



GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny becoming partly cloudy
Tonight: Chance of snow showers. High 22, low -2
Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Police help: Twin Falls officers spent Wednesday playing Santa for families
Page C1

SPORTS

New high school poll: Kimberly, Carey, Deolo and Valley each battled to remain in the Top 5 in the latest AP prep poll released Wednesday
Page B1

OUTDOORS



The keeman cometh: Writer-climber Mark Weber explains why some people enjoy ice climbing in the Snake River Canyon
Page D1

OPINION

Fee, fi, fo, fum: Every April 15, American taxpayers fund the Sawtooth National Forest's budget — so there's no need for user fees, today's editorial says
Page A6

SECTION BY SECTION

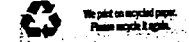
Section A	Morning Break
Weather	Dear Abby
Nation	Community
Opinion	Money
West	West

Section B	Section D
Sports	Outdoors
	Comics

Section C	Section E
Magic Valley	West
Outdoors	Classified



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The Times

History may mean cash But Idaho may have pay to improve tourism sites

By Gregory Hahn Times-News writer

HANSEN — Through much of the 19th Century, the little log store and lodge on the banks of Rock Creek was a popular stopping point for folks headed west. A relatively lush oasis in the high desert, the site was long popular with Native Americans and fur trappers. It attracted overlanders from the Oregon Trail and the Kelton Wagon Road that came later.

Today, more than 130 years after the main building was constructed, the Idaho State Historical Society links it and other sites around the state can attract visitors — and contribute to the economy.

But it won't come free, and it's not likely to come soon.

The society estimates it needs to spend more than \$10 million to improve the roughly 60 buildings, museums, and \$250,000 a year for upkeep.

The agency's current budget is \$23,000.

"If we improve these sites," said Director Steve Guerber, "we can look at it as an investment."

Citing a recent survey by the Travel Industry Association of America, Guerber said more people are including historical stops in their vacations. The survey, conducted over the phone with 1,200 American adults, indicated that the industry's 200 million travelers in the United States included a "heritage, historic, cultural or arts activity" in a trip in the past year.

With Idaho's rich role in the country's Western expansion, Guerber said, the state can attract these tourists — and the dollars.

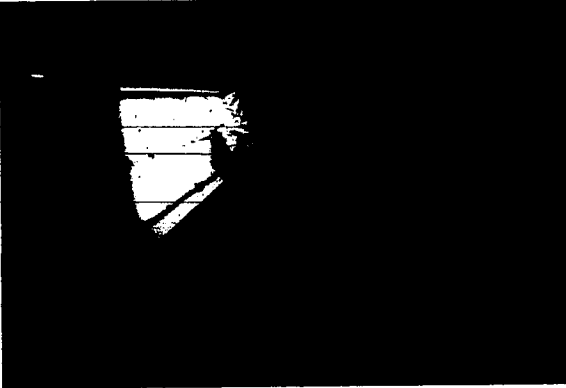
But the state needs to make sure its historical sites are worth visiting.

At the Rock Creek Store and Stricker Homesite, mistakes and acts of nature have kept the society, and the faithful troop of volunteers led by Jerome resident Marian Fosdy Wilson, from keeping the site in prime condition.

An other second roof built to protect the store's old roof is proving too heavy for the rock walls. The society wants to take it off and support the old shingles with an inner lining of tin.

During the floods of 1997, Rock Creek changed its course and cut across about half of the yard, and threatened the Stricker house and a few other structures.

"It wiped out the whole maintenance budget for the site," Guerber said.



Marisa Prouy Wilson gazes out the window of the store at the Rock Creek Store and Stricker Homesite south of Hansen. The store, built in 1865, is in serious need of repair. Wilson is a volunteer who guides tours at the site.

Historical history

The Idaho State Historical Society traces its own history back to 1906, when it was organized into the Historical Society of Idaho. Promoted just 25 years after the Idaho Territory was established in 1863.

The modern group was formed as a state agency in 1907. Today, the society is closely connected to the Department of Education. Through a small staff and a network of volunteers, the society maintains about 60 buildings to around eight main sites around the state.

With a budget hovering around \$23,000, the Historical Society estimates it should be spending \$2 million to adequately maintain its sites. It plans to ask the legislature for a \$300,000 increase in 1999.

About 5,000 visitors came to the site every year, although the volunteers only give guided tours on Sundays between April and October. The society spends \$5,000 to \$6,000 a year maintaining the place. That's about what Herman Stricker and fellow

By the numbers

- The group would like to spend upgrading the Rock Creek Store and Stricker Homesite, a midsize pit stop southwest of Hansen that has several buildings among the oldest known in southern Idaho.
- Prospective signs and exhibits for the website site: \$42,000.
- Parking improvements and creation of a new site: \$22,000.
- About 60 historic point replicas at Rock Creek Store: \$6,000.
- Painting, staining roof and chimney work at Stricker ranch house: \$8,700.
- Restaurant rebuild: \$22,000.
- Purchase of and fencing around many premier cemetery: \$10,000.
- Other signs, repairs and fencing: \$4,300.

German immigrant John Borzet paid in 1876 for the house, store and stables, with contents. The state doesn't have any hard numbers documenting the economic impact of historical travel, but it's beginning to see its potential, said Carl Wilgus, director of the Department of Commerce's

Division of Tourism

Despite the hype around "extreme sports" and "adventure vacations," historical tourism is steadily becoming more popular — it's no longer just the haven of historians and "old-timers."

"We travel more," he said, "but we do less when we travel."

The 2002 Winter Olympics and the 2004 bicentennial of Lewis and Clark's expedition could enhance the boom.

The head of the "Cultural Olympiad" for the 2002 games is coming to Idaho next week to explore how the state can contribute to the myriad cultural events being set for the Salt Lake City games.

In the past year some stops along Lewis and Clark's route have seen visits increase by up to 60 percent, Guerber said. Mainstream historians are building a crescendo to the journey's 200th anniversary.

"(Filmmaker) Ken Burns and (author) Stephen Ambrose have done a lot and will do a lot to help us raise people's awareness," said Wilgus, who predicts a feature film about the trip. He envisions Kevin Costner and perhaps Mel

Just last week, U.S. District Judge Jack Weinstein rejected a request by Smith & Wesson Corp., Beretta USA Corp., Ruger & Co., Accu-Tek and more than 30 other defendants to dismiss the lawsuit. That cleared the way for the case to go to trial.

Gun-control advocates said that's a victory in itself.

"It's huge," said Joshua Horwitz, executive director of the Wash-

Class-action suit aims at gun industry

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A lawsuit accusing the gun industry of letting weapons fall into criminals' hands goes to trial next month in a groundbreaking attempt to use the same legal weapon that proved so effective against Big Tobacco.

The class-action liability suit was brought in 1995 by the families of seven shooting victims. They are seeking unspecified damages.

Previous lawsuits against the firearms industry have blamed shootings on gun defects or those alleged that guns are inherently dangerous. Courts have consistently thrown out the inherently dangerous claims, and the defective-gun cases have had mixed success.

This case is the first to accuse the industry of negligent marketing. It alleges gun makers knowingly "oversupply" the legal market.

"When the case goes to trial before a federal jury in Brooklyn on Jan. 8, a high-ranking industry executive is expected to testify that manufacturers look the other way while their producers end up in the hands of killers.

Defendants of the gun industry — which generates sales of \$2 billion to \$3 billion a year — say manufacturers should not be held accountable for criminal use of a legal product.

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Health pros, phone companies support speaker nominee

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Before his elevation to House speaker-to-be, J. Dennis Hastert wrote health-care overhaul legislation with the industry's concerns in mind. His campaign treasurer reaped the reward.

Health professionals, pharmaceutical firms, hospitals and insurance companies authorized a total of at least \$171,455 to Hastert's 1998 campaign, accounting for nearly 51 of every \$5 the Illinois Republican raised for his re-election, federal campaign records show.

Hastert is far from being a top House fundraiser — no need since he's regularly been a shoo-in for re-election. But like many congressmen, his contributions have closely followed his legislative interests, and Hastert sits on the Commerce Committee's subcommittees on health, energy and telecommunications.

biggest contributors include electric utilities, which gave \$48,028 for his 1996 re-election campaign, and telephone companies, which gave \$43,480.

"He knows how to pursue political positions into campaign contributions," said Larry Malinson, executive director of the Center for Responsible Politics. "He's been very active in that."

As a member of the subcommittee on health, Hastert has been the House Republican's point man on health care issues for several years.

The American Medical Association, which supports caps on malpractice awards, has given Hastert a total of \$30,000 in political action committee money for his last three campaigns, the maximum allowed under federal election law.

The 1997 legislation, which passed the House on a mostly party-line vote but died in the Senate, was "developed" in response to Democratic demands that Congress enact new regulations on managed care health plans.

Hastert chaired a House Republican task force that produced a bill guaranteeing coverage for the emergency room care in situations that a "prudent" person would consider a crisis, banning so-called "gag rules" that prevent doctors from talking to their patients about expensive treatments that might not be covered, and giving women direct access to obstetrician/gynecologists.



U.S. Rep. J. Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., explains how his nomination as Speaker of the House has started to change his family's "country lifestyle," while talking with reporters Tuesday in his Batavia, Ill., office.

11 vie for judicial position

By Gregory Hahn Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — This holiday season may prove to be a joyful one for Snake River Basin Adjudicators.

After some question about interest in replacing adjudicator judge Daniel Huriburt — a call sent out to interested parties was met with no response — 11 attorneys and judges have applied to be considered for the job.

"I'm pleased to have a number from which to select," said Chief Justice Linda Coppel Trout, who said she had no idea how many people were going to respond.

The 11 candidates are more than the state has received for other recent district judge openings, she said.

Among the candidates are Burley Magistrate Judge Nathan Wiger; Wendell native Cindy Campbell and SRBA Special Master Brigitte Blye.

Blye has worked in the Twin Falls adjudication office since 1993. As one of three special masters, she sees certain cases through status conferences, motions and trials and makes recommendations to the presiding judge.

"I saw an opportunity," she said. "There was an opening and I felt that given my experience I would pose at least a reasonable chance."

See page POSITION, Page A2

Feds join Olympic bid probe

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — The Justice Department and the FBI began a full investigation Wednesday of the Salt Lake City Olympics, the fourth and potentially most serious inquiry into allegations that Utah bought the 2002 Winter Games.

Announcement of their investigation comes a week after federal authorities began reviewing accusations that Salt Lake officials used scholarships and other gifts and favors to buy the votes of International Olympic Committee members.

"We've opened an investigation into allegations of impropriety in connection with the Salt Lake City Olympics bid," Justice spokesman Myron Martin said in Washington.

Martin would not elaborate on possible charges or areas of investigation, or whether the inquiry will affect inquiries by the U.S. Olympic Committee, the Salt Lake Organizing Committee's ethics board and an IOC itself.

See page OLYMPICS, Page A2

THE REGION

Camas Prairie

High 12 Low -10
Mostly sunny with chance of snow showers. Same to Christmas.

Treasure Valley

High 22 Low 4
Mostly sunny with chance of snow showers. Same to Christmas.

Sawtooth Mountains/Wood River Valley

High 5 Low -15
Mostly sunny with chance of snow showers. Same to Christmas.

Eastern Idaho

High 8 Low -20
Mostly sunny with chance of snow showers. Same to Christmas.

Northern Idaho

High 20 Low 15
Mostly sunny with chance of snow showers. Same to Christmas.

Northern Utah

High 25 Low 9
Mostly cloudy with slight chance of mostly mountain snow. Mostly cloudy on Christmas with chance of snow.

Northern Nevada

High 33 Low 5
Mostly cloudy with slight chance of intermittent snow. Cloudy on Christmas with chance of snow.

MAGIC VALLEY FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High 22 Low -2 Partly cloudy with chance of snow showers.	High 27 Low 10 Chance of snow showers.	High 30s Low 20s Chance of snow.	High 30s Low 20s Chance of snow.	High 30s Low 20s Mostly with chance of snow or rain.

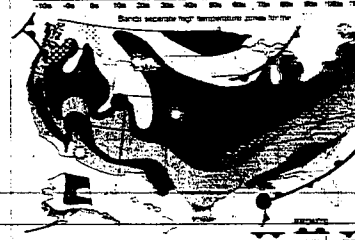
Idaho weather

Thursday, Dec. 24
ACQUILA® forecast for varying conditions, high/low temperatures.

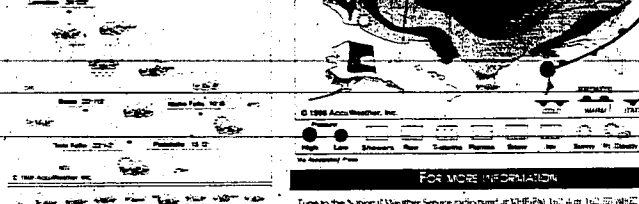
Clear. High 23, Low 5. Partly cloudy. High 25, Low 7. Partly cloudy with snow. High 27, Low 10. Partly cloudy with snow showers. High 29, Low 12. Partly cloudy with snow showers. High 31, Low 14. Partly cloudy with snow showers. High 33, Low 16. Partly cloudy with snow showers.

National weather

The Accu-Weather forecast for noon, Thursday, Dec. 24



Tune in to the National Weather Service radio band at 98.1MHz (122.1 MHz) WZL. The internet address for Idaho Forecasters' Organization: <http://www.idaho.org>



INDEX ROAD INFORMATION SKYWATCH

Call the following number for road conditions in Idaho
1-800-ID-ROAD 1-800-432-7633

SKYWATCH
Sunset today 5:06 PM
Sunrise tomorrow 8:28 AM
Winter Solstice: Dec. 21, 8:45 AM
Just after 4:30 PM on Dec. 22.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER

Twin Falls	Precipitation	Highs/Lows
Yesterday 19 - 5	Yesterday in Twin Falls 0.00	Idaho: High 31
Last year 19 - 19	Month to date 0.33	Idaho: High 31
Normal 19 to date 11.4	Normal mo to date 0.74	Idaho: High 31
Normal year to date 1.74	Water year to date 1.74	Idaho: High 31
	Normal year to date 2.83	Idaho: High 31

The Nation

City	High	Low	Pcp
Albuquerque	39	15	.18
Anchorage	17	10	0.18
Boston	45	17	0.00
Chicago	28	17	0.00
Dallas	18	2	.01
Denver	10	-16	0.00
Detroit	22	9	.04
Houston	62	34	.04
Los Angeles	65	34	.04
Memphis	21	11	0.00
Minneapolis	21	10	0.00
Miami	45	11	0.00
Los Angeles	67	38	0.00
New York	26	10	.18
Oakland	38	10	0.00
Phoenix	81	70	0.00
Portland, Ore.	11	3	0.00
San Francisco	25	11	0.00
Seattle	34	11	0.00
St. Louis	20	11	0.00
Salt Lake City	48	14	0.00
Spokane	17	7	0.00
Washington	20	10	.04
Yuma	63	17	0.00

Canadian Cities

City	High	Low	Pcp
Montreal	42	5	0.00
Ottawa	32	1	0.00
Quebec	29	16	0.00

Thumbnails

Reverend judges and attorneys from around the state are asking to **rescind retiring water judge** Daniel Hurbutt.

The district judge would oversee Snake River Basin Adjudication. Here's a rundown of the candidates and their backgrounds:

- Clay Campbell, Blackfoot** - Originally from Wendell, Campbell has been a deputy prosecuting attorney in Blingham County and has applied for magistrate judgeships in Lincoln and Gooding counties.
- Judge Patrick Costello, Orofino** - A magistrate judge, Costello had practiced in a Meridian law firm that represented the state's Department of Labor.
- Michael Bennett, Boise** - A veteran deputy attorney general, Bennett is one of the office's most veterans. At the end of 1994, Bennett was among those questioning a Hurbutt-related legislative constitutionalism. Bennett has submitted his name for acceptance on the Idaho Supreme Court and the state appeals court.
- Nathan Higer, Boise** - The Cassia County magistrate judge, Higer was most recently a trustee to replace Chairman Judge George Gonzales in Burley. A 32-year veteran judge, Higer has accepted three other times to be a district judge in the Magic Valley. As an attorney, he has a background in water rights.
- Johnny Westcott, Idaho Falls** - A lawyer in a law firm that specializes in estate planning, wills and probate.
- Carolee Miller, Boise** - Judge in Idaho's 4th District. Minor one-hand-dip SPSA business in Boise as a self-attorney before being elected district judge in 1995. She served with Higer on the 1994 water legislation steering committee.
- Philip Barber, Boise** - The attorney general's deputy assigner to the Idaho Water Resource Board.
- Jerry Reynolds, Idaho Falls** - An attorney specializing in family law.
- Rafael Ballea, Boise** - U.S. attorney in the Carter administration, who served as a state legislator and president of the State Board of Education. He recently lost by around 2,000 votes to be for 4th District judge. Sheriff was considered a candidate for U.S. District Judge in 1993 when Bill Clinton took office.
- Gary Spalderson, Boise** - Head of the water distribution section for the Idaho Department of Water Resources.

Malheur: The cold area of high pressure that dominated the weather pattern over the Gem State began to weaken, which allowed temperatures across the state to slowly warm up.

Along with the warming trend, an increase in cloud cover over northern and western slopes of Mt. Hood in advance of the next weather disturbance.

Skies across the state ranged from cloudy over areas of northern Idaho to mostly clear over the southwest. Snow and sleet or sleet and snow reported locally during the afternoon.

Idaho: The cold area of high pressure that dominated the weather pattern over the Gem State began to weaken, which allowed temperatures across the state to slowly warm up.

ACROSS THE NATION

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Suit

Continued from A1

Gunboat as the intruder party.
The state could capitalize on the event in ways that it failed to do during the Oregon Trail's 150th anniversary, Guerber said. But the state's historical sites need improvement. The society plans to ask for a \$95,000 budget increase for next year, and hopes to work its way up to \$250,000 over the next few years.

Guerber even has a plan for the tobacco lawsuit money — or estimated \$30 million, each year if the deal is approved, and holds as a...

There is a small disconnect between the 17th and 18th century Oregon Trail, Guerber said.

The final attorney for the plaintiffs, **Alan Barnes**, responded that the "claim of title" is irrelevant. What matters is that the industry is a whole enterprise, a widespread risk with indiscriminate marketing, he said.

Barnes has argued himself with a study by a New York state writing firm, the **National Economic Research Associates**, that concludes that gunmakers own patents on their products, which means they have the right to sue, **Sam Aronell**, Barnes' 30-Minute, co-chairman of the budget-writing Joint Finance Appropriations Committee. And the tobacco money, which Barry describes as "very dirty," is being

Position

Continued from A1

The Idaho Judicial Council will ask for responses about the possible criminal winding-up by local Olympic officials likely will have a practical effect on the other inquiries.

"You can be sure it will make it much more difficult to investigate this because everyone is going to run and get their attorney," said Nolan Karas, who represents the governor's office on SLOC's board of trustees.

SLOC said it has retained the international law firm of **Datham & Watkins**, with offices in Los Angeles and Washington, in response to the

adjudication's helm. Hurbutt is stepping down on Dec. 31. Trout appointed **Goodby District Judge Steve Wood** to take over in the interim.

Times-News staff writer Gregory Hahn can be reached at 733-0931. Ext. 231.

History

Continued from A1

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IDAHO ROAD REPORT

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

- Interstate 84 - Dry
- Interstate 86 - Dry
- Interstate 85 - Dry
- Interstate 15 - Dry
- Washington
- Idaho 55 - Boise-Herston

- Bend, dry, icy spots.
- Donnelly-McCall, icy spots.
- U.S. 15 - Dry.
- U.S. 95 - Boise-Idaho City, icy spots.
- U.S. 91 - Idaho City-Lowman, icy spots.
- U.S. 20 - Lewiston-Kamiah, icy spots.
- U.S. 20 - Lewiston-Kamiah, icy spots.
- U.S. 20 - Lewiston-Kamiah, icy spots.
- U.S. 20 - Lewiston-Kamiah, icy spots.
- U.S. 20 - Lewiston-Kamiah, icy spots.

- Ashton, dry, Ashton-Montana line, icy spots.
- Idaho 75 - Shoshone-Junction U.S. 70, dry, Junction U.S. 70, dry.
- Ketchum, dry, Ketchum-Galena, icy spots.
- Galena-Stanley, icy spots.
- Stanley-Clayton, icy spots.
- Clayton-Challis, dry, icy spots.
- U.S. 95 - Dry.
- U.S. 91 - Dry.
- U.S. 91 - Dry.
- U.S. 26 - Dry.
- Idaho 51 - Dry.
- Idaho 28 - Dry.

Olympics

Continued from A1

But federal investigators lying in from Washington to look into possible criminal winding-up by local Olympic officials likely will have a practical effect on the other inquiries.

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Circulation

Continued from A1

Daniel Walock, circulation manager.

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LOTTERY NUMBERS FORECAST

WEATHER FORECAST

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LOTTERY UPDATE

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23 NUMBERS

POWERBALL

23 31 39 45 46

POWERBALL NUMBER 33

WILD CARD

2 8 21 24 25 26

WILD CARD KING OF HEARTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23 NUMBERS

5 FAST

6 14 21 27 31

NATION

DeLay to Senators: Don't rush to censure

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Majority Whip Tom DeLay urged senators Wednesday not to rush into a censure deal but to "keep plenty of time in the evidence room" with prosecutors' materials. If they do, he said, the 67 votes for President Clinton's removal "may appear out of thin air."



Tom DeLay
Clinton's day — A5

Patrick Leahy of Vermont. "This is a major issue for a nation of 260 million Americans and now it will be up to 100 of those Americans to determine how it concludes — and we will," he said. "No one else will decide it for us."

The Texas Republican, a driving force in last week's impeachment vote, said the Senate should avoid "rushing to judgment."

Meanwhile, Vice President Al Gore suggested in an interview to be aired Sunday on CNN that Clinton was unlikely to admit to lying under oath as part of any censure deal.

"The president has said he did not lie under oath. He has acknowledged that he gave statements that were less than helpful to his interrogators and he said that was misleading. But that is a very different proposition," Gore said.

Gore also said the White House lobbying effort won't involve pressure on senators.

"You will not see a lobbying campaign where the president and I are hectoring senators. That's not something that feels like it is appropriate in this situation," he said.

DeLay's unsolicited advice came as one of Clinton's Democratic allies strongly cautioned the White House and House lawmakers not to try to influence discussions among senators.

"We have a good Democratic and Republican leadership in the Senate, and the 100 senators are completely capable of determining how this will end without being told by either the House or the White House," said Sen.

Craig says laws, not polls, dictate Clinton's fate

BOISE (AP) — Sen. Larry Craig wants to push ahead with an impeachment trial against Bill Clinton despite the president's high public approval rating. "We must preserve the Constitution, and we must preserve the office of the president, not Bill Clinton," the Idaho Republican said Tuesday during taping of the KTVB-TV public affairs program "Viewpoint."



Larry Craig

"The Bill Clintons of this world will come and go, and a hundred years from now I hope that your grandchildren and your grandchildren can be talking about the strength of the presidency of the United States."

The Senate is expected to start impeachment proceedings on or shortly after Jan. 6. Craig said he plans to listen to testimony before deciding how to vote, but that his constituents have been eager to express their opinions. His office has received more than 3,000 e-mail messages about impeachment.

Leahy echoed the advice given earlier this week by the Senate's leading expert on traditions and history, Democrat Robert Byrd of West Virginia. Leahy, the top Democrat on the Senate Judiciary Committee, is close to the president and a former boss of White House chief of staff John Podesta.

The White House has had some contact with senators but is trying to avoid suggesting terms of a possible settlement, leaving that to senators to discuss among themselves and for respected political figures to make their own suggestions, say White House aides and outside advisers, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch said senators from both parties are discussing how to resolve the case, but added that lawmakers are not ready to do so now.

"I do believe there will come a time when people of good will in Congress will want to resolve this," the Utah Republican said, repeating an earlier comment that a censure solution is needed if there's no chance of convincing Clinton.

Senator-elect Crapo faces unprecedented role in trial

BOISE (AP) — Sen.-elect Michael Crapo said he has heard "no ethical objections" to his sitting in judgment on Bill Clinton in the U.S. Senate after voting to impeach the president as a member of the House.



Mike Crapo

Weatherby said, "But he's just found himself caught here in this unprecedented situation that might cause some people to question whether he has a conflict."

But as one of only three lawmakers eligible to vote in both the House and Senate on impeachments, Crapo's position invites questions about how fair and unbiased a juror he could possibly be.

"It's ironic that Mike Crapo would be in this type of situation in that he probably is viewed in this state as having high ethical standards," Boise State University political scientist Jim

The Idaho Republican joins New York Democrat Charles Schumer and Kentucky Republican Jim Bunning as congressmen who voted last Saturday on articles of impeachment in the House and will be senators acting as jurors when the case goes to trial.

No coal for residents of one town — everybody gets gift

NORTHFORK, W.Va. (AP) — Nestled deep in coal country, where jobs are scarce and prospects grim, Santa Claus goes by the name of Billie the Coal Miner.

worker at Episcopal Mission House. "I was prepared to just give out Clapsnick, but before I knew it, I had something nice for everyone."

