)
In a shallow bowl or pie plate, beat together the eggs, milk,

Poinsettia

Continued from C1

for the Joslin family because, as Mineva Joslin put it, "By Christmas, the nine weeks of having to go to bed in the dark will be up and she (Pretty Lady) will have to go to bed in there any more until next year."
-She added, "I expect she'll turn completely red just like last year."
Joslin said she has been marking off the days on a calendar.

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Bill Clinton

Billion! On 2,500 gingerbread cookies by the dog days of August; Better not put, better just keep baking those 20,000 brownies, macaroons, pecan diamonds, hazelnut butter crescents, sables, German leckerle, liner cookies and fruit bars by September.

Yes, Virginia, there are 70 leaves on the tree, 150 ornaments, applause and passionfruit cakes, 100 coconut sheet cakes, 250 three-foot hodge de Noel logs, mountains of chocolate truffles, and literally thousands of tiny raspberry tarts, minivans, baby blue-berry and raspberry-mousse cakes and petits fours glazed with fondant or frangipane buttercream with hand-painted icing wreaths or candles by November.

Plus, 11 lords a-leaping, the 80 pounds of gingerbread and 40 pounds of chocolate, icing and marzipan needed for the annual White House gingerbread house, unveiled two weeks ago, and a bunch of fresh fruit platters in a pear tree.

And remember — this is an easy year. Says Mesnier, "Last year, we made 120,000 pieces."
Mesnier was hired in 1979 after just one interview with former First Lady Rosalyn Carter and has

remained the White House's sultan of sweets through four presidents. Many, both inside and out side 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, consider the stocky 52-year-old Frenchman a national treasure, as much for his show-stopping desserts as for his obliging nature and infectious enthusiasm.

"See," says Mesnier with a mischievous grin, holding up a marzipan Santa Claus. "Here is Santa Claus talking on his cell phone — we call it a sleigh phone — to a very important person. But I can't tell you who."

A week later Mrs. Clinton reveals to a crowd of 300 reporters that the house's secret theme is Santa's workshop, and Mesnier, happy as a kid showing off a new toy, explains that the Cell Phone Santa perched on the roof of the workshop is talking to President Clinton, "asking his permission to take Socks with him on his rounds." A marzipan Socks peeks out of Santa's bag of gifts. (Later on Mesnier jokes that next year he may have to add a chocolate dog to the house in honor of the president's new chocolate-colored Labrador puppy.)
McCulloch and Mesnier have worked together for the past 15 years.

Here's a favorite recipe:
SPICED FRUIT BARS
1 pound sugar
6 1/2 ounces (1 1/2 sticks plus 1 tablespoon) unsalted butter, at

Approximate nutrition analysis per serving (4 sandwiches): calories, 127; protein, 6 g; carbohydrates, 14 g; dietary fiber, 2 g; fat, 5 g; sodium, 299 mg.

CURRIED CHICKEN SALAD

TEA SANDWICHES

Makes 36 tea sandwiches.
2 cups chopped, cooked, boneless, skinless chicken breast
1/2 cup chopped celery
1/3 cup fat-free mayonnaise
1/3 cup raisins
3 tablespoons chopped scallions
2 teaspoons curry powder
1/8 teaspoon salt
A few drops of hot pepper sauce

18 slices white, wheat or pumpernickel bread
In a medium bowl, stir together all of the ingredients except the bread. If desired, add raisins from the slices of bread. Cut slices of bread into squares or triangles to form 4 tea sandwiches or use cookie cutters for a variety of shapes. Save leftover bread for the Banana Bread Pudding.

Approximate nutrition analysis per serving (2 triangles): calories, 187; protein, 6 g; carbohydrates, 32 g; dietary fiber, 7 g; fat, 4 g; sodium, 297 mg.

CHEESE SALMON CREAM

DILLED TEA SANDWICHES

Makes 40 tea sandwiches.
8 ounces light cream cheese
1 tablespoon chopped fresh dill weed
1 tablespoon chopped scallions
Few drops of hot pepper sauce
10 slices rye bread
3 ounces thinly sliced smoked salmon
Cut a small bowl, stir together the cream cheese, dill weed, scallions and hot pepper sauce. Using a serrated knife, trim the crusts from the slices of bread. Using a rolling pin, roll to flatten each slice slightly. Spread about 1/2 tablespoons of the cream cheese mixture over the entire surface of each slice of bread. Top with the salmon.

