



GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy early then some clearing, light winds, high 13. Clear tonight, low 0.

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MAGIC VALLEY

Burning issue: A Twin Falls smoke shop's owners are fuming over a recent raid.

Page C1

SPORTS

Battle of the QBs: Dan Marino faced off against John Elway Monday in Miami.

Page B1

OPINION

Know thy neighbor: No one has been hurt by publicizing the names of Idaho's sex offenders, and some parents have been helped, today's editorial says.

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NATION

Damage assessment: Iraq's foreign minister says the U.S. bombing attacks on this country destroyed two factories that produce small parts for missiles.

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WORLD

Mideast muddle: Israel lawmakers signal the end of the prime minister's hard-line government.

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THE DEEP FREEZE



Freezing weather creates a dazzling display of ice and flowing water at Shoshone Falls Monday as Brock Randolph and Lisa Bawley of Park City, Utah, view the 100-foot-long cascade.

Think this is cold? Try 8 years ago

By Phil Marcantelone
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS—Bundle up—It's supposed to be the coldest day of the year. But compared to records set in 1990, temperatures are relatively mild.

Temperatures dipped to minus 50 degrees in the Dawn Falls area Monday morning, and today's low temperatures will be close, said Tom Eggen, with the Weather Service office in Boise.

"It's like, 'We're going to be quite cold until the weekend,'" he said. "How will it mean in the single-digit-percentage-level dip in the high-altitude areas in degrees by Christmas Eve."

Monday was the coldest day of those set in 1990, Page A2

Warm up to these tips for cold weather.

For your home

- Close a parked car's hood to prevent heat loss.
- Close foundation vents to prevent frozen pipes.
- Use extra insulation on wood, masonry or oil if that is your main heat source.
- Block drafts with doors with a towel or blanket.
- Put plastic up on the inside of windows for extra insulation and to reduce moisture which may cause mold and rot.
- Use a carbon monoxide detector.

Colorado snow - C6

Newslink
www.magicvalley.com

For your health

- If you are elderly, keep the thermostat at least 70 degrees to prevent hypothermia - when the body temperature drops below normal. Early symptoms include shivering, cold skin and impaired judgment.
- Go outdoors, dress with several layers of clothing, including a hat. Don't drink alcohol - it makes the body lose heat faster.

- Warm up, drink warm liquids and eat high-energy foods like candy.
- For your car
- Have an adequate amount of antifreeze.
- Do not set your emergency brakes - especially after washing your car. The braking shoes might freeze to the drums.
- If traveling, carry chains, water, blanket, extra clothing, stocking hat, warm gloves, extra food and cell phone, flashlight, sleeping bag, road side flares and jumper cables.
- Carry deodor for doors.

Source: South Central Community Action Agency, South Central District Health Department, Boise State Police, Idaho Power, Vert Thomas Plumbing and John Harrison Post.

New FBI task force focuses on northern Idaho

The Associated Press

SPokane, Wash.—The FBI is forming a special task force to handle domestic terrorism cases in Eastern Washington, northern Idaho and Western Oregon, according to a news release.

Although details were not revealed, the task force was announced last week by Barbara Bassett, FBI director. The task force will have offices in Seattle and Salt

Lake City. Both divisions are involved in the group. "This is the first time in the history of the FBI that two field offices have come together to form a task force to look at an ongoing criminal problem," Bassett said.

The force will track anti-government and white supremacy groups that have spewed terrorism over the past 15 years in the region.

At least three dozen federal, state and local officers from the

three states will participate.

There were three acts of domestic terrorism in the United States in 1996, the most recent reporting period for the FBI. Two of those acts occurred in Spokane, where members of a militia group twice bombed buildings and robbed banks. Four men were convicted of the crimes.

The third case was a pipe bomb explosion at the Olympics in Atlanta that killed two people. Fugitive Eric Rudolph is wanted

for that crime.

The task force is being formed after the recent assignment of additional FBI agents to Spokane and Coeur d'Alene.

Coeur d'Alene, which had one FBI agent in 1994, now has seven agents. Spokane, which had five agents a decade ago, has almost a dozen.

They are part of 500 new FBI agents funded by Congress since the 1995 bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City.

Compromise remains alive, but senator calls for noninterference

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON—Sen. Robert C. Byrd, D-W.Va., an influential authority on the history and procedures of the Senate, Monday opened the door to a compromise resolution of the impeachment of President Clinton, but pointedly warned the White House not to order a concession.

"Byrd's statement comes as former Justice Department officials (R) and Justice (D) last week pressed a dimming a speedy resolution in the constitutional drama unfolding in Washington by urging the Senate to censure the president, rather than put the matter through a lengthy and divisive trial."

Republican senators, many

but more urgently turned their attention to the Senate phase of the battle.

Byrd's written statement outlined a two-track strategy that calls for an aggressive legal defense of the president in any Senate trial that might occur while attempting to encourage a bipartisan compromise that results in censuring the president for failing to tell the truth about his relationship with Monica S. Lewinsky.

Byrd's written statement Monday was seen as significant because he is a stickler for the rules and prerogatives of the Senate and because many Republicans were looking to him for procedural guidance on impeachment. The West

The president's day; his poll numbers rise; the trial process - A3

while, continued to keep their own counsel about how to resolve the impeachment issue, although some senior members, including Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin G. Hatch, R-Utah, said the Senate should avoid a trial - the second in U.S. history - if it is clear there are not enough votes to remove Clinton from office.

At the White House, officials continued to denounce the House for approving two articles of impeachment on Saturday,



The president and first lady prepare lasagna for the homeless during a visit Monday to a soup kitchen in Washington, D.C. The president is devoting part of the week to volunteer work.

Council tackles pawnshop ordinance

No exemptions, TF officer urges

By Mark Heinz
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS—More thieves are targeting used and antique furniture, often stealing from rented storage units, a Twin Falls police detective says.

So it might not be wise to grant exemptions to a recently passed city pawnshop ordinance, Police Capt. Jim Massey told the City Council Monday.

Designed to keep stolen goods from being fenced at pawnshops and other second-hand stores, the ordinance requires dealers to hold used merchandise for 30 days before selling it. Merchants must get a thumbprint of the person who brings in a used item; other documentation also is required.

Charles Packham, who owns the Bargain Side in Twin Falls, said the ordinance could hurt his business. He said he often goes to people's houses to pick up items they want to sell, and doesn't want to thumbprint those customers.

"That's certainly going to be insulting to many customers," he said.

But making exceptions to the ordinance would make it even more difficult to trace thefts from storage units, Massey said.

The council opted to take the matter under advisement, and is expected to rule on the issue next month.

Please see COUNCIL, Page A2

Net drug sales spark concern

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON—With a few computer keystrokes—and without ever seeing a doctor—Americans can buy powerful prescription drugs including some not approved for sale in this country.

Supporters say consumers are savvy enough to buy medicines over the Internet. But health experts fear the growing trend could endanger, even kill, patients. Several states are investigating Web sites, and the Drug Enforcement Administration has raided at least one Internet doctor as the government struggles with how to control drugs in cyberspace both here and abroad.

"Consumers are taking a huge risk... They may be risking their lives," warns William Hubbard of the Food and Drug Administration. "We're very con-

Please see INTERNET, Page A2

THE REGION

MAGIC VALLEY 7-DAY FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER

Comas Prairie

High: 0 Low: -17
Mostly cloudy early today then some clearing. Very cold. Mostly clear tonight. Sunny Wednesday, high 3.

Treasure Valley

High: 15 Low: 5
Mostly cloudy early today then some clearing. Very cold. Mostly clear tonight. Sunny Wednesday, high 18.

Sawtooth Mountains/Wood River Valley

High: 5 Low: 10
Mostly cloudy early today then some clearing. Very cold. Mostly clear tonight. Sunny Wednesday, high 8.

Eastern Idaho

High: 5 Low: -16
Mostly cloudy early today then some clearing. Very cold. Mostly clear tonight. Sunny Wednesday, high 8.

Northern Idaho

High: 10 Low: 5
Mostly cloudy today and tonight. Very cold. Mostly clear tonight. Partly sunny Wednesday, high 14.

Northern Utah

High: 17 Low: -2
Partly cloudy today with some clearing tonight. Sunny Wednesday and continued cold, high 17.

Northern Nevada

High: 13 Low: 0
Mostly cloudy early today then some clearing. Very cold. Mostly clear tonight. Sunny Wednesday, high 17.

Today	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
High: 13 Low: 0 Mostly cloudy early then some clearing. Clear tonight.	High: 17 Low: 2 Sun and continued cold.	High: 20 Low: 0 Sun. Some snow out.	High: 20 Low: 0 Mostly cloudy, slight chance of snow.	High: 20 Low: 5 Mostly cloudy, chance of snow.

National weather

The 7-day forecast for noon, Tuesday, Dec. 22. Shows surface high temperature zones for the U.S.

FRONTS: COLD WARM STATIONARY

For more information: Tune into the National Weather Service radio feed on WYFF-FM 162.4 or 162.55 MHz. The weather information is provided by the National Weather Service. Website: www.weather.gov

ACROSS THE NATION

UV INDEX Call the following numbers:
 Index: 1 (minimal) For road conditions in Idaho: 1-800-IDA-ROAD-1-800-432-7623
 Burn time: 40 minutes

ROAD INFORMATION

SKYWATCH

Sunset today 5:08 p.m.
 Sunrise tomorrow 8:06 a.m.
 Lunar phase: First quarter, Dec. 20, Jan. 2.
 Last quarter: Jan. 9, Nov. 17.

Twin Falls

Precipitation	Yesterday in Twin Falls
Yesterday 11 - 6	Month to date: .33
Last year 29 20	Normal mo. to date: .32
Normal 40 22	Water year to date: 1.74
	Normal year to date: 2.77

Idaho

Highs/Lows	Idaho High, 20 degrees	Idaho Low, -34 degrees
Boise 13 - 2	at Stansky	
Burley 14 - 1	Nation High, 87 at	
Chico 10 - 1	at Mohler, Trask, 10	
Hagerman 20 - 1	Nation Low, -27 at	
Idaho Falls 3 - 20	-42 at W. Yellow	
Jerome m m		
Leavittsville 10 - 2		
Malad 14 - 5	Comfort factors	
Malta 12 - 11	Noon humidity, 51%	
McCall 2 - 22	Noon barometer, 30.47	
Postville 10 - 1		
Salmon 0 - 17		
Stanley -7 - 32		
Sun Valley 6 - 14		

The Nation

Max	Min	Pcp
Albuquerque 23	54	.06
Arlington 46	39	12
Atlanta 46	32	.01
Boston 55	49	m
Denver 3	-4	.19
Detroit 43	35	.25
Honolulu 89	78	.02
Indianapolis 45	44	.52
Los Angeles 62	47	.00
Los Angeles 54	42	.01
Memphis 52	37	.02
Miami Beach 82	71	.00
Minneapolis 23	0	.02
New Orleans 79	66	m
Phoenix 58	50	.00
Portland 55	24	.26
Pittsburgh 55	44	.48
Reno 58	50	.02
Portland-Ore. 23	16	.01
Reno 17	0	.00
Salt Lake City 32	22	.03
San Francisco 43	33	.00
Seattle 40	14	.00
Spokane 55	44	m
Washington 57	48	.00

Canadian Cities

City	High	Low
Calgary	4	-20
Edmonton	35	20
Montreal	20	20
Toronto	20	20
Vancouver	29	20

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lyme disease vaccine receives FDA OK

WASHINGTON — The Food and Drug Administration approved the world's first vaccine against Lyme disease Monday, a shot anxiously awaited in tick-infested regions — but one that won't eliminate the threat.

Doctors warned that although SmithKline Beecham's LYMErix will help prevent Lyme disease, it isn't 100 percent protective and it takes three shots over a full year to build optimal immunity. So people still must take precautions against ticks, the FDA stressed.

The FDA approved LYMErix for vaccination of people ages 15 to 70 who live or work in grassy or wooded areas where Lyme disease-bearing ticks are present.

Feds buy pork to help farmers, charities

WASHINGTON — In its latest step to help struggling hog farmers, the government announced Monday the purchase of \$15 million worth of pork to supply food banks during the holiday season.

Prices for hogs are at their lowest prices in more than 40 years because of an oversupply. Last week, Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman formed a pork crisis task force that would make recommendations to help the industry.

Lab finds 'missing' asteroid spacecraft

WASHINGTON — After more than 24 hours without radio contact, scientists on Monday night relocated a robot spacecraft on a mission to track a giant asteroid.

NASA's Deep Space Network located the signal belonging to the Near Earth Asteroid Rendezvous (NEAR) spacecraft, which had sent signals to the craft early today, hoping to restore communications and retrieve data.

Report: Defeated senator offered post

WASHINGTON — Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun, who was defeated for re-election last month after a controversial term in office as the nation's first black female senator, has been offered the ambassadorship to New Zealand, a top aide to the senator said Monday.

The White House told the Illinois Democrat "a few weeks ago" that she could have the job if she wants it, William Mattea, her chief of staff, said.

IDAHO ROAD REPORT

BOISE (AP) — Here are Monday evening's road conditions from the Idaho Department of Transportation.

Interstate 84 — Dropoff Link Road, 10 miles north of Boise, closed for 10 miles. I-84 is closed from 10 miles north of Boise to 10 miles south of Boise. I-84 is closed from 10 miles north of Boise to 10 miles south of Boise. I-84 is closed from 10 miles north of Boise to 10 miles south of Boise.

Cold

Continued from B1

the year, but nowhere near the area record of minus 27 degrees in 1990, he said.

The tale was similar around the Magic Valley. In Seltman, the temperature hit minus 21 degrees Monday, but it was minus 25 degrees in 1994 and a record as minus 27 degrees on Dec. 23, 1990. Burley registered minus 1 Monday, but a 1994 record temperature was minus 21.

"I think we've seen the coldest," Fugazzi said.

Some of the coldest snow and ice in 1990 is an area of snow — a movement of cold air from the north.

"It's very dense cold air," he said. "This is what we saw in the Yukon. It sort of sneezed through the mountains and the valleys like molasses."

Idaho didn't suffer alone. The cause of the cold wave that in 1990 is an area of snow — a movement of cold air from the north.

The air mass also plummeted into the Midwest, northern Mississippi Valley and western Great Lakes. Temperatures were well below zero near Montana and Minnesota. In Minnesota, parts of northwestern Wisconsin.

The lowest temperatures remained near the arctic zone near Montana. But nowhere below zero, and Livingston and Jordan had wind chill values of 50 below zero.

Another weather system is in its way, but not as intense as that which is off the coast of the Pacific, Fugazzi said.

"There is a possibility there for a white Christmas," he said.

While the temperatures haven't settled, there have been stalled vehicles, frozen pipes and a demand on utilities.

"We don't have any communication problems to speak of. The system is holding very well," said Dan Olmstead, Idaho Power Co. spokesman in Twin Falls.

"Monday was the third day of snow, but a problem could result if the cold continues for weeks, Olmstead said.

The system is designed to carry a full power load, but may be strained if there is a continual demand as business and residential heaters work overtime, he said. Idaho Power serves about 70,000 customers in the Magic Valley.

Paul Evans Fitness operators left the cold snow.

Pipes froze, leaving 20 inches of water behind in a subfloor Monday morning, said Derek Mullenbaker, an owner of the health club. But there was no water damage, and they expect the pipes repaired later in the week.

"It could have been worse," he said.

Council Impeach

Continued from A1

in other business.

The council heard from owners of Magic Valley Food and Loan, which had won the bid for \$4,800 for about 100 seized and unclaimed firearms from the police department.

The council last week decided the guns should instead be destroyed.

Destroying the guns would set a bad precedent, especially since newly implemented federal background checks would keep criminals from buying the guns, said Jim Brennan.

"You're saying that these guns are either evil or illegal," he said.

The council decided to delay destroying the guns, but stopped short of promising a sale to the pawnshop.

By Byrd, a former Senate majority leader, went on to say, "Whether there is a trial or whether there is some other solution, that decision must be made by senators, and it must be bipartisan or it will have absolutely no credibility with the public."

White House officials regarded Byrd's statement as a positive development. "We hope that is the best solution for this matter would be made by senators and on a bipartisan basis," said White House spokesman Jim Kennedy. "We hope that such a resolution can be reached expeditiously so that we can get back to the business of the country as soon as possible."

Each side has a compromise could be achieved with no real involvement by the White House was not clear, given the reality that the Senate proposal call for some acknowledgment of wrongdoing by the president.

Times-News staff writer Mark Fugazzi can be reached at 324-6962.

Internet

Continued from A1

those states.

The government determines which drugs need prescriptions — because they're for serious medical problems and can cause serious side effects.