"I just said out loud one day to the mayor, 'I wish I had a present for everyone in Northfork,' and I think God overheard me," said Ms. Kennedy, a 53-year-old social

Donations came from churches, the town government and even a New York doctor. Most of the gifts banded out on this week were simple items like slippers and gloves, Advil and Robitussin, a few stuffed animals and games. Food baskets, dishes and clothing went to those who needed more.

4 die in NY high-rise fire

NEW YORK (AP) — Fire broke out Wednesday in two apartments of a Manhattan high-rise that neighbors said were occupied by the family of Macaulay Culkin. Four people were killed.

A publicist for the Culkin family said all family members were safe.

The dead, two men and two women, were found on the 27th and 29th floors, according to Fire Commissioner Thomas Von Essen.

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NATION



Daniel Ferguson, left, and Roy Cantrell look over the accident scene in Huntsville, Ala., early Wednesday after more than 16 automobiles piled up on a frozen overpass. Weather forecasters predict a major ice storm advancing toward the area which could cripple the city.

Sunbelt shivers in shocking cold

Freeze threatens citrus groves

The Associated Press

The spreading cold wave sent traffic sprawling out of control on key highways in the South on Wednesday, delayed pre-holiday flights and had Southern California farmers nervously watching their citrus groves.

The cold air that has spilled southward out of Canada spread a deadly sheet of ice on highways

Freezing lemons - E-1

from Texas through the Tennessee Valley.

"It looks like most of the South is going to be under the gun until Christmas," said meteorologist Von Woods at the National Weather Service in Peachtree City, Ga.

Two minor collisions minutes apart on Interstate 35 in Austin, Texas, turned into separate chain-reaction pileups that eventually involved a total of 59 vehicles. Two people were killed and at least 28 hurt.

Motorist Jay Root started to slow down on the highway when his windshield began to ice up, and went into a slide as soon as

he touched the brakes. "I looked to my left, a car was sliding. I looked to my right, a car was sliding. I somehow threaded the needle between the two cars," he said.

icy highways also contributed to traffic deaths this week in Kansas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Arkansas.

The need to de-ice planes before takeoff caused flight delays and cancellations Wednesday at Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport.

In Tennessee, Northwest Airlines canceled 64 departures and 68 arrivals during the morning at the Memphis airport. Only two of the four runways at the Nashville airport were open.

Temperatures fell into the 20s in Southern California's Ventura

and Tulare counties, and farmers spent the night running wind machines and sprinklers to protect their lemon and orange trees from the freeze.

"You can always tell who the orange growers are because they're the ones with bags under their eyes," said Terry Baker, a grower.

Temperatures lowered around the freezing mark even in the Deep South, turning light rain to ice in Mississippi. Trees and power lines snapped under the weight, causing power outages, and traffic slowed to a crawl.

Alabama and Tennessee closed sections of interstate highways because of ice, and Kentucky State Police urged people in the southern part of the state to just stay home.

Ethics questions arise over Burton staffer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Rep. Dan Burton has paid nearly \$500,000 to a woman who has served on his congressional staff for the past 15 years while working for his campaign, even making appearances dressed as a clown, his spokesman acknowledged Wednesday.



Dan Burton

"There is nothing illegal or unethical about that arrangement," said John Williams, spokesman for the Indiana Republican. "Other congressional offices have those kinds of arrangements."

The House Ethics Committee recommended earlier this year that staff members doing both government and campaign work carefully document their time. It's illegal for lawmakers to use their office budgets to subsidize their campaigns, and Capitol Hill staff members who work on political campaigns are supposed to do so on their own time.

Study: AIDS care costs less

The Associated Press

Care for AIDS patients in the United States is less expensive than generally believed - about \$20,000 per person per year, according to a study that tries to get the best number yet on the cost.

The study estimated a total cost of \$6.7 billion annually, or less than 1 percent of all U.S. medical expenditures on patients.

"Compared to what we spend on all kinds of other things, it's just not that much money" for

the government to spend, said project co-director Dr. Samuel A. Borzette, a health care researcher at RAND, the Santa Monica, Calif., think tank overseeing the government-sponsored research.

The \$20,000 tab is roughly one-third of the estimates from the early 1990s, when firm figures were hard to come by, and before the advent of AIDS drug cocktails that have proved powerfully effective in fending off the disease and keeping patients out of the hospital.

U.S. orders 3 Cubans to leave

WASHINGTON (AP) - The State Department ordered three U.N.-based Cuban diplomats to leave the United States after an investigation linked them to a spy operation broken up last September in Miami, officials said Wednesday.

Two other Cubans who were alleged to have engaged in similar activities left the country several weeks ago, the officials said. State Department spokesman

James P. Rubin said the Cuban mission was informed the three were being expelled "for activities incompatible with their diplomatic status" - diplomatic language for spying.

They were given until next Tuesday to leave. Their identities were not disclosed, but one was said to be a mid-to senior-level official for Cuban President Fidel Castro's government, the other two lower level.

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CHRISTMAS EVE DIRECTORY

FULL
Patriot United Methodist Church - 2025 N. U.S. Hwy. 30
December 24th - Candlelight Christmas Eve Service - 7:00 P.M.
Pastor: LaFay Estess

FIDES
First United Methodist Church - Corner of 5th & Union
Family Candlelight Christmas Eve Service - 6:30 P.M.

IN HIS NAME
Christian Fellowship - American Legion Hall - 7th St. N.
December 24th - Christmas Eve Service - 8:00 P.M.

GOODING
Gooding Church Of The Nazarenes - 109 2nd Ave. W.
December 24th - Candlelight Service with Communion - 6:30 P.M.

GOODING
Gooding First Christian Church - 324 4th Ave. W.
December 24th - Christmas Eve Service - 8:00 P.M.
Pastor: Andy Morris

CATHOLIC COMMUNITIES
December 24th - St. Elizabeth - Gooding - 6:30 P.M.
St. Peter - Shoshone - 8:00 P.M.
St. Anthony - Wilson - 8:00 P.M.
St. Francis - Gooding - 8:00 P.M.
St. Joseph - Santa Isabel - Gooding - 10:30 A.M.

HAILIEY
Valley Of Peace Lutheran - Womans Blvd. & Winton
December 24th - 7:00 P.M. Services
December 25th - 11:00 A.M. Services

WOODRIVER
Wood River Lutheran Church U.C.A. - 110 2nd Ave. S.
(Emmanuel Episcopal Church)
December 24th - Candlelight Service - 8:00 P.M.

JEROME
Jerome Nazarene Church - 110 1st Ave. S.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service - 6:00 P.M.

ST. JEROME CATHOLIC CHURCH - 216 2nd Ave.
December 24th - Christmas Eve Service - 8:00 P.M.
Mass: 8:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M.
(Marion Mass: 8:00 A.M.)
December 25th - Mass: 8:00 A.M.
(New Mass: 8:00 A.M.)

KIMBERLY
Kimberly United Methodist - 205 Madison St. E.
December 24th - Candlelight Communion Service - 8:00 P.M.
7 A.M. Time: Receive - Rev. Steve
December 31st - Open Communion Time - 7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

MIDWATER
Midwater United Methodist Church - 1st Street
December 24th - Communion Christmas Eve Service - 6:00 P.M.
December 31st - Open Communion Time - 7:00 P.M. - 8:00 P.M.

TRINITY
Trinity Lutheran Church - Corner Of 10th & 11th Street
December 24th - Christmas Eve Service & Outreach Program - 8:00 P.M.
December 31st - New Years Eve Worship - 7:00 P.M.
January 1st - New Years Day Worship - 10:00 A.M.

SIOUXONE
New Hope Lutheran - Christ Episcopal - Corner Of Hwy 35 & West St. S.
December 24th - Christmas Song & Candlelight Service - 7:00 P.M.

TWIN FALLS
Amazing Grace Fellowship - 1101 S. Eastern St. N.
Christmas Eve Communion Service - 8:00 P.M.

VALLEY CHAPEL - 241 Main Ave. W.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 10:00 P.M.

CHURCH OF THE NAZARENES - 223 E. Union Blvd. N.
December 24th - Childrens Program - 8:30 P.M.
Candlelight Service - 7:00 P.M.

FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 601 Shoshone
Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service - 7:00 P.M.

FIRST CHURCH OF THE NAZARENES - 125 W. Washington St. N.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 10:00 P.M.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST - 300 Shoshone St. E.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 7:00 P.M.

GRACE BAPTIST CHURCH - 728 Eastern St. N.
December 24th - Candlelight Service - 7:00 P.M.

LIVING WATERS CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY - 252 5th Ave. E.
December 24th - Christmas Eve Service - 8:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.
Pastor: Vern Bostor

DOR LADY OF GUADALUPE - 620 Park Ave.
December 24th - Vigil Mass - 8:00 P.M.
December 25th - Epiphany Mass - 8:00 A.M.
Epiphany Service - 7:00 A.M.

DOR SAVORI LUTHERAN - 1708 Harrison Ave. E.
December 24th - Family Christmas Worship - 8:30 P.M.
Candlelight Service with Communion - 10:00 P.M.

ROCK CREEK COMMUNITY CHURCH - 447 Cass Street - East of South Eastern
American Legion Hall
December 24th - Christmas Eve Worship - 7:00 P.M.
Messiah Through The Centuries
December 25th

SAVATION ARMY - 346 4th Ave. N.
Sunday School - 10:00 A.M.
Sunday Worship - 11:00 A.M.

ST. EDWARD'S PARISH - 8th Ave. East & 2nd St.
December 24th - Childrens Service - 8:00 P.M.
Morning Mass - 10:00 A.M.
Epiphany Mass - 10:00 A.M.
Epiphany Mass - 10:00 P.M.

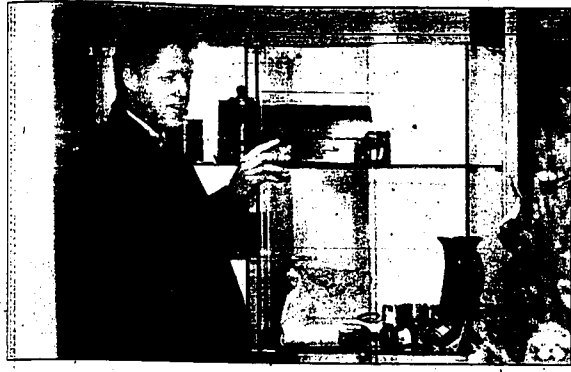
TWIN FALLS REFORMED CHURCH - Corner Of Greenwood St. N. & Poeline Rd.
December 24th - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 8:00 & 8:30 P.M.
December 25th - Christmas Day Worship - 10:30 A.M.

TWIN FALLS SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST - 103 Greenwood
December 28th - "A Christmas Story" - 11:00 A.M.

UNITARIAN UNIVERSAL FELLOWSHIP - 661 First Ave. S.
December 24th - Christmas Eve Service - 7:00 P.M.

VALLEY CHRISTIAN CHURCH - 1708 Harrison Ave. E.
December 24th - Candlelight Communion - 7:00 P.M.
December 31st - New Years Watch Night Celebration - 7:00 P.M.

WENDELL
Berean Baptist Church - 171 2nd Ave. W.
Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 7:00 P.M.



President Clinton does some last-minute Christmas shopping Wednesday at the Peace Corps Store in Washington.

Woman who persuaded Tripp to record stays glued to the tube

Los Angeles Times

Among the millions of Americans watching the House impeachment debate unfold on television late last week was Lucianne Goldberg, the New York literary agent who helped set it all in motion by persuading Linda R. Tripp to tape Monica S. Lewinsky. Goldberg, in fact, says she had six televisions tuned to the proceedings — one in every room of her New York apartment. "They're all on in case I have to move around," she said. "I'm watching and keeping a running e-mail conversation going with a lot of people," she said, rattling off a list of pals who included Newsweek's Michael Isikoff, the first reporter to leak of President Clinton's affair with Lewinsky. Her reaction when House members finally finished their speeches and made Clinton the second president to be impeached: "I thought, well, split. Then I went to sleep."

Washington insight

asked.

PARTY ON: Even impeachment can't smother on the holiday season's social calendar, and so amid spending-us-scarcely-gaily strains, Clinton and his family gathered for the White House Monday evening — with many a nod toward the enormous store marts of the reporters had covered for months. The president spoke briefly on a big screen on the South Lawn, proclaiming this the favorite time of the year for himself and his wife, Hillary Rodham Clinton — who was notably absent (reportedly suffering from a bad flu). Given Washington's bitter political climate, it was comforting to find at least one soul at the gala who seemed not to care in the least about the current conflict. As St.

Nick posed for photographs with party guests, he was asked to identify his political affiliation. The young man in the red suit handled the query dully, replying: "Santa is a Republican."

PROCASTINATOR IN-CHIEF

As usual, Clinton has yet to finish his Christmas shopping. It is most probable he has been elsewhere these days — even the most efficient chief executive might find it difficult to squeeze shopping into a month that has included signature impeachment and summiting Iraq. Still, Clinton's last-minute shopping spree are not becoming a tradition in the nation's capital. He could, perhaps, take a cue from his brother-in-law, who has been known to browse the Internet for the perfect gifts for friends and family. But more likely, on Wednesday or Thursday will find him duking out of the White House, another anecdote in tow and across-abuse, as he makes a run into a trendy shop.

Clinton turns attention to homeless

Promises to request additional funds for affordable housing

BALTIMORE (AP) — President Clinton promised Wednesday to request an additional \$150 million in his next budget proposal over this year's spending to build more affordable housing and help move America's homeless in from the cold.

"We want America not only to be a rich country, but one where everyone has a place at the table," he said. "We have a lot to do."

Clinton went to Baltimore's Pleasant View neighborhood, an area converted with the help of the Housing and Urban Development Department from dilapidated high-rise tenements into a neighborhood-style public housing project.

He credited his administration with curbing unemployment and improving the economy and also announced disbursement of \$850 million in federal grants for programs working to help the homeless and build affordable housing.

And with HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo at his side, Clinton said his budget proposal for the fiscal year starting Oct. 1 will include \$1.125 billion in homeless assistance, up from \$975 million enacted this year.

"If we can persuade the Congress to enact it, it will be the largest effort to combat homelessness in the history of America," Clinton said.

He said grants to support shelters, provide job training and build homes are to help activists and social workers "to reach out in innovative ways to homeless adults and children, to veterans and the disabled, to people with mental illness and with AIDS."

"They will help to give your fellow citizens a hand-up," Clinton said.

"They will help you to give them the greatest benefit of all, the gift of self-sufficiency and hope."

The beginning of budget season gave Clinton a chance to focus attention away from impeachment and onto policy. White House Chief of Staff John Podesta began meeting this week with Democratic leaders in Congress and labor to discuss priorities. The president will reveal his budget plans after his State of the Union address next month.


Clinton received a warm welcome Wednesday from Maryland's Democratic political leaders, who said his social agenda was one of the reasons the impeachment charges he faces should be resolved soon.

OTHERWISE OCCUPIED: Not all the players in the continuing drama were obsessed with the House action. Georgetown law professor Sam Dash, who very publicly quit his 5400-an-hour ethics adviser post to Kenneth W. Starr after the independent counsel testified before Congress, spent his time grading exams rather than watching the debate. "Should he be?" his wife

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 Silent Night Candle Ceremony
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 Rev. Paul C. Reeves, Pastor


WENDELL
UNITED PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
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Regular Sunday Worship
 9:15 a.m. - Church School
 10:30 a.m. - Worship

200 Park Street • 624-5824
 Rev. Kevin Robinson, Pastor

HOLLISTER
COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Christmas Eve
 7:00 p.m. - Family Candlelight Service

Regular Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
 2460 Cornett Ave. • 625-4257
 Rev. Ruth Van Nest, Pastor

BURLY
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Christmas Eve
 7:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service and Communion

Regular Sunday Worship
 9:30 a.m. - Sunday School
 10:45 a.m. - Worship

Wednesday Night LOGOS

2100 Burton Ave. • 679-5131
 Rev. David Goebel, Pastor

JEROME
FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Christmas Eve
 7:00 p.m. - Candlelight Service

Regular Sunday Worship 10:30 a.m.
 Preschool - Sunday Afternoon
 Youth Communion - Sunday Morning

262 East Avenue N. • 624-2972
 Rev. Ruth Stebbins, Pastor

EDITORIAL

New Sawtooth Forest fees will shortchange the public

With a white beard and a yellow miter box cap, Bill Leary could make a convincing case for the National Forest Service as the ultimate arbiter of what is best for the public.

As of Jan. 1, people venturing into the Sawtooth National Recreation Area at the Ketchikan Ranger District won't have to pay user fees.

Merry Christmas, but not for the public. The National Forest Service is planning to raise user fees for Christmas this year. The new fees will be:

• New Year's: \$10.00
• Spring: \$10.00
• Summer: \$10.00
• Fall: \$10.00
• Winter: \$10.00

The Sawtooth National Recreation Area is a beautiful area with many recreational opportunities. It is important that the public has access to these areas.

make it for us. Smokey Bear has no business handling visitors. As Dr. Seuss might say, "One fee, two fee, three fee, more fee."

If you pay federal income tax, you've already paid your fee. Our advice: Don't pay.

Just don't pay it. If you get cited, give us a call. We'll write about the retired ministers, young families and scout leaders who get cited for presuming to enjoy public lands without opening their wallets.

While on the subject of user fees, we applaud the Nature Conservancy for stopping its fee proposal for the Silver Creek Preserve. Trout burns from the Wood River and Maun valley can still enjoy some of Idaho's finest fishing for little more than a couple gallons of gas and a peanut butter sandwich.

If the ghost of user fees rises up again at Silver Creek, we suggest they be aimed at fishing outfitters - not rank-and-file anglers.

People who earn a living by leading hikers in Silver Creek are taking more than their share. It becomes necessary to pass the hat at Silver Creek, pass it to the outfitters and guides first.



Clinton needs to truly give in to his shame

Quite simply, I give in to my shame," Clinton said recently. It was during another in his series of not-quite-apologetic apologies about his relationship with Monica Lewinsky.

If Clinton knew anything about shame, he wouldn't be in this predicament - nor would we as a nation.

And if Clinton were genuinely interested in giving in to his shame, there might be an opportunity for him to restore a shred of his own decency and the dignity of the United States.

Clinton has confused shame with guilt, as so many people do. A guilty person thinks he can just apologize and go on as if nothing happened.

Hence we see a guilt-ridden Clinton shuffling around the world halfheartedly acknowledging his sins while trying to look presidential. The result is a demeaning spectacle: the president of the United States trying to advance the Wye River Middle East peace accord while being interrupted only about impeachment and the timing of the bombing of Iraq.

Guilt, not shame, leads a president on a state visit to engage in unseemly media efforts to cast a plea with Congress for censure.

Guilt tells people what not to do - like hit on interns. On the other hand, paying attention to shame can offer rules to live by.

If Clinton were in his words, to "give in to" his shame, he would cease his hang-dog cowerance. He would stop looking for ways to make a deal with the Senate.

He would recognize issues of character more transcendent politics.

If Clinton genuinely wants to "give in to" his shame, I offer a multi-step program for him to save face:

- Clinton must publicly apologize, accept full responsibility and stop trying to shift the blame.
- Clinton must resign. I'm not sure that his offenses are impeachable, but he must resign to save his face - and ours.
- Clinton must pay all the legal bills incurred by his friends, staff, Cabinet members and subordinates, including

DANIEL L. BUCCINO

Lewinsky herself. He also must reimburse all expenses related to his personal and private transgressions.

Clinton must admit he is powerless over his impulses. He must seek treatment. This not only help him control himself in the future, but will set a powerful example.

Finally, Clinton must disappear for a while. By gracefully retreating from the public stage, he can make amends and do penance.

This poses a problem for someone like Clinton. He thinks that by talking about everything with everyone, he can talk his way out of anything.

Getting in touch with his shame, rather than just with his feelings, would require Clinton to find "the adult within," not just get in touch with his wounded inner child.

The only way the country can move on and begin a process of genuine redemption is for Clinton to resign, follow this program for saving face and "quite simply" give in to his shame.

Daniel L. Buccino is a Baltimore psychotherapist. He wrote this commentary for The Baltimore Sun.

The Times-News logo and contact information for the editorial board.

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Haggren, William Brock, Clark Warrentz, Steve Crump, Kevin Richert and Kurt Fiedemann.

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers of subjects of public interest. Letters should be no longer than 200 words. Each letter should include the writer's signature, mailing address and telephone number. We reserve the right to edit for clarity and brevity.

Letters considered libelous, obscene or a 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!

Senators: Carry out your duties

The embarrassment of an unimpeached president is the willingness of many American citizens to support the impeachment of Bill Clinton. It is also embarrassing to our president's apparent lack of interest in terms and promises.

My life has not changed many times, while detouring, the great nation and the principles of our republic stand.

Have our national interests and moral values been protected, then that is our most important obligation to the American people. We need our children that all parts of the state with a focus not even the most powerful man in the world.

Bill Clinton has shown a way for the eyes to be on the country's interests, not to deny the impeachment process. This sending many Americans and women to prison and to away from home at Christmas time.

I pray the members of the United States Senate will have the strength and courage to carry out their sworn duties in the impeachment process. Bill Clinton is not a man of honor.

BILL COFFEY
Richfield

Justice seems lost at times

I am ashamed of our president and of the example he is supposed to be to our country and others. I just don't understand why there is even a question as to why he should be impeached, as he has just repeatedly to our country, our kids and our allies.

We are ashamed of what our kids have to hear and see in the news. If he were a Republican, I would have the exact same feelings and take the exact same stand.

If he isn't impeached, our country has fallen so low that it will be very difficult to exist in justice to be done at all.

We need to see just punishment and removal from office for this perjury and lying. Why is justice so hard to bring about?

TERRY C. KILLINGER
Filer

Get off the champs' backs!

This is in regard to the letter by Bernus Waite.

I am an American and a student at the College of Southern Idaho. I am also a mother who is trying to teach her children that people should be given a chance to better themselves. That doesn't mean only the people in the western United States.

Have you ever had to fight for anything in order to get ahead? I have, and I have become a better person because of it. Even if the girls on the volleyball team are receiving help to come to school, they have to work their butts off to stay in school.

Did it ever occur to you that it would be more difficult due to the language difference? I receive help to go to CSI, does that make me a bad person?

What does the age of these girls have to do with anything? The men's basketball team has older players. As for how the girls get their talents, I don't know any athletes that can play at any college level without playing more than just high school sports.

Have you checked into all of the members on the volleyball team? You should because most of them played more than just in high school.

LETTERS

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Have you checked into all of the members on the volleyball team? You should because most of them played more than just in high school.



Let's talk about tax benefits. One day any or all of these women will become mothers. They can then teach their children that just because they're different doesn't make them bad. And here's a college counselor for you: The assistant volleyball coach at a foreigner is an ex-player who decided to stay and help. She put her own career on hold to stay at a place that helped her.

How many others have done the same?

As for Mr. Stroud - he has put together a team that can rely on each other in

any situation. It takes hard work to keep a team together at that level. I'd like to see you step into his shoes.

The only thing I got out of the USA chants was that the predilection in this country is getting worse, not better, and you have just helped to convince me of this fact. Instead of knocking people down for being different, why don't you attend the games in support of our local college. You might be surprised to see foreigners react as much as American CYNDI MACEDO
Jerome

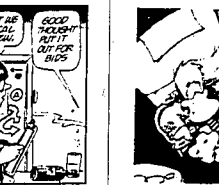
Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau



Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



OPINION

So, have we learned our lesson yet?

I have a dim recollection from my childhood of being told I would have to endure one form of punishment or another until I had "learned my lesson." My parents presumed, correctly, there were certain eternal lessons that would accrue some benefit to me if I took the time to learn them.

Are there lessons we might learn from the political and moral machinations of the past six years?

As one who is perceived by some to be a "religious" person, whatever that means, I am sometimes asked if I see signs of "revelation" on the horizon.

This is a religious word which means most of us will be instantaneously converted and that all of our social problems will virtually disappear.

Such an experience has happened three times in our national history, usually in the midst of some traumatic experience, such as the period immediately preceding the Civil War.

I tell such inquirers that while the work of the Spirit is frequently unseen, the visible suggests a continuing taint of immorality and indifference to matters of character and integrity along with an unquenchable thirst for instant gratification and avoidance of guilt feelings.

In the past we at least had the occasional statesman and not a few clergy who would remind us of the benefits of putting others first, humility, repentance and confession of wrongdoing to be followed by assurances of cleansing and personal as well as national renewal.

Today, liberal and conservative preachers appear on television to denounce politicians, and statesmanship is as difficult to find as a parking place on most urban streets.

Fund-raisers on left and right warn of approaching doom unless their agenda is sustained by your



immediate gift to support this cause or that politician.

During World War Two, a time that is receiving welcome attention again from historian Stephen Ambrose and TV anchorman Tom Brokaw, a Scottish Presbyterian minister named John Murray preached a sermon in Cincinnati titled "God and the War."

