



The Times

Twin Falls, Idaho/94th year, No. 117

Tuesday, April 27, 1999

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy with a slight chance of afternoon showers. West winds 10-20 mph. High, 57. Mostly cloudy and cool tonight. Low, 39.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Busy: A new and still unidentified retailer could boost traffic in Jerome.

Page B1

More details: Blaine County officials release more information about an assault arrest involving a teen-ager.

Page B1

SPORTS

Rocky real estate: Two of Denver's professional sports teams were sold to the heirless to the Wal-Mart fortune.

Page D1



O, NO: A once star-studded cast holds the major league's worst record early in the season.

Page D1



Mary decked: Mary Slaney was stripped of a medal Monday in her latest battle with track's governing body.

Page D1

OPINION

Bye-Bye Jimmie: Jimmie Vurel Thomas is an evil man who has forfeited his right to walk free in society, today's editorial says.

Page A9

NATION

Court will decide: Supreme Court justices will determine whether the FDA can regulate tobacco.

Page A3

IDAHOO

Cash flows: Idaho tax revenue numbers look good.

Page B4

SECTION BY SECTION

- Section A Movies ... 4
- Weather ... 2 Idaho/Section 4
- Nation ... 34
- Morning break ... 6
- Dear Abby ... 6
- Computers ... 7
- Opinion ... 8.9
- World ... 10
- Section B Sports ... 1.3
- Section D Comics ... 4
- Obituaries ... 2

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Obituaries ... 2

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Ready, set, ship!

Media circus gathers for nuke waste departure

By N.S. Nekkentved Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — All the major news media in southern Idaho plan to gather at sunrise today, to watch a long-promised initial shipment of radioactive waste leave the state.

They will watch a semi-truck loaded with plutonium-contaminated waste — the first of many such shipments —

leave the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory for a New Mexico waste disposal site.

Federal officials Monday decided to move up the departure time for the shipment — which is still more than 10 years overdue.

The departure time had been set for 10 a.m. today, but it was moved up to 6:45 a.m. — just moments after sunrise and

just in time for a live feed on early morning television news reports.

Energy Department officials say the departure time was changed so the truck would miss rush-hour traffic in Denver and would arrive during normal working hours Wednesday at the Waste Isolation Pilot Plant near Carlsbad, N.M.

"And, we just want to get it on the road," INEEL spokesman Brad Bugger said.

Live satellite rigs from major television network affiliates were arriving at the INEEL Monday evening. Most major daily newspapers in southern Idaho were sending reporters.

No formal ceremonies are planned, but Gov. Dirk Kempthorne and former Gov. Cecil Andrus have said they planned to be there.

"The process of moving

Please see WIPP, Page A2



A member of the U.S. Army 82nd Airborne Division takes a defensive position along a roadside Monday as an Albanian man walks his dog in the hills near the Tirana Airbase.

Red Cross sees captive soldiers

Chance of release is considered slim

The Associated Press

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — Nearly a month after Yugoslav forces captured three U.S. soldiers along a disputed border, the Red Cross was allowed to see the men Monday, but chances of their release anytime soon were considered slim.

Western officials cited critical comments by a Yugoslav leader, meanwhile, as evidence of the first crack in President Clinton's

Stress sets in — CS

regime since the NATO air campaign in Kosovo began March 24. And the European Union threatened economic sanctions and halted fuel shipments to Yugoslavia but the Red Cross issue of enforcing it with an Adriatic naval blockade to be worked out by NATO.

International Committee of the Red Cross chief Cornelio Sommaruga gave no information about the captured soldiers' condition but said a Red Cross doctor and a delegate would pay another visit to them Tuesday. After meeting Milosevic, though, he expressed pessimism that they would be freed before the war ends.

"International humanitarian law says prisoners of war would be liberated at the end of active hostilities. Regrettably, we are not at this point at the moment," Sommaruga said.