Yet U.S. Web sites tout: Viagra, highly risky for certain men; Valtrex, which treats genital herpes but can kill patients with weak immune systems; Meridia, a diet drug that requires doctor monitoring because it can raise blood pressure.

The Internet is making huge inroads in medicine, as doctors e-mail prescriptions, e-mail mail refills and patients turn to medical journals now available 24 hours a day.

But it also has opened a Pandora's box: Almost anyone can set up an online pharmacy. "I'm not a doctor, but I'm playing one on the Internet," is probably your worst nightmare," said Mark Herr of New Jersey's Division of Consumer Affairs.

Circulation

Daniel Walck, circulation manager

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LOTTERY UPDATE

WEDNESDAY'S ESTIMATED RESULTS

POWERBALL: 32, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11
 WILD CARD: 32, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11

POWERBALL drawn on WEDNESDAY: 32, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11

WEDNESDAY'S ESTIMATED RESULTS

POWERBALL: 32, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11
 WILD CARD: 32, 11, 11, 11, 11, 11

POWERBALL

3 5 15 17 45

POWERBALL: 6

POWERBALL

22 25 30 32 36 38

WILD CARD: 25

POWERBALL

3 8 15 30 32

NATION

President gets down to business following House's historic vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton went back to business Monday, talking budget with aides and a senator, making lasagna for the hungry and pledging justice in the Pan Am 103 bombing.

The president barely noted the weekend impeachment trial proceedings. When asked at a soup kitchen whether he had a message for Congress, he said, "I hope they have a merry Christmas."

When asked further about what the Senate could expect from his defense team, Clinton said, "A few days to celebrate the season." White House spokesman Joe Lockhart said the president's lawyers "will prepare an effective and persuasive defense if it does move to a trial. Even with the talks of potential action, they fall short of it, they need to do that."

The president began his day in a federal budget meeting with Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass. Lockhart said the two men joined budget issues were discussed, but said the meeting was at Kennedy's request.

Clinton held another budget meeting with his aides before joining first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton to help feed the hungry at the D.C. Central Kitchen. Their job was to prepare lasagna for about 500 people, which Clinton said was out of appreciation for the cakes and the 28,000 sax-



First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton and President Clinton take part in a ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va., Monday, marking the 25th anniversary of the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

phone-shopped almond cookies the night she sent his 1993 inauguration.

He said he hoped their service would inspire others to volunteer during the holidays.

The Clintons then headed across town to Arlington National Cemetery for a memorial service

commemorating the 19th anniversary of the Pan Am bombing. Beneath a steingray sky, they laid roses on a memorial altar erected in honor of the victims.

Clinton promised the families that the United States will keep pressure on Libya to turn over the bombing suspects.

Clinton poll numbers rise

WASHINGTON (AP) — At the end of a year that opened with allegations of a sexual affair and closed with his impeachment, President Clinton is enjoying some of the highest job approval ratings in his six years in office.

Our surveys taken after the House of Representatives impeached Clinton on Saturday showed jumps in the public's opinion of Clinton's job performance. At the same time, support for the Republican Party plummeted.

One poll, a CBS News-New York Times survey completed Sunday, gave the president a 73 percent job approval rating. That was up 5 percentage points from the week before and tied the all-time high from last January, just days after the public first learned of his affair with former White House intern Monica Lewinsky.

The same survey showed Republicans with their worst popularity ratings in the 14 years that CBS News and The New York Times have asked the question. Only 36 percent expressed a favorable view of the GOP, while 58 percent expressed an unfavorable one.

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PET OF THE WEEK
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The Shelter is located at 139 9th Ave. West. Call 736-2299.
The shelter will be closed Dec. 24-25. Merry Christmas, Bonnie, you are a great photographer for the Animal Shelter. We owe a lot of adoptions to you.

AN IMPEACHMENT TRIAL PRIMER

By David Hess
Knight-Ridder News Service

Under Senate rules, the trial process is virtually unavoidable once the Senate receives articles of impeachment. It takes two-thirds of the Senate to waive or amend the articles.

The preliminary legal jockeying probably won't get under way, at the earliest, until sometime the week of Jan. 11, several days after the Senate convenes for the first time in Congress. According to Senate rules and precedents, here's the process that follows:

Once it gets organized and formally receives the House of Representatives' two articles of impeachment against Clinton in a January ceremony, the Senate will send Chief Justice William Rehnquist as presiding officer for the proceedings. Rehnquist will be sworn in and then, in turn, will swear in the 100 senators to sit in judgment of the president.

The Senate will send a summons to the president outlining the charges against him and instructing him to answer at a specific date. Clinton probably will be given 30 days to respond. The House, in what is known as a process of "replication," will then be given time to answer the president's response. That can take another week or 10 days. Then the president will be given some time to rebut the replication. Again, maybe another week or 10 days.

The president would have the right, in this "pleading" phase of the proceedings, to demand a bill of particulars from the House "managers" spelling out exactly what it is he is accused of, including the time and place. It would be up to the House whether to respond to this demand.

During this period, the president or any senator could move the motion to dismiss the case. Such a motion would be decided by the full Senate with a simple majority. The Senate also could consider a

member's motion to adjourn, thus ending the entire proceeding.

The courtroom-style trial gets under way after all of the pleadings and arguments on motions are over. The House managers would present their case. Then the president's lawyers would offer their case. The president himself does not have to attend. Witnesses could be called by each side and questioned by each side. Documentary evidence also could be offered by each side. As in the "pretrial" stage of the process, the Senate could entertain motions to dismiss or to adjourn at this point.

After closing arguments, senators would go into a closed session to argue among themselves over the president's fate. Once they had completed that, they would open the proceedings and vote on each article of impeachment. They could limit the president's plea or any guilty verdict to two-thirds of senators voting in conviction. Conviction on either article means automatic removal from office.

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NATION

Like it was yesterday ...

Nerve helps emotional memories endure.

NEW YORK (AP) — Why do you remember from night to well when you don't have a clue to what you did two nights later?

In part, a study says, you can thank a nerve that runs to your brain from deep in your innards. Researchers found that stimulating this nerve in people improves memory. They say the finding might someday help victims of stroke or head injury recover faster.

The work helps explain why people remember emotionally charged events — weddings, deaths, insults — better than ordinary happenings. Scientists already know that part of the story is the body's response to emotional arousal: The body releases adrenaline and other hormones into the blood. But for the most part, those hormones can't get into the brain. So how could they influence memory?

The new work points to the vagus (pronounced VAY-gus) nerve, which extends from the brainstem to most of the body's internal organs. The vagus nerve is kind of a two-way street. It relays orders

Researchers zero-in-on gene for sudden-death disorder

DALLAS (AP) — Researchers say they have all but located a gene responsible for a heart-rhythm abnormality that can cause young, seemingly healthy people to drop dead without warning.

The disorder, arrhythmogenic right ventricular dysplasia, or ARVD, could be responsible for 5 percent to 15 percent of sudden deaths among people under 35.

People who are diagnosed with the disorder can be treated with implanted defibrillators, drugs and, occasionally, surgery. But often, ARVD goes unnoticed

Memory nerve

Researchers found that people's memory improves when the vagus nerve is stimulated. It relays orders from the brain to regulate things like heart rate, while letting the brain know what's going on in the organs.



Source: Pocket Atlas of Human Anatomy

from the brain to regulate things like heart rate, while keeping the brain informed about what's going on in the organs, such as whether the stomach is full.

until a person drops dead.

Researchers found the gene's approximate location by studying seven generations of a large Canadian family that included 10 people with ARVD. They hope to isolate the gene and then clone it — perhaps within a year or two — and develop a blood test to identify carriers of the deadly flaw.

"The immediate benefit is you can then screen people who have the bad gene, and they can have a defibrillator put in," said Dr. Robert Roberts of the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston.

Octuplets hang on; doctors give guarded hope

HOUSTON (AP) — The tiniest weights just 10.3 ounces and can fit inside a hand. The largest doesn't measure up to the littles of the McCaughy septuplets. But the Chukvu octuplets — the world's only known living set of eight babies — were hanging on Monday.

All eight children of Nkem and Iyke Chukvu (nih-KEHM and ee-KAY chuhk-WOO) remained in critical condition at Texas Children's Hospital, a day after seven of them were delivered by Caesarean section. A girl born on Dec. 8 was already breathing on her own and was occasionally being given oxygen.

Doctors gave the babies an 85 percent chance of survival, although seven were on ventilators.

Pentagon wants new retirement plan, raises

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an effort to entice its men and women in uniform to stay, the Pentagon said Monday it will ask Congress to restore military retirement to 50 percent of base pay and raising paychecks by 4.4 percent for fiscal 2000.

In announcing the package, Defense Secretary William Cohen and Army Gen. Henry H. Shelton, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said they were addressing concerns the troops have raised on several occasions.

Treasury to fix glitch that aids Social Security

WASHINGTON (AP) — A computer glitch has resulted in Social Security's reserve account earning higher interest than it should be, an error that is gaining the retirement program billions of extra dollars from the federal Treasury.

In a letter to key members of Congress last week, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin said a fix is in the works. The protection, he said, won't take away money already unintentionally credited to Social Security — along with several other government programs similarly affected. But it would stop additional overpayments in the future.

"The existing balances of the trust funds for Social Security, will not be affected," Rubin wrote in the Dec. 18 letter.

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NATION



A firefighter checks on a child from a derailed Amtrak train in Arlington, Texas, Sunday. The accident injured more than a dozen of the 139 passengers.

Amtrak accident injures 15

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — An Amtrak train carrying 199 people derailed late Sunday, injuring 19 passengers, only four hours after it struck and killed a deaf woman walking on the tracks.

It wasn't clear why Nancy Martinez, 33, was on the tracks in her southeast Dallas neighborhood, police Lt. B.J. Watkins said.

The Chicago-to-Los Angeles train stopped for about three hours while police investigated, but passengers said they weren't told why.

"It just stopped and they didn't say anything to us except to say that something happened," said



Wayne Newell, a passenger from Deer Park, Ill.

About four hours after the accident, the train derailed 20 miles

away in Arlington.

At least 19 passengers aboard the double-decker superliner, Amtrak's Texas Eagle, were treated for minor injuries, officials said.

"It's generalized mostly as neck and back pain," Arlington fire Lt. Pat English said. "So we're really thankful it wasn't worse."

Six passenger cars and three locomotives left the tracks, English said.

John Wolf, an Amtrak spokesman in Washington, would not say how fast the train was traveling. Amtrak also didn't have any explanation for the derailment.

Teen gets 45 years in 'Scream' stabbings

CHIPPEWA FALLS, Wis. (AP) — A teen-ager who stabbed an ex-girlfriend's parents while wearing a black robe and white mask like the attacker in the slasher movie "Scream 2" was sentenced Tuesday to 45 years in prison.

Thaddeus Swim, 16, indicated that he was influenced by the

movies and "that his reality and fiction started to intertwine," District Attorney Tim Sobie said.

Swim had pleaded guilty to battery and attempted murder for wounding Eugene and Debbie Neitze in their home on July 27. Mrs. Neitze was seriously wounded in the neck. Her husband, a

police officer, had less serious wounds.

Swim was wearing a costume similar to the hooded Grim Reaper outfit worn by the knife-wielding attacker in "Scream 2."

Swim will be eligible for parole after serving one-fourth of the term.

Report: More freedom than ever before

NEW YORK (AP) — Where countries than ever are respecting their citizens' civil rights and granting them a high degree of freedom, but economic and political instability has made some countries more repressive, a report issued Monday said.

The Freedom House report condemned Russia, Malaysia and Congo for placing greater restrictions on their people, while granting improvements in Nigeria, Indonesia and India.

"Some of the most dramatic gains for freedom occurred in large and influential countries," said Adrian Karantznikos, the president of Freedom House, a non-partisan organization that promotes liberty and democracy throughout the world.

Federal deficit runs 7% smaller

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal budget deficit for the first two months of the fiscal year is 7 percent smaller than the red ink accumulated during the same period a year earlier.

Spending exceeded revenue by \$17.1 billion in November and \$32.5 billion in October for a cumulative deficit of \$49.6 billion for the first two months of fiscal 1999, the Treasury Department said Monday.

That's an improvement over the \$53.5 billion deficit for the first two months of fiscal 1998, which for the full year posted a \$70.2 billion surplus, the first in 29 years.

Jury convicts man of rape of fiancée

BELLEFONTAINE, Pa. (AP) — A man got 15 to 12 years in prison Monday for kicking in his fiancée's door, taking her hostage at gunpoint and raping the woman — who married him 27 days after the attack.

Shane A. Dawson, 35, was convicted in October of attacking her during a nine-hour standoff in 1997 because she had tried to end their relationship.

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WORLD

Israelis vote for new elections

Netanyahu will not block early vote

JERUSALEM (AP) — Israel's parliament voted overwhelmingly Monday for early elections, signaling the demise of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's ruling government and effectively freezing for months the peace process with the Palestinians.



Benjamin Netanyahu

The elections are likely to take place by the end of April. In addition to Netanyahu and Labor Party leader Ezer Weizman, a half-dozen other figures have indicated they might be interested in being the next prime minister.

The early elections bill given preliminary approval Monday must pass two more readings, but Netanyahu has said he will not obstruct its final passage.

His last-minute appeal for a national unity government was laughed out of the chamber by the opposition during a session that was raucous, even for a parliament not famous for its decorum.

Russian criticizes 1999 budget draft

MOSCOW — Russia's draft 1999 budget is unrealistic and would force the government to raise billions of rubles to pay its bills, sending inflation soaring and further impoverishing ordinary Russians, a former government minister said Monday.

"On paper, they have written a decent budget. ... It's all looking very pretty. But the question is: Can this budget be fulfilled or is it all just a fantasy?" former Deputy Prime Minister Yuriy Yemchikov said.

"This budget cannot be implemented," he said.

Next year's budget is receiving particular attention as Russia tries to pull itself out of its worst economic crisis since the 1991 Soviet collapse, which has shown little sign of abating.

The current budget calls for revenues of \$22 billion — or nearly \$1.3 billion a month. But the government's revenues recently

turned into looting and ethnic violence which left 1,200 people dead and prompted Suharto to end his 32-year authoritarian rule.

Indonesia admits rapes took place

JAKARTA, Indonesia — The Indonesian government admitted for the first time on Monday that women were gang raped during May riots that pushed former President Suharto from power.

But the government of President B.J. Habibie said the number of rapes, most of them against ethnic Chinese, was lower than the 66 reported by an expert panel last month.

State Secretariat Minister Akbar Tanjung said the government denied claims that "mass and systematic rapes" took place.

The riots, which began as political protests sparked by the shooting of four student protesters by the military on May 12,

Honest, officer, it was a wallaby

TAMWORTH, England — Kevin Fisher swore he hadn't been drinking when he told police he spotted a wallaby under a lamppost in the central England city of Tamworth.

"Mr. Fisher couldn't believe his eyes and sounded quite shaken. He swore blind he was still sober," an unidentified police spokesman told Press Association, the British news agency.

"Luckily, we took him seriously," the spokesman said. "Though at first we were tempted to tell him to hop it."

The wallaby, a member of the kangaroo family native to Australia, had escaped from a nearby zoo, where it was called "Willy." It was captured Saturday after Fisher's tip.

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Assessing the damage in Iraq

Some of the targets hit in the four-day U.S.-British military campaign.

TARGETS OUTSIDE

1. Al Sabhan Airfield
2. Tikrit Republican Guard Barracks
3. Al Haytham Missile HQ center
4. Al Qurnah Military cable repeater
5. Basra Military cable repeater
6. Ash Pommayyah Radio relay site
7. Ash Shuayb Missile storage facility

TARGETS WITHIN

8. Military Intelligence HQ
9. Al Khafji weapons facility
10. Al Karween weapons facility
11. Special Security Org.

SUMMARY OF

From the Postings:

- Nearly 100 targets in 650 aircraft missions; 423 cruise missiles fired
- 20 out of 21 command and control facilities
- 16 out of 19 facilities providing security for weapons programs
- 43 presidential palaces

From the British government:

- Republican Guard facilities in the south
- Oil refinery in Basra, allegedly used to ship oil exports by

From reports in Baghdad:

- Minor damage to Museum of Natural History
- Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs
- A gas containing headquarters of the Special Security Services and the command center of the paramilitary Popular Army
- From Iraqi officials
- Facilities being monitored by U.S. arms inspectors, including Iraq's heavy machinery factory south of Baghdad and the security police headquarters
- Building housing state-run radio and TV

U.S. bombing destroys missile plants in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraqi officials confirmed Monday that U.S.-British airstrikes killed 62 soldiers, demolished key missile factories and severed phone lines, acknowledging Western damage estimates while claiming large numbers of civilians also died.

Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz said civilian casualties were "much, much higher," but refused to give details. Iraq earlier said that 43 people were killed in the four nights of airstrikes.

The attacks targeted key military bases, government buildings, communication centers and factories that could be used to manufacture weapons of mass destruction.

U.S. Marine Corps Gen. Anthony Zinni said in Washington on Monday that the strikes hit 85 percent of their targets, 74 percent of them successfully. He said damage assessment from the

series of cruise missile and bombing attacks is still ongoing and will probably take a few more days.

Iraq says the missiles also struck colleges, post offices, dormitories, a museum and an oil refinery.

"They want to ... strip Iraq of any serious industrial capabilities," Aziz said. "This is a policy of hatred."

But he added that the United States and Britain failed to seriously harm the Iraqi government or military.

Iraqi authorities have not taken foreign journalists to sites where they say there were significant civilian casualties as they have in the past — a likely indication that civilian casualties either were not high or were scattered.

"The Republican Guard, the country's elite fighting force and a main target of the attacks, lost 20 soldiers, he said.

Chinese dissidents get prison terms

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese courts handed down harsh sentences Monday to two young pro-democracy campaigners who were the first to try to set an opposition party, the other a veteran dissident who was formally accused behind the group.

The half-day trial underlined China's tentative steps to bring a

political system closer to international standards. And the unpreannounced terms showed how much China's ruling Communist Party fears the line at open opposition.

The 3-year prison term given Yu Wentu after his trial in Beijing on Monday was the longest for a Chinese dissident in three years.

South Korean man has his feet cut off

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Police on Monday said they had uncovered a bizarre scam in which a grocer allegedly hired an acquaintance to cut off his feet in order to collect \$1.7 million in insurance.

Chung Kyu-chil, 51, initially told police he awoke in his shop on the morning of Dec. 11 after a heavy drinking bout and found his feet missing. He said a customer found him bleeding and took him to a hospital.

Police at first suspected Chung's creditors, because his family reported he had run up \$250,000 in stock market and gambling losses.

But police later found Chung had taken out two dozen insurance policies in the last three months that would pay him up to \$1.7 million if he became disabled.

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Israelis vote for new elections

Netanyahu will not block early vote

NETANYAHU AP — Israel's parliament voted overwhelmingly to "winnow" its current members, including the prime minister, Yitzhak Mordechai Netanyahu, following government and opposition demands for a new election.



Netanyahu

The election is likely to take place by the end of the year. In a surprise move, Netanyahu and Labor Party leader Ehud Barak, a half-century apart, have indicated they might be interested in being "the next prime minister."

The early elections had given opposition approval, Mordechai said. But Netanyahu said he will not block an early vote.

Russian criticizes 1995 budget draft

MOSCOW — Russia's audit court says the government's draft 1995 budget is unrealistic and would force the government to pay billions of rubles in interest on foreign debt.

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World news

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State Secretary Minister Abur Tanjung said the government denied claims that "mass and systematic rapes" took place.

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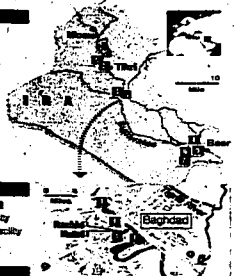
Some of the targets hit in the four-day U.S.-British military campaign

TARGETS OUTSIDE

1. Al Sabhan Airfield
2. Tikrit Republican Guard Barracks
3. Al Rashid Military cable repeater
4. Al Rashid Military cable repeater
5. Al Rashid Military cable repeater
6. Al Rashid Military cable repeater
7. Ash Shuyubah Missile storage facility

TARGETS WITHIN

8. Military intelligence HQ
9. An Iraqi weapons facility
10. An Iraqi weapons facility
11. Special Security Dep.



SUMMARY OF

- From the Pentagon:
 - 10 heavy 700 targets in 850 aircraft missions, 425 cruise missiles fired
 - 10 out of 23 command and control facilities
 - 18 out of 19 facilities providing security for weapons programs
 - 3 presidential palaces
- From the British government:
 - 10 Republican Guard facilities in the south
 - 10 military air bases, allegedly used to start of exports ban

From reports in Baghdad:

- 1000 people at Museum of Natural History
- Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs
- Areas containing headquarters of the Special Security Services and the command center of the paramilitary Popular Army
- U.S. Marine Corps Gen. Anthony Zinni said in Washington on Monday that the strikes hit 85 percent of their targets, 74 percent of them successfully. He said damage assessment from the

U.S. bombing destroys missile plants in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Iraqi officials confirmed Monday that U.S.-British airstrikes killed 62 soldiers, demolished key missile factories and severed phone lines, acknowledging Western damage estimates while claiming large numbers of civilians also died.

Deputy Prime Minister Tariq Aziz said civilian casualties were "much, much higher," but refused to give details. Iraq earlier said that 42 people were killed in the four nights of airstrikes.

The attacks targeted key military bases, government buildings, communication centers and factories that could be used to manufacture weapons of mass destruction.

U.S. Marine Corps Gen. Anthony Zinni said in Washington on Monday that the strikes hit 85 percent of their targets, 74 percent of them successfully. He said damage assessment from the

Chinese dissidents get prison terms

BEIJING (AP) — Chinese courts handed down harsh sentences Monday to two leading pro-democracy campaigners one who was the first to try to set up an opposition party, the other a veteran dissident who tried to rally activists behind the group. The half-day trials undermined China's tentative steps to bring its judicial system closer to international standards. And the lengthy prison terms showed how firmly China's ruling Communist Party draws the line at open opposition. The 13-year prison term given Xu Wenli after his trial in Beijing on Monday was the longest for a Chinese dissident in three years.

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South Korean man has his feet cut off

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Police on Monday said they had uncovered a bizarre scam in which a grocer allegedly hired an acquaintance to cut off his feet in order to collect \$1.7 million in insurance.

Chung Kyu-chul, 51, initially told police he awoke in his shop on the morning of Dec. 11 after a heavy drinking binge and found his feet missing. He said a customer found him bleeding and took him to a hospital.

Police at first suspected Chung's creditors, because his family reported he had run up \$250,000 in stock market and gambling losses.

But police later found Chung had taken out two dozen insurance policies in the last three months that would pay him up to \$1.7 million if he became disabled.

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- Muggers
- Vick's Western Wear
- Crowleys
- Banner Furniture
- Blocker Furniture & Appliance
- Price Hardware
- Cain's Home Furnishings
- Ropers
- Donnelley Sports
- Claude Brown's Home Furnishings
- Christine's Clothier
- KG's Komer
- Herter's Jewelers & Gifts
- Uptown Bistro
- Party Time
- First Security Bank
- Visions
- Magic Valley Bank
- Skinners Sewing Shoppe
- Treasures from the Past
- Music Center
- Twin Falls Sewing Center
- D&L Academy of Hair Design
- Churchman's Jewelry
- First Federal Savings Bank
- Wills Toyota
- Peacock Alley
- U.S. Bank
- Red's Trading Post
- Ceramic Depot
- Koppell's Browzeville
- Mystic Pathways
- Babbel's Cleaners
- Tiffany Square
- Allstate Insurance
- Standard Printing
- Native Skin-Reflections
- D.L. Evans Bank
- Benno's Fine Jewelry
- Precision Video /Audio Service
- The Leatherman
- BSR Equipment
- Mama Inez
- Jensen Ringmakers
- Vipat Grill
- Devo's Old Towne Pasta House
- Clas Office Supply
- Hudsons Shoes
- Country Gift Garden
- Snow's Antiques
- Pomerelle Studios
- Kelly's

No Purchase Required To Win. See Participating Merchants For Details. One ticket for every \$10 spent. May vary at some merchants.

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gifts for him

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- save 30-50%** team apparel

gifts for kids

- save 50%** nylon and fleece sets
- save 50%** flannel shirts
- save 50%** girls' 7-16 overalls
- save 30-50%** team apparel

- save 40%** packaged blanket sleepers
- save 50%** turtlenecks

footwear

- save 40%** select fall shoes for the family
- save 40%** select athletic shoes for men, women and kids
- save 50%** select women's social occasion and suede shoes
- save 30-50%** women's slippers excludes exceptional[®] values

gifts for home

- save 50%** Christmas-motif items in our home fashion department
- save 35%** solid fleece throws and pillows excludes special purchases
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- save 20-50%** Christmas trim
- save 50%** pre-lit Christmas tree SALE 10999, reg. 13999 #15017
- save 20-40%** Craftsman garage door openers starting at 10999

- save 30-50%** gasout Kenmore gas grills while quantities last

recreation

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- save 50-300%** all treadmills
- save 10-400%** all game tables
- save 50%** ping pong table SALE 14999, reg. 19999 #26203

appliances

- save 10-65%** microwaves
- save 30%** Sharp microwave SALE 10999, reg. 13999 #71090 (MFR. #R-4028A)
- save 5-50%** vacuum cleaners
- save 10-200%** sewing machines

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- save 50%** Craftsman Auto Lock[®] Pliers choose from open stock, 2-pc. or 3-pc. sets
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USER FRIENDLY

The flavors of Windows

There are four flavors of Windows available to you to choose with different requirements and features. Note that Windows 2000 meets pretty pretty with many different requirements.

Microsoft Windows 95/98/NT/2000

	Win 95	Win 98	Win NT 4.0	Win 2000
24-bit operating system	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Plug and play	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
DirectX version 6.0 compatibility	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Advanced file systems	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
USB support	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Processor	386/486/586	386/486/586	386/486/586	386/486/586
Required RAM to install	4MB	4MB	4MB	4MB
Required hard disk space to install	35MB	35MB	35MB	35MB

Windows 2000 is planned for 1999 release and is expected to be a hybrid of Win98 and NT. Windows 98 is expected to be a hybrid of Win95 and NT. Windows 95 is expected to be a hybrid of Win90 and NT.

SOURCE: Smart Computing

Compare monitor glare before buying

By John Gilroy The Washington Post

Q: What would I look for in a monitor to reduce glare?
 A: If you have a monitor from a well-known manufacturer, chances are that it already has anti-glare capability built in, basically advanced coatings on the screen. This technology started appearing as a standard feature a couple of years ago and is getting better all the time.

If you're buying a monitor, you might look for a strange circle that has "TCO 95" on it. This is a Swedish standards organization that gives its seal of approval to monitors that comply with its requirements for glare, emissions, ergonomics and other monitor characteristics.

But glare can be in the eye of the beholder. Before you put your money down, it's a good idea to go to a store and look at several monitors next to each other. Pay attention to viewing angle, because that can affect your perception of the screen drastically.

While you're at it, why not take a look at one of the new flat-screen LCD (liquid crystal display) monitors? The technology is very different from standard computer displays, so much so that glare is not an issue. Viewsonic has a division called Optquest that has a 15-inch LCD monitor for \$979 — a real bargain. If you want to snip your fellow workers, get the New MultiSync LCD 1810 XtraView.

Symbols get interpretation

By Rob Pogoraro The Washington Post

When you think about it, written English is becoming more and more like Chinese or Japanese — a set of thousands of specialized characters used to identify particular items or actions. Next proof: It's written in the washing-instruction hieroglyphics on the label of your shirt.

Symbols.com (<http://www.symbols.com>) offers a way out of this linguistic maze. If you know the general concept behind an icon, you can browse a keyword index. If you're completely stumped, a less-elegant "graphic index" invites you to pick words whose descriptions "most closely approximate" their capture the symbol in question.

Rob Pogoraro can be reached at rbp@pogoraro.com.

3Com offers hand-held 'Web clipping'

The Washington Post

It's little wonder that services linking hand-held computers to the Internet wirelessly have so far failed to meet market expectations. Consider the downsides of today's services:

- They're too slow: Cellular and other wireless data networks operate at just 8 to 19 kilobits per second. Most wired phone modems today are 36 kilobits per second.
- They're too complicated: You have to tinker a wireless modem to your pocket organizer or laptop, load special software, then sign up with Internet and wireless service providers.
- They're power hogs: Batteries die too quickly when loading Webpages and e-mail.

As we wait for the nation's digital wireless phone networks to upgrade to higher-capacity transmissions, which is at least three years off, companies are scrambling for ways to use the existing systems to squeeze more bang through the ether to laptops and hand-held organizers.

One approach is the Palm VII from 3Com Corp., which plans next year to offer wireless Internet access for its popular Palm product line. Price tag: \$800, roughly double the cost of a regular Palm organizer, plus \$10 a month for a limited number of wireless Web and e-mail sessions.

The Palm VII aims to solve the wireless battery problems by stripping away most graphics and

Palm VII's Path

Here's how a Palm VII receives stripped-down Web page data:

- User chooses among 22 content providers on the Web for example, Yahoo's site pages directory.
- Using Palm's pen, user writes in a simple query, like "search."
- Signal travels from Palm VII to nearby BellSouth Wireless Data Network receiver antenna.
- BellSouth sends query to 3Com Data Center in San Jose. The query moves in compressed and, in some cases, encrypted form.
- 3Com sends the request to the appropriate Web site server of the content provider in this case, Yahoo.
- The content provider packages the query and sends the results back to 3Com, which converts the data into the special computer language of the Palm VII.
- 3Com and BellSouth send the answer back to the Palm VII. The entire process should take less than 10 seconds.

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signed up, including ABCNews.com, ESPN.com, E-Trade, the Wall Street Journal and Yahoo's white pages.

Will this Web-site approach take off? Some analysts say Palm's avid user base will be a magnet for further content providers. But according to Jane Zweig, of mobile communications researcher firm Herschel Shostack Associates in Wheaton, Md., "the future of Palm's proprietary Web-clipping service appears dim."

Reason: By mid-1999, when the Palm VII hits store shelves, Microsoft Corp. intends to hit the market with its new "micro browser" for pocket organizers and cell phones. If it works as promoted, access to the Web will be unrestricted, but it will still be slow as molasses until wireless network providers complete their upgrades.

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Younger users will like Compton's simple CD-ROM encyclopedia

By James Coates Chicago Tribune

This package of two CD-ROMs appeals greatly to those families with younger computer users because it's easy to install and very simple to navigate among the included 40,000 articles, 16,000 images, 700 sound clips and 150 movies. The instructions are clear, and a helpful tour is included.

In the main window, a keyword search (if successful) will turn up a list of items — articles, pictures, animations — to be called up. The window also includes various functions enabling a user to copy entries, set up note cards so the user can document the research

Software review

Compton's Encyclopedia 1999 By The Learning Company Chicago Tribune \$107/Windows 95/98 617/494120

and begin creating reports. The software permits color-highlighting lines of text in any article as it is viewed — a handy marker.

Within articles, a click of the mouse calls up related topics and brings up word definitions from a

built-in 78,000-entry dictionary. Also included is a 21,000-entry thesaurus. The text includes all 26 volumes of Compton's printed encyclopedia.

In general, getting from one function or entry to another is convenient, although sometimes the user must switch discs, especially if a search includes multimedia enhancements to text offerings on the main disc.

The drawback for the adult user is the superficiality of some of the entries.

While a search for a major city or word yields "Related" and "Cross-References," for instance — will bring a wide range of material, subjects only somewhat less encompassing seem thin.

Experts advise online shoppers on how to avoid common hassles

Newsway

Through most cyberspace merchants are honest, you can run into problems with even the most conscientious vendor if you don't know what you're doing. Here are some suggestions from the experts:

1. Check the company's reliability report with the Better Business Bureau (www.bbb.org). It is also worth a trip to the National Fraud Information Center (www.fraud.org) to check out the latest alerts.
2. Make a note of the exact type and quantity of merchandise ordered, and when orders are shipped, get the tracking number from the company so you can keep tabs on the package yourself. If you're having a system malfunction, ask how long it will take. Ask if advertised items are in stock.
3. Find out what the return policy is. Ask whether there is a restocking fee.

4. Is the company an authorized dealer or a gray marketer? If it isn't an authorized dealer, there may be problems later with repairs under warranty.
5. When comparing prices, be sure you're comparing apples to apples. Check shipping costs for example, some vendors inflate these to make up for apparently lower product prices. Make sure you're getting cartridges and cables when ordering printers.
6. Read warranties carefully. Do you have to return the merchandise for repairs? Is there an independent service company available? Some companies that offer in-home services can wiggle out of their obligations by contractual clauses that let them pay a small penalty — \$10 or so — when they can't provide on-site service.
7. Check that you received what you ordered — enough memory, the right size hard drive, the fast modem you specified. If you're not an experienced

computer user, you probably should stay away from the small, inexpensive mail-order manufacturers. They are full of technical tricks that can be used to subtract value from a system, and it takes experience and study to know what they are.