In it, he said the waging of war upon "just and necessary occasion is no more wrong than is the execution of just judgment upon the violators of civil righteousness within a particular municipality or nation."

Then, some debated the purpose of the war. Today, some are debating the purpose of just judgment on those who have violated civil righteousness.

While a shooting war and a cultural war are decidedly different, so are the casualties of each conflict. It is amazing how history repeats itself. Reading Murray's sermon sounds as if it could be addressing today's culture war.

He cited a passage from Isaiah 26:9: "When your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world will learn righteousness." Murray suggested that this lesson was more important than peace. "It is the lesson we have been loath to learn, the lesson of individual and national repentance."

"Righteous" is a fancy theological word that means, among other things, "morally

right or justifiable."

That the opinion polls reveal an unconcern about behavior that once was more widely considered immoral and unjustifiable is a lesson that our current "unrighteousness" problem is not and never has been the fault of President Clinton, but is our fault.

In 1944, Murray was attacking "the alarming prevalence of sexual immorality and of marital infidelity," divorce, profanity and "the example of some who occupy positions of high public trust." Imagine what he might say about recent conduct by members of both parties who are in similarly high positions.

The occasion of a new year offers opportunities to again focus on those lessons from the past that are as valid today as they were to those who learned them and applied them to themselves and to their nation.

The Senate is about to have a rare opportunity to ratify principle and law by rejecting polls and the psycho-babble appeals to "healing."

While it lacks the power to single-handedly restore civil righteousness, it can, along with preachers uncompromised by the subtle deception of the political demagogues, point the way for the rest of us to follow - if we are willing and ready to learn our lesson.

Cal Thomas is a Los Angeles Times columnist.

LETTER

Impeachment concerns

I would like to comment on the impeachment vote. Where were the mobs of this country? This man is cocky, arrogant, thinks he is above the law and sucking more than a politician. Four women in the last few years have accused him of sexual affairs and still he is "above" the law. I don't know what possesses him to think this is acceptable.

To top it off, he lies, avoids and underestimates the meaning of "a sexual act" and blames his piety and still thinks he is above the law. Believe me, if it were one of us "peeps" out here in the real world, we would be quartered, tied and hung far less than what he has done. We wouldn't be given the chance to do it the second time, but he seems to be able to get away with it. I have no respect for our so-called president.

Hurray! The House of Representatives did the right thing in impeaching him and sending the mail to the Senate.

I worked 10 years for the federal government and I have never been so ashamed of anything like I was when having to see waste, fraud and abuse in every level of government. I was appalled at the theft, deceit and larceny that goes on.

Now for my thoughts for First Lady Hillary Clinton.

I feel sorry for her. I believe she is no more than a co-dependent lady who can't find the strength to dump the jerk and get a life of her

own. She needs someone to strengthen her so she can see what is really important. I hope that after this is all over, she will come to her senses and get some big-time help. I hate to see anyone in her position. She has had to share this man with every woman that wears a skirt.

How she must be hurting inside, and she can't let anyone know because she is the first lady and is supposed to be "standing by her man."

Well, this is part of co-dependency. She thinks that somehow everything will get better. It won't. She needs to talk to someone who can help her get charge of her life and leave him and establish herself.

Thank you for listening.
LIANN LEE
Twin Falls

ATTENTION!

Because of the holiday season, The Times-News Classified will have early deadlines as follows:

Ads running Dec. 25 will deadline at 10:00 a.m. Dec. 24.

Ads running Dec. 26 will deadline at 11:00 a.m. Dec. 24.

Ads running Dec. 27 & 28 will deadline at 12:00 Noon on Dec. 24.

We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you and thank you in advance for your assistance.

The Times-News

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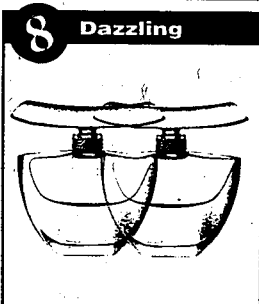
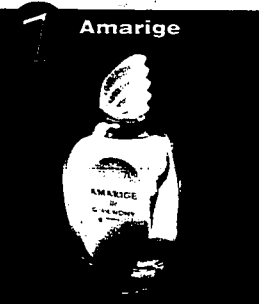
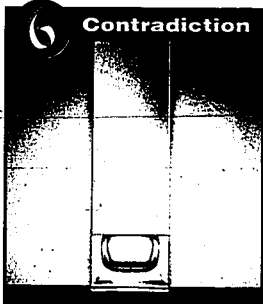
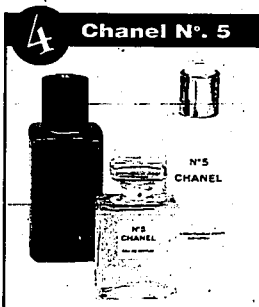
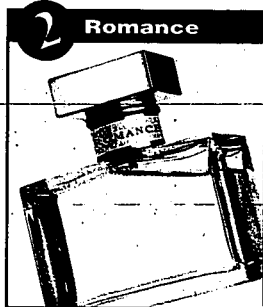
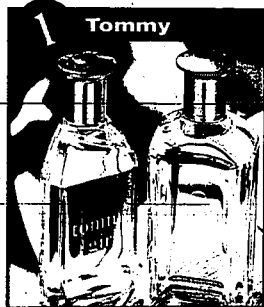
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WORLD



Injured farmer Mohammed Othman embraces his son, Ali, 12, at a hospital earlier this week after his wife and six other children were killed in an Israeli attack on suspected guerrilla bases in eastern Lebanon.

Lebanese guerrillas pound northern Israel

KIRYAT SHEMONA, Israel (AP) — A day after an Israeli airstrike killed a farm wife and six of her children, guerrillas in southern Lebanon fired dozens of rockets at northern Israel Wednesday, causing heavy property damage and injuring at least 13 people.

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called a special Cabinet meeting to discuss the Hezbollah attack, then flew by helicopter to the region.

"We can't let this pass quietly," Netanyahu told reporters in the border town of Kiryat Shemona. "We will react according to our considerations, when we want. And we will react."

Northern Israel had braced for an attack after an Israeli airstrike

Tuesday killed a woman and her six children in eastern Lebanon. That was the highest civilian casualty toll this year on the war between Israeli and Lebanese guerrillas.

Israel expressed regret over the civilian deaths, saying they had been accidental and that the target of the air strike had been a Hezbollah radio transmitter.

Although Wednesday's cross-border attack was the heaviest in nearly three years, many people in Israel's north had spent the night in shelters, expecting missiles.

The attack came as tensions increased between Palestinians and Israel Wednesday following the release of Ahmad Yassin, the spiritual leader of the Islamic militant group Hamas.

Japanese group honors Tojo, other hanged war criminals

TOKYO (AP) — A half-century after they were hanged by the Allies, wartime Japanese leader Hideki Tojo and six other convicted war criminals were quietly honored Wednesday in a memorial service in Tokyo.

More than 600 people gathered for a three-hour service at the Kudan Kaikan hall in downtown Tokyo. The memorial was sponsored by a group planning to build a permanent hall for those executed.

Participants sang the Japanese

national anthem and offered a one-minute prayer for the souls of the war dead at the start of the ceremony, which included statements by Tojo's granddaughter, Kyodo News agency reported.

As Japan's prime minister from 1941 to 1944, Tojo authorized the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. After Japan's surrender in 1945, Tojo and six other top leaders were found guilty of war crimes in the Tokyo trials and hanged on Dec. 23, 1948.

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WORLD IN BRIEF

Balloonists cross China, head to Pacific

BEIJING — British entrepreneur Richard Branson and his teammates floated over ancient sites in northern China, then swept across the Yellow Sea on Wednesday after China bowed to Branson's appeals to let the balloon pass through prohibited airspace.

After two days of diplomatic tensions over the balloon's path, the craft finally cleared Chinese airspace late Wednesday and headed for the United States in a bid to make the first nonstop balloon voyage around the world.

One Chinese air traffic controller grumbled that planes flying between Xi'an, site of China's famed terracotta warriors, and the capital of Beijing were having to adjust their flight paths because of the balloon.

Official: Private investor keeps Mir in orbit

MOSCOW — Russia has found a private investor to keep the aging Mir space station in orbit for three more years, officials announced Wednesday.

Russia has been under intense international criticism for committing to spend money on the Mir even as the country's economic problems have caused repeated delays in the construction of the international space station.

Officials didn't identify the new private investor or say how much money they hoped to secure.

However, Yuri Semynov, the chief of Russia's Energia space company, said the government is drafting a document that would provide guarantees for the Mir investment and that a funding agreement would be signed once the document is completed.

Russia, U.S. sign food aid agreement

MOSCOW — U.S. and Russian officials signed a \$625 million food aid agreement Wednesday that had been delayed by American demands for guarantees that the food supplies reach those who need it most.

The United States will donate 1.5 million metric tons of wheat to Russia free of charge, and another 1.5 million metric tons of various commodities under a long-term loan. An additional 100,000 tons of foodstuffs will be distributed directly to Russia's poor.

The aid will arrive "over the next several months," said John Tefft, deputy chief of mission at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow, who signed the deal along with Deputy Prime Minister Germany Kuzik.

No specific date has been set for the start of the deliveries, but officials have said the aid is likely to start arriving early next month.

Russia's current economic crisis, coming on top of the wheat grain harvest in 40 years, has spurred serious worries about food shortages during the winter.

Plots of food in the stores right now had diminished that has soared since the crisis hit in August has put much of the food out of the reach of impoverished Russians.



May you and yours have a Christmas season filled with love and laughter, peace and joy. May the New Year bring you all of the wonderful things you deserve, and so much more.

We thank you for your continued support.

Happy Holidays!

We will be closed Dec. 24 & 25 so our employees may enjoy the holidays with their families.

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SPORTS

INSIDE

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- College basketball B3
- YourSports B4

Sports Editor: Dawn Clark 733-0931, Ext. 232

The Times-News

Thursday, December 24, 1998

Section B

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“Some people don't even know of the New York Times... The corporate world probably reads it. But a lot of my friends who I deal with, they read the New York Post comics and look at the pictures.”

—NBA star *Kenny Anderson*, professing unconcern about a New York Times story on its financial travails during the lockout

IN BRIEF

Ricks will reduce out-of-state players

SALT LAKE CITY - Ricks College has agreed to gradually reduce its number of out-of-state players and the other members of the Western States Football League have agreed to keep it from for at least three more years.

Arizona members had objected to the roster size, redshirting, returned missionaries (called grayshirting in some circles) and nationwide recruiting power of the Mormon church-owned Idaho school.

Some of the objections - including the use of returned missionaries - had applied to a degree to Utah junior colleges. Ken Beazer of Snow College in Ephraim, Utah, said last month that his school was in the process of doing away with the practice.

If the WSFL had dissolved, scheduling would have become nearly impossible at least some of the schools likely would have dropped football.

"Agreeing to play for the next three years was the important thing," said Ricks Athletic Director Garth Hall. "The other thing, we'll continue to work on and improve year by year. We can and will continue to succeed with the roster-size limitations."

Ricks, which lost 21-18 to Butler Community College in the national junior college championship game earlier this month, was the primary target of the Arizona schools.

The limits of 75 players and 25 out-of-state athletes will affect Ricks far more than Snow and Dixie, which use mostly Utah recruits. Of the 72 players on Ricks' 1998 active roster, only 21 were from Idaho.

To-honor commitments to returning players and missionaries, Ricks is being allowed to gradually reduce the number of out-of-state players, starting with 44 in 1999.

The limits include a provision for schools to have up to 30 out-of-state athletes, but only if they limit the roster to 65.

The moves are designed also to reduce the number of walk-on players and those who practice without losing a year of eligibility.

Ricks traditionally has had upwards of 100 players in the program.

Hansen High Alumni game set for Tuesday

HANSEN - The Hansen High School Alumni "baker's game" is set for Tuesday, Dec. 29, at 7 p.m. in the Hansen gym.

Graduates of Hansen High School are invited to participate. For more information or for more information, contact Brad Myers at 423-4070.

Treasure Valley CC will host basketball camp

ONTARIO, Ore. - Treasure Valley Community College is hosting a youth basketball camp for boys and girls ages 6-12 next week. Dec. 28-30.

Costs for the camp is \$35, and sessions will be held from 2.5 p.m. daily. Participants will take home a camp t-shirt and receive instruction from TVCC men's coach Jason Ficca, assistant BV Commor and former Idaho State men's and women's squads. For more information, call (541) 889-6493, ext. 266.

ROOM TO RUN



Louisville tight end and linemen breaks away from Marshall line-backer Andre O'Neal during the first quarter of the Motor City Bowl Wednesday at the Silverdome in Pontiac, Mich. Despite Green's effort, Marshall won the contest 48-29.

2 weeks to save the NBA

Stern will recommend cancelling season if no agreement is reached

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY - NBA owners and players have just two weeks left to save their season.

Six months after locking out players, the league set what appears to be a "drop-dead date" of Jan. 7.

If no agreement is reached by a Board of Governors meeting set for that date in New York, NBA commissioner David Stern will recommend canceling the 1998-99 season.

It would be the first time that a major professional sports league in North America lost an entire season of competition.

Deputy commissioner Russ Granik said Wednesday the labor relations committee would make a report to the board on Jan. 7.

"If we do not have a collective bargaining agreement by that date, then the owners will have to recommend to the board that the 1998-99 season be canceled," Granik said.

There was no immediate reaction from the National Basketball Players Association. Stern is on vacation in Aspen, Colo., and union leader Billy Hunter is in Oakland, Calif., for the holidays.

"My view is that if the owners are unwilling to move from their current proposal, the season will then be canceled," agent Aron Tellem said. "I believe that ultimately when the players analyze this, there is no way they will ever take the deal on the table."

No talks are scheduled in the six-month-old dispute, which centers on a report to the owners trying to decide how to divide \$2 billion in annual revenue.

In related news, Karl Malone is not behind any movement to reorganize leadership of the players' union or force a vote on the owners' latest proposal, according to his agent, Dwight Manley.

"That's not true; I have never heard of it," Manley said Wednesday. "I don't know where that comes from."

Malone is rumored to be working with Jazz teammate John Stockton to bring the owners' latest proposal to a unanimous vote or replace union leaders Patrick Ewing and Alonzo Mourning.

Karl would be glad to serve, if asked," said Manley. "But he is not trying to usurp any power."

As for the suggestion that Malone and Stockton have joined forces in an attempt to solve the stalemate, Manley said, "I don't know that Karl has even talked to John lately."

Copies of the owners' latest proposal were mailed to every player last week.

After reading the memo, Malone told reporters the proposal was "decent" and needed only minor adjustments to become acceptable.



Day 176

TOTAL DAYS OF SEASON MISSED: 51
GAMES LEFT WEDNESDAY: 8
TOTAL GAMES MISSED: 358
EARLIEST ESTIMATED DATE SEASON CAN START: Jan. 27
NEGOTIATIONS: Nothing scheduled
PROJECTED PLAYER SALARY LOSSES (through Jan. 22): \$480 million
TRUCKERS' BEST CANCELED GAME: No games were scheduled for Christmas Eve.

Bombs away!

Thundering Herd dominates passing game

The Associated Press

PONCAKE, Mich. - This time, Chad Pennington and Marshall got right.

Pennington passed for 411 yards and four touchdowns and the Thundering Herd dominated the second half for a 48-29 victory over Louisville in the second Motor City Bowl on Wednesday night.

The two high-scoring teams combined for 777 yards. Marshall's Chris Redman completed 25 of 29 passes for 536 yards and one touchdown with one interception in Louisville's (7-3).

Last year, Pennington threw three touchdowns in the inaugural game but Marshall still lost when Mississippi scored with 31 seconds remaining to pull out a 24-21 victory.

There were six sacks during this game as Marshall's Ed McCants opened the second half with three touchdowns and a field goal for a 45-0 lead before the Cardinals could respond.

Louisville, which finished third in Conference USA, behind Tulane and Southern Mississippi, went into the game with the nation's No. 1 offense, averaging 40.4 points per game. But the Cardinals, who were 2-11 in 1997, also had a 45-0 lead that allowed an average of 55.5 points.

Marshall, which earned the return trip by registering an Mid-American Conference championship, averaged 30 points during the season, holding its opponents to 20.2 points.

Pennington, who completed 18 of 24 passes, broke a 21-0 halftime tie with a

short pass that Gerald Long turned into a 50-yard touchdown to put Marshall ahead for good with 12:19 left in the third quarter.

Doug Chapman added two 1-yard touchdowns runs and Billy Malashévich kicked a 22-yard field goal in the Herd's run. Malashévich added a 32-yarder in the fourth quarter.

The game was a strain on the Silverdome scoreboard almost from the start as each team rang up three touchdowns for a 21-21 tie at halftime.

Marshall's first-half scores all came on Pennington passes. He hooked up with James Williams from 29 and 26 yards and flipped a 14-yard scoring strike to Lamar Washington.

Louisville's first-half touchdowns came on runs of 2 and 13 yards by Leroy Collins, sandwiched around a 21-yard scoring run from Redman to Charles Sheffield.

Collins added a 1-run touchdown run in the fourth quarter.

There was only one punt in the first half, a 58-yarder by Marshall's Chris Hansen after the Herd went three-and-out on its first possession. Louisville had a punt situation in the second quarter, with four-and-14 at the Cardinals 16, but Marshall's Sam Gaines drew a 25-yard penalty for roughing punter Jeremy Borselli.

Given new life, the Cardinals completed an 80-yard drive in 14 plays to tie the score. Marshall's J.R. Jenkins, who usually just handles kickoffs, missed a 56-yard attempt on the final play of the half.

Southern Miss avoids talking about the cold

The Associated Press

JACKSON, Miss. - The cold in Mississippi right now is nothing like what Southern Mississippi expects to face during its bowl trip to Idaho.

The Golden Eagles (7-4) leave Saturday for frozen Boise, where they play Idaho next week in the Humanitarian Bowl. That is their reward for overcoming a 1-3 start to finish with a fifth straight winning season.

"I told them I didn't want to hear a word about it. It is going to be cold," Southern Miss coach Jeff Bower said Tuesday. "Let that affect you, and you are not going to play well. They have got to play in it."

Idaho (8-3) will have to play in harsh conditions, too - an outside stadium penalty for roughing punter Jeremy Borselli.

Bower said his Eagles would have an opportunity to adjust to the conditions

See page BOWL, Page B2

Declo, Valley boys run neck-and-neck in A-3

By Damon Cross Times-News writer

There's not much left of the Canyon Conference after the massive realignment among Idaho high schools, but competition is still as tough as ever.

The conference that put two of its seven teams in the A-3 boys' basketball championship against now has two of its three teams finished in the Associated Press poll.

Declaw, conference champion Declo and

Polls - B2

undrafted Valley both received three first-place votes in the weekly voting by the state's sportswriters and broadcasters, but No. 2 Hornets and No. 3 Vikings couldn't gather enough points to pass new No. 1 Lapwal.

Clearwater Valley (8-0) and Malba (5-0) took the final spots in the A-3 rankings.

A two-point loss to Skyview dropped Borah (10-1) from the top spot among

the biggest schools, moving Pocatello (7-1) to the No. 1 position. Centennial Hill, Southern and Capital and Eagle replaced Blackfoot and Madison in fourth and fifth.

Snake-River was the only unanimous top pick, with wins of 23 and 43 points in the A-2 ranks. Preson won twice to stay in second and St. Maries remained in third despite a loss to Potlatch.

Kimberly (5-0) jumped a spot to fourth after giving up 65 points in two games, and Sugar-Salem (4-1) entered

the poll in fifth. Bishop Kelly, last week's No. 4, fell to 2-3 with two losses and exited the poll.

The Mackay Warriors (4-1) entered the A-4 poll at No. 1 after crushing Rockland, which dropped one spot to third. Maranatha (5-0) was idle last week and jumped one spot to second.

Former top dog Wilder (2-3) dropped to fifth after splitting a pair of games last week, and Carey climbed one rung to fourth after conference wins over Camas County and ISDB.

SPORTS

Shades of the Gipper. Win 1 for Reeves

SUWANEE, Ga. (AP) - Dan Reeves was supposed to forget about football this week. The blackout lasted three days.

The Atlanta Falcons coach, recovering from heart bypass surgery, delivered a Gipper-like message from his hospital room Wednesday. Talking to his players by speaker phone, Reeves congratulated them on their NFC West championship and encouraged them to keep winning.

"It was inspirational to know that our coach is still with us," safety William White said. "He's very proud of us, and that just makes us feel so good. We really want to please him because he had faith in us when everyone else was down on us."

"You could hear his voice and just picture him standing up in front of the room talking to you," defensive end Lester Archambeau added. "You could tell how important we are to him. That means a lot to us."

Reeves was in stable condition Wednesday with his heart rate normalized with medication and tests showing no further complications.

He was expected to remain in



Dan Reeves Spoke to players from hospital room.

the hospital for several days so doctors could monitor his condition.

It's not known if he'll be home for Christmas.

Reeves, one of the leading contenders for coach of the year, had a quadruple bypass Dec. 14 and was released from Piedmont Hospital last Friday. But he was readmitted two days later because of complications from an accelerated heart rate.

Doctors blamed the setback

on Reeves' heart condition after his surgery. "The belief is that the heart condition was the cause of the Friday night blackout on the Falcons' victory over the Rams," before it left him in the hospital last weekend.

Atlanta (32-7) clinched the first division title since 1994 with a 24-17 victory over the Rams. The Falcons now have the regular season Sunday against Miami in the Georgia Dome, already considered a first-round bye in the playoffs.

Defensive coordinator Brian Brooks will be in charge of the team for the entire regular season.

After criticism of Reeves to initiate contact with the team this week, Brooks said it was impossible to meet Wednesday. They allowed him to call Suwanee from his room with the team for 15-20 minutes.

"The just completed five-term and made them say it was that it was to play this week," Brooks said. "We wanted them to tell us what we wanted to do."

Reeves is still making quality about-being-watched-at-the-season-as-it-prepares-for-the-2000-season appears in 1998.

He hopes to be back coaching in some capacity for Falcons' initial playoff game the weekend of Jan. 9-10.

"The fans like to let a lot of people down not being here," Brooks said. "We had to reassure him to make care of himself. When he comes back here healthy, it will be a big help. Until then, he needs to take care of his health."

White said the team's relationship with Reeves goes beyond that of a coach and his players.

"When everyone thought we'd be 2-14 instead of 1-2, he believed in us," the safety said. "It's a combination of him believing in us and us believing in him."

In his telephone call, Reeves stressed to his players that they shouldn't relax against the Dolphins, even though the Falcons can improve their playoff chances.

"The most important thing he said was now that we've been Detroit, we're NFC West champions," White said. "But we can't think it's easy just because we're in. We've got to continue to play and practice and act like champions."

Bad news catches up with coach

Hargrove finds out league is kaput

Knight Rider Newspapers

This is the warm holiday message of cheer Linda Hargrove received Wednesday afternoon:

"You're out of a job. Your contract is null and void. A pay check? Yeah, I got your pay check. The league has folded. We need your office keys. Oh, and one more thing."

"Bah humbug," Hargrove, the former Wichita State women's basketball coach who was in her first season as coach of the American Basketball League's Colorado Xplosion, received news that the league was kaput, while visiting her daughter, Tara Wilson of Wichita.

The phone rang and our media relations person asked me, 'Are you sitting down?' Hargrove said. "The first thought I had was that one of our players had been in a car accident. He told me that in 30 minutes the league is announcing that it is declaring for bankruptcy and it's folding."

Fortunately for Hargrove, she was sitting down.

"It was absolutely a shock," she said. "A total shock."

Hargrove was in Wichita, she thought, only briefly before returning to Denver, where the team was to leave for a Sunday game in Portland. It was to be nationally televised by FOX.

"We were all scheduled to be back in Denver on Christmas Day for practice," Hargrove said. "When she left Wichita State after last season to join the Xplosion, Hargrove said she was making a risk. The ABL has been on wobbly knees since its inception in 1996 and has struggled to compete with the richer, more television-friendly WNBA, which has the sturdy backing of the NBA."

But Hargrove signed a three-year deal worth over \$350,000, considerably more than she was making at Wichita State. She thought the league might hold on for a couple of years, then perhaps merge with the WNBA. She

saw the potential for something big.

Instead, in a world not large enough for two women's pro leagues, the ABL disappeared.

"The timing is just awful," said Hargrove, who is trying to contact the Xplosion players but isn't having a lot of luck.

Hargrove didn't even know how to reach her top assistant, Jesse Kenlaw.

"I knew she was going to Georgia to see her mother, but I had no idea what her mother's name was," Hargrove said.

It was Kenlaw who finally was able to track down Hargrove on Tuesday night. "She called my daughter's house and said she had seen what had happened to the league on the radio ticker at the bottom of the screen while she was watching the Kentucky-Duke game on TV," Hargrove said. "She said she thought she was watching the news."

Colorado had just started to play well after a sluggish start. The Xplosion had won three of four games and was 5-8 overall.

Hargrove was especially pleased that the team has been devastated by injuries to key players.