Approximate nutrition analysis per serving (2 triangles): calories, 15 g; carbohydrates, 36 g; dietary fiber, 2 g; fat, 3 g; sodium, 445 mg.

BANANA BANANA BREAD PUDDING

Starting on one side of a slice of bread, roll it up jelly-roll fashion. Cut the roll crosswise to form 4 rounds. Repeat with the remaining slices of bread; Arrange rounds on a serving plate, cover the top with plastic wrap and refrigerate until ready to serve.

Denyce Graves — A Cathedral Christmas

Mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves performs with the 100-voice Cathedral Choral Society, the Cathedral Boys Choir and the Cathedral Festival Orchestra at the Washington National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.
8:00 p.m.

The Morgan Choir: A Silver Celebration

This program of musical offerings include "Battle Hymn of the Republic," the choral movement "Ode to Joy" from Beethoven's Ninth Symphony, "Ezekiel Saw the Wheel," and more contemporary hymns
9:00 p.m.

Christmas at St. Olaf 1997

The annual St. Olaf Christmas Festival warmly welcomes the Minnesota holiday night with music. This year, the 450-piece matted choir and 100-piece orchestra perform classic Christmas favorites along with Scandinavian songs.
7:00 p.m.

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room temperature.
3/4 cup molasses
Pinch of salt
1 teaspoon lemon rind
1 teaspoon mace
1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
1 tablespoon baking soda dissolved in 1/3 cup water
4 eggs
6 cups bread flour
1 scant cup sliced almonds
3 ounces curcums
2 ounces candied lemon peel
2 ounces candied orange peel
4 1/2 ounces semisweet chocolate
Nonpareils or other cookie sugar for garnish

In a mixing bowl, cream together the sugar and butter, then add the molasses, salt, lemon rind, mace and cinnamon and combine thoroughly. Add the dissolved baking soda and the eggs. Gradually mix in the bread flour. Stir in the almonds, currants and candied lemon and orange peels. Cover and refrigerate overnight.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. Shape 6 loaves (about 13 inches long by 1 1/2 inches wide) and place them on cooking parchment, 4 inches apart. Bake at 350 degrees until firm (about 25 to 30 minutes). Allow to cool.

Melt the chocolate in a double boiler or microwave, then brush it over the top of each spiced fruit loaf. Let cool briefly then decorate with nonpareils while the chocolate is still sticky. Allow to dry, then cut each log into 15 slices, to make 90 loaves.

DINNER FOR TWO

You don't even need to be the table for this intimate little party. Make a decadent boxed dinner for two, and enjoy it in the most comfortable spot in the house — such as in front of the fire or even the television. If you've rented some favorite films.

Fill lunchboxes, a picnic basket or a white cardboard cake box with luxurious foods that you can suck on all night: a tin of curried, hard-boiled quail eggs, olives, pate, assorted cheeses and crackers, paper-thin slices of prosciutto, fresh fruit, spiced nuts, chocolate truffles, miniature tarts and cookies.

Wrap your best silver in your prettiest napkins, and tie with ribbon. Make the evening even more festive by serving champagne cocktails: Place a sugar cube in a champagne flute, add a dash of Angostura bitters, and pour champagne over. As the sugar cube dissolves, the drink will take on a rosy glow and delicious flavor.

NEW YEAR'S DAY OPEN HOUSE

A relaxed, informal gathering on Jan. 1 is a wonderful way to share the new year with friends, family and neighbors. Invite a big group at an open house, people will come

Martha

Continued from C1

available at specialty kitchen shops, works best) under one cookie. Place it on a clean kitchen towel. Using your fingers, fold cookie loosely in half, pinching the top together to form a taco shape. Insert your index fingers into each open end, and press your thumbs gently into the center of the folded edge while bringing the two open ends toward each other, forming the shape of a fortune cookie. This whole process should take about 10 seconds. Once the cookie hardens, which begins to happen almost immediately, you cannot fold it. Place the cookie on the kitchen towel to cool and shape the second cookie. Repeat until all the batter is used up. To avoid wasting batter, try the shaping process with a circle of paper first. Write your index fingers on strips of paper, and thread through the cooled cookies.