8. Operate the equipment thoroughly for a few days after you've bought it — in the case of the computer, this is called "burning in." Electronic systems generally fail quickly, or not at all, and this way you'll flush out problems. Whenever you do, don't buy a system and leave it in the closet for two weeks. If you do have problems, report them to the dealer and write down as much detail as you can about them.

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EDITORIAL

Printing sex offenders' names hurts no one, protects kids

Don't look now, but the sky isn't falling.

For the past six months, the state has made available a list of convicted sex offenders residing in Idaho. Nobody's been lynched, nobody's been beaten and — despite a couple of unproven claims to the contrary — nobody's even been vandalized for being on the list.

The vigilantism that critics feared would accompany the list simply hasn't materialized. Despite dire predictions from civil-liberties types, Idahoans are using the list lawfully and responsibly.

Even better news is that people are generally more aware of convicted sex offenders living in their midst. They are better informed when it's time to select a babysitter, scout leader or summer camp counselor for their children.

The Idaho Department of Law Enforcement has responded to more than 6,100 requests for the sex-offender registry. The *Times-News* obtained registry information for our local counties and printed it, proudly. We'll print new names as they become available.

That's not a threat. It's a promise.

We're heartened that Idaho's largest newspaper, The Idaho Statesman, is following our lead. We urge other newspapers to do likewise.

Though the program is working well,

Idaho lawmakers should consider a couple of suggestions for improvement.

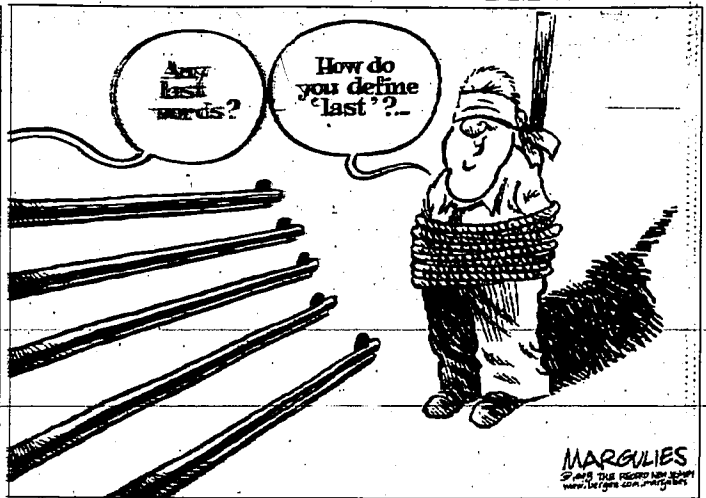
For one thing, we're troubled about the prospect of 19-year-old men being listed for statutory rape after being discovered in *flagrante delicto* with their 17-year-old girlfriends. Such indiscretions shouldn't land young men on the same list with serial sex predators.

Another potential problem we've noticed is a tendency to bargain serious sexual crimes down to lesser offenses that don't make the list. For obvious reasons, someone charged with lewd and lascivious conduct with a 7-year-old has ample incentive to plead guilty to misdemeanor injury to a child.

Lewd and lascivious speaks for itself, but exactly what is misdemeanor injury to a child? Confronted with that question, a sex offender could easily explain it away as a failure to fasten a child's seat belt.

Most won't have to explain anything, because misdemeanor offenders aren't listed. Bargaining criminal charges down to the point where they slip under the radar defeats the intent of the new law.

It's not a big problem, yet, but it may be headed that way. A little fine-tuning by the Idaho Legislature may be in order.



Morality bombs leave capital shell-shocked

When the committee report, which would require the House to pass a bill to require the president to disclose his sexual relationships with anyone he served in the White House, was unveiled, it was not surprising that the House would pass it. The committee report was well-received, and the House passed it by a 217-197 vote.

On TV screen, the committee report was a surprise. On the House floor, the committee report was a surprise. The committee report was well-received, and the House passed it by a 217-197 vote.

Even Republicans who opposed the president in a previous year seemed less than enthusiastic about the bill. The committee report was well-received, and the House passed it by a 217-197 vote.

Lord knows, some surprised. Despite the House's attempt to remain largely neutral, I heard many lawmakers grumble twice — the first time the committee report was unveiled, and the second time the House passed it.

It's not a big problem, yet, but it may be headed that way. A little fine-tuning by the Idaho Legislature may be in order.



SANDY GRADY

another special prosecutor to chase adultery, lure the cut-rate, Ken Starr spent \$40 million on route to his sexual witch hunt that the *Hitler* publisher dangled only \$1 million.

When Livingston began his final oratory by advising Bill Clinton to quit, Democrats howled, "No, you resign!" But they were suddenly chastened as the tough Louisiana said, "I cannot be the kind of leader I wanted to be. I will not stand for speaker."

I saw Tom DeLay, Republican hammer to nail Clinton, put head in hands and weep at his buddy's downfall.

Let's store up House casualties of sexual McCarthyism — Livingston, Judiciary boss Hyde, Lurent avenger Dan Burton, Idaho right-winger Helen Chenoweth, Flynn, who said Livingston "thought he was a Roman," warns he'll finger other "top Republicans."

Once sexual bloodhounds are baying, nobody's safe. Ironically, the obsession to throw out Clinton on a sex lie has trapped Republicans in backdash.

Since few adult males have sploosh noses, the post-impachment mood was regretful jitters. What adulterer would next topple in the House of Hanoi?

"How many more good people will be destroyed before Christmas?" lamented Livingston's tearful pal, Rep. Dave Davis. "Will we live 'em up and mow them down?"

If there were a hero in this sordid bedlam, it was Dick Gephardt. I'd nabbed the

House Democratic leader as bland, finger-on-the-wind cipher. But twice he transfixed the Honorables with fiery tirades against their self-destruction.

"We must stop the policies of smear, slash and burn!" thundered Gephardt — and both sides rose to applaud.

Gephardt's eloquent warning closed the debate. "Men are not angels. No one standing in this House today can pass a puritanical test. If we demand more morals live up to this standard, the seats of government will be empty."

Oddly, the impachment tumult had a rare effect on Democrats. It united them. They may mistrust Clinton; badmouth him behind his back. But they were inflamed by Republicans' dictatorial squashing of any censure option. They marched in protest from the chamber, 200-strong. Later they roled, two bulldozers to the White House to inspire Clinton to fight, not fold.

The president seemed transformed in defeat. For the first time since Jaffaire Monica broke, first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton was with him arm-in-arm, chin up. Gone was Clinton's hang-dog cringing. He seemed unbattered for battle — he would serve "until the last hour of the last day of my term."

He had to be heartened, maybe amazed, by polls — CBS, NBC and USA Today approval ratings zooming above 70 percent. "If the House voted for all four articles, he might be over 90."

What next? Will the Senate, where Trent Lott, Bob Byrd and 98 other eggs turn on the spotlight, embrace a post-impachment trial?

Having watched the House courage senators beware: When the sex patrol runs wild, no sinner's safe.

Sandy Grady is a Washington columnist for the *Philadelphia Daily News*.

The Times-News

Stephen Hargren, Publisher; Alan Wilson, Business manager; Clark Walworth, Managing editor; Peter York, Advertising director

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hargren, William Brock, Clark Walworth, Steve Crump, Kevin Richert and Kurt Fredenmann.

Write to us

The *Times-News* welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. To make sure your letter is published promptly, here are a few guidelines to remember:

- Each letter should include the writer's signature, mailing address and telephone number. Typewritten letters are preferred, because they allow faster handling with less chance of error.
- Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls office, mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or sent by fax to 206-734-5538.
- Letters considered libelous, obscene or in bad taste will be rejected, as will material expressing racial, ethnic or religious bigotry.
- We do not publish verse or poetry, and we generally remove or limit religious quotations. Articles taken from other publications will not be reprinted.
- Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 400 words. Longer letters will be shortened. The *Times-News* reserves the right to edit all letters.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Shamefully, Larry Flynt now apparently sets the agenda for Capitol Hill

In ridiculing Paula Jones, Democratic operative James Carville famously remarked that you never know what you're going to find when you dig a few dollars through a trailer park.

Hitler magazine publisher Larry Flynt has upped the ante. He is showing us what you can find when you drag a million dollars across Capitol Hill.

It was Flynt's million-dollar offer that turned the allegations that led House Speaker-designate Robert Livingston to resign, after acknowledging that he had "strayed" from his marriage and had been forgiven by his wife.

Flynt said his magazine soon would be reporting on four women who allegedly had affairs with Livingston. Amid fears among his fellow Republicans that more "shes" may be waiting to drop, Livingston stepped down from the House speaker's post at the beginning of Saturday's impachment debate and called on President Clinton to do the same.

Clinton, apparently as shocked as the

CLARENCE PAGE

rest of the world, called on Livingston to stay and, through a spokesman, protested "the politics of personal destruction."

Of course, Clinton did a lot to help destroy himself. Unlike Clinton, Livingston was not being accused of being unfaithful in a civil rights suit or obstructing justice. It is those larger issues, Republicans say, not sex, that Clinton's case is about. Flynt has a larger agenda.

"I just wanted to expose hypocrisy," Flynt said earlier. "If these guys are going after the President, they shouldn't have any skeletons in their closet. This is only the beginning."

With that, Flynt reminds me of a comedy bit I once saw about a guy who said, "Let me who is without sin cast the first stone," then was immediately stoned to death.

Advertisement in newspapers of sexual affairs by senators, congressmen and other high government officials was an unmitigated act of hypocrisy, who knew of no more shameful act. But now we have Flynt expressing the same hypocrisy of us have left with the worst picture of personal lives have appeared in front of Washington, monument to the political process with no message.

Republicans may be wrong about Clinton, but they are right about Livingston. The Democrats' continued confirmation of their own power and Judge Clarence Thomas, one of the Senate, were raised with the politics of personal destruction through sexual indiscretions.

More recently, media commentators have forced Republican congressmen and House members to acknowledge their own hypocrisy. The Clinton impachment issues to risk exposing your life and name to scrutiny, no citizen should accept. If there are any men in the Clinton im-

peachment quagmire? House Judiciary Committee Chairman Hyde, R-Ill., said the Republican tone of the impachment debate by arguing eloquently that the case wasn't about sex or lying about sex. It was about "the rule of law," without which the republic will collapse, he said.

But, the rule of law swings both ways, Democrats pointed out, just as reasonably. Agreeing that Clinton did wrong, they pointed out that nothing in the law requires a Congress to impeach or con-

Nothing in the law requires that every violation of anti-perjury laws or any other law to be prosecuted to the law's fullest extent. Prosecutors, judges and juries are awarded discretion to judge offenses on a case-by-case basis.

If Clinton lied, the lie was all about sex, Democrats argued, charging the Republicans with "sexual McCarthyism," the use of personal sex lives to bring down opponents and make the other side look less moral.

With that, both sides gave up common ground. Instead they made frantic at-

tempts to seize the high ground, to be the most boy, grinding down any chance of reasonable compromise.

The result, in contrast to the orderly bipartisan Watergate debate, was a partisan mess, an emotional and divisive food fight that has turned private sexual lives into matters for public debate.

Politics, said Otto von Bismarck, is the art of the possible. That art becomes more difficult to practice when political class fan-out like snail-doves to dig up dirt on their opponents and pounce them with it. Principled positions become more difficult to maintain when tangled up in the life-or-not of insult, suspicion and revenge.

It is a shame that Larry Flynt is helping to set the agenda in the world's most powerful deliberative body. But it is Congress and the politics of personal destruction that are letting him get away with it.

Clarence Page wrote this commentary for *Tribune Media Services*.

Doonesbury By Garry Trudeau. Walmart Fillmore By Bruce Tinsley.

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SPORTS

Maier leads sensational Austrian sweep in World Cup super-G

PATSCHERKOFEL, Austria (AP) — Double Olympic champion Hermann Maier led a sensational Austrian sweep of the top nine places in today's World Cup super-G.

Maier won World Cup history had skiers from the same country finished 1-9 in a men's or women's race. The previous best team showing was in 1968, when French women finished 1-6 in a downhill at Abome, Italy.

Maier, 31, won the top five places in a super-G at Aspen, Colo. last month. Maier's victory and the team triumph at the site of the 1976 Olympics restored the prestige of the powerful Austrians, following three consecutive losses.

Arizona coach gets new 5-year contract

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — Arizona coach Dick Tomey's five-year contract extension was approved Monday by the state Board of Regents.

Tomey has said he would like Arizona to be his last stop. Since becoming an assistant at UCLA in 1970, he has moved only twice.

The Wildcats are 11-1, ranked No. 5 nationally, and preparing to play Nebraska in the Holiday Bowl on Dec. 30.

Bonus

Continued from B1. smile. It's, 'We know what we've got to do to get it.'"

\$302,000, one of the lowest in the NFL for a starting quarterback. Plummer signed for \$1.6 million after the Cardinals drafted him in the second round last year.

Plummer signed for \$1.6 million after the Cardinals drafted him in the second round last year. He said he never worried about his money this year when rookies Peyton Manning of Indianapolis and Ryan Leaf of San Diego set records for many times his income.

Mabry, Mouton, Bragg become free agents; Hamilton gets \$17M

The Associated Press. Outfielders John Mabry, James Mouton and Darren Bragg were among 39 players who became free agents Monday when their teams failed to offer them 1999 contracts by the tender deadline.



Joey Hamilton

Not offering a contract — which removes a player from the 40-man roster — offers a way of getting around the 20 percent maximum cut rule in the collective bargaining agreement.

FOOTBALL

NFL standings table with columns for team, W, L, T, Pct., and AFC/NFC divisions.

NBA standings table with columns for team, W, L, Pct., and Eastern/Western divisions.

NHL standings table with columns for team, W, L, T, Pct., and Eastern/Western divisions.

BASKETBALL

CBA standings table with columns for team, W, L, Pct., and Eastern/Western divisions.

NBA leaders table with columns for player, team, and various statistics.

Men's college scores table with columns for team, score, and location.

NFL summary

Summary of NFL games with columns for team, score, and location.

Women's college scores

Summary of women's college basketball games with columns for team, score, and location.

NFL summary

Summary of NFL games with columns for team, score, and location.

Final Division IAA Pool

Summary of IAA Pool games with columns for team, score, and location.

Dolphins

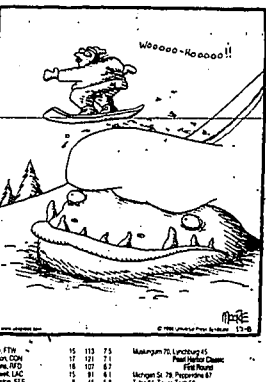
Continued from B1. Miami fell behind 10-0 before Marino threw scoring passes of 9, 56 and 17 yards to Lamar Thomas.

Transactions

Continued from B1. The Cardinals let fans who were at the game know they were not worried about their money this year when rookies Peyton Manning of Indianapolis and Ryan Leaf of San Diego set records for many times his income.

SCORES AND STATS

IN THE BLEACHERS



ON THE AIR TELEVISION

Table of college basketball games on TV with columns for game, network, and time.

WFLA standings

Table of WFLA TV station ratings with columns for station, program, and ratings.

TRANSACTIONS

Continued from B1. The Cardinals let fans who were at the game know they were not worried about their money this year when rookies Peyton Manning of Indianapolis and Ryan Leaf of San Diego set records for many times his income.

HOCKEY

Table of NHL games with columns for team, score, and location.

BASKETBALL

Table of NBA games with columns for team, score, and location.

SKIS

Continued from B1. The Cardinals let fans who were at the game know they were not worried about their money this year when rookies Peyton Manning of Indianapolis and Ryan Leaf of San Diego set records for many times his income.

The Top Twenty Five

Table of top 25 NFL players with columns for player, team, and statistics.

WFLA TV ratings

Table of WFLA TV ratings with columns for station, program, and ratings.

SKIS

Continued from B1. The Cardinals let fans who were at the game know they were not worried about their money this year when rookies Peyton Manning of Indianapolis and Ryan Leaf of San Diego set records for many times his income.

NHL Standings

Table of NHL standings with columns for team, W, L, T, Pct., and Eastern/Western divisions.

SKIS

Continued from B1. The Cardinals let fans who were at the game know they were not worried about their money this year when rookies Peyton Manning of Indianapolis and Ryan Leaf of San Diego set records for many times his income.

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Continued from B1. The Cardinals let fans who were at the game know they were not worried about their money this year when rookies Peyton Manning of Indianapolis and Ryan Leaf of San Diego set records for many times his income.