"It was just starting to jell," she said. "We had just beaten Seattle, when they were in first place in the West. Then we beat San Jose when they were in first place and beat them by 21. We were playing really well."

Hargrove's players spread out all over the country after the Xplosion's most recent game to celebrate Christmas. One of the players she has been able to reach, guard Debbie Black, started to sob when Hargrove told her the news.

"Debbie is 32 years old and one of only five professional players who has had a quadruple double (double figures in assists, steals, rebounds and points)," Hargrove said. "She's an unbelievable player and person." Black urged Hargrove to try to round up all the Colorado players for a meeting in Denver after the new year.

NBA athletes sue for right to play in Europe

HOUSTON (AP) - A judge on Wednesday scheduled a hearing for Dec. 30 on a lawsuit by NBA players Nick Van Exel of Denver, Marcus Camby of New York and Reggie Slater of Toronto, who want to be cleared to play basketball in Europe.

The lawsuit was before state District Judge David Medina in Houston on Wednesday. He said he'll decide after the Dec. 30 hearing if an injunction should be issued to force USA Basketball to give clearance to the three players.

American players cannot play

The lawsuit alleges that USA Basketball is conspiring with the NBA to keep the players from going overseas.

overseas without clearance from USA Basketball. The lawsuit alleges that USA Basketball is conspiring with the NBA to keep the players from going overseas.

The players said that is of the essence since European teams do not permit players to be

added to the player's roster after Dec. 31.

NBA team executives have threatened to sue if the lawsuit is not dropped.

USA Basketball's executive director, James Brown, says the lawsuit is "a ridiculous attempt to circumvent the collective bargaining agreement with players' union."

"It gives our players the opportunity to play in Europe

and this impartially and give them a chance to play in Europe if the NBA season fails, which it looks like - now."

Conrad Miller, a spokesman for USA Basketball, said the organization has no interest in whether the players go to Europe.

"We are just trying to fulfill our requirements, making sure the proper organization is involved. In this case, it's up to FIBA (International Basketball Federation) and the NBA to negotiate with the players' union about their existing contracts," Miller said.

Bowl

Continued from B1

with three practice sessions in the lead-up to the bowl.

Southern Miss wrapped up on-campus bowl preparations Monday. The Eagles return to the Hattiesburg campus Christmas night for a team gathering, then take a charter flight the following day to Boise.

Bower said a majority of the bowl workouts so far have been good.

"One right at the end of exam week wasn't so good, the stress of exams set in," Bower said. "But we followed that up with our best week in the last days."

The coach missed a couple of practices last week while interviewing for the coaching vacancy

at Baylor. He withdrew his name from consideration Thursday, the same day Baylor named Carolinus Fambors assistant coach Kevin Steele as its new coach.

"I'm happy. I think I made the best decision," Bower said. "I'll be in eight seasons at USM."

Bower said the team, which was aware of the situation, just carried on in his absence.

"I was up front with the players, and they knew before anyone else. I told them first, and it will always be that way," Bower said. "They knew what the situation was and they handled it well."

Both Southern Miss and Idaho go into the bowl game having won six of their last seven games.

Southern's surge came in a 33-24 win.

The Golden Eagles began with their first press conference ever at 9:30 p.m. The Associated Press said the team's first three games on other networks were "blow-outs."

"Our confidence was very high after a 33-24 win. The turning point was when we played Louisville. We really played well in that game, bringing back from a loss. It was tough to make the week end."

Bower said. "The Eagles were in the regular season. They were playing at Tulane on Dec. 6. The Golden Eagles had a 33-24 win.

following Louisville with a 56-21 victory over Oakland - starting their first season bowl game.

While not enough to win their third straight C-USA title as Tulane went undefeated, the surge allowed Southern Miss to claim conference bowl berths for the first time since 1990-91.

For the second year in a row, the Eagles had a 2,000-yard passer (senior quarterback Lee Barber), a 1,000-yard receiver (junior Sherman Giddens) and a 1,000-yard rusher (freshman Derrick Nix).

Only Nevada, which Southern Miss beat 24-14 in the regular season finale, also accomplished that feat the past two seasons.

Utah freezes Bengal women

The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY - The Idaho State women's basketball team shot much like the weather back home in Pocatello late Tuesday night - cold.

The Bengals (2-8) suffered paltry 14 percent field-goal accuracy in the loss here at Utah, and went on to first half final non-conference game of the season 74-49.

The Utes jumped to a 12-0 lead to start the contest before forward Mandi Carver broke through for ISU. The Utes went hit four 3-pointers in the first period, however, and built a 40-11 lead by the break.

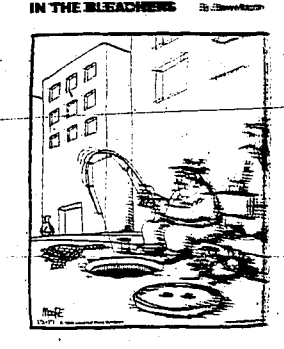
Utah's win gave the school a 23-0 record against the Bengals dating back to 1978. Eastern Washington plays at Idaho State Dec. 30 to launch Big Sky play.

FOOTBALL

BY AP/WIDE WORLD

Table with columns for NFL standings, Football, and Basketball. Includes team names, records, and scores.

IN THE BLEACHERS



College Basketball Scores by the Associated Press. Includes scores for various college basketball games.

ON THE AIR TELEVISION

Table listing TV and radio programs, including 'Santitas' and 'Santitas'.

Table listing scores for various sports events, including basketball and hockey.

SCORES AND STATS

Large table containing scores and statistics for various sports events, including basketball, hockey, and football.

Technical fouls mar UConn win

No. 1 Huskies easily beat Fairfield

HARTFORD, Conn. (AP)—Richard Hamilton scored 17 of his 21 points in the first half to lead No. 1 Connecticut to a 102-67 victory over Fairfield on Wednesday night in a physical game marred by four technical fouls, a flagrant foul and an ejection.

College basketball

The Huskies (30) took a 46-26 halftime lead as the teams combined for 29 fouls, two technicals and 33 turnovers in a choppy, sloppy and physical first half.

Dieder Boucard of Fairfield (6) was ejected with less than three minutes remaining after an intentional foul that leveled Rashmal Jones as he tried to finish a fastbreak with a dunk. Yeoman high 24 points in the first half and Steve Francis added 17 for the Terrapins (12).

UConn's Edmund Saunders, who swung at Boucard during the technical, was charged with a flagrant foul for fighting and must sit out the next game, according to NCAA rules.

Ricky Moore also had 21 points for UConn, two dunks in his career high. Kyle Commodore led Fairfield with 14 points.

No. 5 Maryland 132, North Texas 57

COLLEGE PARK, Md.—Lomie Baxter set a school record by hitting all 10 free-throw attempts and scored 28 points to lead the Terrapins to the most lopsided victory in school history.

Laron Profit scored 16 of his season-high 24 points in the first half and Steve Francis added 17 for the Terrapins (12).

Baxter, a freshman forward, was also 6-of-8 at the foul line.

The 75-point margin of victory



Connecticut's Kevin Freeman goes up for a dunk during the first half of Wednesday's game against Fairfield in Hartford, Connecticut.

surpassed the 67-point blowout of Western Carolina earlier this season, and the 132 points were the second-highest in Maryland history.

Sam Funches scored 16 points for visiting North Texas (9).

No. 19 Arkansas 99, Wake Forest 59

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.—Bun Bradsher scored 27 points and Malcolm Reid White scored 23 points to lead the Razorbacks to 59 percent shooting.

Derek Hand had 12 points and a career-high 15 rebounds and Kareem Seal had six assists for visiting Wake Forest (5-2), which won its fourth straight game.

Darius Spongias scored a career-high 24 points and had five assists for Wake Forest (5-2), which made just 22 percent shooting.

North Carolina St. 62, San Juan 58

No. 20 Wisconsin 61, Marquette 45

MELWAUKEE — Sean Mason scored 15 points and the Badgers won the outright by holding Marquette to 10 points in the first half.

Marquette (7-5) was 3-of-22 (14 percent) from the field in the first half and never recovered. The Golden Eagles got within 33-22 with 13:46 to play, but visiting Wisconsin (11-1) went on a 13-4 run to regain control.

Brian Wardle led Marquette with 15 points.

No. 21 Iowa 87, Coppin St. 73

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Jess Searles scored a season-high 18 points for the Hawkeyes, including the dagger straight by holding the visiting Eagles led pulled within 10 points.

Senior forward Fred Warrick had a career-high 34 points, just the eighth in the last 415 for the Eagles (2-9).

Iowa (9-4) opened the second half with a 17-0 run to take a 20-point lead.

North Carolina St. 62, San Juan 58

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico — Tim Wells and Ram Kelley each had 12 points for the Wolfpack in the third-place game of the Puerto Rico Holiday Classic.

North Carolina State (9-3) held the Soomers (7-3) to three points over the opening 10 1/2 minutes, then allowed them just six points in an eight-minute stretch of the second half.

The Soomers, who lost for the second straight game, shot 41 percent from the field but were only 4-of-21 from 3-point range (19 percent) and 8-of-21 (38 percent) from the free throw line.

Ryan Humphrey had 21 points and 13 rebounds for Oklahoma.

Air Force gets down to task

With win over Washington, Falcons may claim Top 10 spot

The Gazette (Colorado Springs, Colo.)

whenever the circumstances demanded it.

"They've enjoyed their fun and frivolity. They've relaxed on the beach, not having to worry about classwork or military stuff. They've eaten well, partied well and had a great time."

Now the Air Force Falcons can approach their real reason for being in Hawaii.

"They are one more win away from claiming a special distinction in AFA football history.

One more win against Washington on Friday in the Oahu Bowl, and they'll finish 12-1 for this extraordinary season. One more win, and they'll have an excellent shot at making the nation's Top 10 in the final poll to be released on Dec. 28.

One more win, and they'll end the year with nine consecutive victories, something that's never happened before at the academy.

One more win, and they can call themselves the best Air Force team ever.

This bunch of Falcons has won the Western Athletic Conference championship all to themselves, something Air Force never had done before. They also upset Army and Navy by the largest combined margin (70 points, 49-7 over Navy and 35-7 over Army) in the history of the Commander-in-Chief's Trophy round-robin series.

Statistically, they have spent most of the season high among the national leaders in such areas as rushing offense, so-called "play-action" offense and defense, third-down conversions and turnover rate.

Records and accomplishments have to be a major part of such an equation, and they are now.

Records and accomplishments have to be a major part of such an equation, and they are now.

Records and accomplishments have to be a major part of such an equation, and they are now.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

McGwire gives funds to kids

ST. LOUIS — Mark McGwire is a man of his word.

Sixteen months ago, McGwire tearfully told a television audience about his ambitious plan to help poor children. He pledged \$1 million annually for three years to help those too small to defend themselves.

This week, McGwire cut the first four checks from his own account. Two charities here and two more in Southern California will each get \$175,000 each from the Mark McGwire Foundation for Children.

"God gave me the ability to make people happy and help them out," McGwire told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch on Tuesday. "This is the start of something I plan to be involved with for a long time to come."

The two local charities are the Evangelical Children's Home in north St. Louis and the Family Resource Center in midtown. The foundation chose The Stuart House and the Children's Institute International as the two California agencies it will support this year.

All four centers specialize in treating child abuse.

Since he announced the start of the foundation in September of 1997, McGwire said people have stopped him across the country to share painful personal stories.

"It means so much to me when people don't want to just talk about baseball, when they see me as a human being who will listen to their stories," McGwire said.

Past, future mesh in new uniforms

HONOLULU — In the center of the millennial Oregon football.

The University of Oregon unveiled its new football uniforms Wednesday, a high-tech design that pays homage to the classic past while outfitting players with the most technologically advanced materials available.

The No. 2 Ducks are en route to play Colorado in the Aloha Bowl on Christmas Day, but the team won't wear its new uniforms until its 1999 season opener against Michigan St.

The new design features the classic green, green, maroon, green, white and yellow color scheme. The new helmet will be maroon green. But school officials say the traditional colors of maroon, green and yellow will still be replaced and another is Hawaii's "Duck" who now appears as the Oregon logo.

The new color scheme will be available to all Oregon teams, and individual centers will be left with the choice of individualizing their schemes to use, Moos said.

Tennis group expects excuse

EDMONTON — The ruling body of tennis did not suspend Petr Korda for taking his excuse. He did not know how the steroid got into his body.

Seneca, the 1998 Australian Open champion, tested positive for the banned anabolic steroid nandrolone.

"I wish in some way that I am not a drugs cheat and would never seek to obtain a competitive advantage over my fellow professionals by such means," Korda said. "This allegation came to me as a tremendous shock and caused considerable distress to me and my family."

The ITF's decision not to suspend Korda raised doubts on the federation's commitment to a unified program to combat drugs in sports.

However, ITF spokesman Alan James said Wednesday his group was not taking a soft line on drugs as a major priority.

Vermell will coach Rams in '99

ST. LOUIS — Dan Vermell summed up the "entire league" in one word last Wednesday: "excuse." It was the same word he used to describe the NFL's suspension of the 1998.

Sunday's game at San Francisco will mark the ninth straight losing season for the St. Louis

Green Bay night tackle signs 4-year contract extension

GREEN BAY, Wis. (AP) — Bret Favre's quiet disposition, Earl Dotson made no fuss over becoming the NFL's highest-paid right tackle Wednesday.

No news conference, no hoopla to announce a deal that's believed to be worth at least \$14 million over four seasons with a \$4 million signing bonus.

Just a few moments at his locker after his post-practice shower.

"Yeah, I'm glad that I'm going to be able to stay here and do what I want to do and not have to worry about too much fuss about it," said the anchor of the Packers offensive line. "They shot me some numbers. Everything looked great."

—Earl Dotson, Green Bay Packers

Fryar takes a long, eventful road to retirement

Celebrated receiver

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — If Irving Fryar makes it to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, he'll have plenty of stories to tell on those steps in Canton, Ohio. One is the 1984 NFL draft, when he was picked No. 11 in the 1984 NFL draft, when he was the beginning of a long, sometimes bizarre and ultimately redemptive ride. The Philadelphia Eagles receiver says Wednesday he's retiring after the final game of his 15th season, ending a career that included a Super Bowl, a 1-15 season and enough personal catastrophes to write a book.

He did that, too.

"I'm kind of like the prodigal son," said Fryar, accompanied at a news conference by his wife and four children. "Five years ago, messed up and found my way back. And now everything's OK."

Fryar conquered his teenage past to become one of the top receivers in NFL history before finally crashing into the limitations of age at 36. He



Irving Fryar

has only 45 catches and two touchdowns this season and cannot reach the performance level of his former teammates. Fryar needed to kick in the final two years of a contract extension he signed in September.

"I refuse to go somewhere else and play," Fryar said. "I'm not going to Mount Holy, N.J., who will play his last game Sunday against the New York Giants. "I've already moved my family here."

Though he might get anxious when training camp starts next year, he said, "I won't change my mind. I'm done. I'm done."

Fryar's consistency, longevity and numbers put him in elite company. His 781 catches, plus seven receptions on the NFL's career list, and his 77 touchdowns are seventh on the list.

"One of my goals was to catch 800 balls," Fryar said. "And that's not going to happen unless by some miraculous rea-

son they throw me the ball a whole lot on Sunday."

Fryar and the Jets' Keydren Johnson are the only two receivers selected first in the draft. This season, he passed Charlie Jones in receptions. Don Hayward, a wide receiver, finished third in touchdowns. All three are Hall of Famers.

"I would like to say Hall of Fame," receivers coach Gene Stallone said. "I'm sure you'll be in the Hall of Fame."

With 15 receiving yards in his final game, Fryar would become only the eighth player in NFL history to reach 10,000 NFL yards in five seasons. He also surpassed Stallone to be the sixth player to have the longest career streak in the league.

"I'm a fan of 15 great years of football," said coach Gene Stallone. "I'm sure you'll be in the Hall of Fame."

"I support him whatever he does in life and wherever he goes. He's always going to be a friend of mine."

who are 5-22 under Vermeil. There was speculation that the Rams would fire Vermeil, even though he has three years left on a five-year contract.

But team president John Shaw said this week that Vermeil will be back in 1999.

"I came here to do a job," Vermeil said. "I don't see any reason we can't do it."

great. I think that's awesome."

And Favre said whatever Dotson made no fuss over becoming the NFL's highest-paid right tackle Wednesday.

No news conference, no hoopla to announce a deal that's believed to be worth at least \$14 million over four seasons with a \$4 million signing bonus.

Just a few moments at his locker after his post-practice shower.

"Yeah, I'm glad that I'm going to be able to stay here and do what I want to do and not have to worry about too much fuss about it," said the anchor of the Packers offensive line. "They shot me some numbers. Everything looked great."

—Earl Dotson, Green Bay Packers

Agent Jack Bechtel said there wasn't any question that Packers got themselves a good deal.

"Our goal has always been to keep the Packers in the Packers wanted to keep Earl there," Bechtel said. "My job was to get Earl the best possible contract I could get him — with the Packers."

Neither side would reveal contract figures, but Bechtel said Dotson's deal averaged more per year than the \$3.4 million Jacksonville's Leon Stewart is earning with the five-year, \$17 million deal he signed in 1996.

Bechtel said he thought Dotson, who made \$32,000 this season, could have gotten between \$4 million and \$4.5 million a year on the open market.

"But Earl's the kind of guy you have to have here. I like Green Bay, I like the coaching staff. I like the players," Bechtel said.

YOURSPORTS

YourSports Editor: Jeff Rosen - 733-0931, Ext. 229

TF, Jerome take trophies

Tourney raises funds for AAU squads

The Times News

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls 7th grade AAU team and the Jerome Tigers 7th grade B-Team captured girls' basketball titles last weekend in the inaugural AAU girls' basketball tournament, held Dec. 19th at O'Leary Junior High School.

The tournament, a fundraiser for the AAU teams to attend other tournaments around the state, featured eight teams in two divisions. It was designed to give local middle school girls, whose season

runs just two months from October to December, more opportunity to play.

The tournament was held on a round robin format. Each team played three games, and the winners of each division received large donated trophies.

The Twin Falls AAU 7th graders, Jerome's 7th grade A-Team, Dietrich's 8th grade team, and Hansen's 8th grade team played in the A Division.

Twin Falls and Jerome entered the final game of the day with perfect records setting up the championship game at 2:00 p.m. on Dec. 20th. The girls really stepped up and played their best basketball of the season," said

some breaks, and that was the best inside game we've played this year," said Twin Falls AAU coach Eric Hovey.

Jerome took second with a 2-1 record. Dietrich finished 1-2 and Hansen left without a win.

Jerome's 7th grade B-Team, the Twin Falls AAU 6th graders, Dietrich's 7th grade team and Hansen's 7th grade team, meanwhile, competed in the tournament's B Division.

Several of the games were close, and three went into overtime. Jerome finished with a 3-0 record after defeating a rough Hansen group to

take first place.

Jerome 7th grade girls coach John Derr. "I am very proud of them."

Hansen (2-1) defeated Dietrich (1-2) in triple overtime for second place, while the AAU team was unable to capture a victory.

Jerome topped the overall team standings with a 5-1 combined record. The AAU team finished even at 3-3, while the team from Dietrich and Hansen completed the tournament with 2-4 marks.

All players left with a prize - each received certificates for free hamburgers from Wendy's for their participation in the tournament.

Next year, Hovey, the tournament's organizer, hopes to expand the event.

PIZZA TREAT



Players on coach Bruce Stradley's soccer team are treated to pizza after an autumn game. Stradley's team is one of several teams that are organized and sponsored by the Kimberly Lions' Club each fall.

YOURSCORES AND STATS

BASKETBALL

TF 7th Grads and Rec Girls' Basketball

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls 7th grade AAU team and the Jerome Tigers 7th grade B-Team captured girls' basketball titles last weekend in the inaugural AAU girls' basketball tournament, held Dec. 19th at O'Leary Junior High School.

BOWLING

Local Bowling Scores

WINDY HILLS - The Windy Hills bowling club held a tournament at the Sun Valley Bowling Center on Dec. 20th. The tournament was won by the Sun Valley Bowling Club.

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for Twin Falls AAU, Jerome, Dietrich, and Hansen.

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for Windy Hills bowling club.

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for Sun Valley Bowling Club.

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for Magic Valley Women's Pool Association.

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for Magic Valley Women's Pool Association.

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for VYCA Volleyball.

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for Magic Valley Women's Pool Association.

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Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for VYCA Volleyball.

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for Magic Valley Women's Pool Association.

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Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for Magic Valley Women's Pool Association.

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for Magic Valley Women's Pool Association.

Table with 2 columns: Team/Player, Score. Includes entries for VYCA Volleyball.

Unofficial results and a holiday wish

TWIN FALLS - The unofficial results are in from the Sara No Tap Tournament, held last weekend at the Magic Bowl.

High scores bowled from among the 153 entries was 1,223 by Jon Rife. Low in-the-mooney was 1,059. Five 300 games were rolled - by Jim Schurte, Todd Fixcus, Dirk McCallister, Eddie Chappell and Dale Black.

Mary Morris was the winner of the Early Bird Event, earning herself an 18-pound ham donated by Independent Meat.

All score sheets must be re-added - verifying that scores were written down correctly - and, of course, entering averages must be verified. A deadline of Jan. 5 has been set for payment of the prize fund.

In other bowling news: The third event of the Triple Crown Tournament was held Saturday at the Bowlerdown. First place in the Baker Doubles went to Becky Smith and Todd Fixcus with 1,450. Second went to



BOWLING

Thelma Tucker

Denise Morrison and Terry Ford with 1,361, third was taken by Cory Lucero and Dave Brown and their 1,341, and Neil Sabcock and Vicki Keesig placed fourth with 1,336.

The Triple Crown point-winner for the men was Lucero with 355. Smith was point-winner title for the ladies, earning 380. Both will receive winner's jackets.

Prizes were awarded at each of the three events for participation and placing in the prize list.

Currently in process at Sunset Bowl in Buhl is the YABA Fun Day Doubles Tournament, which started Dec. 19 and runs through

Jan. 3. Squad time is 1 p.m. daily, Sunday through Saturday. Teams must consist of one adult and one junior bowler.

On Game 1, men will bowl nine pin, ladies will bowl eight pin, and depending on the average of the junior bowler they need from four to nine pins for a strike. Game 2 is 3-6-9 for all bowlers, while Game 3 is leave a split and it counts as a strike. Entry fee is \$12 per team. Sign up at the desk, or call 324-5282... In closing:

Christmas is a special time a season set apart; A happy, warm remembering time, a season of the heart.

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

Thelma Tucker writes a weekly bowling column for the Times-News. Contact her by calling 733-4357, or e-mail her at tucker@magicbowl.com.

Keep watch on your investments by reading the Money pages

Looking for ... L. M. Boyd's "What's What" ... the crossword puzzle ... the horoscope?



Take a break! A Morning Break!

Introducing "Morning Break," Monday through Saturday with L.M. Boyd's "What's What," the daily crossword puzzle and the horoscope.

Let us know

If you know of a local sporting event that ought to be in the paper? Tell us about it! Call Jeff Rosen at The Times-News, 733-0931, Ext. 229, or drop it by our office at 132 3rd St. W. Copy also can be mailed to P.O. Box 545, Twin Falls, 83303-0548 or FAXed to 734-0538 or send email at jeffrosen@timesnews.com. Items must arrive at The Times-News by noon, Wednesday, for publication the same week.

- First and last names.
 - Homeowners for people mentioned.
 - Dates and place of the event.
 - Scores or places won for the participants.
 - A phone and phone number for more information.
 - Photographs are encouraged.
- Please include a self-addressed envelope if you want your picture returned.

Tyson offers advice to prisoners

PHOENIX AP - Mike Tyson was doing the talking - and some rebuttal points were listening. The former heavyweight champion drew upon his own criminal past Wednesday to tell prisoners pulled up in a court room to get their lives together.

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SUPER 8 HOTEL

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AROUND THE VALLEY

Frozen water tank nearly collapses

TWIN FALLS - A 16,000-gal water tank at Simplot Soilbuilders froze solid and nearly fell over Wednesday evening.

"It looked like the Leaning Tower of Pisa," said Battalion Chief Bill Windsor of the Twin Falls Fire Department.

The ice expanded and broke through the bottom of the 20-foot-tall steel tank. The weakened tank then began to collapse under its own weight, Windsor said.

Fire destroys Valley Hay building

FILER - Investigators were looking into a Tuesday night fire that destroyed a Valley Hay building in Filer.

When Filer firefighters arrived on the scene around 10:45 a.m., the building at 2829 N. 2400 E. was engulfed in flames, Chief Bud Compher said.

By the time firefighters contained the flames on the east and a half later, the shop building was destroyed, and the neighboring office and living area were partially damaged, Compher said.

A damage estimate was unavailable, and the fire's cause was under investigation, he said.

Social Security office to close at noon

TWIN FALLS - The Social Security Administration office in Twin Falls will close at noon today, pursuant to an executive order signed by the president,

said District Manager Eric Riehl. Nearly all other federal offices will close early today.