The U.S. soldiers were shown on Serb TV after their March 31 capture near the Macedonia border with Bosnia. The Red Cross had repeatedly been denied access to the soldiers, who are believed to be held in or near Belgrade.

"I was able to talk to them only a few minutes," Sommaruga said. "We looked into each other's eyes, and shook hands, very warmly."

Sommaruga said "it was not possible to have a full-fledged ICRC visit in accord with the provisions of the Geneva Convention" but that he had given the men letters from their families and paid-to-write-back.

Sommaruga also said the ICRC

Please see A05D10, Page 13

CARDS TO COLORADO



Wood River High School senior Kristin Jensen sends her condolences to the students and families of Columbine High School Monday. Since the Colorado shootings, the Halley students have been busy making ribbons and posters with words and poems that come straight from their hearts' said Janet Dennis, a teacher who sent the students' messages off in a big package Monday.

Students send sympathy to Columbine

By Jennifer Sandmann Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — More area students have expressed their anguish over the killings at a Colorado high school by showing support for the victims.

Teen-agers at Wood River High School on Monday sent posters with messages of sympathy and comfort to Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo.

The posters will be delivered to Linda Seal, a Littleton middle school teacher who taught at the Halley high school four years ago, Wood River teacher Janet Dennis said

in a telephone interview from Halley on Monday.

"I think it was just a way for our class to say, let's do something constructive about this instead of sitting around and being paranoid," said Kristin Jensen, a senior in Dennis' psychology class that sponsored the posters.

At much time at school last week was devoted to discussion about Columbine, Jensen said. The student body bonded.

"I guess you can kind of say that it brought us together," James Herrera, 15, a junior, said. "Cliques — or 'crews' as they call them, at Wood River High — still exist, but now Herrera said he will see them

from a discerning point of view to consider what they are about and how they treat other people.

Twelve students and one teacher were killed a week ago today at Columbine. Two suspects in the attack took their own lives. Profiles of aggressors in school shootings around the country have shown angry and alienated youths.

"Us as, like, teenagers need to be more aware of what's going on around us so that we can prevent stuff like that from happening," Herrera said.

Students at Wood River have tied blue ribbons — Columbine's school color — to their cars, backpacks, clothes and around the school, said Karlie Sadorus, a junior.

"Last week everyone was talking about it," she said. "Now, pretty much, things are back to normal."

Please see CARDS, Page A2

Gunmen had bigger plans

The Associated Press

LITTLETON, Colo. — The two students who carried out the attack — at Columbine — High School — of an even bigger blood-bath, plotting to kill hundreds of neighbors, then hijack a plane and crash it into New York City, investigators said Monday.

Authorities also questioned an 18-year-old girlfriend of Dylan Klebold about whether she bought two of the guns used in the rampage.

A diary kept by gunman Eric Harris described, his and Klebold's plans for continuing their murderous rampage through the school's neighborhood, sheriff's spokesman Steve Davis said.

"They wanted to kill 500 people, hijack a plane and take it to

Please see SCHOOL, Page A2

Fat-blocker pill heads to pharmacies

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The government approved a long-awaited pill Monday that sounds like a diet aid, indeed, popping the pill before a big greasy cheeseburger and fries is almost certain to cause unpleasant side effects as the leftover fat exits the body.

Xenical is supposed to be only for obese people on strict diets. Instead, popping the pill before a big greasy cheeseburger and fries is almost certain to cause unpleasant side effects as the leftover fat exits the body.

But Xenical is the first-ever diet drug that works in the gut instead of targeting the brain to suppress appetite. "We don't want it used just casually by itself without any diet, or just for cosmetic weight loss," Xenical, known chemically as orlistat, blocks intestinal enzymes. So instead of being stored on people's hips, 30 percent of the fat they eat passes straight to the colon for excretion.