AROUND THE VALLEY

Increasing DUIs mean more police patrols

TWIN FALLS - With December driving under-the-influence arrests at their highest since 1995, Twin Falls Police will increase patrols during the holidays.

The patrols will target impaired drivers, who cannot be jailed, fined, and lose license during the news release from the department said.

If you plan to drink, police recommend planning to use a designated driver, a friend or a cab to pick you up.

Buhl officials warn of sweepstakes scam

MILB - If you send money to a caller who says you're a winner, you could end up a loser, police say.

Buhl police believe someone is trying to con people out of thousands of dollars with a phony sweepstakes announcement, a press release from Buhl Police Chief Terry Tipton said.

A company calling itself Winners Circle called a Buhl couple last week and said they had won \$42,000. But before the couple could get the money, they would have to wire \$4,600 to an 800 number to cover taxes, the release said.

Instead of sending the money, the couple called the police. The Consumer Protection Unit of the attorney general's office told Buhl police that the call was not standard sweepstakes procedure, the release said.

The couple wasn't fooled, but Tipton worries that other people won't be as cautious. If you receive a similar call, Tipton asks you to call Buhl police at 543-4200 or the Consumer Protection Unit at (800) 432-2546.

CSI plans wellness seminar in January

TWIN FALLS - "One of a Kind: A Simpler Way" is the topic of the 10th Annual Wellness Seminar at the College of Southern Idaho Jan. 4.

The featured speaker is Margaret Wheatley, a bestselling author who has been called an "emerging consultant on organizational transformations, and complexity in organizations, organizing." She will talk about guiding your organization through change by evolving leadership and creating creative energy and focusing vision and values on every task.

The event is sponsored by Blue Cross of Idaho, Regence HealthPlan of Idaho, Canyon View Psychiatric and Addiction Services, the City of Twin Falls, CSI, Magic Valley Regional Health Center, the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce, the Walker Center and The Times-News.

Burley residents seem split over proposal

BURLEY - With a show of hands, the room seemed split over a proposed Urban Renewal Agency as City Council hearing officials by more than 30 local residents and county officials Monday night.

City Administrator Mark Mirra was the chief proponent for creating an agency that would help to retroactively deteriorating land, adding businesses, housing projects and other improvements in Burley.

Comments were heard on the proposed agency that would last over 25 years and be headed by a board of five elected officials and two representatives.

Several residents of Rupert and Minidoka County expressed concern over the possibility of taxes being imposed on residents in Minidoka County for improvements in the city of Burley.

Compiled from staff reports

Judge orders mediation in water clash

By N.S. Noidkenty
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - State water judge Daniel Hurlbutt Monday ordered parties in a dispute over New Perce water rights claims in the Snake River to pursue a mediated settlement.

Details of the mediation order were not available Monday.

The mediation process could settle a dispute that, depending on its outcome, could affect irrigation and other water development in much of the state.

Both sides in Nez Perce case appear 'serious' about talks

The Nez Perce tribe has made 1,113 claims to the majority of the water in the Snake River Basin as part of Snake River Basin Adjudication.

The tribe says an 1853 treaty granting fishing rights implies a federal reserved water right to sustain the fishing rights.

Idaho Power Co. and other water users have protested the tribe's claims.

Mediator Francis McGovern of the Duke University Law School, in North Carolina reported Monday at an adjudication status conference that all sides appear serious about mediation.

McGovern, 53, is known around the world as a leader in alternative dispute resolution. A law professor, McGovern has helped resolve more than 30 complex disputes, including DDT toxic exposure litigation in Alabama, the Dalton-Shield controversy and the ongoing silicone gel breast implant litigation.

His meetings with nearly 150 people involved in the case gave him the impression that everyone was sincerely interested in working on a solution.

The case should move forward, said Steve Strack, an Idaho deputy attorney general, even during a transition period in state government. Gov. elect Dirk Kempthorne takes office in January.

Strack suggested giving the mediation effort until Sept. 15. If no solution is reached, litigation could resume.

Twin Falls attorney Jim Tuerco, representing Idaho Power Co., said his client was committed to mediation. But he expressed some concern over the

uncertainty of who will be on the bench when Hurlbutt steps down at the end of the year.

Hurlbutt discouraged lawyers from setting aside litigation to pursue the mediation. Both should proceed.

"Get this done," he said.

The case has some momentum, he said, and he wanted to see that momentum continue.

Hurlbutt's last day on the 5th District Court bench is Dec. 31. No one has been appointed to replace him.

Times-News staff writer N.S. Noidkenty can be reached at 733-0631, Ext. 237.

Up in smoke

Shop owners claim raid hurt business

By Brian Haynes
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Business at the Blazing Lighter smoke shop hasn't been blazing lately.

Glass display cases and wooden shelves that overflowed with smoking pipes of all shapes and sizes collect dust.

The small stone building at 245 Washington St. hasn't seen much traffic since the Nov. 10 raid, when Twin Falls police confiscated 1,500 pieces of smoking paraphernalia and arrested the shop's owners.

The police said the owners were selling drug paraphernalia. The owners, Dan Nogara, 19, and Curt Trowbridge, 18, said they were selling tobacco paraphernalia.

Magistrate Judge John Melanson agreed with the store owners after a preliminary hearing Friday and dropped felony charges of delivering drug paraphernalia.

Prosecutors failed to show that Nogara and Trowbridge knew the pipe an undercover police officer bought would be used to smoke marijuana, said Nogara's lawyer, Tim Williams.

"You've got to have evidence," he said. "You just can't make

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS



Students from Kimberly's elementary and middle schools sing Christmas carols Monday to residents at Mountain View Care Center residents. The students, who participate in an after-school program, also delivered handmade greeting cards to each resident.

Sun Valley merchants decry 50% tax hike

By Margot Higgins
Times-News correspondent

SUN VALLEY - Shoppers here will pay a 50 percent hike in the local option tax beginning Jan. 1, 1999.

Despite heavy criticism from business owners, the Sun Valley City Council voted to delay implementing the tax, which voters approved in November.

The council will review the impact of the increased tax after one year, instead of a four-year wait that was recently approved.

The local option tax will increase from 2 percent to 3 percent on retail sales.

Revenues from the tax are used to support services to cover the seasonal influx of tourism. These services include police and fire, free bus service, the Chamber of Commerce and road repairs.

Following 63 percent approval in the Nov. 3 city election, the Sun Valley City Council voted unanimously on Nov. 11 to adopt the tax.

This decision, however, surprised many business people.

Please see TAX, Page C3

Public radio station asks CSI board to keep music alive during review

By Jennifer Sanderson
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - A jazz radio show produced by a College of Southern Idaho associate professor is aired nationally through the college's affiliation with BSU Radio Network.

Jeff Fox produces the 20-hour week program aired by Boise State University's public broadcasting service, an affiliate of National Public Radio.

The radio station, student travel safety and classroom expansion were up for review at Monday's CSI board meeting.

Organizers of the BSU Radio Network at CSI told the board just how significant the local station is.

CSI had been approached by former students wanting to lease the station, KEZ-AM 1450, to broadcast Hispanic programming, said Jerry Beck, vice president of instruction. The college, which has broadcast from the local station for about two years, began to explore the idea.

"I don't think internally we recognized how much we were starting to use it," Beck said.

CSI formed a partnership with BSU, which helped the college launch the station, CSI President Jerry Meyerhoeffer said.

"There is no question that BSU backed us out of a serious problem," he said. "There is no question about the fact that it's been a good partnership."

CSI has become BSU Radio Network's production headquarters, said Jim Paluzzi, general manager of the radio network. And nearly 30 hours of locally produced programming - programs that originate from CSI - are broadcast to south central and southeastern Idaho.

The station is known for its jazz shows. In addition to Fox's

program, CSI instructor Jim Mill produces a two hour weekly program. Students are preparing their own jazz productions.

And more students are interested in broadcasting shows, said Dick Shotwell, a member of a community advisory board for the radio network.

"The station is reaching into the student community at CSI," he said.

Equal portions of funding for the station come through public broadcasting grants, BSU, and community donations, Paluzzi said. The station airs Hispanic programming all day Saturday, but organizers say they are open to adding more.

Board members were asked to make no decisions on the matter.

In other business:

The board approved a student travel safety policy that requires drivers using CSI vehicles first pass driving tests, spend no more

than four hours behind the wheel at one time, and have proof of personal auto insurance. The policy lists many other items, such as preventing overcrowding in vans by limiting occupancy to 12 passengers in 15 passenger vans.

Meyerhoeffer reviewed expansion plans for the Aspen Building that include about 13,500 square feet in classroom and office additions at a cost of about \$1.6 million.

Region IV Development will provide the college with a grant for about half the cost. CSI will seek \$400,000 in matching funds from the 1999 Legislature.

Remaining money will be provided through donations and institutional funds.

The board approved a \$38,000 bid from Life Safety Systems Inc. of Twin Falls for a new sound system and its installation in the CSI Expo Center.

Rupert police find pound of methamphetamine

By David Lee
Times-News writer

RUPERT - Rupert police officers seized more than a pound of methamphetamine Saturday night - their largest bust of the year - and arrested two suspects.

Police seized 16.7 ounces of methamphetamine, worth \$50,000, and arrested Francisco Javier Diaz, 21, and Jorge Alberto Velasquez, 22, both of Washington state, a press release said.

Four officers arrested the two men at 9:30 p.m. at the Flamingo Motel on Idaho Highway 25, just north of Rupert.

Diaz and Velasquez were arraigned in Magistrate Court

Monday. Each is charged with trafficking a controlled substance and failing to apply a drug tax stamp. Both are held at the McIn-Cassidy Criminal Justice Center on \$20,000 bond.

Conviction on a charge of trafficking can result in at least 10 years in prison and a \$25,000 fine, Magistrate Judge Larry Duff said. The same penalties exist for a drug tax stamp violation.

Rupert police were involved in two other large methamphetamine busts in the last month.

On Nov. 27, Rupert police officers and Minidoka County sheriff's officials nabbed 180 grams of methamphetamine worth \$18,000. On Dec. 1, officials from

both agencies arrested a man and charged him with possessing 231.5 grams of methamphetamine worth \$23,000.

"It seems like there's been quite a lot lately," Rupert police chief James Jackson said.

He did not know if the methamphetamine came from the same source.

"There's so much of it out there," he said, "so we can't pinpoint (the source) at this time."

In an arrest affidavit, Rupert police detective Roger Hare said he received a call from an anonymous informant who said a car containing drugs was parked at the Flamingo Motel. Two men driving the car - Diaz and Velasquez - checked in

Wednesday and planned to stay there until Sunday, the motel manager told Hare.

Hare and three other officers went to the two men's motel room and asked if they had any drugs. The men said no, and officers asked if they could search the room and the car.

The two men consented and officers found the drugs packed behind a car speaker cover. The speaker was tucked under the passenger seat. Officers then arrested Diaz and Velasquez.

The investigation is continuing, Jackson said.

Times-News staff writer David Lee can be reached in Burley at 677-4042.

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Jerome to address urban renewal

By Dixie Thomas Roala
Times-News correspondent

JEROME — A plan for an estimated \$1.6 million in improvements in the south end of town will receive a public hearing tonight before the Jerome City Council.

A newly created Urban Renewal Agency has completed its plan for improving the south end of town over the next 11 years.

The \$1.6 million figure is only a projection, said Jim Cecil, city administrator, and cost estimates beyond the first two years might

Public hearing set

A public hearing concerning the Jerome City Council's Urban Renewal Agency plan is scheduled for 7 p.m. tonight at Council chambers, 201 E. Main, A.A.

The City Council created the agency in October.

The proposed improvements for the deteriorating section of town include curbs, gutters, sidewalks, street lights, and water lines. The

area slated for improvement is bordered on the north by H Street and on the south by Rose Street and runs along or near South Lincoln Street.

The Urban Renewal Agency is a separate entity from other taxing districts, Cecil said.

A final reading of the urban renewal plan and a public hearing will precede the council vote on the plan.

Times-News correspondent Dixie Thomas Roala can be reached in Jerome at 324-9370.

Dixie may become 4-year college

ST. GEORGE, Utah (AP) — A bitter fight is brewing in the 1999 Legislature over a plan to upgrade St. George's community college to a four-year, baccalaureate institution.

Residents want Dixie College to become Dixie State College, and they have embarked on a \$1 million fundraising drive to help pay for the conversion.

But the State Board of Regents isn't sure Dixie needs to become Utah's sixth four-year college. They note that Cedar City, located just 50 miles from St. George, is already home to Southern Utah University, and there are just 91,000 residents in most of Washington and Iron counties combined.

"Would you say there is a need to have two four-year colleges to serve 11 percent of Utah's Higher Education Commission? Cecilia Fickman, St. George, said.

But three business job fairs were at their college will allow Washington County to retain local talent and attract new industry to the area, known largely for its retirement community.

And they claim they can succeed with little or no new taxpayer support, other than normal fees generated by state colleges to accommodate new students.

"The only reason we are not a four-year college is politics," says Robert Slack, a Dixie history professor and former state legislator.

The regents are in the middle of implementing a master plan that will set up criteria two-year colleges must meet to attain four-year status. But Rep. Bill Hickok, St. George, said he drafted a bill that would phase in four-year offerings at Dixie.

"Look at every case where we have made advancements in higher education in this state," said Fickman. "The Legislature has always had to take the initiative."

A longstanding rivalry between St. George and Cedar City may also influence Dixie's fate. The cities used to be about the same size, but now St. George is nearly three times bigger than Cedar City.

SERVICES

Morna May Howell of Hagerman, 11 a.m. today at the Hansen Funeral Home in St. George; friends may call one hour before the service today at the church (Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel of Jerome).

Melba Egbert Rees Densley, formerly of Murtaugh, 1 p.m. today at the Murtaugh LDS Chapel; friends may call from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. today at the church (Reynolds Funeral Chapel).

Herman S. Quintana of Jerome, funeral Mass at 2 p.m. today at St. Jerome's Catholic Church (Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel).

Arnold K. Harper of Oakley, 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Oakley LDS Stake Chapel; friends may call from 7 to 9 p.m. today and from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Wednesday at the church.

Ardith D. Righty of Malta, 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Malta Ward Building; friends may call from 6 to 8 p.m. today at the Hansen Funeral Chapel.

Evelyn M. Anderson of Stampa, 2 p.m. Wednesday at Alkip Funeral Chapel in Stampa; friends may call from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. today at the funeral chapel.

Dana M. Hunscheid of Twin Falls, 2 p.m. Wednesday at the Filser LDS Stake Center (White Mortuary).

DEATH NOTICES

Lucille F. Nushom
BOISE — Lucille F. Nushom, 82, of Boise, died Sunday, Dec. 20, 1998, at the Life Care Center in Boise.

Ann J. Banks
RUPERT — Ann L. Banks, 95, of Rupert, died on Sunday, Dec. 20, 1998, at the Minnetonka Memorial Hospital Extended Care Unit.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday at the Hansen Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Jerome Cemetery. No viewing is planned. Arrangements are under the direction of the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Jerome Cemetery. No viewing is planned. Arrangements are under the direction of the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

Funeral services will be held at 11 a.m. Wednesday at the Jerome Cemetery. No viewing is planned. Arrangements are under the direction of the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

HOSPITALS

CASSIA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER — city Annex of Paul and Yvonne Williams of Rupert. Some names omitted at patients' request.

MENOOKA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL — Released. Heather Waines and baby girl of Burley; Robert Kelsey of Burley.

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 732-8333, Ext. 228, between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Deadlines is 4:30 p.m. for next-day publication. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 5 p.m. every day.

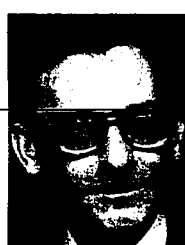
TWIN FALLS

Robert A. Smith
Robert A. Smith, 77-year-old Twin Falls resident, died Sunday, Dec. 20, 1998, at home from a long terminal illness.

He was born Dec. 15, 1921, in New York City. He and his wife, Marie, lived in the Twin Falls area for many years. He was a member of the Twin Falls Veterans and Auxiliary Chapter 1047.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, 1998, at the Twin Falls Funeral Home. Burial will be in the Twin Falls Cemetery.

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Roger D. Steinberg
Roger D. Steinberg, 68, of Twin Falls, died Sunday, Dec. 20, 1998, at home.

He was born Oct. 13, 1930, in Buffalo Center, Iowa. He graduated from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, in 1952. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 20 years. He was a member of the Twin Falls Golf and Country Club.

SHOSHONE

Roy C. Marcroft
Roy C. Marcroft, 86, of Shoshone, died Sunday, Dec. 20, 1998, at home.