QUESTIONS SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO

Martha Stewart, care of The New York Times Syndication Sales Corp., 122 E. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10168. Or visit The Times-News Online's NewsLink page at www.marthastewart.com to contact Martha Stewart for e-mail. (Questions of general interest will be answered in this column; Martha Stewart regrets that unpublished letters cannot be answered individually.)

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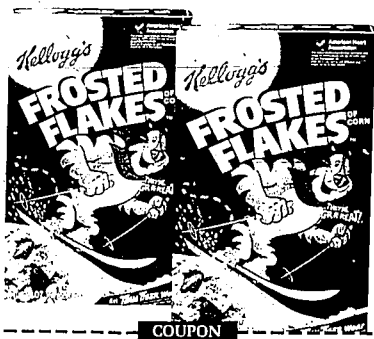
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Dress for the part

Job interview gives you chance to get beyond the resume

The resume was a hit, and the phone schmoozing paid off. It's interview time.

You're summoned to the personnel director's office at such-and-such a time. You scan the closet for that perfect outfit, one that says "I'll be me," and it's just not there. You panic.

Perhaps this that terrifying interview for a first job, or maybe it's a return to the work force after a long hiatus. In a business world that, sadly, doesn't come with an instruction manual, how do you dress for success?

First impressions are the key to interviewing success, says Susan Morem, author of "How to Gain the Professional Edge." Shoes should be well-polished and clean.

For men: A dress shoe that's darker than the suit fabric and matches the belt.

For women: no sandals or open-toed shoes. A medium-height heel is safest — same color style applies.

DI BRACEFACE
Women: Carry a braceface before carrying on.

Similar to that environment, ask the human resource person and don't be shy. If you're going to err, do it on the side of being too conservative.

What about color? Navy blue is good, but sometimes overdone. Haxton says. Royal blue and burgundy are some memorable alternatives for women. Image consultants like you have friends that are

The details

Swear the suit fast. That's the first piece of advice many image consultants give their job-seeking clients.

OK, you have the suit. But what about the details? Interviewers will notice them. Here's a checklist to post on the full-length mirror:

DI SHOES
"Many people look at the condition of people's shoes to see if they pay attention to detail," says Susan Morem, author of "How to Gain the Professional Edge." Shoes should be well-polished and clean.

For men: A dress shoe that's darker than the suit fabric and matches the belt.

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ring and neck, and never carry both. For men and women, the braceface should be professional, leather or high-quality canvas. A classy, leather portfolio works, too.

DI JEWELRY
Less is more. One ring per hand, and it's a good idea to wear a classy, business-like watch. Nothing big and clunky. "I know it's not a fancy, but I don't recommend a pierced ear for a man," says Morem, who has other piercings, leave them out.

DI BRUSH OFF
Make sure your suit is free of dirt, dog, wetlines and animal hair. Oh, and don't forget to make sure that you're buttoned and zipped. Especially that pesky fly.

For women: no sandals or open-toed shoes. A medium-height heel is safest — same color style applies.

DI BRACEFACE
Women: Carry a braceface before carrying on.

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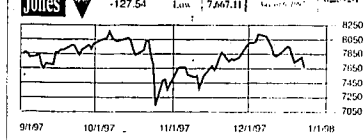
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Blue-chip stocks sank sharply Tuesday, slicing 127 points off the Dow Jones industrial average, as investors moved to protect themselves from any new jolts from Asia during a lightly traded holiday week.

The Dow Jones industrial average sank 127.54 to 7,917.77, with almost all of that damage coming in the last hour of trading.

Broad-market indexes were also hit hard late in the session after holding fairly steady for most of the day despite another

December 23, 1997



panicky selloff in South Korea. Investors initially drew some confidence from European mar-

kets, which rose despite a record 7.5 percent plunge by South Korea's main stock index.