Xenical is the first-ever diet drug that works in the gut instead of targeting the brain to suppress appetite.

seeking a magic elixir for weight loss. "This drug is not a magic bullet," stressed Dr. Steven Heymsfield of St. Luke's-Roosevelt Hospital in New York, who helped research Xenical. "We don't want it used just casually by itself without any diet, or just for cosmetic weight loss."

In studies, adding Xenical to a

diet let people lose about 7 1/2 pounds more in a year than diet alone, the Food and Drug Administration said Monday.

Because of the way it works, Xenical can cause intestinal cramping, oily spotting, gas, fecal urgency and oily or loose stools. Some 27 percent of Xenical users had at least one episode, although the side effects tend to wane the longer people take the drug.

The more fat eaten, the more side effects — thus, the FDA recommended that Xenical users get no more than 30 percent of their daily calories from fat, something they can calculate by reading food labels.

Xenical also decreases absorption of the important fat-soluble vitamins A, D, E and K, so users should take supplements two hours before or after swallowing Xenical.

Fat blocker

The Food and Drug Administration approved the first medication that blocks the absorption of almost a third of the fat in a look at fat absorber and effects of orlistat, the chemical name of the drug.

NORMAL FAT ABSORPTION

Enzyme lipase binds to surface of lipids, breaks it down, and breaks it down.

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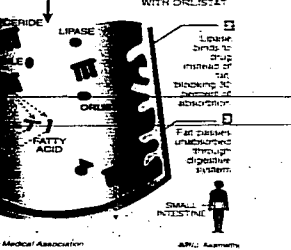
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Source: The Journal of the American Medical Association

THE REGION

MAGIC VALLEY FIVE-DAY FORECAST

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER

Cortez Plateau

High: 61 **Low:** 33
 Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Breezy. High clouds clearing in afternoon. Wind: SW 10-20 mph. Chance of rain: 40 percent.

Treasure Valley

High: 59 **Low:** 32
 Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. High clouds clearing in afternoon. Wind: SW 10-20 mph. Chance of rain: 40 percent.

Sawtooth Mountains/Wood River Valley

High: 59 **Low:** 32
 Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. High clouds clearing in afternoon. Wind: SW 10-20 mph. Chance of rain: 40 percent.

Eastern Idaho

High: 61 **Low:** 33
 Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. High clouds clearing in afternoon. Wind: SW 10-20 mph. Chance of rain: 40 percent.

Northern Idaho

High: 61 **Low:** 33
 Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. High clouds clearing in afternoon. Wind: SW 10-20 mph. Chance of rain: 40 percent.

Northern Utah

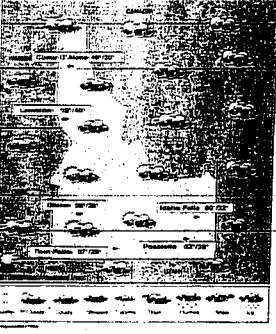
High: 61 **Low:** 33
 Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. High clouds clearing in afternoon. Wind: SW 10-20 mph. Chance of rain: 40 percent.

Northern Nevada

High: 61 **Low:** 33
 Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. High clouds clearing in afternoon. Wind: SW 10-20 mph. Chance of rain: 40 percent.

Today	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
High: 58 Low: 32 Mostly cloudy with a slight chance of a shower. Breezy.	High: 58 Low: 32 Mostly cloudy and cool with a chance of showers. Breezy.	High: 58 Low: 30 Breezy and cool with a chance of showers.	High: 58 Low: 30 Breezy and cool with a chance of showers.	High: 60 Low: 40-45 Sunny and warmer.

Idaho weather



National weather



ROAD INFORMATION

ROADS TO WATCH
 I-84: Expect heavy traffic on I-84 between Boise and Idaho Falls. Expect heavy traffic on I-84 between Boise and Pocatello.

ACROSS THE NATION

Idaho: An upper-level system located along the Canadian coast dominated conditions over Idaho. Rain and surface reports indicated only steady skies across the majority of Idaho Monday afternoon, with scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in southern and central portions of the state.