1 remains in hospital after 3-car accident

BURLEY - One person remained hospitalized Wednesday after a three-car accident Tuesday afternoon on Oreland Avenue just outside Knart.

Fifty-year-old Patricia Hicks of Burley was listed in fair condition at Canyon Regional Medical Center Wednesday. 23-year-old James Hicks and their driver, Jacqueline Hicks, 20, were treated and released Tuesday.

Driving the second vehicle, a 1987 white Dodge pickup, was 31-year-old Kevin Durbaum of Canyon. He was treated and released, along with his passenger, 50-year-old Roland Nelson of Twin Falls.

James Fitzhugh, 29, of Heyburn was driving the third vehicle, a 1997 green Dodge pickup. He was not injured.

Cassia County sheriff's officials responded to the 4:26 p.m. accident. The accident was still under investigation Wednesday, the sheriff's office said.

Let us know about your old traditions

TWIN FALLS - Got an unusual Christmas tradition? An odd seasonal celebration? The Times-News wants to know about it today.

We're looking for Magic Valley families whose holiday pastime could best be described as "eccentric." We'd like to hear about anything unheard-of, off-the-wall, or even out-of-the-ordinary. (Opening the big presents before the stockings doesn't count.)

Remember, it may seem normal to you, so we're asking for a little self-evaluation. Ask yourself, "What would the neighbors think?"

If you think you've got a quirky Christmas custom that just might qualify, call Times-News writer Gregory Hahn today at 733-0931, Ext. 231.

Compiled from staff reports

Dem's accusation involves TF native

The Times-News and Associated Press

WASHINGTON - A Twin Falls native and longtime GOP activist is at the center of the latest Capitol Hill imbroglio.

House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt's top aide accused a Republican committee chairman Tuesday of trying to cover up alleged financial wrongdoing by former House Clerk Robin H. Carle by keeping

Gephardt aide charges GOP with cover-up

an investigative report on her conduct from being sent to Gephardt.

Carle has resigned and taken a private-sector job since a House inspector general's report accused her of using a staff member to perform personal tasks and using a government credit card for her own purchases.

Carle, 43, graduated from Twin Falls High School in 1973. She worked in the Bush administration and for the Republican National Committee in December 1994, then becoming House Speaker Newt Gingrich's press secretary.

Steve Elmendorf, chief of staff to

Gephardt, D-Mo., accused House Oversight Committee chairman Rep. Bill Thomas, R-Calif., of refusing to allow the inspector general to send his findings to Gephardt. A second Democratic official said Thomas kept the report from being sent by marking it a "draft."

A spokesman for Thomas, R-Calif., insisted Democrats were kept apprised.

Please see NATIVE, Page C3

SANTA ARRIVES EARLY



Shelly McCallister and her children are surprised Wednesday when Santa Claus, played by Sgt. Steve Eshelak, and other Twin Falls police officers, who visited McCallister's Twin Falls home bearing Christmas gifts.

TF police helps families for the holidays

By Brian Haynes Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Santa Claus came a couple days early at the McCallister household.

Santa (played by Twin Falls police officer Jeff Siklar) and his merry elf (played by other police officers) brought toys for the McCallister children and two other families Wednesday as part of the

police department's yearly mission of helping needy families.

"All the elves at the Twin Falls Police Department and the city of Twin Falls wish you a merry Christmas," Santa Claus said as he handed wrapped presents to 2 1/2-year-old Dusty and his 3-month-old brother, Austin.

Their brother, 15-month-old Justin, was out of town, so there would be no gift opening that day, said their mother.

Shelly McCallister, who was surprised at the number of presents piled high.

"It means so much and good," she said.

Each year the department selects a handful of families to help. They ask around schools and churches for donations. The department narrowed its list to three this year as it could get more toys for each child in the family, officer Kari Derra said.

The Twin Falls Police Association

donates money for the food, and King's department store donated about \$200 worth of toys and bicycles.

McCallister appreciated the help. "Everyone thinks the cops are here to arrest you for breaking the law, and they're not here to help," she said. "Now we're going to have a good Christmas."

Times-News staff writer Brian Haynes can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 238.

Jackpot gets new rescue vehicle

By Sam Feltman Times-News correspondent

JACKPOT, Nev. - As the saying goes, one man's trash is another's treasure, and Carl Marr, Jackpot's fire chief and ambulance director, just brought a treasure from Clark County.

When Clark County's vehicles reach 100,000 miles they are put out of service and sold to smaller fire and ambulance departments. Marr bought a 1989 Ford rescue unit for \$20,000.

The only thing it needed was two new batteries, he said. Even the paint is in good shape, and Jackpot only will have to cover the word "Paramedic" with "Jackpot Fire Department."

First run

The Jackpot Fire Department's new vehicle's first official day will be to treat Santa Claus to children's homes this evening. Santa visiting Jackpot children on Christmas Eve is a free service sponsored in part by the department.

Passes only need to sign up for new children to receive a visit. Call Ken Sord at 733-0921.

Marr is excited about the unit. "It will aid us in the transportation of firefighters. It will haul six firemen safely to and from a fire," he said. "It is a warm area for firefighters

to warm up in at a fire scene."

Now firefighters are transported to a fire on the back of a truck, and that can get pretty cold, especially this time of year. The vehicle also will have fire-fighting equipment, along with material until a hazardous material arrives.

He said the new vehicle replaces a former Iron Nevada's Division of Forestry. The former, a 1990 International, with a utility bed, was badly in need of repair.

Times-News correspondent Sam Feltman can be reached at Jackpot, Nev., at 702, 753-2321.

Procrastinating? Here's your last-minute shoppers' guide

The Times-News

- TWIN FALLS - For procrastinating shoppers, the hours are ticking away before Christmas. But you still have time today for last-minute shopping. Here's a partial list of stores that will be open and for how long.
* Magic Valley Mall - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
* Simplicity - all day until 6 p.m.
* The Best - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
* Sears - 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
* J.C. Penney in Twin Falls - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
* Wal-Mart in Burley - 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
* Knart in Burley and Twin

- Falls - 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.
* Fred Meyer - 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
* Target - 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.
* Costco - 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
* Kings in Burley, Twin Falls and Bailey - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
* Snake River Plaza in Burley - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
* J.C. Penney in Burley - 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
* Lynwood Shopping Center - Businesses will close between 3 and 6 p.m.
* Historic Downtown Twin Falls - stores may vary, but generally 9:30 a.m. to early or late afternoon. The trolley will not run.

Minidoka hospital projects higher room rates next year

By John J. Haddy Times-News writer

RUPERT - Room rates at Minidoka Memorial Hospital will go up in 1999.

But hospital officials say they don't know how big the increase will be. The hospital board hasn't set the increase, hospital administrator Carl Harkness said.

Problem: How to pay for those who cannot

The hospital charges \$400 for a room per day. The increase, whatever it turns out to be, will make up 4.7 percent of the hospital's gross revenue of \$15 million a year. In all, \$700,000 will be taken from vari-

ous departments to cover costs left unpaid by those who are uninsured or unable to pay their bills. Those unpaid costs are a major reason for the rate hike, Harkness said. The problem at hand is how to contin-

ue providing services for people who don't have any way of paying their bills," Harkness said.

"It appears as though this is something that has to be done," Minidoka County commissioner John Rensberg said. "This is a problem throughout the medical

Please see HOSPITAL, Page C3

MAGIC VALLEY/THE NORTH SIDE/WEST

Jerome adopts renewal plan

By Dixie Thomas Reale
Times-News correspondent

JEROME - South Lincoln will get its improvements.

The urban renewal plan to improve an area along South Lincoln officially was adopted by the Jerome City Council after a public hearing this week.

The plan proposes to do an estimated \$1.8 million in improvements in the next 11 years to an area defined as deteriorated or deteriorating bounded on the north by H Street and on the south by Rose Street. The eastern and western boundaries zigzag about a block back and forth on both sides of South Lincoln. Improvements would focus on infrastructure such as curbs and gutters, fire hydrants, new sewer and water lines, street lights and traffic signals.

At the hearing Tuesday, new Jerome Recreation Director Wendy Davis asked about the division of tax revenue in the affected area.

The area's property values in 1998 form a base, explained Ryan Armbruster, legal counsel for the Urban Renewal Agency. The agency will use the taxes generated from an increase in property valuation above that 1998 base for its future share.

Mayor Dennis Moore said the renewal area is also the taxing area. Money generated from increased taxes due to improvements in the urban renewal area stays in the area to make further improvements, he said. And taxes generated from property in the north end of town will not go toward improvements in the urban renewal area along South Lincoln.

It will be year 2000 before any tax money is available to the Urban Renewal Agency. However, Moore said Wednesday he hopes the agency will start working on getting a traffic signal installed at 100 S. Lincoln early spring. Lending agencies can make loans on future tax money that is pledged, he said.

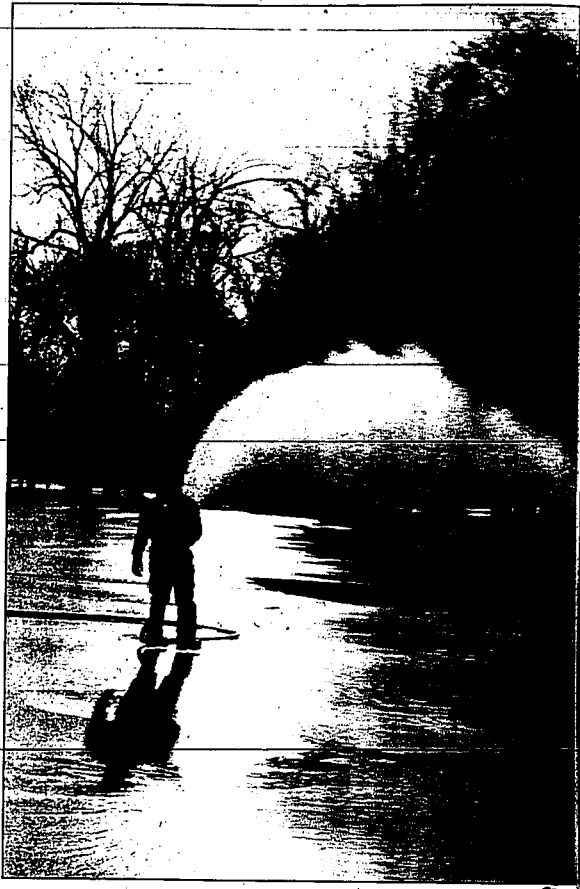
Among objectives of the urban renewal plan is creation of an attractive and pleasant environment in the project area, increased opportunity for affordable housing and elimination of obsolete or aged buildings. The plan will assemble land into parcels suitable for modern integrated development with improved setback, parking, pedestrian and vehicular circulation. Developing underdeveloped areas is expected to strengthen the project area's economic base.

The Urban Renewal Agency will look to multiple sources for financing: city, state and federal grants; donations; loans; leases and sale of agency-owned property; bonds; or any other available sources. The city will administer any grants.

The Urban Renewal Agency plan was created for a duration of 30 years.

Times-News correspondent Dixie Thomas Reale can be reached in Jerome at 324-3670.

NEEDS MORE ICE



Lee Gonzales sprays water on the ice skating rink at Martin Olson Park in Logan. Then, under this week, The Logan Parks and Recreation employees have been working around the clock to build up the ice for the new year's opening this Saturday.

Recreation district names director

By Dixie Thomas Reale
Times-News correspondent

JEROME - Wendy Davis has been hired as the new Jerome Recreation District director, district board President Arlen Raunsgaard announced Tuesday.

Davis replaces Eli Roberts, who resigned in October to take a job in the Meridian Recreation Department. Davis will be paid \$26,400 yearly by the district, which is supported by city taxes.

Davis, who grew up in Twin Falls, started with the Jerome Recreation District in August

1997 as leisure program coordinator for nonprofits. Davis brings a new approach to the position of director with her educational background - a bachelor's degree in anthropology and master's degree in education.

She has managed swimming pools in Twin Falls for nearly 10 years and has worked in management positions for both the U.S. Forest Service and the federal Bureau of Land Management.

One of the first things Davis hopes to accomplish in her new job is to sit down with the board of directors and set some short- and long-term goals for the dis-

trict, then focus the staff's work toward them.

She is asking for ideas and suggestions from the public to help form a vision as to what patrons want the recreation district to do. Should the district be focusing on land acquisition, creation of more parks or new classes such as kayaking?

Davis said the recreation district may be making questionnaires or holding public meetings to get comments.

Times-News correspondent Dixie Thomas Reale can be reached in Jerome at 324-3670.

Blight variations show up in cellars

IDAHO FALLS (AP) - More and more farmers are seeing late blight reach their potato cellars and there could be nastier strains on their way, a University of Idaho pathologist warns.

New varieties of the fungus are showing up that are more aggressive and more resistant to chemicals, Phil Nolte said.

"The rules have changed," he told about 75 growers on Tuesday.

Nolte said he has been getting about a dozen samples a week from Upper Snake River Valley cellars. About two-thirds of them are affected by late blight, one of several things that can

cause bacterial soft rot in storage.

"We are dealing with a new beast here, and we've only got two years of experience in dealing with it," he said.

The blight that wiped out Ireland's potato crop in the 1840s only showed up in Idaho fields four years ago. And it did not make its way to the renowned eastern Idaho growing area until about 1997.

That summer, the weather dried up in time for harvest and farmers' widespread use of fungicides kept late blight to a minimum, Nolte said.

This summer, however, was

much drier and some farmers thought they did not need to use fungicide as often. Low spud prices did not help.

When wet weather hit in late August, just as farmers were getting ready to start killing potato vines, the conditions were perfect for blight to spread into the tubers.

Nolte said a lot of farmers are having problems, although reports of cellars "going down all over" are exaggerated.

The No. 1 cause of storage trouble is soft rot, which can be caused by late blight, frost and two soil-borne pathogens: pink rot and pythium leak.

SERVICES

8 p.m. Monday at Demaray's Shrine Chapel.

Mary E. Yost of Wendell, 3 p.m. Monday at White Mortuary Chapel in Twin Falls.

Lucille F. Nusbaum of Boise, memorial service at 2 p.m. Tuesday at Belva Funeral Home, 318 N. Latah in Boise (Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

DEATH NOTICE

ETWIN V. ARCHBOLD
TWIN FALLS - Etwin Vance Archbold, 70, of Twin Falls, died Tuesday, Dec. 22, 1998, at Twin Falls Center.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Babies were born to Michael and Tammi Pollard of Burley; Donald and Erin Firkins and David and Soledad Calderon of Heyburn.

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Craig backs bill against weeds

MOSCOW (AP) - U.S. Sen. Larry Craig is rallying support for agricultural groups for legislation to help combat noxious weeds spreading across the West.

His "Plant Protection Act of 1999" is aimed at including a spectrum of participants in eradication.

Craig, R-Idaho, already has received support from the American Nursery and Landscape Association, the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, the National Christmas Tree Association, the National Potato Council and the American Farm Bureau Federation.

"The problem of noxious weeds has been compared to a slow-moving wildfire that threatens to engulf both private and public lands across the West," Craig said.

In a letter to President Clinton,

Tensions with Iraq keep students away from Bethlehem

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) - The threat of retaliatory violence by Iraq after U.S. and British air attacks will keep Gonzaga University students from visiting the birthplace of the Prince of Peace.

More than 100 students of the Jesuit university will stay away from Bethlehem and Jerusalem during this week's study tour of historic and religious sites in Israel and Egypt, school officials said Tuesday.

"We have no reason to believe anything will happen in those areas, but if problems were to occur, those would be the hot spots," said Wayne Powell, associate academic vice president.

The annual Christmas tour, which this year numbers 116 students, is for those enrolled in a yearlong foreign studies program based in Florence, Italy.

Gonzaga contacted parents of all its students in Florence to give them the opportunity to pull their children out of the Holy Land tour, Powell said. A handful of students chose to remain in Florence.

Craig expressed his concern that all parties involved in the issue must be heard.

"I have heard that the main force purposed to be included in the order would include several representatives from the environmental lobby while excluding farm- and ranch-based organizations," Craig wrote. "This would be a terrible mistake."

Idaho suffers from infestation of such species as bushy velvet leaf star thistle, spotted knapweed, purple loosestrife and

heavy spruce.

Thomas Hall, University of Idaho professor of weed science, discussed characteristics of that number: weeds on their vehicles, so it is important to check them before heading to another location. Loretta and Jeff from near the plant's arrival.

Further guidelines is guidelines who may not know when they are growing a noxious weed.

Clifford A. Bellamy of Gooding, 1 p.m. today at the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding (Demaray's Gooding Chapel).

Servando G. Hernandez of Eden, 2 p.m. today at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Ann L. Banks of Rupert, 10 a.m. today at the service-Saturday in Springdale, Ark.

Orc C. Marcroft of Shoshone, 1

HOSPITALS

CASSIA REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
Some names omitted at patients' request.

Admitted
Patricia Hicks, Joy Norman, Tammi Pollard, Henry Rios, and Alpha Royce, all of Burley; Kenneth Cage of Woodland, Wash.; Soledad Calderon and Erin Firkins of Burley; Steven Kraus, and Gary McManus of Paul; Chester Phillips of Rupert.

Released
Fern Adams, Doris Anderson and Teresa Guerrero, all of Burley; Jamie Osterhout of Declo;

Released
Gina Spencer and baby daughter.

Births
A daughter was born to Homercia Sanchez of Rupert.

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Gina Spencer and baby daughter.

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FOR T HALL

Vernie Diaz

Vernie Diaz, 47, of Ft. Hall, died Monday, Dec. 21, 1998, at the Bonville Regional Medical Center from hypothermia.

He was born Nov. 18, 1951, in Blackfoot, Idaho, to Joe V. Diaz and Mary Ann Diaz. He was a graduate of Blackfoot High School and a resident of the Blackfoot area. He attended school in Blackfoot and worked for Blackfoot High School. He was a member of the Blackfoot State University. He worked in various jobs. He was a member of the Blackfoot State University.

He was a volunteer wildfire fighter. He worked for various companies in the construction business. He enjoyed fishing and cooking. He was an avid horse racing fan.

He was survived by his parents of Tacoma. His son, Daxx Diaz of Amanda Diaz of Twin Falls, one brother, John R. (Hazel) Diaz of Ft. Hall, his sisters, Beverly (Jill) Diaz, Debbie (Willy) LaMore, Barbara J. (Milo) Edmo, and Norma (Mark) Wasilow, all of Ft. Hall. He was preceded in death by his grandparents, Samuel and Laura Tendoy Honora, Manuel and Magdalena Diaz, great-grandmother, Mena

Tendoy Tendoy, one brother, Gregory, and one sister, Linda.

The funeral will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 26, 1998, at the Hill Hawker Sandberg Funeral Home with Father Xavier Aressori officiating. The family will meet with friends Saturday, Dec. 26, 1998, for one hour before the service at the funeral home. Interment will be in the Gibson Cemetery. Following the burial service, the family will meet for a potluck dinner at the Mt. View Baptist Church.

The family is trying to locate Dax Diaz and Amanda Diaz. Please call (208) 785-1126 or (208) 785-0227.

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(Adjacent to Mt. View Baptist Church)
Pastor Jim Semmer 723-6222

Burley urban renewal plan passes

By John T. Hudny
Times-News writer

BURLEY - A middle ground was reached between supporters and opposition Wednesday, when the Burley City Council passed a controversial Urban Renewal Agency plan to outline 25 years of city development.

Through this whole process we've all learned a lot," council member Brent Kerbs told more than 30 Cassia and Minidoka County residents. "I'm proud to be a member of the City Council, no matter what people may think about us. I'm proud that we as a community have found a middle ground and I'm proud to be part of this process."

"The new ordinance will allow the agency to create a 25-year plan to redevelop deteriorating or blighted parts of the city."

The passage also brought the wave of amendments to the plan. Cassia County commissioners and Minidoka County officials submitted changes.

"Anything that helps growth is

Members of Burley's Urban Renewal Agency:

- Gary Asson, citizen appointee.
- Javier Cardel, citizen appointee.
- Doty Manning, Burley mayor.
- Maria Moyle, citizen appointee.
- Shirley Pevson, Cassia County commissioner-elect.
- Bill Schaefer, Burley City Council.
- Julie Woodford, citizen appointee.

a good idea," said Rick Bollar, Minidoka County's prosecutor.

"We have faith in the plan," Minidoka County officials said they would withdraw their objection, as long as agricultural property in the county isn't folded into the urban renewal district. Burley officials agreed to do this, but six acres of Minidoka County land in north Burley will remain part of the district.

But others were not so content with a compromise.

"If I was in Cassia County I

would still be opposed," said Mark Hawker, a Minidoka County resident. "It seemed like a rush decision."

The plan may have been rushed, but for good reasons, Minidoka County school superintendent Nick Hallett said.

"There are problems with growth, but decline is a lot worse," Hallett said. "We graduate 400 students every year - their parents would like to see them find jobs here in the counties. People understand that there is a certain amount of risk here. The risk is worth taking because there is a greater risk if nothing is done."

Growth in Burley may create spinoffs for Minidoka County, and could generate money for the Minidoka district, Hallett said.

"If there is economic growth outside the city, the tax base gets bigger for the school, county and fire district," he said.

Residents have 60 days to contest the plan. Then it will go to a judge.

The judge will make sure all proper procedures have been fol-

lowed. Burley Mayor Doug Manning, and City Administrator Mark Mitton have already discussed plans to develop the area. Retail and industrial developers have already expressed interest in the area.

A poultry processing and growing plant is considering developing in the city, Manning said. The plant could bring more than 800 new jobs to the area.

Plans could be set into motion within six months of the judicial review, Manning said.

But some county residents still have reservations.

"The public should keep a real close watch on the urban renewal agency, because the agency is not governed by all the same rules that normal taxing districts are," said Sylvia Truett, a Minidoka County resident. "They need to know that the taxpayers are watching and will hold them accountable."

Times-News staff writer John T. Hudny can be reached at 734-7152.

MINI-CASSIA IN BRIEF

Officials seize drugs in Burley arrest

BURLEY - Officials from the Idaho Criminal Investigation Bureau and the Cassia County sheriff's office seized two pounds of drugs and arrested two people Wednesday morning, said Curt Rollins, special operations commander of the Cassia Sheriff's Office. The arrests took place on the corner of 22nd W. Ninth St. and 23rd W. 4th St. Goetzke, 40, and 22 W. Ninth St. and 23 W. 4th St. Goetzke also seized a pound and a half of marijuana, about a half pound of cocaine. The marijuana was valued at about \$60,000 and the cocaine about \$70,000, Rollins said. Officials also seized two handguns, a sawed-off shotgun, Rollins said. Burley police chief, Douglas MacIntyre.

Burglar not damage restaurant

BURLEY - More than \$20,000 worth of miniature Edward's Mexican Restaurant Minuteman, a Cassia County sheriff's report said. There were no injuries, Wednesday.

Edward's Minuteman sheriff's office announced the restaurant has been burglarized for about a month and damage to the women's restroom.

Investigator said there was a mounted ladder on the north side of the building leading to the roof. Investigators saw this how the burglars broke in. The roof was 20 feet high. The burglars entered a small access door on the roof and into a hallway where a drill was used to pull their way into the main room area. The burglars then pulled insulation away and broke through points that led them to the women's restroom and into the building. Damage to the building from the burglars' entry totaled about \$20,000, the report said.

Sign is used to attract business

RUPERT - A new sign designed to attract business to Rupert is under way.

The sign, an effort of the Rupert Business Committee, the Organization of Upper Businesses and the city, will be at the west-bound 215 off I-200, commercial east, said Matt Johnson of the Rupert Business, Tourism and Recreation Department.

With emphasis on making Burley's historic town square, the sign also invites travelers to see Lake Waikare State Park, Minidoka Dam and the Minidoka County Historical Museum, Johnson said.

Burglar's work was the subject of a committee wanted to propose the sign at the city of Burley, on the freeway. The group learned the sign was an interesting project and joined forces.

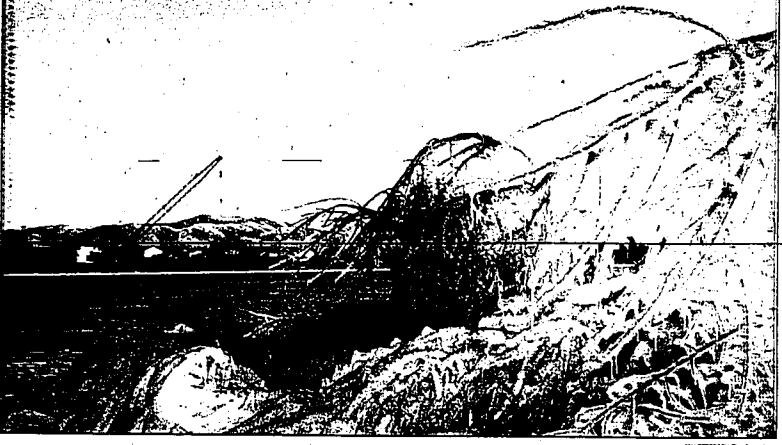
Local Sign of Town, Inc. developed an agency's definition. A sign application was then made to the Idaho Transportation Department, 223 officials to be made, including an actual committee member share, double the application, Johnson said.