Economic Indicator



The gross domestic product increased 3.1 percent at an annual rate during the July-September period, little changed from the previous quarter's robust 3.3 percent advance, the Commerce Department said Tuesday.

It also reported that orders to U.S. factories for big-ticket durable goods shot up 4.8 percent in November to a seasonally adjusted \$195 billion, the steepest

Economic indicators may point to trouble ahead

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The nation's economy was growing strongly as fall began, but signs are now emerging that the Asian financial crisis could begin sapping its strength.

The gross domestic product increased 3.1 percent at an annual rate during the July-September period, little changed from the previous quarter's robust 3.3 percent advance, the Commerce Department said Tuesday.

It also reported that orders to U.S. factories for big-ticket durable goods shot up 4.8 percent in November to a seasonally adjusted \$195 billion, the steepest

jump in five years. They had fallen 0.1 percent a month earlier. However, the gain came almost entirely from the transportation sector, particularly a huge 118 percent surge in the aircraft component. Excluding transportation, orders fell 0.2 percent, the second straight decline.

Economist Bruce Steinberg of Merrill Lynch & Co. in New York noted that demand for business equipment was particularly weak in November. Orders for nonmilitary capital goods excluding aircraft fell 2 percent, also the second straight decline.

"That may be among the first signs that the Asian crisis is hitting home," he said.

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Symbol	Price	Change	Symbol	Price	Change
IBM	121 1/4	+1/4	IBM	121 1/4	+1/4
MSFT	49 1/2	+1/2	MSFT	49 1/2	+1/2
GE	29 1/4	+1/4	GE	29 1/4	+1/4
...

MARKET SUMMARY

Index	Value	Change
Dow Jones	7,917.77	-127.54
S&P 500	1,058.12	-14.28
NASDAQ	2,119.18	-23.15
...

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Symbol	Price	Change
ABT	34 1/4	+1/4
ADP	48 3/4	+1/4
...

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Symbol	Price	Change
IBM	121 1/4	+1/4
MSFT	49 1/2	+1/2
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MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Lists various commodities like Corn, Soybeans, Wheat, and their price movements.

BEANS

Table listing prices for various bean types such as Soybeans, Lentils, and Peas.

GRAINS

Table listing prices for grains including Corn, Soybeans, and Wheat.

MINNEAPOLIS (API)

Table with columns: Wheat, Corn, Soybeans, and their respective prices.

WHEAT

Table listing prices for different grades of wheat.

WHEAT

Table listing prices for various wheat contracts.

SOYBEANS

Table listing prices for different grades of soybeans.

SOYBEANS

Table listing prices for soybean futures contracts.

POTATOES/ONIONS

Table listing prices for potatoes and onions.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table listing prices for various fossil fuels like Oil, Gas, and Coal.

METALS/CURRENCY

Table listing prices for metals and currency exchange rates.

SUGAR

Table listing prices for sugar futures contracts.

LIVESTOCK

Table listing prices for various livestock including cattle, hogs, and sheep.

NEW YORK (NYMEX)

Table listing prices for commodities traded on the New York Mercantile Exchange.

NEW YORK (NYMEX)

Table listing prices for various futures contracts.

NEW YORK (NYMEX)

Table listing prices for different types of oil and gas.

NEW YORK (NYMEX)

Table listing prices for various metals.

NEW YORK (NYMEX)

Table listing prices for various currencies.

NEW YORK (NYMEX)

Table listing prices for various livestock.

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Table listing prices for soybean futures contracts.

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Table listing prices for potatoes and onions.

Interview

Continued from C7

Experts recommend neutral colors to keep the interviewer's attention on you, not what you're wearing.

Some absolute color rules: A woman's pantyhose should always be sheer. The hair color you choose should match his colors.

Other tips: Nails should be clean, manicured and not too long. Nail polish is safe in most jobs.

What about my budget? If you can afford it, buy two suits — one for the first interview and another for the call-back.

No one expects students right out of college to have designer labels, consultants say, but putting time into your appearance always shows and helps.