He was born Aug. 26, 1912, in Portland, Ore. He worked for the U.S. Forest Service for 20 years. He was a member of the Shoshone Golf and Country Club.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, 1998, at the Shoshone Funeral Home. Burial will be in the Shoshone Cemetery.

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MERIDIAN

Stella M. Fickes
Stella M. Fickes, 81, of Meridian, died Wednesday, Dec. 20, 1998, at home.

She was born Nov. 2, 1917, in Livingston, Mont. She was a member of the Meridian Church of Christ.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Dec. 23, 1998, at the Meridian Funeral Home. Burial will be in the Meridian Cemetery.

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Roads to Hells Canyon paved with good intentions, but dispute lingers

IMNAHA, Ore. (AP) — The road to the deepest canyon in North America are leading to a political battle between conservationists and the people who live there.

Hells Canyon has a 600-mile network of mostly unpaved roads winding down its basalt walls to the Snake River, which forms part of the border between Oregon and Idaho.

Now, the federal government must decide how much access is needed to the 650,000-acre Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

Canyon conservationists say the road system is the unwelcome result of a decade of Forest Service policies tilted toward recreation, logging and grazing in the canyon area. They have drafted a new management proposal aimed at protecting native plants and animals, that would close most roads.

When the federal government approved a dam near the canyon's north end, but the dam would have drowned sacred Indian sites, flooded game cattle pastures and ruined the entire Hells Canyon stretch of the Snake River into a lake.

A powerful coalition of urban conservationists, ranchers and powerboat groups lobbied Congress to enact legislation banning dams from the spectacular canyon, and the recreation area was created in 1973.

The conservation plan now being considered was developed by the National Wildlife Federation, the Wilderness Society, the Hells Canyon Preservation Council and other groups, along with representatives of the Umatilla and Nez Perce tribes.

It would close more than 50 percent of the road network, minimize the use of off-road vehicles and snowmobiles, eliminate almost all logging, require expanded monitoring of livestock grazing and forbid the reintroduction of cattle or domestic sheep to about 250,000 acres.

"We're looking at the pressures we're going to have 50 to 100 years from now and trying to plan for an ecosystem as intact as possible," said Mary O'Brien, a Eugene-based botanist with the Hells Canyon Preservation Council and a principal author of the plan.

Forest Service officials initially refused to consider the conservationists' proposal, listing only the agency's staff-written options in a draft document released in 1996.

In response, O'Brien traveled to Washington, D.C., last summer to lobby for the plan. Under pressure, agency officials in Oregon agreed to review the conservationists' plan, along with agency options, to develop a new draft document.

The Twin Falls Canal Company

NOTICE OF REGULAR STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the regular meeting of the stockholders of the Twin Falls Canal Company will be held on Tuesday, the 12th day of January, 1999. The meeting will be called to order by the Directors at 9:00 a.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

A Director from District 3 (Miller) will be elected for a three-year term and a Director from District 45 (Castleford) will be elected to serve for one year to complete the term of Director Donald R. Kramer, who has resigned.

Other business will also be transacted. There will be reports from the Company's General Manager, auditors and lawyers. There will also be reports on ongoing Company operation and maintenance activities, 1999 water supplies, water quality issues, Snake River Aquifer studies, the Endangered Species Act, the SRBA, and other matters of interest.

The corporate books will close for the transfer of stock ten (10) days before said meeting.

The polls shall be open at the offices of the Company at 357 Sixth Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m., on January 12, 1999.

Proxies shall be filed with the Company's Assistant Secretary at the Company office on or before January 8, 1999.

Dated this 13th day of November, 1998

TWIN FALLS CANAL COMPANY
Doris E. Finney, Assistant Secretary

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Local students provide 55 families better holiday

By Lorraine Cavener
Times-News writer

RUPERT — Minidoka County high school and junior high students have collected enough money and food to make 55 families' Christmases a little better.

Gift for the Green — a student project to collect money, food, gifts and Christmas trees for families in Minidoka County — has been a big success this year.

Minico High School students gathered \$600 in pocket change and cans of food too numerous to count, said Tiffany Duncan, student body co-viciv president.

The canned food drive was a contest between high school home rooms. The two winning classes each collected 350 cans of food. The money was used to buy turkeys.

Gift of the Green has taken place for more than 10 years. Names of families are solicited from elementary schools and the student council passes out the names to school clubs and organizations.

"It's a little out of hand this year," said Terry Johnson, student council advisor at Minico. "Usually we help 25 to 30 families."

East and West Minico junior high schools also got in on the action. East Minico students raised \$760, while West Minico students collected \$1,321.11.

West Minico collected teachers, promising to donate money if teachers dressed in bizarre outfits.

"Suzette Miller wore real ugly pink and orange pants, a lime green jacket, had her hair frizzed out in bows and Larry Samuelson



Students from the Spanish Club at Minico High School load a pickup with toys, food, and a tree to deliver to a family for Christmas.

wore a dress," said Ginger Jones, student council advisor at West Minico.

But students had other reasons to be glad.

"We found out the true meaning of Christmas," said Reese Harper, Minico's co-viciv president.

When cheerleaders delivered a tree, turkey, food and gifts to a family with six children, the cheerleaders started to cry, Johnson said.

"At the end one of the little girls ran up to us and gave us a big hug," said Dottie Woodward, a Minico cheerleader. "When we walked in with all the presents they gave us the biggest hugs we ever had."

Fred and Maria Arteaga and their family received gifts, food and a tree from students. The family's house burned down Dec. 5, and the Arteagas lost every-

thing. The family is staying with Maria Arteaga's parents. Minico's National Honor Society provided the Arteaga family with Christmas.

"I was so thankful," Duncan said. "And their 6-year-old boy followed us in and out. He packed the turkey into the house."

At West Minico counting money was part of Jones' daily job. She had promised that each class that raised more than \$100 would get a donut party.

"Kids emptied their pockets every day for eight days," Jones said.

But they did it for more than a party.

"It was a real humbling experience," Jones said.

Times-News staff writer Lorraine Cavener can be reached at Burley at 677-4042.



Members of the Cassia and Minidoka Board of Commissioners breakfast before touring Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center. Tim Hurst, at left, Dennis Crane, John Sammons, John Adams, Shirley Powers, standing back, Lyle Woodbury, Don Hardy and Larry Harper.

Mini-Cassia inmate population increases

By John T. Hudny
Times-News writer

BURLEY — The number of inmates and the costs are up slightly from previous years at the Mini-Cassia Criminal Justice Center.

Cassia and Minidoka County commissioners took their quarterly tour of the Criminal Justice Center Monday afternoon. Before the tour, they ate lunch in one of the cellblocks.

"If I was on the outside, with no place to sleep tonight and nothing to eat, ... I think I wouldn't mind coming here," Paul Christensen said while finishing up his spuds and gravy.

The commissioners learned that inmates from other agencies have increased the jail population to 129, up from 125 inmates in 1987.

About half the inmates are from the Mini-Cassia area. Other inmates are from agencies that include the U.S. Border Patrol

and the Idaho Department of Corrections.

Some of these inmates will spend time in the local facility before going to the state penitentiary in Boise. Inmates use in four counties from burley to hamilton.

Jail director Dennis Deener said. "This year, having more than \$46.25 per inmate, up from \$45 in 1987. Deener said the \$100,000 increase in wages and utilities.

But Deener commended the jail's financial success and said it was one of the best facilities in the state, despite the increases.

"I think we're meeting standards and we're within budget," he said. "We have a pretty good facility here."

The jail has 21 full-time staff members, Deener said, and the jail serves three meals per day for less than \$1.00 per inmate, per day.

"I wish I could find my family for that much each day," he said. Inmates also get professional medical attention, over-the-

counter medication and prescriptions.

Jail nurse Chris Hanks has seen her share of inmates come and go. Some have been booked into the facility more than 40 times, she said.

"Sometimes I see someone and say, 'Hey, you're back again!'" she said. But seeing the same inmates has added to some of the problems she deals with as the jail's nurse.

"We see about two times as many patients in here as a family physician does," Hanks told commissioners. "I need more help."

Some inmates take classes through the College of Southern Idaho's GED program to get their high school equivalency diploma.

Others are in the jail's work-release program. Duties vary from washing dishes and helping in the kitchen, to cleaning and folding clothes in the laundry room.

"We're very happy with the jail," Commissioner John Adams said. "Everything is stable."

Forest Service faces Freedom of Information lawsuits for denying access

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — The U.S. Forest Service is being accused of illegal tactics for denying the release of public information.

Forest Guardians, a Santa Fe-based group long critical of Forest Service management practices, and New Mexico Animal Protection Inc. have filed lawsuits charging that the Forest Service is

violating the Freedom of Information Act.

The 1966 law allows citizens access to much federal information, and requires such federal agencies to respond to requests within 30 days.

The law also lets agencies waive copying and processing fees when the information requested is "primarily benefit-

ing the public." Nonprofit public interest groups such as Forest Guardians have been accustomed to getting information without paying fees.

The lawsuits allege the Forest Service improperly denied recent requests for fee waivers. They contend the agency now says the groups must prove in advance how the information will contribute to

public understanding of an issue.

"The Forest Service is essentially looking for ways to circumvent the intent of the Freedom of Information Act," said John Horning of Forest Guardians.

Santa Fe attorney Richard Metz, who filed the lawsuits, contends local Forest Service officials are using new guidelines from the agency's headquarters in

Washington, D.C., as a pretext for refusing and delaying his clients' requests for information.

"The guidelines are giving them a pretext to do what they've always done, which is to delay," Metz said. "And I think that there is a psychological mindset in the field offices and in the regional office that they resent these groups."

Raid

Continued from C1

these assumptions."

A third suspect, Joel Campos, 21, awaits a Jan. 4 preliminary hearing.

But Friday's preliminary hearing wasn't the end of the case.

Deputy Prosecutor Suzanne McIntosh filed a motion Monday asking Melanson to reconsider his decision, and if he doesn't change his mind she might refile charges, she said.

"We don't think they can do what they're doing," she said. "It hasn't died as far as we're concerned. There's no doubt in our mind they violated the law."

But Noga and Trowbridge insist their operation is legal. They have a seller's permit from the Idaho State Tax Commission, and they make sure customers know their merchandise is only for legal substances by posting

signs and handing our disclaimers saying so.

"It's not like we're drug dealers," Noga said. "We wanted a business and they wanted us like drug dealers."

They believe the police are on their backs because of past convictions with the law. More smoke shops in Teton Falls sell pipes, smoking papers and lighters that could be used for drugs, but those stores haven't been raided like Blazing Taper was, Trowbridge said.

"We'll go all the way with it to get it," he said.

If charges resurface, Noga and Trowbridge are willing to fight to keep their business. They spent more than \$20,000 to start the store, and they'll make their case to federal court if they have to, Noga said.

"We'll go all the way with it because this is our lives," he said.

said. "This isn't just in our spare time. We've invested our lives into it."

Their investment has been slow, lately while Blazing Taper's collection of pipes, from the smallest handheld to the 6-foot floor model, sit in police evidence.

With the charges dismissed, Noga and Trowbridge should get their stuff back soon. They hope they can continue their legitimate business without public interference, Trowbridge said.

"All your life growing up, your teachers and parents tell you to do something," he said. "And when you do they hold a gun to your head and throw you in jail."

Times-News staff writer Brian Egan can be reached at 733-0511, Ext. 238.

Tax

Continued from C1

Many of them aired their concerns at a recent meeting called by Sun Valley Mayor Tom Praggsis.

Ex Libris Bookstore, said the tax could encourage more people to shop in towns with no local option tax, such as Halley.

"The tax will cause even more of a discrepancy," he said.

More out-of-state customers have been ordering books over the phone to avoid Sun Valley's

already high tax on overall goods, Bray said.

"I am concerned with the limit mass of Sun Valley created with private property owners with higher expense homes. The benefits of the local option tax go to the large homeowners at Sun Valley, and the poor state owner in the judge isn't wanting anything," said Bill Mason, owner of Bill Mason Outfitters.

Mason suggested that the city could raise property taxes instead.

"If you want to live at Sun

Valley, you're going to pay for it," he said.

"Raising taxes will only hurt business in the long run," said Wally Buffman, general manager of the Sun Valley Co.

But City Council members were not convinced.

Council member Linda O'Shea said there is nothing to be gained by putting the tax off one more day.

Times-News correspondent Margie Elting can be reached in Ketchikan at 726-7287.

Books replace missile in old silo

FORT COLLINS, Colo. (AP) — In a different era, a different time, the cavernous rooms of Missile Site No. 13 housed a deadly nuclear weapon and the means to deliver it anywhere in the world.

Ironically, the fortress-like tomb that once cradled a weapon capable of destroying whole cities now is used to preserve big historical documents about Fort Collins.

Data Records Storage, a Fort Collins company, purchased the launch bunker, which was deactivated in 1966, in the mid-1980s and transformed it into a long-term storage facility, housing everything from priceless old photographs and yellowing newspapers to police records and corporate registers.

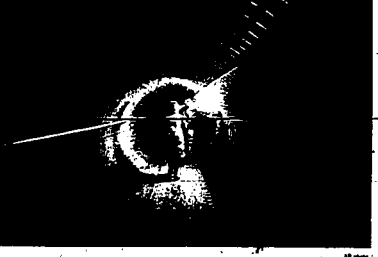
"It shows that you can recycle anything," said Rheba Massey, a Fort Collins librarian. "You've just got to have a creative mind."

Massey sends boxes of historical documents from the library out to the bunker every month.

Because of the low humidity and naturally cool climate, it is an ideal place to store newspapers, photographic negatives and other historical documents.

"We are 25 feet underground, so it's basically like a cave," said Reed Goodwin, vice president of Data Records. "The humidity is always 60 percent to 62 percent and the temperature only fluctuates by 12 degrees all year."

The bunker's bomb use of the facility is perfect for the library.



Rheba Massey, a Fort Collins, Colo., librarian, and Reed Goodwin, vice president of data record storage, walk down a tunnel to a storage facility where many of the library's records are stored. The facility, an underground nuclear missile launch site located north of Fort Collins, is now the home to many important records.

"We don't have much storage room in our library, so we have to send most of our stuff here," Massey said as she walked through the dark, narrow corridors that connect the various rooms of the bunker. "It is a creative way to do archival storage, because you don't have to do anything with it."

It cost the federal government about \$15 million to build the site in the late 1950s, just as the Cold War was heating up. It is located on 18 acres of land north of Fort Collins off U.S. Highway 287 near Ted's Place.

From 1961 to 1966, an Atlas Series E intercontinental ballistic missile with a single nuclear warhead lay prone beneath a mammoth, retractable door. It was slung beneath a launch tower, which is still there, that would raise the rocket vertical for liftoff.

Clips from the July 12, 1961, edition of the Coloradan chronicled the rocket's celebrated journey through Fort Collins, saying "hundreds of local residents thronged to North Huges Street to inspect the huge engine of war."

WEST/NATION

Police continue working on '96 murder

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — Angie Dodge would have turned 21 years old Monday. More than two years after her murder, police are still trying to solve the case.

"It's constantly on my mind," said Detective Ken Brown, who along with one other police detective is still investigating who raped and killed Dodge. "All I can really say right now is that we are still investigating."

The Idaho Falls High School graduate was found dead in her

apartment on June 13, 1996, by two co-workers. She had been stabbed several times and nearly decapitated.

Investigators believe at least three people were involved. But so far only one person — 22-year-old Christopher C. Tapp — has been charged and convicted.

Tapp was convicted of first-degree murder and rape in May and sentenced earlier this month by 7th District Judge Ted Wood to at least 30 years in prison for his

role in the crimes. He confessed to holding Dodge down by the neck, raped and murdered and to cutting her with the murder weapon.

Shortly after Tapp's sentencing, Bonneville County Prosecutor Kipp Mawaring said investigators are still trying to build a case against Benjamin Hobbs.

Hobbs, who is serving a 20-year term in a Nevada prison on an unrelated sexual assault, is one of several people Tapp has tried to implicate in the crime. No charges

in connection to Dodge's death have ever been filed against Hobbs.

Investigators also continue searching for a third man who Tapp said he knew only as "Mike." Brown said detectives have spent thousands of hours and interviewed hundreds of people over the past two years following up on tips they have received about Dodge's murder.

"Even today, we're working on it and making up tips," the sheriff



Jim Ryan makes his way through fresh snow on cross-country skis at Sunset Golf Course in Longmont, Colo., Sunday.

Snowstorms cause accidents on icy roads, pile up powder at ski resorts

DENVER (AP) — Resort operators in Colorado and the Sierra Nevada greeted the dawn of winter with delight after storms dumped a foot and more of snow on their slopes.