Twin Falls Precipitation

Yesterday	60	47
Last year	64	35
Normal	67	37

Idaho High/Lows

City	Max	Min	Pcp	Idaho: High	Idaho: Low
Boise	62	47	23	66	33
Burley	62	50	14	66	33
Idaho Falls	66	54	21	68	35
Jerome	61	57	01	66	33
Lettingus	61	50	11	66	33
Malad	61	38	01	66	33
Alta	64	48	01	66	33
McCall	68	48	01	66	33
Pocatello	65	48	01	66	33
Salmon	65	45	01	66	33
Stanley	64	43	05	66	33
Sun Valley	65	48	01	66	33

Comfort Factors

City	Humidity	Wind	Feels Like
Boise	57%	10 mph	60
Burley	61%	10 mph	60
Idaho Falls	61%	10 mph	60
Jerome	61%	10 mph	60
Lettingus	61%	10 mph	60
Malad	61%	10 mph	60
Alta	64%	10 mph	60
McCall	68%	10 mph	60
Pocatello	65%	10 mph	60
Salmon	65%	10 mph	60
Stanley	64%	10 mph	60
Sun Valley	65%	10 mph	60

The Nation

City	Max	Min	Pcp
Albuquerque	72	39	0.0
Atlanta	68	57	0.1
Boston	51	31	0.0
Chicago	64	38	0.0
Dallas	65	40	0.0
Denver	54	39	0.0
Des Moines	59	49	0.0
Detroit	55	41	0.0
Honolulu	83	72	0.0
Indianapolis	62	49	0.1
Kansas City	59	45	0.0
Las Vegas	65	35	0.0
Los Angeles	61	24	0.0
Memphis	67	74	0.0
Miami Beach	87	74	0.0
Milwaukee	64	36	0.0
Minneapolis	66	46	0.0
New Orleans	84	72	0.0
New York	65	50	0.0
Omaha	69	53	0.0
Oklahoma City	69	53	0.0
Philadelphia	65	49	0.0
Pittsburgh	70	34	0.0
Portland, Me.	60	41	0.0
Raleigh	64	44	0.0
San Antonio	72	43	0.0
San Francisco	66	39	0.0
Seattle	63	40	0.0
Spokane	56	34	0.0
Stockton	56	36	0.0
Washington	62	41	0.0
Yonkers	64	44	0.0

Canadian Cities

City	Max	Min	Pcp
Calgary	76	41	0.0
Edmonton	63	32	0.0
Toronto	63	42	0.0
Vancouver	58	44	0.0

U.S. allies see challenges for global economy

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and its major allies said Monday that the world's economic growth will continue to be "moderate" and that "serious challenges" remain for the global economy. The statements came in an eight-page joint statement issued at the end of an afternoon of discussions among finance ministers and central bank presidents from the world's seven largest economies: the United States, Japan, Germany, France, Britain, Italy and Canada.

U.S. officials have become alarmed about recent downward reductions in growth prospects for Europe. The administration is concerned that unless other major powers turn to more solid growth, the U.S. trade deficit, already at record levels, will balloon even higher and add to protectionist pressures in this country. In addition to concerns about the outlook for recovery this year, the G-7 group gave a general endorsement to continuing with efforts to reform the global financial architecture in a way that is at least better cope with future Asian-style currency crisis.

Kosovo

blasted a 23-story building that houses offices for Milosevic's Socialist party and offices of several government stations. The state-run Tanjug news agency said two missiles hit the building. The building was targeted last Wednesday. Witnesses said in an Associated Press news release that the building was destroyed after a series of explosions, who called on Serbians near the Hungarian border, and near the city of Novi Sad. Western officials said there were signs the air campaign was succeeding in demoralizing Serb resistance. They cited remarks by Yugoslav's deputy premier, Vuk Draskovic, who called on Yugoslav leaders to "stop lying to the people in Serbia, and finally tell them the truth." Draskovic, once the main opposition leader before joining Milosevic's government last year, said Serbia has been seriously weakened by the allied bombardment. "They must say what will be left of Serbia in 20 days if the bombing continues," Draskovic said, telling CNN the Serb leadership must acknowledge that "we cannot defeat NATO" and "we must respect this reality."