Don't forget the inside. Image consultants stress a well-groomed, classy exterior, but the real work is always the same: You have to feel comfortable with the clothes to make them work for you.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table listing various mutual funds with columns for Name, Sell Chg, TER, Assets, and other financial metrics.

FAMILY LIFE

Spreading Santa's spirit can bring joy year round

DEAR ABBY: I was disappointed in your response to "Grandma in Saratoga Springs" regarding her grandson's belief in Santa Claus. I don't disagree that the truth should be told, Abby, but HOW the truth is presented can make all the difference in the world in the eyes and heart of a child. The truth about Santa was shared with me in such a wonderful way, there were no bad feelings—only a lifetime of inspiration. When I asked if there really was a Santa Claus, my mother responded, "Santa isn't a real person who lives at the North Pole, but the Santa we see on TV, in stores and at parties is a reminder of the Santa spirit, which spreads joy and happiness. Daddy is Santa Claus, and Mom is Santa Claus, and Grandma and Grandpa are Santa Claus. They buy you gifts and do nice things for you because they love you and want to



DEAR ABBY

Allycia VanBuren

make you happy. Now that you're old enough, you, too, can be Santa Claus."

I was, and am, Santa Claus. At first, part of being Santa was keeping the illusion of Santa alive for the younger children. I got to stay up late, and it was my job to wrap the stockings stuffers and stuff the stockings. It meant drinking the milk and eating the cookies left for Santa. Trying to make the carrots left for the reindeer

appear "reindeer-nibbled" was more difficult, and not as desirable.

As I have grown older, the Santa spirit has grown and spread. In college, my dorm mates and I played "Secret Santas," delivering goodies and little gifts to each other during living weeks. Later in life, I'd drop off a batch of Christmas cookies to the nearest fire or police station as I made my way to my parent's house on Christmas Eve. You can be Santa Claus while shopping—whistle Christmas carols, wear sleigh bells that jingle while you walk, smile at those who pass—be kind and prudent with store credit.

I love being Santa Claus because there is so much joy in giving. It's better than any present you can receive. I hope that my Santa spirit will be with me throughout the year, and that others will find the same joy

that comes from being Santa Claus.

—A JOLLY ELF IN ASHTABULA, OHIO
DEAR JOLLY ELF: I'm certain that your Santa spirit will be with you throughout the year, and many readers will be inspired by your spirit of giving. Thank you for an upper of a letter.

DEAR ABBY: I have aunts, uncles and cousins I never see because we have nothing in common. I also have two siblings who detest me, and the feelings are mutual. I have built my own "family" over the years, and I'm much closer to them than to my blood relatives, excluding my parents, with whom I very like.

My problem is that it seems like the world expects—and insists—that you be close. Comments like, "But he's your brother!" make my blood boil. Why do they insist that I like people I wouldn't bother

with if I met them on the street or at a cocktail party?
 I'd much rather give my love and compassion to people I care about than be a hypocrite just because of an accident of birth. It is such a sin to not like a family member? Abby, please respond, as I respect your opinion.

—BEEKMAN PLACE
DEAR BEEKMAN PLACE: It is not a "sin" to dislike a family member. However, it is interesting that you have cut yourself off not only from two siblings, but also from aunts and cousins, and I cannot help but wonder why you are avoiding the majority of your family.

Confidential to my readers: Have a merry Christmas, but also keep in mind: If you're drinking, do not drive if you're driving, please do not drink.



The Times-News CLASSIFIED

MARKETPLACE

— Reach more than 53,000 readers a day with just one phone call! • Twin Falls: 733-0931 • Burley: 677-4042 —