Cost of the sign will be about \$10,000, said Johnson. The Rupert Business Committee and the city, Johnson said.

Public comment will be made on the sign. To comment, call 734-7152 or 734-8100.

Continued on page 3

HOLIDAY ICING



High temperatures the past week have created a jacket of ice for some parts of the Snake River, such as the stretch near Overland Avenue Bridge in Burley. The National Weather Service in Pocatello predicts the cork of ice will ease, though. The next few days are expected to get warmer with a chance of snow Saturday.

District won't appeal ruling favoring lesbian

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - The Utah School District has decided not to appeal a federal judge's ruling in favor of Wendy Weaver, the lesbian teacher who sued after being ordered not to talk about her sexuality.

"It's always been the school district's decision all along, and the school district has decided not to appeal," Assistant Utah Attorney General Martha Stonebraker, who argued the case for the district, said Tuesday.

U.S. District Judge Bruce Jenkins ruled last month in favor of Weaver in a civil-rights action against the school district. Weaver filed suit after school

officials ordered her not to talk about her homosexuality and refused to allow her to return to coaching the girls volleyball team.

Weaver's sexual orientation became public after a student asked her if she were a lesbian and she said so. The conversation took place in 1997, a few months after Weaver divorced her husband of 19 years and moved in with her partner, Rachel Smith.

The school district had argued that Weaver's right to free speech did not supersede Spanish Fork High School's right to be free of disruption.

The judge noted Weaver had continued to teach psychology at the school without incident and that school officials had been unable to point to any problems since her sexual orientation was revealed.

Jenkins ordered the school district to remove the orders from Weaver's file and allow her to coach during the 1999-2000 volleyball season. Jenkins also awarded Weaver \$1,500, the sum she would have earned had she been allowed to coach the volleyball team.

The Gay, Lesbian Straight Educators Network, or GLSEN, applauded the school district's

decision not to appeal.

"I think it's great that the district has decided it is more important to focus on real issues like textbooks for kids rather than non-issues like the private life of a teacher," said GLESEN Utah Co-Chairman Robert Austin. "If anything, this sends a message to the well-qualified gay and lesbian teachers across the state so they can breathe a little easier."

Lawyer still files a civil lawsuit filed by Citizens of Nevado School District for Moral and Legal Values. The group contends that Weaver is unfit to teach because of her sexual orientation.

Hospital

Continued from C1

An estimated 15 percent of people who use the hospital have no form of health insurance, Hanson said.

"Forty percent of babies born at the hospital in 1997 had no health insurance coverage," he said. "This presents a challenge to us to maintain services and provide care to those who need it."

Health care costs will be made at the hospital, including a reduced employee discount for employees, which will cover more than \$50,000. The board is also examining insurance malpractice

costs and outside contracts, Hanson said.

Administrators are outlining plans for further cutbacks. Several departments - including the nursing home, pharmacy, radiology department and the nuclear medicine department - will be unaffected.

"It's unknown whether the cutbacks will affect the hospital work force. As far as personnel, I don't think there will be anything scheduled to make cutbacks there," Remsburg said.

A new \$3.25 million health wing is not connected with the

rate increase.

The cost of the hospital addition was outlined at first at \$2.85 million, but that didn't include architect fees and furnishings. The new cost estimate is \$3.25 million.

So far, \$2.85 million has been loaned to the hospital, the remainder of the money has not yet been raised.

The hospital can borrow up to \$3.5 million from the Idaho Health Facilities Authority, to be paid over 20 years, Hanson said.

Times-News writer John Hudny can be reached in Burley at 737-4042.

Native

Continued from C1

Carle was the first woman to serve as clerk of the House, an office that goes back to the first Congress. The position, one of the three top House officers, pays \$137,000.

Carle, reached at her home Monday when The Associated Press first reported the inspector general's conclusions said, "I'm going to a great job at the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, and that's my statement."

Asked about the inspector general's report, she said, "I'm not going to start down this path."

Inspector General John W. Lainhart IV wrote in a draft letter, obtained by the AP, that Carle might have "abused her authority" through the improper use of staff, House vehicles and other House resources and the clerk's official gasoline credit card.

"In addition, the investigative review revealed that the clerk

has been authorizing, since April 4, 1996, the payment of her non-official, personal charges (gas and other services for her personal car) from House funds."

The personal charges totaled \$567.50, documented on 45 charge card receipts, Lainhart found. He added that "it appears possible" that Carle's conduct violated House ethics rules, other House policies "and both criminal and civil federal statutes."

Community comes to aid of family after fire destroys their home

TRUAXVILLE, IDAHO - Treasurer Willey, resident and business owner, writes to help a family who lost their home in a fire that destroyed their home three days before Christmas.

On the night of December 21, firefighters from Madras, Caldwell and Newburg destroyed the mobile home of Nancy Smith when it burst into flames Tuesday morning.

The fire was caused by a gas leak in the fire that caused \$20,000 in damage.

Fighting the fire was "impossible, and it was a shame that the mobile home of Nancy Smith when it burst into flames Tuesday morning.

They were on the fire that caused \$20,000 in damage.

Fighting the fire was "impossible, and it was a shame that the mobile home of Nancy Smith when it burst into flames Tuesday morning.

Fighting the fire was "impossible, and it was a shame that the mobile home of Nancy Smith when it burst into flames Tuesday morning.

Fighting the fire was "impossible, and it was a shame that the mobile home of Nancy Smith when it burst into flames Tuesday morning.

and Wednesday.

The fire was started by a wood stove, she said.

Smith, two sons in their early 20s and a 7-year-old daughter, lost everything in the fire and do not have insurance.

But it was not long before help began arriving for the Smiths, who live in a mobile home for one year and a half. Since that, other arrangements will be made, family friend Bill Varnell said.

A neighbor called 922-2838 in Boise "while the fire was still raging," announced Brenda Mead. The woman put out a call for help and the response was "overwhelming," she said.

Fired chief of juvenile court services sued

TRUAXVILLE, IDAHO - The fired chief of the Truaxville Juvenile Court Services has sued the county, alleging the firing was not justified.

Marjorie B. Buchanan, 41, was fired from her position as chief of the juvenile court services in Truaxville, Idaho, after a three-month investigation. She filed suit in district court.

While she was fired Monday in chief of Truaxville Juvenile Court Services, she said she was wrongfully terminated, and she filed a lawsuit.

She filed a lawsuit in district court, alleging the firing was not justified.

Woman pleads guilty in beating death of gay student in Wyoming

LARAMIE, Wyo. (AP) - A 20-year-old girlfriend of one of two men charged in the brutal murder of University of Wyoming student Matthew Shepard pleaded guilty Wednesday to being an accessory after the fact to first-degree murder.

Chastity Vera Pusley is one of two women accused of helping Aaron McKinney and Russell Henderson dispose of bloody clothing worn by Henderson during the Oct. 7 attack on Shepard, 21, an openly gay freshman who

was beaten and left to die in a wooded area of Laramie.

McKinney and Henderson, both 21, have pleaded manslaughter in Shepard's murder and are charged with the murder of McKinney.

Prosecutors said Ms. Pusley's plea was the result of an agreement for a reduced sentence, though she will be called a witness if the state makes the other defendants go to trial. She will be sentenced to about 10 days.

Ms. Pusley was 21 when she

Rathdrum man gets life in prison

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - A Rathdrum man was sentenced to life in prison for his involvement in last January's shooting death of Yoke, a 4-year-old boy of Yoke, Idaho.

Franklin Johnson, 30, will serve 15 years before becoming eligible for parole, 1st District Judge Craig Kosonen ordered.

"I'd just like to say that I'm sorry," Johnson said during this week's sentencing hearing. "I'm

not trying to make an excuse. I'm just sorry about what happened."

Johnson pleaded guilty to second-degree murder in an agreement with prosecutors. Duane Reucker, the 25-year-old defendant, was sentenced to 15 years in prison for the murder.

Johnson was sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Yoke, a 4-year-old boy of Yoke, Idaho.

MORNING BREAK

THE Daily Crossword Puzzle Edited by Wynne Robert Williams

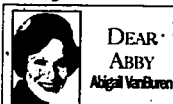
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Widener's Puzzle Solved

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Cold turkey was smoker's best gift



DEAR ABBY: It will be three years this Christmas that I gave myself the best Christmas gift anyone could give me. I quit smoking, cold turkey. It was Christmas Eve and I had two cigarettes left in the pack. When I finished the last one, I looked at the pack and thought to myself how much I disliked everything about cigarettes. When I threw the pack away, I decided, then and there I wouldn't run to the store for more.

I can't explain what happened to me the next day (Christmas), but it was as though I had never smoked a cigarette in my life! I didn't go through any nicotine withdrawals or have the shakes, or even think about wanting a smoke—and I still feel the same way today.

In the past, I had quit for 3 1/2 years, twice for two years, once for 18 months, for a total of nine years. They were horrible times. Any time, it was in the presence of a person who was smoking, I

ward to the rest of my life.
—BEEN THERE, DONE THAT IN NEW YORK

DEAR BEEN THERE: Congratulations on locking your addiction. You're right; it was the best Christmas gift you could have received. My readers confirm that although it's a jolt to the system, "cold turkey" is the most effective way to stop smoking. Perhaps your letter will inspire other smokers to quit meaningful to themselves and their families.

I will have to start eating less for him. It is much older than I am. Abby, I just don't feel the love is being returned. Before we got engaged, he checked on me and lied about it. He claims she was "only a friend," but it happened more than once. He still keeps in contact with her. I now have a hard time trusting him when he goes anywhere.

He says I have to forget about the past and move on to the future. I don't believe people can move on with the future while the past still haunts them. What do you think?

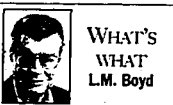
—WANTS TO BE LOVED IN PENNSYLVANIA

DEAR ABBY: I have been engaged almost 14 months. My fiancé never mentions marriage. When I bring it up, he says the relationship isn't great enough to discuss marriage. The only time he wants me is when I tell him I'm going to move on with my life.

He told me that I care far too much for him, and if I want him to love me the way I want him to

DEAR WANTS TO BE LOVED: From what you have described to me, I'm hesitant to call your arrangement an engagement. It seems "casual" as serious about marrying you, he certainly doesn't act like it. Listen to your intuition. It's pointing you in the right direction.

James Dean wore chain mail in knife fight



WHAT'S WHAT L.M. Boyd

Q. How many dogs drowned when the Titanic sank?

A. Can only tell you how many survived—three.

Q. You said bald eagles mate in flight. At what altitude?

A. About 5,000 feet is typical. Only five percent of the youngsters who get into trouble with the law don't repeat after the first or second offense. Mostly, they find their own way out of that crime-saturated world on their own. This leads some criminologists to believe law officers in juvenile cases ought not waste effort on young first offenders. Instead, they think, the police ought to step in forcefully after the third offense. The notion is to make the best use of time and money. Disregard the common coin. It was only treat pneumonia.

The singer Vincent Van Gogh was a Love and War man, too. It was he who said, "A woman not in love is like an unlighted lamp."

Q. In the 1955 classic "Rebel Without a Cause," Jim played by

James Dean and Buzz played by Corey Allen got into a knife fight. What did they actually use for knives?

A. Real switchblades. They wore chain mail under their clothes.

Three liters of kittens a year are about all a fertile female can produce, but that's enough.

For those few who still know little about alligators: No man with his bare hands alone can hold a grown alligator's mouth open but any man even with only one hand can hold a grown alligator's mouth shut.

Q. Aren't free-range hens' eggs more expensive than "chicken factory" eggs because they're more nutritious?

A. Not that. Because their production costs are higher and their volume per farm is lower.

Q. What's the top speed of a fast horse?

A. Maybe 30 mph.

Many a maker of medicinal substances had wine or dark beer in the recipe's liquid to perk up the flavor.

What had you accomplished by age 25? Napoleon had conquered Italy.

Nobody seems to know who vendors in Purland, Ore., sell more ice cream per capita than vendors anywhere else.

Houston octuplets get their names in Nigerian tradition

The world's only living octuplets were given names Wednesday in the tradition of their parents' African culture.

The hospital had been identifying the eight children by letters of the alphabet since seven of them were baptized by Christian workers. The first child was born on Dec. 19 by Dr. Lina and her wife, Shara Chikwura. The couple said they named the children in the tradition of the Igbo (Nigeria) culture, a major ethnic group in their native Nigeria.

"We want to honor God and celebrate his gifts to us in the names we give our eight children," the couple said in a statement. "Lina is the name for all eight."

Texas Children's Hospital, where the babies remained in a special condition room for 48 hours, released their names, translations and general medical info.

Baby A, born almost two weeks before her siblings, is Chikwura Okwura, which means "God is great." She'll be called Eshika.

Baby B, the firstborn in the seven Sunday deliveries, is Chikwura Okwura, which means "God is beautiful." She'll be her nickname, "Chika," as her nickname.

Baby C is Chikwura Okwura, which means "God thinks of me." She'll be her nickname, "Chika," as her nickname will be Eshika.

Baby D is Chikwura Okwura, meaning "God knows my way." Chika will be her nickname.

Baby E, whose birthweight

Capricorn plays leading role with Aquarius

IF DECEMBER 24 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You are musical, a peace-maker, loyal to family. Earnings due to increase. Mother was excellent cook, father was classical pianist. Taurus, Libra, Scorpio persons play fascinating roles in your life, these letters, initials in their names—F, O, X. During past months you got rid of preconceived notions you made room for new, exciting love. In 1999 you make fresh start in unusual direction—July most profitable, memorable month.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Light shed on areas previously kept dark. Emphasize originality, daring, pioneering spirit. Protect right eye from danger. Relationship that fizzled once again sizes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Spotlight on home, security, insurance policies, telephone bills. Over to transformation of budget. Cancer native makes fantastic proposals, relates to buying, selling property.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Confusion, the kind you are expert at handling. Sagittarian expresses confidence, declares, "We should be partners in this game of life." Proposal will be signed, sealed, delivered.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Nothing remains the same—events will prove that aphorism soon. Passionate Scorpio asserts, "You think the police ought to forget it!" Taurus will also be involved.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): You might be asking, "Is this deja vu?" During short trip you encounter old and new friends. Wear bright colors, practice selling technique. Sagittarius says, "Genuine article."

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Attention revolves around comfort of home. Lunar position

HOROSCOPE Sydnee O'arr

highlights removal of financial stress—marriage figures in scenario. Music plays on, dance to your tune.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Obtain meaningful hint from Virgo message. Avoid self-deception, see people, relationships in realistic manner. Clandestine arrangement comes to light, surprising. Pisces represented.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Utilize power in intellectual manner. Verbal threats went out of style along with high-heeled shoes. State case in calm, orthodox manner. Capricorn, Cancer, persons play roles.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Day of day. You'll be with people from foreign lands, keep eye on exchange rates. Emphasis on idealism, romance, possible journey. Aries, Libra personages involved.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Day you've been waiting for is about something about it. Shows courage of convictions, fresh start in new direction. Set pace in fashion, feature shades of red.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Focus on direction, motivation, enjoying fine dinner, prepared by Cancer native. Discussions

lively, highlight romance, business, career. Capricorn plays leading role.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Keep plans flexible, experiment and explore. Hidden wealth could be discovered—don't be discouraged. Focus on business proposition. Surprise transition, make room for love, laughter.

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www.redstage.com

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Avoid waiting in line. Get your tickets today. Advance Tickets Available All Shows Times.

ENDS TODAY!!! HOME FRIDAY (PG-13)
12:20, 2:35, 4:55, 7:05

JONATHAN TAYLOR THOMAS
Disney
I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS
12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10

I STILL KNOW WHAT YOU DID LAST SUMMER (R)
4:30, 7:20

BABE IN THE CITY
12:10, 2:25, 4:45, 7:15

These students are about to debut their test book really are from another planet.

Know the score.
Read the sports pages in The Times-News

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THE BEST MOVIE OF THE YEAR
THE PRINCE OF EGYPT
A Twentieth Century Fox Film
A Twentieth Century Fox Production
A Twentieth Century Fox Film
A Twentieth Century Fox Production
A Twentieth Century Fox Film
A Twentieth Century Fox Production

TWILIGHT
A Twentieth Century Fox Film
A Twentieth Century Fox Production
A Twentieth Century Fox Film
A Twentieth Century Fox Production

Star Trek Insurance
Today 12:15-2:25

Walt Disney's A Bug's Life
Today 12:15-2:25

Prince of Egypt
Today 12:15-2:25

You Got Mail
Today 12:15-2:25

START DECEMBER 25TH
STEP MOM with Julia Roberts

Elizabeth
Peasantsville
Today 11:30-2:00

FACULTY
STAR TREK INSURRECTION
PG
STARTS FRIDAY!!!
AUG9 12:30, 2:50, 5:10
AUG14 12:20, 2:20, 4:40, 7:20
"THE SEASON'S MUST-SEE ADVENTURE!"
MIGHTY JOE YOUNG
PG
STARTS FRIDAY!!!

COMMUNITY

Serving the Magic Valley

Community Editor: Katrina Brambich - 733-9571, Ext. 208

THANK YOU LETTERS

Criminologists say thanks

The Twin Falls County Crime Prevention Association wishes to extend a huge thank you to all those who donated for the fund bookers distributed for Thanksgiving.

Those contributing were, Moore's Warehouse and South Hills Saloon in Hansen, Sunwest Valley Produce in Kimberly and Food Joyner in Twin Falls. Six bookers were distributed to some very needy and appreciative recipients. Each of you helped to make a difference.

SARAH POWERS
Secretary, Crime Prevention Association
Twin Falls

Joyce made seeing lights fun

We would like to give our thanks to the Magic Valley Joyces for the great fun and excitement of Dec. 14 in view of the Christmas lights and decorations of the Twin Falls area. Several cars were used to let Bradview residents see the numerous beautiful lights and different themes of decorations. It was quite a wonderful show of lights.

We are grateful for the time and time spent. Thank you very much for an enjoyable evening. Thanks, too, to Bradview for its cooperation.

MIKE AND ELLWOOD WERRY
Twin Falls

Plant supports boys, girls club

The Boys and Girls Club of Magic Valley would like to thank Plant Electric for its efforts to help support the Boys and Girls Club. This summer, it held a golf tournament in Jackpot, Nev. The proceeds were given to us in the amount of \$2,000.

We cannot thank it enough for its hard work and dedication it has given to the children of this community. The money will go a long way to helping the special programming we provide at the Boys and Girls Club. This programming is aimed at providing children with enrichment and a sense of community in our children. Again, special thanks to the staff, the Plant Electric office and its corporate offices in Portland.
KIMBERLY TRIST SYM
Executive Director
Boys and Girls Club of Magic Valley
Twin Falls

Charger walk raised funds

It is with great pleasure that I announce the Jerome Charger Walk 1998 has raised more than \$2,600. All the programs will be used to purchase needed items for the Jerome Ministerial Association's fund drive.

We would like to thank the churches who participated: El Shaddai, Episcopal, Presbyterian, First Christian, Methodist and Hills for 3rd and 5th wards, as well as Spar 1000 24 and Bear Park 24.

I do not have space enough to name all who participated as "walkers," but I thank you all on behalf of the Jerome Ministerial Association.

Finally, to all who made contributions, individuals and businesses, we thank you very much. You have demonstrated the basic Christian principle, "love your neighbor." Many families will be helped because of your kindness.

JACK BYNUM
President
Jerome Ministerial Association

Festival of Trees was success

The Gooding County Memorial Hospital Foundation Board wishes to thank each and every one for a very successful Festival of Trees. The trees were beautiful and buyers were most generous. It was a wonderful coming together of people and community.

A special thank you to all the committees who worked the long hours and gave of their talents to bring the festival to the community. You are all greatly appreciated.

This year's revenue of \$8,078.74 is dedicated to the hospital's same-day surgery program.

Your generosity enables the hospital to offer more specialized services for your health care.

Thank you again and enjoy a wonderful Christmas season.
LUCY OSBORNE
DUANE CUTRIGHT
HALEN FAULKNER
CLIVE POPE
RUBY JINKINS
FRANCES GUINN
GCMH Foundation Board
Gooding



Directed by music teacher Mary Pappas, Elza Szwiek, a Bellevue Elementary student, sings at the Elaine County Senior Center during the festival of trees. Szwiek, who is part of the Sun Valley Children's Choir, will be heard singing throughout the valley during the holidays.

Thanks to plaza, Welch's Music

The Min-Cassia Junior Music Club wishes to thank the Snake River Plaza for the use of its facilities, Welch's Music for the use of their two pianos and technical support.

Fabrics and Flowers by Loy for their help during the Christmas concert. We appreciate the several music teachers and their students who graciously performed at the mall for two days.

JOY HURST
LOU ANN YOUNG
Barley Music Club
Basley

This 'Letter of Thanks' column will publish letters of up to 150 words from:

- Civic organizations thanking contributors or supporters.
- Individuals thanking public agencies, civic organizations and businesses for extraordinary service.
- If you would like to purchase a classified ad to express gratitude of a personal rather than public nature, call The Times-News Customer Service department at 733-0931, Ext. 209.

SERVICE NEWS

Tugby finishes basic training

Air Force Airman Ronald E. Tugby has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Tex.

Tugby is the son of Ronald E. and nephew of Elizabeth A. Tugby of Mountain Home. He is a 1999 graduate of Mountain Home High School.

Peterson completes basic

U.S. Marine Recruit Josh Peterson recently completed 13 weeks of Marine Corp Basic Training at Marine Corp Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif.

Peterson, son of Deac and Teresa Peterson, is a 1998 graduate of Jerome High School. Marine PFC Peterson will be attending Military Police School in Alameda.

Lowie finishes recruit training

Navy Recruit Robyn D. Lowie recently completed her training at Recruit Training Command in Great Lakes, Ill. Robyn is the daughter of Bob and June Lowie of Twin Falls. Robyn is now attending school in Meridian, Miss.

Crowley graduates from basic

Air Force Airman Eric S. Crowley has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. Crowley is the son of Wendy L. Dunlap of Jerome and Tim P. Crowley of Laramie, Wyo.

He is a 1997 graduate of Twin Falls High School.

Darrell completes military basic

Air Force Airman Linda K. Darrell has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas. She is the daughter of Jack N. and Lorenz M. Darrell of Dahl.

BenHayon joins in project

Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Joseph T. BenHayon, son of J. Thomas BenHayon Sr of King Hill, recently participated in a community relations project at Romania while on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea, while assigned to the USS Stryker.

Crew members from BenHayon's ship donated time to an orphanage in Constanta, Romania. During the visit, sailors assembled toys, refurbished play-

ground equipment and painted a clubhouse.

BenHayon, a 1984 graduate of Kerley Falls High School of Kerley Falls, Wash., joined the Navy in 1985.

Alte serves on destroyer

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Derrick W. Alte recently departed on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the guided missile destroyer USS Stout, home ported in Norfolk, Va.

During the deployment, Alte's ship will defend U.S. policy and support international interest in the Middle East and Europe.

Alte, a 1993 graduate of Jerome Senior High School, joined the Navy in 1993.

Towner finishes basic training

Marine Pvt. Clint B. Towner son of Justina J. Thompson of Richfield, recently completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

Towner is a 1998 graduate of Richfield High School.

Richards graduates from basic

Navy Seaman-Amanda L. Richards, daughter of Janet L. Gregory of Carey, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Richards is a 1998 graduate of Carey High School.

Hansen begins basic training

Airman Pvt. Samuel T. Hansen has entered basic military training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. He is the son of Vicki D. Charon of Needs, N.D. and Leo A. Hansen of Bliss.

Hansen is a 1997 graduate of Leeds High School.

Grimsmann finishes time at sea

Navy Firearm August E. Grimsmann, son of Thomas and Susan Grimsmann of Jerome, recently completed a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean and Arabian Gulf aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln.

Grimsmann is a 1996 graduate of Jerome Senior High School. He joined the Navy in September 1996.

Moran finishes deployment

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Kirstin J. Moran, daughter of John D. and Leslie L. Reynolds of Jerome, recently completed a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific Ocean, Indian Ocean and Arabian Gulf aboard the aircraft carrier USS Abraham Lincoln.

Moran is a 1996 graduate of Brigham City, Utah, joined the Navy in March 1996.

Dunn finishes sub course

Navy Seaman Apprentice Rob F. Dunn, son of Don and Jennifer Dunn of Wendell, recently graduated from the Basic Enlisted Submarine Course at the Naval Submarine School in Groton, Conn.

Dunn, a 1998 graduate of Wendell High School joined the Navy in June 1998.

Boone leaves for carrier

Airman Apprentice Jason D. Boone, a 1995 graduate of Elaine High School of Elko, Nev., joined the Navy on March 1998.

Hodges completes basic

Air Force Airman Jared C. Hodges has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

Hodges is the son of Dennis J. and Susan of Christmas A. Hodges of Twin Falls. He is a 1998 graduate of Twin Falls.