WIPP

Continued from A1. The nuclear waste site at Idaho has begun to open up to the public. The U.S. Dept. of Energy has approved the WIPP site as the nation's first permanent repository for high-level nuclear waste. The site is located in the western part of the state, near the town of Bunker. The WIPP site is a 1,000-acre site that will be used to store nuclear waste. The site is located in the western part of the state, near the town of Bunker. The WIPP site is a 1,000-acre site that will be used to store nuclear waste. The site is located in the western part of the state, near the town of Bunker. The WIPP site is a 1,000-acre site that will be used to store nuclear waste.

School

Continued from A1. The school's 2,700 mourners at the Trinity Christian Center wiped tears as friends and family remembered William "Dave" Sanders, 47, who was shot near his school. The school's 2,700 mourners at the Trinity Christian Center wiped tears as friends and family remembered William "Dave" Sanders, 47, who was shot near his school. The school's 2,700 mourners at the Trinity Christian Center wiped tears as friends and family remembered William "Dave" Sanders, 47, who was shot near his school.

Cards

Continued from A1. But students don't want the discussion to drop, Dennis said. They want heightened awareness about youth violence. Students suggested a number of things the school district could do to improve safety. They include holding an informational meeting to explain school safety policies to parents; disaster drills; permitting cellular phones and pagers on campus. Columbine students used them to communicate with parents and each other while they hid from the gunfire. Installing blinds on classroom windows, and making a required course out of an elective class that teaches about the importance of positive behaviors and how to build relationships.

Corrections

Correction: The Times-News staff writer N.S. Volkhardt can be reached at 733-9422, Ext. 21, or by e-mail at ns@timesnews.com.

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LOTTERY UPDATE

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Wednesday's estimated Wild Card jackpot is: \$370,000

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POWERBALL SATURDAY, APRIL 24 NUMBERS: 1 3 35 45 48 18

SATURDAY, APRIL 24 NUMBERS: 2 15 24 26 27 38 WILD CARD: QUEEN OF DIAMONDS

FAST 1 5 9 22 25

NATION

High court to rule on tobacco regs

Healthy agency might crack down

Healthier lives: Service

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court, delving into one of the nation's most important public health questions, agreed Monday to decide whether a federal agency can crack down on tobacco as a means of reducing serious illnesses and premature deaths.

The case, which pits the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and seven smoking groups against the nation's tobacco manufacturers, is expected to be argued before the nine justices in November and decided in the first five months of the year 2000. The FDA had urged the high court's intervention after a lower court last year ruled that the agency's authority to regulate nicotine as a drug and cigarettes

as drug-delivery devices. The FDA seeks to enforce 1996 rules that restrict the sale of cigarettes and other tobacco products to minors.

"But this case is about far more than marketing of tobacco products to children; it goes to the heart of the FDA's ability to oversee the tobacco industry and the health and safety of its products," said Matthew Myers, general counsel of the National Center for Tobacco-Free Kids, an organization that strives to reduce smoking by children.

In successfully petitioning the Supreme Court to hear the case, U.S. Solicitor General Seth Waxman said the lower court had wrongly invalidated "the most important public health and safety rulemaking that FDA has accomplished in the past 50 years."

He said the FDA seeks the "unparalleled opportunity to prevent millions of children from being harmed by addictive habit that often leads to premature

death." The tobacco industry, for its part, expressed fears that the agency, if granted the legal authority it seeks, could restrict the contents of tobacco products, allow them to be sold only by prescription, limit sales to certain stores — or even go so far as to ban all cigarettes, cigars and smoking tobacco.