- 050 - Legal		- 400 - Education		612 Pastures For Rent 613 Pasture Wanted 614 Wanted To Rent 615 Mobile Home Sale 618 Roommates Wanted	823 Variety Food & Services 824 Vehicle Equipment 825 Wanted To Buy 826 Camping Equipment 827 Garage Sales 828 Medical Supplies 829 Flea Markets 830 Wanted Collectibles	132 3rd Street West P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303 OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 to 5:30 Sat. 8:00 to 10:00 AM (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY ON SATURDAY)	325 1/2 East 5th North Burley, Idaho 83318 Call 733-0931 Fax 734-5538 In Burley Call 677-4042 Fax 677-4543										
- 100 - Personals		- 400 - 401 Schools/Instructors 402 Music Lessons 403 Tutoring		- 700 - Agriculture													
- 100 - Personals		- 500 - Real Estate Sales		- 700 - 701 Livestock 702 Farm/Ranch Supplies 703 Custom Farm Services 705 Irrigation 706 Farm Seed & Fertilizer 708 Hay, Grain & Feed		Call 733-0931 Fax 734-5538 In Burley Call 677-4042 Fax 677-4543	- Happy Ads - Celebrate a special event in the lives of friends and loved ones with a <i>Times-News</i> Happy Ad. Display ads of any size are available at special rates. Call a <i>Times-News</i> customer service representative for more information.										
- 200 - Employment		501 Open Homes 502 Homes for Sale 510 Out-Of-State Homes 511 Out-Of-State Homes 512 Farms/Ranches/Danies 513 Acreages and Lots 514 Income Property 515 Commercial Property 516 Vacation Property/ Time Shares		- 800 - Merchandise				- We're Open - 8 AM to 5:30 PM Mon.-Fri. 8 AM to 10 AM Saturday (BY APPOINTMENT ONLY ON SATURDAY)	- Deadlines - For Private Party Line Ads: <table border="1"> <tr><td>WEDNESDAY</td><td>DEADLINE</td></tr> <tr><td>5 PM Friday</td><td>10 AM Saturday</td></tr> <tr><td>2 PM Monday</td><td>2 PM Tuesday</td></tr> <tr><td>2 PM Wednesday</td><td>2 PM Thursday</td></tr> <tr><td>2 PM Friday</td><td>4 PM Thursday</td></tr> </table>	WEDNESDAY	DEADLINE	5 PM Friday	10 AM Saturday	2 PM Monday	2 PM Tuesday	2 PM Wednesday	2 PM Thursday
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- 200 - Employment		517 Condominiums 518 Mobile Homes 519 Cemetery Lots 520 Real Estate Wanted 521 Manufactured Homes		- 900 - Recreation		Pre-Payment <i>The Times-News</i> accepts payment for classified ads in cash, personal check, Visa, MasterCard or electronic check.	ad-one CLASSIFIED NETWORK										
- 300 - Financial		- 600 - Real Estate Rental		- 1000 - Transportation				Responsibilities Check your ad for errors the first day. <i>The Times-News</i> will be responsible for the first incorrect insertion. We are not responsible for the cost of space occupied by the error. The publisher assumes no financial responsibility for errors or omission of copy.	Classified Specials - 1-Day Guarantee Ad... 15-Day Real Estate Guarantee Ad... Ad rates cancelled early for customer convenience but will not be credited or substituted. For private party rates, exclude pets and livestock.								
214 Employment Wanted 215 Resume Preparation 216 Employment Agencies 217 Employment Opportunities		601 Furnished Homes 602 Unfurnished Homes 603 Furnished Apts/Duplexes 604 Unfurnished Apts/Duplexes 605 Rooms For Rent... 606 Mobile Homes 607 Office & Retail Rentals 608 Commercial Property 609 Condominium/Time Shares 610 Storage/Warehouse Rental 611 Farms For Rent		801 Antiques & Collectibles 802 Appliances 803 Bazaars & Crafts 804 Building Materials 805 Cameras & Equipment 806 Children's Items 807 Clothing 808 Communication Equipment 809 Computers 810 Firewood 811 Furniture/Carpet 812 Heating & Air Conditioning 813 Auctions 814 Jewelry & Furs 815 Lawn & Garden 816 Exercise Equipment 817 Miscellaneous For Sale 818 Musical Instruments 819 Office Equip./Supplies 820 Pets & Supplies 821 Stereo/Radio/CDs 822 Tools & Machinery		901 ATVs & Motorcycles 902 Bicycles 903 Boats & Accessories 904 Campers & Sheds 905 Guns & Rifles 906 Hot Tubs & Pools 907 Motor Homes & RVs 908 Snow Vehicles & Equip. 909 Sporting & Hunting Equip. 910 Travel Trailers 911 Utility Trailers				Transportation 1001 Aviation 1002 Auto Parts & Accessories 1004 Autos Wanted 1005 Antiques & Collectibles 1006 Semitrailer Equipment 1007 Trucks 1008 Truck Parts & Accessories 1009 4x4s 1010 Vans & Buses 1020 Auto for Sale 1053 Imports & Sports Cars 1054 Sports Cars 1055 Auto Services & Repairs 1099 Auto Dealers	Senior Citizens Rate... 25% off regular rates Student Rate... 25% off regular rates - prepaid with student ID card						