Allen spends 6 months at sea

Navy Seaman Shaun K. Allen, son of Margaret M. Spickard of Elko, Nev., recently departed on a six-month deployment to the Mediterranean Sea and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the guided missile destroyer USS Stout, home ported in Norfolk, Va.

Allen, a 1996 graduate of Central Union High School of El Centro, Calif., joined the Navy in December 1997.

Hansen completes Navy basic

Navy Airman Recruit Wendell L. Hansen daughter of Roger Hansen of Elko, Nev., recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Kaufman serves on destroyer

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Joseph S. Kaufman, son of John and Jean Kaufman of Twin Falls, deployed to the eastern Pacific Ocean aboard the destroyer USS Fife, home ported in Everett, Wash.

Kaufman is a 1994 graduate of Twin Falls High School and joined the Navy in 1995.

Donnan acts on support ship

Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Brett R. Donnan, son of David M. and Julia D. Donnan of Twin Falls, recently departed on a six-month deployment to the Western Pacific and Indian oceans, and Arabian Gulf while assigned to the base combat support ship USS Rainier, home ported in Bremerton, Wash.

Donnan, a 1987 graduate of Willmet High School of Walnut, Calif., joined the Navy in February 1995.

Smith volunteers as recruiter

PVT Jared Smith, son of Rock Smith of Twin Falls and Linda Stoyanoff of Huntington, Utah, recently returned to Twin Falls Recruiting Station as a volunteer for the U.S. Army Recruitment Recruiter-Assistance Program.

PVT Smith graduated from Twin Falls High School. He entered the Army through the Delayed Entry Program and completed One Station Unit Training at Fort Knox, Ky. He enlisted for two years as an Armor Crewman.

He will speak to students at local high school.

Hoplock receives promotion

Navy Airman Apprentice Jason D. Hoplock, son of Jeanette E. Farmer and Dave A. Hoplock of Twin Falls was recently promoted to his present rank and was inducted from recruit training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill.

Hoplock is a 1998 graduate of Twin Falls High School.

A WISH LIST FOR SANTA



Jerome, an assistant of Santa Claus, pays a visit to participants of the annual Jerome Christmas Club Christmas Breakfast. Allison Bruckner and Sean Steadman sit on the lap of Santa as he talks with Sheri Mitchell and Alvaro Marras beg for Santa's attention.

We want your news

We are always looking for news to report. If you have a story, please call us at 733-9571, Ext. 208 or fax it to 733-9571, Ext. 209. We will pay for the use of your photos. We will also pay for the use of your photos. We will also pay for the use of your photos.



Nathan Brambich



Joy Bryant

The Times-News P.O. Box 948 Twin Falls, Idaho 83403 733-9571, Ext. 208 or 733-9571, Ext. 209. You can reach us by fax at 473-4643 or 734-8532. You can also email us at editor@timesnews.com. Details for the Sunday page is noon Wednesday. Details for the Tuesday page is noon Friday. Details for the Thursday page is noon Friday. Details for the Wednesday page is noon Friday.

WEST

Forest panel shows strain of trying to reach consensus

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government wanted scientific advice when it asked 13 scholars to help update rules that dictate how national forests can be used. Then politics broke out among the scientists.

One scientist accused his colleagues of trying to turn forests into a biological reserve. Another, the leader of the group, quit because he could not defend the panel's conclusions.

Now the panel is leaderless and five months behind schedule. Observers wonder what will become of the once-heady effort to update regulations that govern 191 million acres of national forests.

"What we have here are some fundamental differences," said Roger Sedjo, one of the scientists appointed to the panel.

He said the dispute shows academics aren't immune from the familiar and sometimes bitter argument over how much logging to allow in national forests.

The rules, last revised in 1982, dictate everything from where logging can occur to where a ski chalet can be built. They also help determine which lands must be left pristine for the sake of preserving nature.

Sedjo, senior fellow at the Washington, D.C.-based Resources for the Future, said most scientists want rules that are more environmentally restrictive than in current law. The rules, he contends, would allow little or almost no federal logging on federal land.

He wrote in a sharply worded dissent last month saying the scientists' draft report was "fundamentally flawed" and would "move the national forest system toward operating as a biological reserve."

Norman Johnson, an Oregon State University forestry professor who led the team, disagreed a report summary to address Sedjo's concerns. But when other scientists rebuffed him, Johnson quit.

"I do not wish to have my name on the report," Johnson wrote in an e-mail to his colleagues this month.



Idaho Senator Larry Craig Questions scientists' work on forests

He and three of his colleagues could not be reached for comment.

But Forest Service spokesman Chris Wood said the scientists' recommendations would not require a sharp drop in logging. In fact, he said, they are mostly consistent with Forest Service views on how forest land should be governed.

Environmental groups say the scholars have adopted an extreme perspective that environmentalists have been advocating for years.

"If you don't sustain the land ecologically, you can't sustain economic use of the land," said Nathaniel Lawrence, senior attorney of the Natural Resources Defense Council in San Francisco.

Sen. Larry Craig, a Forest Service critic, is also questioning the scientists' work. The Idaho Republican wrote in a letter to the Forest Service this month that the scientists' recommendations are inconsistent with existing law.

Wood said he isn't sure whether new laws will be needed to adopt the recommendations, but he doesn't think so. He said the Forest Service would seek any necessary legislation.

The scientists' defenders also say some dissent was expected.

"You put a group of scientists around a table and you expect them to agree? No you don't," said Michael Frome, director of mammal forest for The Wilderness Society.

But other groups have seized upon the doubting. Laura Chisler, vice president of the Portland, Ore.-based Independent Forest Products Association, said, "It's not surprising that the Forest Service is so disappointed."

She said that the scientists' effort to come up with a "consensus" was "a failure."

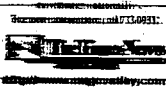
Jim Schaefer, president of the Portland, Ore.-based Northwest Forestry Association, said the scientists' "unusually open" (the panel's report was supposed to be "balanced and unbiased") planning equipment "they are planning on using."

Timber interests say they have reason to be worried. They have estimated that timber harvest will drop more than 1.0 billion board feet in 1998 to a 2 billion board feet in 2000, according to the Forest Service's economic hard-ship-reporting committee.

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Veteran cat instructs a mighty hunter in the making

There's a new hunter in my house. My little Siamese cat, barely four months old, recently got his first taste of snow. Judging by his enthusiasm for the hunt, it won't be long before he's got another mouse in his mouth.

At this point, introductions are in order. The little guy is Maetaeng, pronounced "May-tang." He's named for a river in northern Siam, now known as Thailand.

Thus, I've got a Siamese cat named for a Siamese river. In that respect, he's a lot like my other cat, Murtaugh, who is named for the Murtaugh stretch of the Snake River.

I knew about the Maetaeng River because I once spent a couple of days navigating it on a homemade bamboo raft. During shore leave, I made heroic assaults on a bottle of Maetaeng whiskey—a foul brew deservedly unfit for export. (For more details, see Force of Nature, Dec. 26, 1996.)

To make a long story short, I adopted Maetaeng because he's tough and lonely and needed a companion. "Mate," as he's known at my house, was the perfect choice.

It took them a few weeks to warm to one another, but now my two cats are as thick as thieves.

In fact, they even hunt together.

Earlier this month, I spotted Murt getting very interested in something behind the garbage pail near the refrigerator. Given the intensity of her movements, I knew immediately that it was a mouse.

To make things easier for Murt, I lifted the garbage pail away from the wall. Sure enough, the mouse revealed a beady-eyed mouse.

Mate was a step or two behind Murt, but he leapt into the fray without hesitation. The bigger cat hung back to cut off the rodent's escape and drive it toward Mate.

It was the little guy's first hunt, but he handled himself like an old pro. Mate took a hold of that mouse with his jaws, then scampered into the sunken living room—ahem, the arena—to torment it at his leisure.

He growled, and grunted and moonwalked like a dancing bear, juggling the hapless mouse like a hot potato. He gazed it for minutes on end, then pummeled it with a lightning-fast pair of paws.

I would have put a stop to it sooner, but it was his first mouse and I wanted him to get a good taste. Finally, I pulled it away from him and hurled it out the back door.

Mate capered alongside me with an expectant, "Where'd the fun go?" look on his face. He's got a short attention span, so moments later he was eating out of Murt's dish and sharpening his claws on my stereo speakers.

Looking back on it, Mate's first hunt was a classic.

An experienced older hunter located the game, then turned the chase over to a young companion. The veteran hunter prevented the game animal from getting away and even drove it toward the novice.

For his part, the young hunter knew exactly what to do. He'd been practicing with dummy animals and was prepared to confront the real thing under actual field conditions.

The parallels between his first hunt and mine were uncanny. I, too, was accompanied by an older, more experienced hunter who located the game and graciously allowed me to take the first shot.

Mate is a cat and I'm a human, but there's no mistaking the basic similarity of our introduction to hunting. It is a deeply primal, instinctive activity that transcends languages, cultures and even species.

I probably won't hunt with my cats, but I feel a surge of pride when I see them working and hunting together as a team.

William Brock is Outdoors editor of The Times-News.

When the temperatures drop below freezing, it's time for...

ICE CLIMBING

TWIN FALLS— Seriously cold weather doesn't mean southern folks very often, but when it does, ice climbers aren't far behind.

They head for the Snake River Canyon near Twin Falls. There, where steep and craggy walls wear steep canyon walls, cascades of ice are born.

Summer Idaho has been besieged with mild weather for nearly a week now, so the ice climber size is on their way.

They're years ago, few people referred to themselves as "ice climbers." Those who did relied on primitive equipment and raw courage to ascend delicate columns of frozen water.

Things have changed a lot since then. Modern equipment and refined techniques have set the stage for a new generation of ice climbers.

Ice climbing has even become prime-time entertainment on ESPN's Extreme Games. Though it makes for exciting television, ice climbing in the X Games has little to do with "real" ice climbing.

Far from the Cyran and hot television lights, most ice climbers are a cyborg mix of flesh, blood and lethal steel implements.

The incisors of their boots bristle with tempered steel spikes known as crampons; a pair of pitons juts forward from the toes. In some hand, they hold short, wickedly sharp ice picks that are swung like hammers.

Step by step, ice climbers kick their feet, push into steep ice, then whack their hammer into overhead. Step by step, like Ninjas with knives, they claw their way upward.

With enough determination, even the slipperiest ice can become a solid handhold for a climber.

The strip connection to safety is a climbing rope less than half an inch thick. A partner on the ground belays the climber, who uses carabiners to link the rope to sharply threaded metal tubes which are screwed into the ice.

As a general rule, ice climbing equipment is precision engineered from high-tech materials, such as carbon fiber lay-ups, titanium and steel alloys, that are commonly found in helicopter rotors and fighter engines. Needless to say, ice climbing equipment can be fiendishly expensive.

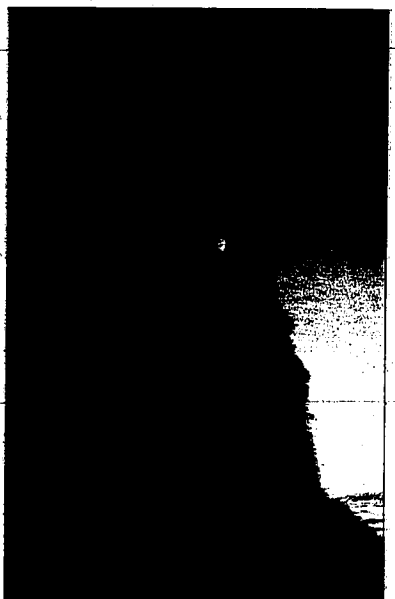
When your life is on the line, expensive equipment means cheap stuff any day.

Though equipment and techniques have improved, ice climbing still remains its reputation as a hazardous pursuit. It doesn't take much imagination to see how a climber—or a belay partner—can get



Brad Skilling, climbing ranger at the City of Rocks National Reserve, leads a typically steep and committing ice climb in the Snake River Canyon near Twin Falls.

Story by
**Mark
Weber**



Poised between heaven and earth, writer-climber/Mark Weber reaches for an ice screw.

gored when someone comes unstick with all these razor sharp pieces of steel on their boots.

Learning how to use equipment properly is only part of learning how to climb ice. Subtler lessons about mountain safety, route finding and knowing one's limits can only be taught by a veteran climber.

Thus, most beginners serve what amounts to an apprenticeship under a more experienced climber.

By nature, ice is transient and fairly unpredictable. It can be safe one day and dangerous the next. Huge columns can come crashing down for no apparent reason, while at other times a single hand tool can support hundreds of pounds of weight.

Knowing when and what to climb is a major requirement for staying alive. That's why novices team up with veterans.

Generally speaking, temperature determines the conditions for ice climbing. As the mercury plummets, ice becomes hard and brittle—and shatters at the slightest provocation. A common occurrence in these conditions is "dinner plating," when slabs of ice as big as pizzas break loose under the assault of hand tools or crampons.

When it's cold, climbers must work delicately to avoid shattering too much ice. Under such conditions, experienced climber carefully aim their hand tools and crampons.

Falling ice always is a danger, but it's especially true on colder days. No matter how cold it gets, there is generally some flowing water on the ice. Sometimes, the only way up is right through a stream of flowing water.

Now picture this: You're high on a fright-

ening climb, far above your last ice screw, gripped out of your mind that you're about to fall. You reach up to sink a hand tool overhead and ice water—literal ice water—runs along the shaft of the tool, down your sleeve and finds its way to your armpit.

Pretty sick way to have fun, eh?

As climbers ascend, it is often necessary to clean the route of rotten ice and frail icicles. This can produce barrage of ice debris that rains down on the belayer, who must dodge debris and protect the rope from being cut.

Needless to say, helmets are mandatory when ice climbing.

The best time for ice climbing is when temperatures hover just above freezing. This makes the ice soft and pliable.

Ice doesn't shatter much at this temperature, but it is easily penetrated by crampons, hand tools and ice screws. The upshot is that the ice becomes "forgiving," which allows climbers to make mistakes that would be punished in colder conditions.

Given the danger, the cold and the misery, most folks must wonder what makes ice climbers tick. Even for climbers, the answer is often hard to define.

It could be the experience of being outdoors in winter, braving the elements in a beautiful crystalline world. It could be the camaraderie of friends and partners, cheering each other to the top of a difficult route.

Or it could be a primal craving to confront danger and fear—and master them both.

For most ice climbers, it is a combination of all these things that draws them into the Snake River Canyon on the shortest, coldest days of the year.

*What makes
an ice climber tick?
It could be the experience of
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Or it could be a primal
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and fear—
and master them both.*

OUTDOORS

Examining the scene of the crime

Wildlife biologist studies predators

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — The typical and perhaps most worrisome response to finding an elk carcass torn apart by a bear or mountain lion is a quick exit. But Bruce Smith likes to spend some time surveying the scene.

His response may not fit into the normal category, but then most people don't go looking for the sites where large predators kill their prey in the first place.

Smith, a biologist at the National Elk Refuge, and two other researchers this year studied elk call mortality in Jackson Hole, trying to learn what causes the deaths of newborn calves.

After 50 elk calves were outfitted with radio-transmitter ear tags, Smith and his associates spent six weeks monitoring the frequency for signals that would indicate if one of the animals had died.

When they picked up a mortality signal, the goal was to get to the scene inside of 48 hours, which greatly increased the trio's ability to determine cause of death. This year, the second of a three-year study, 13 of the 50 elk calves that were fitted with radio transmitters were killed.

In many cases, the cause was the usual array of valley predators — black bears and mountain lions — or in some instances disease and other natural causes such as drowning.

But Smith suspects an increase of grizzly bears in the area are changing the picture. The theory he is trying to prove or disprove in his study.

Smith relies on volunteers at the Wyoming State Veterinary Lab to do most of the evidence collected at the scene. Recently, he received results from the work he did several months ago during the study's second year.

The results are similar to data gathered last year: two cases each year revealed that grizzly bears had killed elk calves in Jackson Hole.

That is significant, according to Smith, because in a similar three-year study from 1990 to 1992 there were no elk calves killed by grizzlies in the same area.

"It's indicative to me that something's changed," Smith said. "Either we have more grizzly bears or we have bears that are more of a predator."

Determining the cause of death of an elk calf requires strict pro-



Above, Bruce Smith is assisted by researchers Billy Heiprin and Kathy McFarland as he uses a radio-tracking receiver to find an elk calf that was killed by a predator near Jackson Hole, Wyo., in November. Smith is conducting a three-year study to see if grizzly bears are making more kills in Jackson Hole. Below, National Elk Refuge biologist Bruce Smith surveys the remains of an elk calf carcass in the spring of 1998 in Grand Teton National Park near Moran, Wyo.

cedure that might be applied compared to the rules governing a crime scene.

First, there's the safety issue. When the researchers hike or ride horses to the scene of a kill, the strength of the radio signal tells them when to begin yelling so they don't surprise a bear or mountain lion dining on the carcass or resting in nearby timber.

The group also stays in touch with Grand Teton National Park's radio dispatcher — just in case.

When they locate the kill site, the researchers assess what the carcass tells them.

In one case in late May, the group found of four intact legs of an elk calf, connected by the hide. Other than a few other scattered bones, along with the radio transmitter, nothing else remained.

But Smith and another researcher investigating the site, Kathy McFarland, found plenty of other information, including a few type of marks that killed the elk calf bedded as well as clumps and single strands of wiry hair on nearby trees. The final

clues were bear prints and scat containing elk bones found in the vicinity.

The type of kill also gives them information. In that case, Smith said the four legs still attached by the hide but otherwise picked clean is classic of the extremely meticulous way a bear kills and eats its prey.

Wolves and coyotes, on the other hand, are quite messy and scatter their prey all around, he said.

McFarland said the fun part of the study is never knowing where you'll be going on a given day or what you'll find.

"It's kind of like detective work," McFarland says of piecing together the evidence and trying to determine what made the kill.

According to Smith, learning about what sort of predators kill elk calves provides a wealth of scientific information for wildlife managers at the park, the Elk Refuge, and the Bridger-Teton National Forest.

For instance, he said some of the goals of the study include finding out whether grizzly bear kills of elk calves are reducing

the survival rate of elk or whether grizzlies are simply killing elk calves that would likely be killed by other predators if grizzlies were absent.

The study may also provide information on the time that grizzlies are attracted to elk calving areas near northern Jackson Hole, and whether that has implications for cattle grazing allotments on public land, Smith said.

"All we're trying to do is provide quantitative information for managers to make informed decisions — so they're based on science and not emotions," Smith said. "It certainly will be valuable to elk managers here to evaluate how this might change the growth rate of the elk herd and how it might change hunting or other recreational opportunities."

Smith said he hopes to repeat the three-year study again in the future once wolves move into the area.

Results of the work are interpreted by Smith, Dr. Fred Lindsey of the University of Wyoming, and Dr. Elizabeth Williams of the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory.



Wildlife managers promote hunts for certified honkers

LEWISTON (AP) — The Lewiston-Clarkston Valley may be Club Med to Canada geese, with some 2,000 birds taking refuge here. But Club Med for the birds does not mean a hunter's paradise.

Some geese rarely leave city limits or areas closed to hunting. When they do it's often to feed on private land.

Some geese are attracted by open water and nearby wetland fields. Low hunting pressure, warm weather and delicious like bread crumb sandwiches and split grains at city game managers.

The birds are blamed for trampling city parks and plundering farmers' fields.

By opening areas normally closed to hunting, some within the city limits, game managers hope to kill two birds with one stone. They will cut the population of geese prior to the spring mating season and give local hunters an opportunity to gun for the big Canada.

"From our standpoint hunting

is the tool of choice to respond," said Jay Crenshaw, regional wildlife manager for Fish and Game.

The department has held deprecation hunts for geese this season, allowing hunters to set up decoys near Mann Lake outside Lewiston Orchards, an area normally closed to hunting. There the population feeding in fields has gone from more than 1,800 birds to about 100.

"It's been very successful as far as helping the land owner and giving sportsmen some opportunity to shoot some geese," Gould said.

About 40 parties have signed up to take part in the hunts. Numbers like that tell Fish and Game Regional Director Cal Green there is local interest in goose hunting.

But doing it can be difficult. Many of the geese frequent areas inside the city limits.

On the Snake River, hunting is essentially closed from the confluence to above Astotin. The Clearwater River is closed to hunting from Lewiston city limits up to the Spalding Bridge. Mann Lake, also closed to hunting, is a favorite resting and roosting spot for the geese.

Development is creeping out into the Jarland in the heights above Lewiston and Clarkston, Wash. Many farmers don't want

hunters in fields seeded with winter wheat.

"It's limited but we're trying to increase the opportunity," said Gould.

Goose hunting opportunities have been on the rise for the past 10 years, Gould said.

"We would like to continue that trend," he said.

On Dec. 14, a handful of hunters chosen from a list of nearly 50 groups were allowed to take part in a one-day controlled goose hunt. Hunting sites included the Lower Goose Pasture on the Clearwater River, Confluence Island, Swallows Park, Hells Gate State Park and Mann Lake.

"We want to do something in a very safe situation," said Green. Up to four hunters along with escorts from either the Washington and Idaho game departments or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hunted from a half-hour before sunrise until noon.

"Hunting is the way we turn this into a positive for us," Crenshaw said. The hunts will likely not significantly impact the population of geese but could serve to disperse them.

The hunting may induce the birds to move to areas that are open to hunting, giving sportsmen even more opportunities.

It's no fish story: Harvard pre-med student a star angler

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — At Harvard, where they know all about "The Old Man and the Sea" and "Moby Dick," some students couldn't tell a rod from a reel.

Not Heaster "Zeke" Mason, a 20-year-old pre-med student and owner of three world records in fishing.

"People don't really know what to make of it up here," said Mason, a junior majoring in history of science. "They don't know how much time it takes. They don't really know what it's all about. Up here, it's kind of questionable."

Sitting in her dorm room, decorated with photographs of some of her prized catches, Mason says her fishing skills were unknown to most of her Ivy League classmates until an article about her in the school newspaper.

It's hard to bring up without sounding arrogant, "the six," said Mason. Her records are usually calloused, blistered and sometimes bloodied from fishing lines this time of year. Now they are surprisingly smooth.

She cannot leave school to go fishing, and that means missing the prestigious six-month Metropolitan South Florida Fishing Tournament in Miami. This spring, however, the well head home to Miami for the Bob Lewis Billfish Challenge and the Miami Billfish Tournament.

Since she began fishing in professional tournaments at age 11, Mason has set four world records. Three still stand, including a 34-pound African pompano on an 8-pound line, an 87-pound greater amberjack on 40-pound line and a 66-pound cobia on 8-pound line.

"We were many who questioned whether the youngster had followed tournament rules and fished without the help of her father or crew. But after she kept reeling in winners and passed polygraph tests — standard practice in tournaments — doubters became believers."

"Once you start proving you're dedicated, you're one of the guys," Mason said.

One of the most memorable catches was the 463-pound hammerhead shark that Mason, at age 15, caught on an 80-pound line.

"We used a slab of fish, cast it out to the shark and then the bait sack down," Mason said. "Then like a scene out of 'Jaws,' I put the reel in gear, hooked the fish, and fought that fish for 2 1/2 hours."

Initially, Mason and her crew feared the shark wouldn't meet the tournament's 300-pound minimum requirement. It ended up setting a world record.

In Miami, and the sportfishing community, Mason is something of a celebrity. Along with her world records, she is the only person to win the MET, the Bob

Lewis Billfish Challenge and the Miami Billfish Tournaments in the same year.

When she enters that room on the Internet to discuss Florida's pro sports teams, people often notice her name and ask if she's Heidi Mason "the sportsfisher."

Her status has enabled her to fish with well-known athletes, including Detroit Lions quarterback Scott Mitchell, a former Miami Dolphins player.

Mason has built a niche for herself in the macho world of sportfishing, popularized by the likes of Ernie Hemingway.

"Ten or 20 years ago, it was an all-male sport," Mason said. "It's been a very drastic, rapid change. A lot of people have done their part and there's definitely been a change that I've been fortunate enough to experience. I'd like to think that I've contributed."

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OUTDOORS

Idahoans make room for grizzlies

Residents become wary as grizzlies move into state

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — Kirk Moore has learned to live with grizzly bears. He had no choice. Each spring the animals, the Blackfeet Indians call Real Bear wander east out of the Rocky Mountains and onto the Great Plains as they have since before Lewis and Clark traveled up the Missouri River.

Some of the grizzlies move along a creek that runs past Moore's Choteau, Mont., ranch, past where his children play.

The children are never alone when they are outside, Moore said. Someone always watches them. There is always a rifle nearby.

There weren't this many bears when Moore started ranching 10 years ago. "We get a very high density of bears in this area," Moore said. "It's kind of taken some of our freedom away."

People in Idaho are worried about the same loss of freedom.

On the last Saturday in October, some 500 miles south of Choteau, La. Churchill joined several hundred other people near Fremont County's Henrys Lake protesting recent road closures in the Targhee National Forest. The roads were closed to help protect grizzly bears. The protesters say the bears are doing fine now.