"Prohibition of alcohol occurred by constitutional amendment," Richard M. Cooper, a lawyer for the R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., observed in a legal brief. "Prohibition of tobacco would be comparably momentous, and should not be open to decision by a single-mission administrative agency."

Cooper said tobacco products already are subject to "extensive and growing" regulations by all levels of government, and it is up to Congress, not the FDA, to determine whether any additional controls are justified. Despite several victories in the

courts last year and the failure of Congress to enact comprehensive legislation to regulate tobacco, the industry remains under siege. The Supreme Court case is only part of an intense drive to curb the industry's domestic market.

In a settlement agreement last year between 46 states and the five largest tobacco companies, the firms agreed to pay state governments a total of \$206 billion for the cost of treating smoking-related illnesses, and accepted new restrictions on tobacco advertising that attracts minors.

Tobacco firms face numerous lawsuits filed by smokers and their families, a planned federal suit to recover health-insurance costs, and at least six suits in which foreign countries seek compensation for the expense of treating their residents. The case before the Supreme Court, titled Food and Drug Administration vs. Brown and Williamson Tobacco et al, centers on the intent of Congress.

HIV treatments slow, but don't cure, infection

NEW YORK (AP) — The AIDS virus might be able to hide undetected for 60 years in people taking powerful antiviral drugs, says a study that underlines a major obstacle to the bold notion of curing AIDS.

"We aren't going to be able to simply wait it out," said Dr. Robert Siliciano, senior author of the study. While the drugs can drive the body's supply of HIV down to undetectable levels, they can't attack virus that has quietly in cells. Such hidden "reservoirs" of HIV have long been recognized, and these new calculations confirm the belief that they could harbor the virus for a very long time.

Still, "this doesn't mean a cure is impossible," said Siliciano, a professor of medicine at the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine in Baltimore. It means some additional therapies would have to be created to eradicate the hidden virus, he said.

Scientists have already started studying that, as well as the alternative idea of leaving reservoirs alone but revving up the immune system enough to kill any virus that emerges from them. Siliciano also stressed that the finding doesn't mean that people who are keeping HIV at bay with current medication will go on to develop AIDS.

The result is "a caution against stopping treatment or thinking that having an undetectable plasma virus (in the blood) means there's no virus left," he said. Siliciano, with colleagues at Hopkins and elsewhere, describes a study of 34 infected adults in the May issue of the journal

Nature Medicine. All were taking the powerful virus-suppressing drug.

Researchers simply scoured "resting" CD4 T cells from the patients' blood and used special detection techniques to find HIV in them. They then estimated how many cells were harboring hidden virus at various times over the course of treatment. From that, they calculated how long it would take for this reservoir of silently infected cells to die off. The best estimate was about 50 years. The result wasn't a surprise, given the results of earlier research, Siliciano said. The period might be shorter in some people, he said.



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CIA HQ will be named for Bush

LANGLEY, Va. (AP) — Former President Bush v. the CIA's sprawling headquarters named for him Monday and declared himself as close as a heartbeat to the agency he once headed.

Bush told a cheering audience of intelligence workers he has nothing but "contempt and anger" for those who would beget the source of U.S. intelligence.

The 74-year-old Bush, the only CIA director ever to become president, told a VIP audience gathered under a tent on the plaza outside the spy agency's front door

he deeply appreciates the act of Congress that renamed the building.

"I left here 22 years ago after a limited tenure and my stay here had a major impact on me, he said. "CIA became part of my heartbeat back then, and it's never gone away."

The CIA complex will be known as the George Bush Center for Intelligence.

Bush said that in the perilous world left after the breakup of the Soviet Union more protection than ever is needed for the sources and methods of intelligence.



Former President and CIA Director George Shultz shake hands Monday at a ceremony to rename headquarters in Langley, Va.