"It's been a couple of weeks since we've seen snow and this really changed the attitudes in the Vail Valley," said Kristin Yarnis, spokeswoman for Vail in Colorado. "You could tell spirits were lifted."

Elsewhere, however, the arrival of winter cold and snow caused traffic deaths on the central Plains and upper Midwest.

A string of December storms has left the Sierra Nevada peaks around Lake Tahoe, on the Nevada-California line, with above-average snowfall, while resorts in Colorado got a much-needed boost just in time for the Christmas ski rush.

"This is really going to set us up for just a fantastic holiday," Molly Calkins, spokeswoman for the South Lake Tahoe, Calif., resort Heavenly, said Sunday. "It gets people excited. They hear about snow and it makes them want to go skiing."

The storms came just in time. With snowfall at only 60 percent of average, business was down at Colorado resorts.

In the Sierra Nevada didn't have to worry, said spokeswoman Tania Magidson at the California resort of Kirkwood.

"It's looking really good going into Christmas for two reasons. California is getting the snow this year and it's pretty widely known



Icy roads caused a multi-car pileup in Wichita Falls, Texas, sending two people to the hospital early Monday. Police, firefighters and paramedics were kept busy with numerous accidents.

that Colorado, Utah and the East Coast haven't been getting as much snow," she said.

Even in Southern California, a section of Interstate 5 in the mountains north of Los Angeles was closed early today by dense fog and snow, said Joseph Lewis, a dispatcher with the California Highway Patrol.

Fresno, Calif., which hadn't recorded a serious snowfall since 1.2 inches fell in 1968, got a trace, and even San Francisco spotted some rare flakes.

Tom Sweeney, 41, has been a doorman at San Francisco's Sir

Francis Drake Hotel for 22 years, and the last time he remembers snow was 1976.

"Today it feels like the coldest day ever," he said after watching a busload of tourists stimping "White Christmas" arrive at the hotel. "It's pretty bizarre."

But cold is relative. San Francisco's temperatures Sunday were in the low 40s. Battle Mountain, dropped to a record 36 below zero late Sunday, topping the record of 32 below zero set in 1983, as below-zero weather spread across the northern Rockies and Plains.

Utah legislator takes on ed law after lesbian teacher ruling

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Rep. Bill Wertz, R-Eldorado, plans to introduce legislation that would strike down or weaken Utah's compulsory education law now that a federal judge has ruled in favor of a lesbian teacher.

Utah's compulsory education law requires children ages 6 to 17 to attend school.

Sen. Wright said that should be changed to allow parents to take control of their children's lives. He's uncertain whether he will propose eliminating or weakening the law.

"Parents need to be able to choose to place them in an educational community that provides them with the environment of their choice. How we need to do this is not known."

Wright said his request for a bill was prompted by U.S. District Judge Bruce Jenkins' ruling that the New School System violated teacher Bruce Weimer's constitutional rights of free speech and equal protection. The district judge imposed a one-year restraining order but later rescinded her ruling.

Wertz said he would like to see the school community, the future staff.

Vandals trash Pocatello paper's offices

POCATELLO (AP) — Police were investigating whether vandals of the Idaho State Journal building during the weekend was the work of a disgruntled former employee or someone with a grudge against the newspaper.

Capt. Erik Nelson said someone entered the building early Sunday and appeared to target the publisher's office. Stephanie Presley's bank check was dismantled and computer equipment and other office equipment was trashed.

A cue rack was dismantled and apparently used as a chair. Tools and other objects in the pressroom were taken and several reporters' desk drawers were emptied since the dawn, Nelson said.

A small amount of cash was taken from a locked desk box in which detectives sometimes find money that they sent to a waste bin because of a security violation.

Police said they also would interview newspaper management and staff about possible suspects.

ISU names fund-raiser

POCATELLO (AP) — Jim Rogers, the Sunbelt Communications owner who has donated \$3.2 million to Idaho State University during the past two years, has been named chairman of the school's Commemorial Capital Campaign.

The major fund-raising effort is aimed at raising more than \$20 million for Idaho State over the next five years for a variety of campus improvement projects.

Rogers said Monday. "We needed leadership from someone who had compassion for the university both emotionally and financially," ISU Foundation President Rich Garvin said.

Rogers, whose company operates television stations throughout the West, was the first choice of both Idaho State President Richard Bowen and Gov.-elect Dirk Kempthorne.

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www.edwardjones.com

Deputies capture escaped women

POCATELLO (AP) — Two women who walked away from a prison work detail at Holt Arena last Thursday were apprehended during a drug bust.

Arrested in a trailer house on Sunday were Becky Joyce Ables, 25, and Michelle Maria Christensen, 20. Both women were serving prison sentences for forgery and would have been eligible for parole in a few months.

They are being held Monday in the Bonneville County Jail on escape charges.

Acting on an anonymous tip, four sheriff's deputies responded to the trailer home of Paul Zamora, 19, and discovered the escapes.

Christensen resisted officers, Capt. Mike Sanders said.

Zamora also was arrested and charged with possession of drug paraphernalia.

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Public Comment Period Extended

Based on a request from the public, the U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and state of Idaho have extended the comment period for the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory's Test Area North Proposed Plan. The comment period has been extended to January 21, 1999.

The plan outlines the agencies' recommendations for cleanup at Test Area North under the plan. The public is being asked to review and provide comments on the proposed plans. Comments may include copies of the proposed plan or a briefing with project managers by calling the NEEEL Community Relations Office (208-526-7225) or the NEEEL toll-free number (800-778-2680). The plan is also available on the internet at <http://www.ineel.gov/environmental/docs/ta/nplan.pdf>.

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Help Us Save Christmas

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Holiday Gift Ideas From...
CHURCHMAN JEWELRY
More Than Just A Jewelry Store!
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Lots of Stuff On Sale For Christmas!

You could win a new 1999 Toyota Corolla donated by WILLS TOYOTA

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OLD TOWN TWIN FALLS
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GIFTS FOR THAT SPECIAL PERSON FROM HUDSON'S

- House Slippers For men or women
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For the Entire Family

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HOLIDAY COUPON
Your Holiday Gift Headquarters
6 MONTHS SAME AS CASH

Huge Selection of CURIO CABINETS from \$199
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\$20.00 OFF
Any CEDAR CHEST or CURIO CABINET in stock.
Expires 12/24/98 ONLY AT

6 MONTHS SAME AS CASH O.A.C.
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RED TAB 550 & 560 JEANS
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• REG. \$49.99

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EXTRA SIZES \$28.99

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DOWNTOWN TWIN FALLS 175 MAIN AVENUE WEST
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Gift Certificate
Given to:
Future Fitness Members with presentation of this Gift Certificate, will receive
FREE INITIATION FEE

Women's FITNESS UNLIMITED
336 Main Avenue Mon-Fri 5-8 Sat 5-8
"We Are Every Woman"
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WEST IN BRIEF

National organization elects Kempthorne as VP

BOISE — Republican Gov. select Dirk Kempthorne has been elected vice president of the Council of State Governments. The national, non-partisan organization represents governors, attorneys general and legislators in all 50 states and U.S. territories. The Council of State Governments was a partner in my successful legislation to stop unfunded federal mandates, and is a well-respected organization in the upcoming one-term U.S. senator said Monday. Republican Gov. Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin was elected president of the

council at the group's recent annual meeting in San Antonio, Texas. And according to the organization's rules, Kempthorne will become council president in 2001.

Bridge project reinking communities faces delay

RIRIE — It probably will be spring before construction work is finished on the Twin Bridges connecting Ririe and towns on the north side of the Snake River. The bridges linked Ririe in Jefferson County with Madison County towns including Arber and Snyderville until the 1997 Snake River flood. What once was a 5-mile trip became a 15-mile drive after the bridges were washed out. The \$2.1 million project was supposed to be finished in October, but technical problems delayed construction crews, said Stephen Ball, Twin Bridges project engineer for the Idaho Department of Transportation.

Pocatello caps spending on urban renewal plan

POCATELLO — The city council has agreed to cap spending on its urban renewal plan at \$18 million over 10 years. Council member Bob Foster offered an amendment to the ordinance that scaled back its size to match an original recommendation by the Pocatello Development Authority. "The denominator of discussions has been lower the budget over a shorter period of time," Foster said. "The intent is to put the discussion of projects back to PDA where it belongs."

Town calls in FBI over bizarre bank robbery

SHELLEY — Bingham County law enforcement officials are working with the FBI to find a man suspected of an

intricate bank robbery last week. The sheriff's department said a man dressed in a postal uniform went to the home of Shelley Bank of Commerce manager Mary Freeman early on the morning of Dec. 14. The man said he had a package for Freeman and that he needed proof of identity to release it. Freeman told police the man followed her into her home, placed an explosive device around her neck and gave her printed instructions on how to proceed. The instructions reportedly told her to go to the bank alone, take out money and leave. The instructions then led her to a location where other instructions were posted on a pole. Freeman was directed to four other sites in Bingham and Bonneville counties. The fourth site instructed her to return to the bank and give details on how to disarm the bomb. Freeman told police she and the bank called the FBI.

Christmas caroler shot; 1 dies after I.A. drive-by

LOS ANGELES — A Christmas caroler was killed and another wounded by a drive-by shooting while their church group was out among holiday songs, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department said. Sheriff Hamannville, 26, of Compton, was killed Friday night, said Deputy Sheriff Bailey. Barr Llimanaya, 25, was wounded by St. Francis Medical Center in serious condition. Llimanaya suffered gunshot wounds to his right thigh and right forearm and was in great condition Saturday night, Sheriff's spokesman Valerie Chisney. Authorities were searching for suspects and no motive was immediately determined. Compiled from wire reports

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Happy Ads - Classified ads service. Display Ads - Classified ads service. Headlines - Classified ads service. Line - Classified ads service.

LEGAL NOTICE: IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS. Case No. CV 98-4131 SUMMONS. DEAN GOODWIN, Plaintiff vs. DEAN GOODWIN, RALPH GOODWIN, MICHELLE HANNA, and TERESA RICHENCE, Defendants.

101 LOST & FOUND: FOUND Green Chevrolet in Hagerman, adult male. FOUND male She-pup X, recent suture on front leg. Green color & red collar. Call 733-7331.

FAX YOUR AD: TIMES CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT 208-734-5539 or 208-677-4543 (BURLEY). REMEMBER: This Friday ad you place some time ago in the Times-News! Now is the time to come back up on your ad.

DRIVER: Need local and greater drivers. Must have current license. Licensure, must have current license. Licensure, must have current license.

MANAGEMENT: Position Manager or Assistant Manager. Must have current license. Licensure, must have current license.

LEGAL NOTICE: YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that in order to defend the lawsuit, an appropriate response must be filed with the above designated court within 30 days after service of this Summons on you.

106 SPECIAL NOTICES: ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 733-8300 or 208-728-9528. GUARANTEED ADS: The Times-News guarantees to sell merchandise, automotive in 7 days and real estate in 15 days or return the ad an additional 7 days.

107 ABORTION ALTERNATIVES: PRENATAL CARE CENTER 734-7475 • 800-371-7472. 108 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES: BANKRUPTCY: Relief From Debt and a fresh start. 111 ENTERTAINMENT SERVICES: AVANTAGE FOR HIRE: available days, evenings, weekends. 113 CHILD CARE SERVICES: CHILD CARE by Rhythmic ICCP, CPR, openings for day care. DEBBIE'S DAY CARE: ICCP, licensed. NEW DAYCARE OPENING: Employment starting now.

DRIVERS: Need local and greater drivers. Must have current license. Licensure, must have current license. DRIVERS: Need OTR drivers to work on 12-19-98 or 800-425-8888. DRIVERS: Need OTR drivers to work on 12-19-98 or 800-425-8888. DRIVERS: Need OTR drivers to work on 12-19-98 or 800-425-8888.

MANAGEMENT: Position Manager or Assistant Manager. Must have current license. Licensure, must have current license. DRIVERS: Need OTR drivers to work on 12-19-98 or 800-425-8888. DRIVERS: Need OTR drivers to work on 12-19-98 or 800-425-8888. DRIVERS: Need OTR drivers to work on 12-19-98 or 800-425-8888.

SELL IT! BUY IT! A Times-News Classified Will Fill Every Need 733-0931

RECEPTIONIST/CAREER... Medical office background... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

IDEAL CANDIDATE... Ideal candidate will have 3+ years experience as a... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

RESTAURANT... Exper. with person wanted... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

RESTAURANT... Looking for full time Line Cook... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

WELDERS... Exper. welders needed... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

MISCELLANEOUS... 217 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

AMERICAN... STAFFING, Inc. Respects & Professionalism... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

MISCELLANEOUS... HOME... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

MISCELLANEOUS... GOODING-FARFIELD... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

MISCELLANEOUS... COPIES N-CRAFTS... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

MISCELLANEOUS... THE TIMES-NEWS... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

MISCELLANEOUS... MONEY TO LOAN... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

MISCELLANEOUS... BARKER... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

RUPERT... The Times-News is currently looking for independent walking route carriers... Rupert area

IF YOU LIVE IN THE RUPERT AREA... Interested in being a newspaper carrier... Rupert area

PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD FOR CORRECTIONS... The first day that it runs... Rupert area

THE TIMES-NEWS IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR INDEPENDENT JR ROUTES... Available in the Shoshone Area

REAL ESTATE SALES... 501 OPEN HOUSES... Various locations

502 HOMES FOR SALE... PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE... Various locations

A GUARANTEED AD... Buy the Guaranteed package and The Times-News... Various locations

513 ACRES & LOTS... BLISS, Land investment opportunity... Various locations

301 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES... REASONABLE FEES... Various locations

302 MONEY TO LOAN... LOW RATE REASONABLE FEES... Various locations

303 BARKER... Real Estate... Various locations

304 UNFURNISHED HOUSES... BLISS, Near 1 born home... Various locations

305 UNFURNISHED HOUSES... BLISS, Near 1 born home... Various locations

304 INVESTMENTS... PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE... Various locations

305 CONTRACTS & MORTGAGES... CASH for Deeds of Trust... Various locations

DRACO INVESTMENT CORP... Mortgage Contracts... Various locations

SELL DIRECT... We are looking for the public... Various locations

501 OPEN HOUSES... Real Estate Sales... Various locations

502 HOMES FOR SALE... PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE... Various locations

A GUARANTEED AD... Buy the Guaranteed package... Various locations

513 ACRES & LOTS... BLISS, Land investment... Various locations

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302 MONEY TO LOAN... LOW RATE REASONABLE FEES... Various locations

303 BARKER... Real Estate... Various locations

304 UNFURNISHED HOUSES... BLISS, Near 1 born home... Various locations

305 UNFURNISHED HOUSES... BLISS, Near 1 born home... Various locations

KIMBERLY... Move in by... 1059 Desert View Dr... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

TOUR OUR HOMES... Receive a FREE satellite dish... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

TWIN FALLS... 913 2 born home... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

TWIN FALLS... INVEST NOW! \$22,000 2 born rental... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

TWIN FALLS... Beautiful, well furnished... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

TWIN FALLS... By owner... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

WENDELL... Delightfully different 4... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

WENDELL... 3 born, living rm, kitchen, gas heat... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

WOULD YOU RATHER... Have a Honda or Hummer?... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

512 FARM/RANCHES/DAIRIES... GOODING... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

513 ACRES & LOTS... BLISS, Land investment... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

301 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES... REASONABLE FEES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

302 MONEY TO LOAN... LOW RATE REASONABLE FEES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

TWIN FALLS... 1059 Desert View Dr... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

WENDELL... 2 born home... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

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301 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES... REASONABLE FEES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

302 MONEY TO LOAN... LOW RATE REASONABLE FEES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

303 BARKER... Real Estate... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

515 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY... ATLANTA, IDAHO... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

516 MOBILE HOMES... BUYING OR SELLING... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

REPO'S... FURNISHING... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

517 UNFURNISHED APPTS... DUPLEXES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

518 UNFURNISHED APPTS... DUPLEXES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

519 UNFURNISHED APPTS... DUPLEXES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

520 REAL ESTATE WANTED... FAX YOUR AD... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

521 MANUFACTURED HOMES... ABANDONED HOME... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

522 UNFURNISHED APPTS... DUPLEXES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

523 UNFURNISHED APPTS... DUPLEXES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

524 UNFURNISHED APPTS... DUPLEXES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

525 UNFURNISHED APPTS... DUPLEXES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

526 UNFURNISHED APPTS... DUPLEXES... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

TWIN FALLS... 2 born... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

TWIN FALLS... 1 born... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

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TWIN FALLS... 1 born... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

TWIN FALLS... 2 born... Twin Falls, Idaho 83301

FLOWER CHILD



The son of Kimberly Horn enjoys the flowers on a mountainside in Nevada. This snapshot won special merit recognition in the annual Kodak International Newspaper Snapshot Awards.