It's all here!

The Times-News
 Classified
 Marketplace
 733-0931

<h3>LEGAL NOTICE</h3> <p>NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE Trustee's Sale No. 02-PR-11845 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT SUSAN ROBINSON, the duly appointed Successor Trustee will on April 14, 1998, at 10:00 AM, of said day, in the lobby of the office of FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, 260 Third Avenue North, Twin Falls, Idaho, sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful money of the United States, all payable at the time of sale, the following described real property situated in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, to wit: All of Lot 16, the West 10 foot of Lot 17 and the East 5 foot of Lot 15 in Block 9 of Murtagh Second Addition, Twin Falls County, Idaho, according to the plat thereon, recorded in Book 2 of Plats, page 1, in the office of the County Recorder of said County. The Trustee has no knowledge of a more particular description of the above-referenced real property but for purposes of compliance with Section 60-113 of Idaho Code, the Trustee has been informed that the address of 1527 Elizabeth Boulevard, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301, is sometimes associated with said real property. Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty regarding title, possession or encumbrances to satisfy the obligation secured by and pursuant to the power of sale granted in the deed of trust executed by LOREN E. LARSON AND CYNTHIA R. LARSON, HUSBAND AND WIFE, as Grantor, to TWIN FALLS TITLE & ESCROW, as Trustee, for the benefit and security of WEST ONE BANK, IDAHO, as beneficiary, recorded May 31, 1995, as Instrument No. 1995096481, Mortgage records of Twin Falls County, Idaho. The beneficial interest in said Deed of Trust was assigned to PRINCIPAL RESIDENTIAL MORTGAGE, INC., an Iowa Corporation, by endorsement recorded June 16, 1995, as Instrument No. 1995096427, Mortgage records of said county and state. THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-1506(A) IDAHO CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE, OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION. The default for which this sale is to be made is the failure to pay when due, under the Deed of Trust Noted May 26, 1995, the monthly payments for principal, interest and impounds of \$749.92 per month for the months of MARCH 1997 through JUNE 1997, and \$756.47 for the months of JULY 1997 through DECEMBER 1997, and all subsequent payments until the date of sale or reinstatement, with a monthly charge of \$25.81 and a pre-accrued late charges of \$226.04, together with beneficiary advances in the amount of \$1,156.25. The principal balance is \$83,192.40, together with interest thereon at 8.500% per annum from February 1, 1997, until paid. All delinquencies are new due, together with unpaid and accruing taxes, assessments, trustee fees, attorney's fees, costs and advances made to protect the security associated with this foreclosure. The Beneficiary elects to sell or cause the trust property</p>	<h3>LEGAL NOTICE</h3> <p>to be sold to satisfy said obligation. DATED December 10, 1997. /s/Susan Robinson, Successor Trustee c/o Regional Trust Services Corporation 1201 Third Avenue, Suite 2750 Seattle, WA 98101 Phone (206)340-2250</p> <p>PUBLISH: December 24 and 31, 1997 and January 7 and 14, 1998</p>	<h3>LEGAL NOTICE</h3> <p>LEGAL NOTICE Child Care Quality Improvement Funds Available The Department of Health and Welfare, Region V, has grant funds available to fund special, one-time projects to improve the quality of child care. Guidelines include, but are not limited to, start up or prior separation of before/after school care centers, non-traditional hours, summer day care projects, purchasing health and safety equipment or playground equipment and grant award guidelines are available. Contact the Department of Health and Welfare, 601 Poling Dr., Twin Falls, ID 83301 or contact Lisa Hoag or Gayle Hawkins at 208-736-3020. Applications will be accepted until 5:00 p.m. on January 9, 1998.</p> <p>PUBLISH: December 23, 24 and 25, 1997</p>	<h3>LEGAL NOTICE</h3> <p>NOTICE OF FILING DEADLINE NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN: That the office of directors for North Idaho Credit Union, District of the Divisions #3 and #5 must be filed with the court on or before the first day that it runs, as The Times-News is not responsible for errors after that time.</p> <p>Please check your ad for correctness on the first day that it runs, as The Times-News is not responsible for errors after that time.</p>
<h3>104 PERSONALS</h3> <p>FORGET PHEN-FEN! Try the 3 day alternative. Free 3 Day Sample 678-4322/1-888-266-0024</p> <p>SINGLE! Meet someone w/ same interests & values. Free info. 1-800-949-0411 www.heartquest.com</p>	<h3>106 SPECIAL NOTICES</h3> <p>ALCOHOLIC ANONYMOUS 733-6300 & 208-726-4650</p> <p>FAX YOUR AD TIMES CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5538 208-677-4543 (BURLEY)</p> <p>REMEMBER That before you place some time ago in the Times-News? Now is the time to come pick up your pictures. Stop by The Customer Service Dept today!</p>	<h3>107 ALTERNATIVES</h3> <p>PREGNANCY CRISIS CENTER FREE TESTING 734-7472 • 800-371-7472</p> <p>108 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES BAKRUPTCY Competitive rates on Chapter 7 Bankruptcy. Call Jill Stork at 734-8452.</p>	