Churchill and his wife have made the trip from Pocatello to Island Park on a regular basis since the 1970s to ride dirt bikes. He always carries a .38-caliber revolver with him when he goes into the forest. He worries about running into a grizzly.

The Churchills haven't seen a grizzly bear outside Yellowstone National Park and want to keep it that way.

"They would scare the pants off me," he said. "They kill you."

It's been years since there were as many grizzly bears in the Targhee as there were last summer. No one knows if the increase is a fluke, a one-time occurrence or if it will become a trend. That prospect has Churchill thinking about buying a bigger gun.

Forest Service officials would not estimate how many grizzlies spent at least some of last summer in eastern Idaho and extreme western Wyoming.

"We know we don't see them all," said Mark Orme, forest wildlife biologist for the Targhee National Forest. There were 106 different bears seen near the outlet to Henrys Lake. A grizzly was trapped near Parker, west of St. Anthony, there was a confirmed sighting near Killgore, and nine more grizzlies were seen in other parts of the forest, he said.

Wildlife managers have been trying to increase the number of bears in eastern Idaho and Yellowstone since the bears were listed under the Endangered Species Act as a threatened species in 1972.

They divided the region into bear management units. Inside those areas, preserving grizzly habitat is the main objective, which includes closing roads and reducing timber cutting.

Between 2 million and 3 million bears are managed around Yellowstone. But within the three units on Targhee, about 30,000 acres around Henrys' Lake is privately owned.

There already are subdivisions in the area, and parts of Island Park and Mack's Inn are also near or in a bear management unit. There are 595 registered voters in that part of Fremont County, but in the summer the population swells with vacationers. Between 2 million and 3 million people visit Targhee National Forest each year.

There already are grizzlies living outside the bear management areas, Orme said. Byron Egbert lost at least 14 sheep and as many as 40 to bears in Targhee west of Teton National Park.

Sheep aren't allowed on bear management units, but Egbert's flock was right next to one.

"We got way too many bears," Egbert said. He doesn't want all grizzlies shot, but thinks something



In this file photo, Pat VanVleet of Evanston, Wyo., describes to his daughters, Kaleigh, left, and Amanda how he was attacked by a female grizzly while hunting east of Grand Teton National Park in September. The bear was shot and killed by a hunting companion as it was biting and clawing VanVleet.



A 2-year-old grizzly bear reacts in surprise while taking chocolate out of a refrigerator on a porch near Yellowstone National Park Aug. 31. As the population and range of the bears expand, sightings and conflicts are on the rise, experts say.

needs to be done with bears that kill stock.

The Forest Service wants Egbert to graze his sheep somewhere else. It's even offered him land in other places, but he's hesitant to give up his grazing allotment.

"This is some of the best sheep range there is," he said. While the rest of eastern Idaho turns brown during the hot, dry summers, Egbert's sheep grow fat in the green pastures on his allotment.

When or if the grizzly is ever taken off the endangered species list, states will take over many of the management responsibilities. Idaho hasn't started putting together a plan, said John Becham, a wildlife research manager with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game.

If it looks like the bear will be de-listed, the agency will start, he said.

Montana and Wyoming have talked about allowing a limited hunting season if bear populations were more bears in Targhee this year, said David Mattson, a wildlife biologist with the U.S. Geological Survey. Most biologists figure there are between 500 and 600 grizzlies in and around Yellowstone.

Bears are hard to count, but the numbers are more than a simple guess, he said. Scientists look at the number of sightings,

'Bears actually tolerate people a lot more than people tolerate bears.'

— Chuck Schwartz, head of multi-agency group managing grizzly bears

their location and the number of bears with cubs to come up with population and trend estimates.

Last year there were 33 bears with newborn cubs in the Greater Yellowstone Area. In the 1980s that number averaged around 18 sows with cubs of the year. Most biologists think grizzly bear numbers have increased 1 percent to 3 percent since the 1980s.

Bear movements are not completely understood. The reduction in logging and the end of road building has definitely improved bear habitat in Targhee, Mattson said.

"We're seeing a re-occupation of that habitat."

Also, when bears come back into the forest, they aren't killed like they were in the 1960s and 1970s, Mattson said. Records of grizzly deaths compiled by the multi-agency team managing the animals show that between 1959 and 1984, at least 44 and as many as 71 grizzlies were killed by people in Targhee.

Twenty deaths occurred near Squirrel Meadows in Wyoming. But bears also were killed near Bear Pass and Two Top in the Centennial Mountains. Seven were killed just east of U.S. Highway 20, near the Island Park Reservoir and three near Henrys Lake.

"There was an unreasonable level of mortality," Mattson said.

It's not even worth trying to figure out how many grizzlies will eventually live in Targhee or any other area around Yellowstone, said Chuck Schwartz, who heads up the multi-agency group managing the grizzly bears. They move so much and their movements vary from year to year, he said.

There's also no way to predict how often people will encounter grizzlies. Schwartz knows there will be problems. It happens anytime bears and people live near one another. More grizzlies mean trapping and relocating more bears, which will cost more money.

It also will take money to educate people about living in bear country — teach them not to leave things like trash, dog food and birdseed that attract bears outside.

If bears don't find food around people they will just pass through. If grizzlies start associating people with food, they will keep coming back and will become problem bears. Problem bears usually end up dead, killed before they hurt a person, he said.

"Bears actually tolerate people a lot more than people tolerate bears," Schwartz said.

Even as grizzly numbers increase, most people will probably never see one. Still, he understands that perception is a powerful force. It can make a man carry a gun into the woods when he rides a motorcycle.

People think bears are dangerous, and they can be, Schwartz said. But realistically, crossing the street is more dangerous, he said.

Grizzlies usually maul two to four people a year in the continental United States. Since the turn of the century grizzlies have killed 19 people in the lower 48 states.

Grizzly bears have disappeared from 98 percent of their historic range in the continental United States, Schwartz said. What wildlife managers are trying to do is let the bears live in one small section of what was once grizzly country.

The bears are worth saving, he said.

It's not that Schwartz doesn't care about the people who must live with the grizzly. He does. Schwartz met with Moore and his neighbors this year.

"I felt for them. A few dead calves are a big deal for Moore. It means the difference between making and not making a living."

"It puts hardship on you because the margin of making it work is almost nil."

There is no real solution for Moore, Schwartz admits. It's not that Moore wants all the grizzlies dead, but having the bears on his ranch is a liability.

"If I didn't enjoy animals," he said, "I wouldn't be in the ranching business."

Biologists have goal to restore antelope

ANTELOPE ISLAND, Utah (AP) — Eight pronghorns rocketed out of a motor trailer Dec. 15 in an effort to put the antelope back in Antelope Island.

Crew members of Antelope Island State Park and state biologists watched as the island's newest residents bunched together, slowed to a gallop then hoofed it over a ridge, hoping the new additions would see a brighter future than their now-extinct predecessors.

The recruits were trapped and trucked from the prolific Fish Lake herd along with four more released earlier Monday; their release boosts the number of antelope on this Davis County island to at least 62.

The number could jump to 74 since all 12 antelope are believed to be pregnant. Biologists say that is good news.

A population of hoofed animals needs to reach about 150 to be healthy genetically, especially on an island," said Antelope State Park Manager Tim Smith.

It wasn't always this way. In 1845, when frontiersmen Kit Carson and John C. Fremont set up a base camp here to chart Great Salt Lake, pronghorn herds roamed the 42-square-mile island. Carson promptly shot two antelope for food and Fremont named the island after them.

From then on, even a notoriously gamy flavor couldn't save the antelope. The plains predators were seen as meals-on-wheels-to-pioneers. In classic-19th-century style, pioneers came and admired the beautiful animals, thanked heaven for their abundance, then killed and ate them.

Sheep finished them off, forcing the antelope out when the island became a privatized sheep ranch from 1922 to 1935. The last pronghorn starved to death in 1933 because of the overgrazing.

"Speed mutton," as ranchers still refer to the pronghorns, seemed gone from Antelope Island for good.

Then, in 1993, the state reintroduced the animals. Smith said the goal of the reintroduction is twofold: "Provide a chance for the public to observe animals in their natural surroundings, and to make sure the animals thrive."

That means making sure the antelope coexist with other animals on the island. Sections of the island are closed during the winter range time of male deer and during the lambing time of highborn sheep. The pronghorn antelope and the 500 wildfowl on the island are more cooperative.

"We're real excited. It's a special animal for us, the island's namesake," said Smith. The pronghorns are the fastest land animals in the Western Hemisphere, able to run 60 mph.

Antelope also can sustain their speed for tremendous distances because of a gigantic set of heart and lungs that can dissolve more oxygen than most animals.

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COMICS

Peanuts By Charles M. Schulz

SNOOPY WHO AM I KIDDING?

LUCY IS RIGHT. SANTA CLAUS IS NEVER GOING TO BRING A DOG TO SOMEONE WHOSE MOM DOESN'T WANT HIM TO HAVE A DOG.

IF I'M LUCKY, I'LL GET A PAIR OF SOCKS AND AN ORANGE.

IF I GET A RUBBER BONE I'LL SHARE IT.

Dibbert By Scott Adams

I'LL HAVE THE JUMBO SPAGHETTI MEAL WITH A LOAF OF GARLIC BREAD.

I'LL ABSORB MOISTURE FROM THE AIR AND SNIFF THE MINTS ON THE WAY OUT.

IS IT FUN TO BE A SUPER-MODEL?

IT WAS UNTIL NOW.

B.C. By Brian Crane

WHAT'RE YOU SETTING FOR CHRISTMAS?

I HEARD MY FATHER SAY HE GOING TO GIVE ME A THESAURUS.

BY DO YOU KNOW HOW TO USE A THESAURUS?

NOW, ARE YOU SET FOR CHRISTMAS?

Garfield By Jim Davis

DID YOU LEAVE MILK AND COOKIES OUT FOR SANTA?

GET THEM, JON.

A BIG FAT GUY WHO'S DRIVING ALL NIGHT DOESN'T WANT MILK AND COOKIES.

Y-BORE STEAK AND A LOT OF COFFEE?

Hi and Lois By Charles Brown

IT'S COLD ENOUGH TO SNOW, BUT THERE'S NO SNOW IN THE FORECAST!

YOU MEAN YOU'RE NOT GOING TO HAVE A WHITE CHRISTMAS?

I'M MAKING MY OWN SNOW.

The Wizard of Id By Brian Barber & Jerry Scott

JUST OUT OF CURIOSITY WHO ARE THE WISDMEN FROM THE EAST?

IN YOUR CASE... JAY'S BOY WHO'S EAST OF YOU DURING A BAY EARTH MOVEMENT.

Hughes the Wombat By Clyde Sanger

IT'S CHRISTMAS EVE AND OTHER WIMBLES OF SHOPPING HELGA HAS FINALLY WRAPPED ALL HER GIFTS!

NOW THERE'S ONLY ONE THING LEFT TO DO.

I HAVE TO GO OUT AND DO MY CHRISTMAS SHOPPING.

Bonnie Bailey By Mark Asher

...THAT AND MORE WHEN WE COME BACK!

NEWS SHOWS ARE GETTING TERRIBLE!

THEY SPEND SO MUCH TIME TELLING US WHAT THEY'RE GOING TO TELL US THAT WHEN THEY DO TELL US, IT SEEMS LIKE THEY ALREADY TOLD US.

HUH?

I'M NOT TELLING YOU AGAIN.

Frank and Ernest By Bob Thaves

THE LIGHT FROM YOUR NOSE WILL BE PLENTY. RUDOLPH THE REINDEER'S NOISES AREN'T NECESSARY.

The Born Loner By Art Simpson & Chris Madden

AH CHOO!

SEE? I TOLD YOU GLADDYS!

BUT HE NEVER TENDS OF BEING A LONER TO AN AMERICAN CHRISTMAS TREE.

For Better or For Worse By Lynn Johnston

I DON'T BELIEVE MOMENTS NOT GOING TO SPIN WITH US THIS YEAR!

STAYING AT DINNER IS NO BIG DEAL. WE'VE HAD IT BEFORE. BUT THE BEST PART IS BEING WITH YOU AND HEARING YOUR VOICE AND HEARING YOU PLACE MANNING.

YOU KNOW WHAT? I'LL BE THE GIFT.

WELL, BE AROUND TOMORROW TO MEET ME.

WELL, BE AROUND TOMORROW TO MEET ME.

WELL, BE AROUND TOMORROW TO MEET ME.

Beavis By Brian Young & Stan Drake

IT'S A PRESENT TO YOU FROM YOUR CARDIO.

WONDER IF SHE'D BE THE ONE TO GET ME A PRESENT.

I THINK THEY'RE TRYING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING.

Pickles By Brian Crane

HOW DID IT GO AT SANTA'S VILLAGE TODAY?

DON'T ASK. ALL I WANT RIGHT NOW IS A HOT BEER.

DOES THE TREE RUN?

I JUST WANT TO GET IN UNDER WINTER SO I CAN SOAK ALL THESE CANDY CANES, LOLLOPPOPS AND LIFE SAVERS OUT OF MY BEARD.

Domestic Violence By Gary Neuman

YOU DO IT WEDNESDAY. IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE KING BY THE CUMPTY WITH CAR.

The Reading Class By Eli Kreutz

There are three wise men, came to Jesse sat while Mary and Joseph went caroling.

fringe By Frank Cho

HEY BOY GIMME A HAND HERE!

I AM I AM THE EGG MAN! WALRUS!

Zits By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott

WELL, BE AROUND TOMORROW TO MEET ME.

WELL, BE AROUND TOMORROW TO MEET ME.

WELL, BE AROUND TOMORROW TO MEET ME.

Loose By Greg Evans

I SURE CAN TALK TO YOU ON THE PHONE!

THEY SAY THE BEST GIFT IS A GOOD ONE. BUT I'M NOT SURE YOU CAN GET A GOOD ONE.

Strange Brew By John Deering

I SEE YOU WERE A TELEMARKETER. OBVIOUSLY YOU APPROVED ME OF MISTAKE.

SANTA JUST FINISHED TENDER ONE.

Looking for crossword, horoscopes and L.M. Boyd's "Morning Brew" is on page C-4

BRIEFLY IN THE WEST

Officials ban fireplace use to help clean air

POCATELLO — State officials ordered local residents to temporarily stop using their fireplaces and older wood stoves on Wednesday when stagnant air exceeded federal pollution standards.

It was the first such order from the Idaho Division of Environmental Quality since city air quality ordinances were enacted in 1994.

Violators—in Pocatello—and Chubbuck faced up to \$300 fines if cited.

The move was aimed at minimizing the buildup of small particle air pollution and was expected to remain in effect until winds clear the area, air analyst Tom Edwards said.

Air-quality regulations may halt expansion

BOISE — Road expansion projects like the \$1.2-billion Park Center Bridge across the Boise River could be delayed indefinitely if federal regulators deny a state request to lift air-quality restrictions in Ada County.

Already, opposition to Idaho's request has delayed the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency decision until Jan. 15. And with environmental groups considering legal action, federal approval of the state's request is uncertain.

That leaves three western Ada County road widening projects in limbo—If we stop building roads, our economic prosperity stops with it," said Clair Bowman, Ada Planning Association executive director.

Inmate climbs through false roof to escape

POCATELLO — A prisoner awaiting transport to the state penitentiary near Boise escaped from the Bingham County Jail by climbing through a false ceiling.

Michael Parrish, 23, apparently escaped a light fixture in the commons area of the jail and climbed up through the ceiling before being caught through the front doors of the courthouse Tuesday night, officials said.

Parrish was being sent to the penitentiary for nonviolent crimes. He is not considered dangerous.

Judge reconsiders manslaughter sentence

COEUR D'ALENE — A judge has decided to reconsider a Post Falls woman's 10-year prison sentence for vehicular manslaughter in a move that may lead to her being released on probation.

Court documents signed by 1st District Judge Craig Kosonen moved Coeur d'Alene Circuit Court to retain jurisdiction program, which will enable the judge to evaluate the woman's progress in prison. Bickley, 35, pleaded guilty to vehicular manslaughter for the death of Nick Scherling, the 13-year-old Post Falls Middle School student was walking his bicycle home from school in November 1997 when the pickup truck Bickley was driving hit him from behind.

Compiled from wire reports

Court stays Idaho killer's execution

The Associated Press

BOISE — The U.S. Supreme Court has blocked condemned murderer James Edward Wood's scheduled Dec. 30 execution for the 1993 murder of 11-year-old Pocatello newspaper carrier Jeralee Underwood.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor signed the stay of execution on Wednesday, clearing the way for Wood to ask the

Supreme Court to review his conviction and death sentence. Sixth District Judge Peter McDermott signed a death warrant on Dec. 4 for Wood in the wake of an Oct. 9 Idaho Supreme Court decision upholding his death sentence for the kidnapping, molestation, murder, sexual mutilation and ultimate dismemberment of Jeralee. That exhausted his state appeals, but

Wood still has approximately seven of federal appeals ahead of him. Wood, 31, was sentenced to death in January 1994 in the District Judge J. Lynn Wynn trial. "It was a reasonable and proper" speed was unconstitutional. The 4-3 ruling said the law did not allow a "substantial" amount of time when they are driving fast enough to get a ticket.

He returned days later to sexually mutilate the boy and then dismember a, throwing it into the Snake River. In remembering him, Wynn called Wood "a cold-blooded, pitiless slayer." He "knew" the boy was a victim of crime that covered at least six states and involved at least one and possibly three other members on Louisiana, an attempted murder and as many as seven rapes.

Freeze threatens citrus crop

The Associated Press

SANTA PAULA, Calif. — It would be several hours before dawn would break over his ranch, but Bob Pinkerton walked busily and his lemon trees.

He couldn't sleep any night. Wednesday was day three of a hard freeze threatening to destroy California's citrus crop, and the war was on to save his Ventura County groves.

"You can't just trust everything, roll over and pull the covers up a little more," Pinkerton said amid the rattle of wind machines. "You better be on the job. It's your business."

Even sunrise brought no quick relief. It depends on how long the Santa Clara River. Temperatures that had fallen into the upper 20s dipped a little further.

A reddish-brown haze clung to the horizon like hazy, smoky smoke—evidence of heaters running full blast in other orchards in the Southern California coastal valley.

A great deal was at stake for farmer like Pinkerton. California produces 80 percent of the nation's lemon supply—a crop worth \$266 million in 1997. Ventura County alone accounts for 65 percent of the state's lemons.

Pinkerton ran his wind machines—propellers on posts—and sprinklers all night long. Puffs of water were being blown from the bottom branches of the lemon trees, creating an unwelcome winter wonderland out of the acres of subtropical fruit.

"But it's really rare for the temperatures to be such that the fountains are turned off," Munch said.



Lemon grove owner Bob Pinkerton calls a break Wednesday for frost-free citrus crops of lemon trees in Paula, Calif. Pinkerton has been keeping a close watch on his trees since a crop-threatening cold snap hit the state.

he walked, crunching ice under his feet. "It depends on how long the freeze lasts. To really see heavy damage in a tree it takes several weeks."

Several hundred miles north in the San Joaquin Valley it was a gloomier picture. "In this region, the lemons are pretty much devastated. I think that's a very fair and accurate statement. However, we don't

think there was actual tree damage," said Shirley Bartlett, California Citrus Mutual director of industry relations.

Bleary-eyed and weary, orange grower Terry Baker finally got to class on catch to map a minimum. He was up all night, making sure the sprinklers were working properly on his 220 acres of orange and lemon groves in eastern Tulare County.

Weather puts Vegas fountains on ice

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Cold weather claimed one of the attractions on the Strip, shutting down the famous fountains at Caesars Palace.

The fountains that grace the front of the resort were turned off Tuesday night when temperatures dipped into the 20s, forming ice on water jets. They came back on Wednesday when sunshine nudged temperatures into the 30s.

Caesars spokeswoman Debbie Munch said the fountains would be turned off again Wednesday night or early Thursday if the water jets begin to freeze again. Overnight lows were expected to drop to 24 degrees.

"They're our signature look and we hate to turn them off," Munch said. That added that no structural damage is expected. This is not the first time cold weather has put a freeze on the Las Vegas fountains.

But it's really rare for the temperatures to be such that the fountains are turned off," Munch said. Ice formed over the fountains' water jets, forcing the water to spray in different directions. Munch said, prompting the decision to shut the fountains down Tuesday night.

Jackie Roderick, a spokeswoman for Mirage Resorts Inc., said the cold weather had not affected water displays at the company's three Strip resorts—the Mirage, Bellagio and Treasure Island.

"Everything is functioning fine," she said Wednesday.

Wednesday's overnight low was 26 degrees, according to Barry Pierce of the National Weather Service. The record low for the date was 11 degrees on Dec. 23, 1990.

The all-time low for Las Vegas is 8 degrees, recorded on Jan. 12, 1963, and Jan. 25, 1937.

Vince Alberta, a spokesman for the Las Vegas Valley Water District, said the agency received 165 calls Tuesday on frozen water pipes, compared to 10 or 12 calls on an average winter day. Alberta said the number of calls was down significantly on Wednesday.

Roger Buehrer, a spokesman for Southwest Gas Corp., said service was cut to two isolated areas because of weather problems Tuesday, affecting less than 50 customers.

Court tosses state's speed limit law

The Associated Press

MONTANA — Montana lost the last vestige of a daytime highway speed limit Wednesday when the U.S. Supreme Court declared the state requirement to drive at a "reasonable and proper" speed was unconstitutional.

The 4-3 ruling said the law did not allow a "substantial" amount of time when they are driving fast enough to get a ticket.

The decision comes on the eve of the 70th birthday of Montana's first automobile, one of the weeks before the 1959 legislative session, which is expected to consider a new speed law.

Attorney General Jesse Mizorek said the new law would require drivers to quickly get a 75 mph limit on the interstate highways, day and night.

The current nighttime speed limit is 65 mph on interstates and 55 mph on two-lane roads, and those are not affected by the court's ruling.

Gov. Craig Reece, chief of the Highway Dept., said he was worried some motorists will

take advantage of the gap in the law by pushing their speeds higher. "There will be some that think there is an absence of control," he said.

Officers will have to rely on other laws, covering reckless and careless driving laws, to punish the worst speeders. However, conviction under those laws requires evidence of a disregard for the safety of people or property.

Called the "basic rule," the law thrown out by the court has been on the books for more than 40 years. It was supplanted by the federal speed limit during the 1970s in the interest of energy conservation, but became Montana's only general speed law again after Congress repealed the federal limit in December 1995. Montana is one of the few states without a general daytime speed limit for cars and light trucks.

The law required motorists drive no faster than is reasonable and proper for conditions, such as traffic, weather, road surface, vehicle weight, condition of brakes and tires, and grade and width of a highway and so on.

Analysts predict stable exports to Canada

The Associated Press

BOISE — Some trade officials predict Idaho's exports to Canada will remain steady in 1999, despite the subsidies granted by the Canadian government that helped prompt Gov. Phil Batt to appoint a Commodity Trade Task Force.

"Idaho exports to Canada reached an all-time high last year," said Vicki Thomas, international trade administrator for the Idaho Department of Commerce.

"So far, our 1999 year-to-date figures show that trend will continue."

Thomas said Idaho exports to Canada were at \$23.2 million in 1997, an 84 percent increase since the implementation of the Canada-United States Free Trade Agreement in 1984.

Nine-month figures for 1998 show Idaho exports to Canada were at \$23.2 million, up 65 percent from the first nine months of 1997.

Thomas said a breakdown in the trade agreement would affect Idaho's agricultural exports

to Canada were offsetting a 25 percent decline in shipments of high-technology and machinery products.

"It's hard for Idaho farmers to compete with subsidies that the U.S. has granted to other countries," she said.

Yet, nine-month figures for 1998 show that agricultural exports increased 20 percent and processed food up 44 percent. It's amazing," she said.

Canadian subsidies are not subject to NAFTA restrictions, but Thomas said they are a legitimate concern for Idaho exporters and are being reviewed by the Commodity Trade Task Force led by Lt. Gov. Bunch Olsen.

Last month ordered the state of agriculture experts to review trade agreements between the United States and Canada for ways to help protect Idaho's agricultural exports. His findings will advise Idaho's congressional delegation and Gov.-elect Dirk Kempthorne's administration.

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Twain Falls, Idaho 83301... Office of Plans, Specifications, Contracted, 2068 Addison Ave., East, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301... COPIES may be obtained at the office of the ARCHITECT located at 2068 ADDISON AVE. EAST, TWIN FALLS, IDAHO 83301...

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS... JACKIE R. RODERICK, a spokeswoman for Mirage Resorts Inc., said the cold weather had not affected water displays at the company's three Strip resorts—the Mirage, Bellagio and Treasure Island.

TO PAMELA J. WALLACE... YOU are hereby notified that in order to defend this lawsuit, you should so promptly so that your written response, if any, may be filed in time and other legal rights protected.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS... NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, as the attorney for the plaintiff, has filed a complaint against the defendant...

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff
Berro's Law - You can observe a lot just by watching...
I can understand why he took the trump finesse, "whispered one kibitzer to another."

WEST EAST
Q 4 3 2 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
K J 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1
A 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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A K 10 8
North South
1 1 INT
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