Photos receive national awards

By Rachel Denny
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - One thing neither Sandy Brennan nor Kimberly Horn fathomed possible was family snapshots being recognized in an international amateur photographers' contest.

Both Brennan and Horn received special merit awards from the 63rd KODAK International Newspaper Snapshot Awards (KINSA) contest.

KINSA, locally sponsored by *The Times-News*, is the largest amateur photography contest in existence. Every year, \$52,500 is given out in prize money. Internationally, 259 individuals placed in this year's contest.

"I wasn't sure if I'd won because it had taken so long," Brennan said. "That I was one of the few to be honored, that was pretty good. It was an honor. I was excited."

Brennan and Horn both received \$50 for their photographs. Horn, who photographed her son, has specific plans for that \$50.

"Well, I put the \$50 into my son's bank account," Horn said. "It's his, the picture was of him."

On a mountainside in Nevada, the mountains filled with flowers, Horn just had to take a picture of her son.

"It wasn't planned," she said. "We just set him down, took a photo and it turned out it was one of those shots you couldn't resist taking."

And much like Horn, Brennan didn't



Sandy Brennan was just out with her camera when she caught this pose. Judges at the 63rd annual Kodak International Newspaper Snapshot Awards thought it was good enough for special merit recognition and a \$50 prize.

plan her photograph, either.

"I was just out with my camera," she said. "It was a cute pose."

Similar to another KINSA award winner in the Magic Valley from last year, Brennan captured her subject covy peeking through the hole in the fence.

"It's not when you take a picture and it comes out and you didn't plan on it," Brennan said. "I like it because you can't

ten words.

And not only does photography tell a story, but it offers much more.

"I think it's very important," Horn said. "You capture memories, people, it shows you happy times, it gives you something to look back on and remember, but it mostly captures some memories for you that you're able to reminisce about. This is ordinary, everyday photography."

"We've called and asked for help and not one, not even one person, has turned us down. Everyone has been willing to help," Stephens said.

A microwave, dining table and chairs, and a television set are on the gift list, but a bed is still needed.

"It's all been unbelievable. Even a friend in Boise is helping. Someone donated a big truck so she had bought for a grandson and decided to buy something else more reasonable and give the truck set to one of the Juarez

Please see ADOPT, Page D2

Rupert celebrates education week

RUPERT - Memorial Elementary School celebrated American Education Week from Nov. 15-23 with a variety of activities.

"Teaching Children to Think and Dream" was the week's theme.

Support staff members were honored on Nov. 16 with special thank you gifts. Teachers were honored on Nov. 17, and bus drivers received honors on Nov. 19.

On Nov. 18, children and parents attended a Family Night. They read books together and took computerized tests on the books. The children demonstrated the Accelerated Reader Program to parents. Approximately 300 parents and children attend the evening and enjoyed refreshments.

On Nov. 20, the community became involved as "readers" for every kindergarten through second-grade classroom. The readers read to the children, discussed the importance of reading and answered questions. Community leaders included Mayor Dwinelle Alfred, City Councilmen Joel Rogers, Steve Barras and Layne Rutschke, Superintendent Nick Ballert and School Board members Norma Claridge and George MacDonald. Other members from the community participating were John Cooper, Sheryl Zampardi, Doris Wright, Garth Baker, Hart Hintze, Sheryl Whiting, Benjamin Parker and Norma Kraus.



Era Blount and her mother, Ruth Blount take a computerized Accelerated Reader program test on a book they read at a recent the Memorial School "Family Night."

Readers were given a token of appreciation for participating.

Pat Bolter said, "Students and readers alike enjoyed the morning. At the conclusion of the weeklong activities, children were more aware of the importance of education in their lives."

Officer assumes command of Civil Air Patrol squadron

BURLEY - The Joe Engle Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol (CAP) recently held change of command ceremonies in the Campbell's J.T. Aviation hangar at the Burley Airport.

First Lieutenant Lori Fletcher assumed the reins of the local squadron. Special guests included Idaho Wing Commander Colonel David Floyd, Representative Jim Kempton of Albion, Lieutenant Colonel Jackie Floyd, the Wing Senior Programs Director and Liaison Non-commissioned Officer Master Sergeant Byron Schmidt.

Colors were presented by a color guard comprised of Cadet Sergeant Benjamin Tilley and Airmen Samantha Darron, Sarah Porter, Loren Smith and Tom Bates.

Colonel Floyd and Kempton presented the General Billy Mitchell Award to Master Sergeants Doug Welch and Cheney Voss. The award recognizes dedication and perseverance in aerospace education and leadership. Jerry Voss and Major Rose Voss pinned their daughter, Cheney, with her new rank as flight officer.

Mark Welch and Captain James Fletcher pinned the new rank emblems on Flight Officer Doug Welch.

Welch and Voss gave short speeches on the learning experience commenced with the award and expressed appreciation to the individuals who helped them meet their goals.

Kempton gave a review of his life and told about his association with aeromans and the Air Force. Colonel Floyd conducted the change of command ceremony and Doug Welch carried the CAP flag followed by the outgoing commander, Captain James Fletcher, and the incoming commander, Lori Fletcher.

Fletcher presented the flag to the wing commander to relinquish command. The flag was then presented to Fletcher who accepted the responsibility of commanding the squadron.

Fletcher is one of a handful of female commanders in the civil air patrol. She



First Lieutenant Lori Fletcher, right, recently became the commander of the Joe Engle Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol. Participating in the ceremony were, from left to right, Lieutenant Commander James Kempton, Flight Officer Doug Welch, Captain James Fletcher and First Lieutenant Lori Fletcher.

paid tribute to the outgoing commander and Colonel Floyd presented the officers with a replica plaque of one presented to the state wing by the national organization for disaster service work related to the 1957 summer floods.

The colors were retired by the color guard and refreshments served.



The color guard for recent change of command ceremonies for the Joe Engle Squadron of the Civil Air Patrol are, from left to right, Airman Sarah Porter, Sergeant Benjamin Tilley, Airman Samantha Darron, Airman Loren Smith and Airman Tom Bates.

Jerome businesswoman, others adopt Wendell family during holidays to help brighten lives

JEROME - A Wendell family will be celebrating Christmas as people join to foster the true spirit of Christmas through giving.

Marin and Veronica Juarez and their seven children were adopted by Jenny Butler, a Jerome businesswoman, after Butler read a *Times-News* article about the Northside Head Start "Adopt-a-Family" program.

For three years the Juarez family has been on the Head Start list of families who can be adopted for the holidays.

Wendell family and we felt bad about that, but this year it's different," said Head Start Director Judy Criss. "This year they will really celebrate Christmas."

Butler realized doing what she really felt should be done for the children and parents was more than she could handle on her own so she called on her neighbor, Cindy Stephens. The call for help, "started the ball rolling" and now the ladies have 16 other families planning to give the Juarez family the best Christmas they have ever had.

MONEY

Not a totally happy holiday

Steel, agriculture industries deal with financial turmoil

By John Cuffin
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — While government and consumers have more than enough spending power to make this a financially successful holiday season, there is gloom in two important areas of American business.

This is not to say that farming and steel are alone among domestic industries with problems, but they are certainly dealing with more than their share.

And both are basic to America's well-being.

Farmers have had a monumental financial collapse, rather little of it their own doing. And despite spending \$50 billion on modernizing since the 1980s, steelmakers are losing market share and jobs to imports.

Assessing the cause isn't difficult. In each instance, the collapse of Asian economies is at the root of the problem. The Asian flu has indeed spread, no matter that some of Wall Street discards its impact.

The contrast with the general well-being of so many areas of the economy — consumers are on a spending spree, government boasts of balancing the budget, carmakers are having a record



David Kidd, a third-generation farmer, walks across part of his dairy farm recently in Hartsville, N.C.

year — is stark. Net farm income through the first half of the year was running at an annual rate of \$2.57 billion, \$7 billion below that of 1990, while production expenses in the same time rose \$40 billion to \$195 billion.

For the farmers, the chief culprit is a loss of exports to Asia and low commodity prices. And some of the declines in commodities, which include the basic raw

materials for industry, can also be traced to the collapse of foreign economies.

Steadily, problems are primarily with imports, and in the opinion of steelmakers you can add the descriptors "unfair and illegal" to the definition. Steeled supply, they say, foreigners are dumping steel.

Dumping is when steel is sold for less than production cost, a practice outlawed in U.S. trade

agreements with other nations. But it is apparently occurring on a massive scale, and from friendly nations.

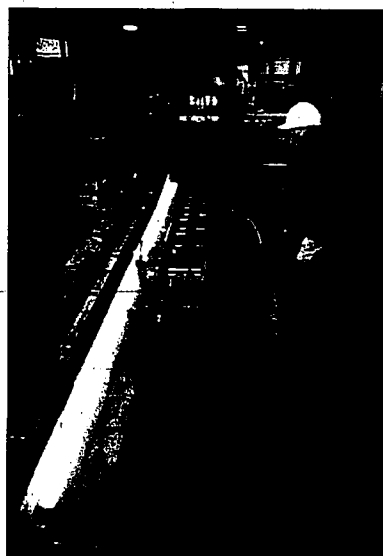
Based on Commerce Department data, the American Iron & Steel Institute states that third-quarter imports rose to 12.3 million net tons, a 56 percent increase over 7.8 million tons one year ago.

The percentage increases for the third quarter are stunning: steel from Japan is up 210 percent, Korea 151 percent, Australia 603 percent, Indonesia 643 percent, Ukraine 159 percent, China 143 percent, Russia 115 percent.

The resulting decline of the markets and the increase of imports can be measured in lower prices, lower earnings or loss, farm bankruptcies and job losses, some of them in already poor areas of the country.

Not everyone is unhappy about the situation. It enables carmakers, for example, to restrain price increases. It helps families hold the line on food purchases, enabling them to spend mildly on other items.

The Commerce Department is now considering what to do, but it takes a long time between the time government makes up its mind and results begin to appear.



A worker monitors the product Friday as it moves down the line at the Riverview Steel Company in Glassport, Pa. Displaced steel mill veterans are behind the growing pressure on President Clinton to take more aggressive steps to block steel imports.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Stock	Chg	Last	High	Low	Open	Close
IBM	+	105.00	106.50	104.50	105.00	105.00
MSFT	+	35.50	36.50	34.50	35.00	35.50
GOOG	+	55.00	57.00	53.00	55.00	55.00
YHOO	+	45.00	46.50	44.00	45.00	45.00
WMT	+	35.00	36.00	34.00	35.00	35.00
AMZN	+	25.00	26.00	24.00	25.00	25.00
ORCL	+	20.00	21.00	19.00	20.00	20.00
UNH	+	40.00	41.00	39.00	40.00	40.00
CVX	+	50.00	51.00	49.00	50.00	50.00
PG	+	30.00	31.00	29.00	30.00	30.00
KO	+	20.00	21.00	19.00	20.00	20.00
DIS	+	15.00	16.00	14.00	15.00	15.00
GE	+	10.00	11.00	9.00	10.00	10.00
MS	+	8.00	9.00	7.00	8.00	8.00
TRV	+	6.00	7.00	5.00	6.00	6.00
AA	+	4.00	5.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
JPM	+	3.00	4.00	2.00	3.00	3.00
C	+	2.00	3.00	1.00	2.00	2.00
INTL	+	1.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	1.00

MARKET SUMMARY

INDEX	Chg	Last
S&P 500	+0.15	1050.00
DOW JONES	+15.00	9100.00
NASDAQ	+0.20	2500.00

COMPANY	Chg	Last
Microsoft	+0.50	35.50
IBM	+0.20	105.00
Alcoa	+0.10	15.00
United Steel	+0.05	8.00

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Stock	Chg	Last	High	Low	Open	Close
ADSK	+	35.00	36.00	34.00	35.00	35.00
ADT	+	25.00	26.00	24.00	25.00	25.00
ADG	+	15.00	16.00	14.00	15.00	15.00
ADM	+	10.00	11.00	9.00	10.00	10.00
ADN	+	8.00	9.00	7.00	8.00	8.00
ADP	+	6.00	7.00	5.00	6.00	6.00
ADH	+	4.00	5.00	3.00	4.00	4.00
ADI	+	3.00	4.00	2.00	3.00	3.00
ADJ	+	2.00	3.00	1.00	2.00	2.00
ADK	+	1.00	2.00	0.00	1.00	1.00

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Stock	Chg	Last
AA	+	4.00
AAE	+	3.00
AAI	+	2.00
AAJ	+	1.00
AAK	+	0.50
AAH	+	0.20

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Marketed by the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most active on the New York Stock Exchange are shown on this page. The most active on the American Stock Exchange, Mutual Funds and the New York Stock Exchange are also shown. The New York Stock Exchange is the world's largest capital market. The American Stock Exchange is the second largest. The New York Stock Exchange is the most liquid. The American Stock Exchange is the most active. The New York Stock Exchange is the most important. The American Stock Exchange is the most interesting.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Stock	Chg	Last
AA	+	4.00
AAE	+	3.00
AAI	+	2.00
AAJ	+	1.00
AAK	+	0.50
AAH	+	0.20

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table of closing futures prices for various commodities including Corn, Soybean, Wheat, and Oil. Columns include contract type, price, and change.

BEANS

Table of closing futures prices for various bean contracts, including Yellow Beans and Green Beans.

GRAINS

Table of closing futures prices for various grain contracts, including Wheat, Corn, and Soybean.

CHEESE

Table of closing futures prices for various cheese contracts.

POTATOES/ONIONS

Table of closing futures prices for various potato and onion contracts.

SOYBEAN OIL

Table of closing futures prices for soybean oil contracts.

WHEAT

Table of closing futures prices for various wheat contracts.

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MARKETS

Table of market prices for various commodities including Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, and Corn.

SUGAR

Table of market prices for various sugar contracts, including New York and London.

LIVESTOCK

Table of market prices for various livestock contracts, including Cattle and Hogs.

SOYBEAN OIL

Table of market prices for soybean oil contracts.

WHEAT

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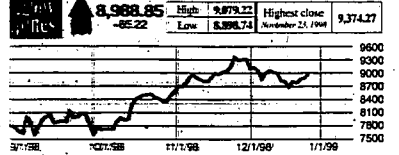
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Tech stocks lead 2 indexes to new highs

NEW YORK, AP — The S&P 500 and the Nasdaq composite index set new highs Monday as the implementation of President Clinton's budget led to a powerful rally by technology stocks. The Dow Jones industrial average rose as much as 175 points before settling 52 1/2 higher at 8,398.58, above 800 points before the record started.

The technology-rich Nasdaq composite index rose 51.99 to 2,398.02, pushing Friday's record high of 2,336.14 and posting this year's gain above 36 percent. The Standard & Poor's 500 index rose 24.31 to 1,322.84, topping last year's record of 1,292.93 and ending with a 1998 gain of 22.2 percent.

The blue-chip rally, which overrode another lackluster performance by smaller-company stocks, came this week after a presidential inauguration, followed by Saturday's impeachment vote by the House and the end of a bitter missile strikes on Iraq.

"There's an awful lot of optimism that's been expressed here," said Russ Hussey, a managing director at Dain Rauscher Wicks & Associates, a New York-based investment manager. "I think we're in for a draw-out impasse."

Among leading technology issues, IBM rose 4 1/16 to 176 3/8, leading for a fourth straight year of double-digit gains. Likewise, Dell Computer rose 1/16 to 17 1/16 and Cisco Systems rose 1/4 to 44 1/16 to lead the Nasdaq rally.

5 personal finance resources on cheaper credit cards

Many of the credit cards used by consumers during this holiday season will most likely come with healthy interest rates, sometimes 18 percent or more.

It's not as if you may not be a whole lot on credit as this year's economy is again set to be a good time to resolve to replace your current plastic with lower-rate credit cards for the new year.

In fact, the World Wide Web is more than ready to accommodate. Several good Web sites provide comparative data on credit card rates and their terms.

Here's just a few. CardWeb: <http://www.cardweb.com>. CreditCards.com: <http://www.creditcards.com>. RateAPRinder.com: <http://www.rateaprinder.com>. Provides info on low initial and ongoing rates, and no annual fee terms.

Bank Rate Monitor: <http://www.bankrate.com/cio/ra/ra.html>. Offers selection of different types of credit cards and low rates.

CreditChoice: <http://www.creditchoice.com/AmericanExpress.html>. Offers selection of different types of credit cards and low rates.

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MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table listing various mutual funds, including their names, asset classes, and performance metrics. Columns include fund name, asset class, and various performance indicators.