Due to the Christmas holiday, the Times-News will have early deadlines for classifieds.

Deadline for Thursday, Dec. 25 will be 10:00 am on Wednesday, Dec. 24.

Deadline for Friday, Dec. 26 will be Noon, Wednesday, Dec. 24.

The Times-News will be closed Christmas Day. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you and thank you in advance for your assistance.

The Times-News

BANKRUPTCY Ad Chapter 7 & 11... 533-7740

QUALITY HOME CLEANING 10 years in service... 1-800-997-2287

110 HOME/HEALTH CARE SERVICES

IDAHO HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE 734-4001 Twin Falls

PRIVATE HOME CARE for the elderly... 208-877-4353

113 CHILD CARE SERVICES 20 yrs pre-school activities... 734-4001

MOM needs income, twins need a nanny... 208-324-0300

200 Employment

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE Don't pay to find work before you get the job...

AUTOMOTIVE Responsible person over 18 needs... 734-7300

CERICAL Now hiring experienced Secretaries... 734-7300

PERSONNEL PLUS Keep an eye on classifieds... 208-877-4622

CERICAL Need someone with computer knowledge... 734-7300

DRIVERS Now hiring experienced... 208-877-4622

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CONSTRUCTION Full time sheet metal layout... 208-877-4622

CONSTRUCTION Construction P.M. Superintendent... 208-877-4622

CONSTRUCTION Construction P.M. Superintendent... 208-877-4622

CUSTOMER SERVICE ASSISTANT The Times-News has a part-time opening...

DAIRY help, experience necessary, must be able to milk, run feeding equipment...

100 HOME/HEALTH CARE SERVICES

IDAHO HOME HEALTH AND HOSPICE

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NEW CAR DEALER PARTS MANAGER... 208-877-4622

WANT an excellent compensation package? WANT a position where your ideas mean something? WANT great living conditions for your family?

Send us a letter or resume with salary history... 208-877-4622

MECHANIC Boat/marine mechanic... 208-877-4622

MECHANIC Custom Farming... 208-877-4622

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DIRECTOR OF NURSING... 208-877-4622

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SALES Now motivating individuals... 208-877-4622

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SECRETARY St. Benedict's seeking secretary for home Health Department... 208-877-4622

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SALES SURVEY form with questions 1-5 and contact information for The Times-News.

Large advertisement for The Times-News Classified Marketplace with phone number 733-0931 and a graphic of a telephone.