Feds cut back deep-sea game fishing

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration unveiled new Atlantic and Gulf Coast fishing restrictions Monday aimed at rebuilding stocks of shark, Atlantic tuna and mahi-mahi.

Conservationists said the new rules are too little to stem the severe decline of swordfish.

"Years of overfishing has resulted in a sharp drop in the number of Atlantic migratory shark that some species of shark, swordfish and blue marlin may never be near to extinction, conservationists said."

The National Marine Fisheries Service unveiled a broad plan the agency said would ensure the interests of fishermen.

your move toward bringing back the fish populations over the next 10 to 20 years. The plan makes effect June 1.

The new rule plan imposes tighter restrictions on recreational and commercial fishing for shark, tuna and so-called "bill-fish" including blue marlin, whose population is in severe decline.

The administration promised to press international negotiations for tighter quotas on swordfish.

Environmentalists said the June 1 start date was too necessary, especially to reduce the estimated 30,000 young swordfish killed by bycatch in U.S. waters every year.

"It's not enough. The time is running out (for swordfish)," said Vicki Spruit, executive director of SeaWeb, an organization that with some success has been urging restaurants to remove swordfish from their menus.

"This is a fish that's been slipping down the slope for a decade, and we keep getting procrastination."

Conservationists were critical of the federal agency for not closing some swordfish fisheries for at least part of the year. The agency proposed closing a "nursing area" in the Florida Straits south of Miami but postponed a decision after complaints that the area was too small.

Report warns of assistance scams

WASHINGTON (AP) — Assisted living homes, increasingly popular housing alternatives for the elderly, aren't always what they seem, a new report says. The level of care they provide, government auditors say.

Providers do not always give accurate information and must determine whether a particular assisted-living facility can meet their needs, the report says.

Charles Gensky, IR House chairman of the Senate Special Committee on Aging said the report would notify the nation's government of the CA's findings, and ask them to look into the adequacy of state oversight of the assisted living industry.

Assisted living has become the hottest new housing option for older people by promising to provide a happy medium between their homes and a full-care nursing facility.

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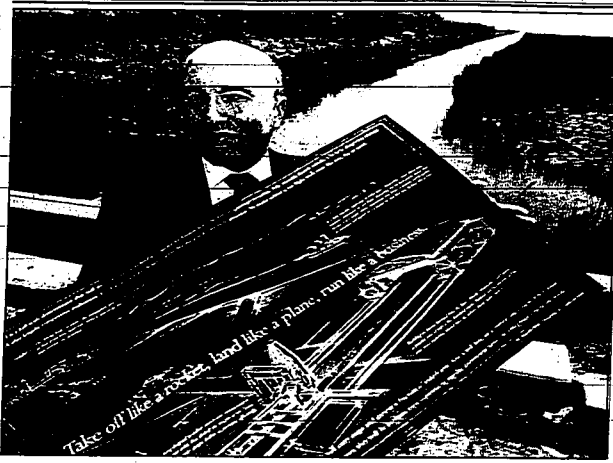
EVERY TUESDAY

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THE CLASSIC IDAHO DINNER HOUSE

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NATION



Fred Welch, executive director of the Brazoria County Partnership, poses recently at the site of a proposed spaceport his group is hoping to bring to the Gulf coast city of Freeport, Texas.

Let's go space truckin'

Idaho, other states, consider building space ports

FREEPORT, Texas (AP) — When Fred Welch surveys 1,000 acres of prairie near the Texas coast, he thinks not of the land before him but of the stars above. Welch has a vision for this stretch of soil about an hour south of Houston. He sees a spaceport, with rocketships coming and going as easily as 747s at an airport.

It is a vision shared by Tom Arnold in Idaho, Andy Foote in Montana and William Dentner in New Mexico.

They all are competitors in a new space race, where the prize is a slice of a multibillion-dollar industry — launching cargo into orbit — that could provide thousands of jobs and create a new hub-in-the-next-era-of-space transportation.

"I think this will be a whole new dimension for this state," said Arnold, who is Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's point man in the drive to transform a portion of eastern Idaho's high desert into a spaceport.

The federal government has already pledged support for the state's proposal to create a launch site at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory.

Dentner, New Mexico's Space Commission chairman, sees the competition as only "the start of a space enterprise — a new Canaveral, so to speak. A lot of states are trying to get into the wave of the future. If you have it, we believe people will come — like a field of dreams."

Spaceports would be home to reusable space vehicles intended to launch telecommunications

satellites and other freight at a fraction of today's cost: \$1,000 a pound compared with the current \$10,000 a pound.

The so-called space planes would feature more efficient engines, lighter fuel tanks and more durable thermal insulation.

"A lot of states are trying to get into the wave of the future. If you have it, we believe people will come — like a field of dreams."

—William Dentner, head of New Mexico's space commission

than today's launch vehicles. More importantly, they would have no throwaway parts — saving money and turnaround time.

Today's space shuttles discard fuel tanks and rocket boosters. Every time a shuttle launches, for example, the external fuel tank and two solid-fuel rocket boosters are discarded.

The boosters are recovered and used again, but only after costly refurbishment.

With an estimated 1,700 satellites being prepared for launch over the next decade, at least six private companies are designing reusable space planes that they hope will become the transportation choice in the 21st century. If the vehicles work as well as

hoped, they could ferry supplies to the International Space Station and eventually replace the shuttle.

"We have to at least start demonstrating technology leading to a vehicle that could reduce the cost of getting into space," says Jim Carr, a spokesman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

Of the reusable vehicles under development, probably the best-known is Lockheed Martin's VentureStar, a wedge-shaped spaceship designed to fly more than 50,000 pounds of payload into orbit.

If all goes well, VentureStar could be in operation by 2004. In all, 15 states are pinning potential sites for spaceports to choose as homes for VentureStar.

Lockheed Martin plans to design two sites late next year.

"Whoever establishes itself as the commercial space transportation hub, it's going to be the major player of operations for decades to come," says Tom Moser, a former NASA executive who heads the Texas Aerospace Commission.

But Idaho's vision goes beyond the VentureStar program.

Officials believe EMEL's location in relation to satellite orbits can provide large fuel savings on routine payloads so they are pressing for a launch site for commercial satellites even if VentureStar goes elsewhere.

Kempthorne says the state could capture a significant share of the \$78 billion expected to be spent on commercial space launches in the coming years.

Congress mulls hiking minimum wage for second time in four years

Republicans say business interests should be protected

WASHINGTON (AP) — Through gritted teeth, majority Republicans in Congress are struggling for the second time in four years with potentially unstoppable demands for an increase in the minimum wage.

"It's practical enough to know it's going to happen" in the House, says Rep. Cass Ballenger, an ally of business who chairs a key committee. "Why will all the ax falls?" asks the North Carolina Republican, who promises that any measure will include tax breaks for changes in labor laws as sweeteners to business groups opposing a wage increase.

As was the case three years ago, it is in the hands of minority Democrats as well as New York Rep. Jack Quinn and other moderate Republicans with ties to organized labor. They argue that the lowest-paid workers deserve a

benefit from the longest expansion in peacetime history.

"Our country is prospering. The unemployment rate of 4.4 percent is the lowest in almost three decades," Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Rhode Island, said recently.

The sparring begins in earnest on Tuesday. A House committee has scheduled a hearing, and the invited witnesses are expected to testify that an increase in the minimum wage is not an effective way of helping workers in poverty, particularly heads of households.

Kennedy and Rep. David Bonior, D-Mich., complained Monday that the GOP had not invited any minimum wage earners to testify.

Still, the hearing will be the first on the minimum wage since Republicans took control of the House in 1995. And the irony of a GOP-Congress possibly approving its second wage increase is not lost on organized labor.

"I think it's encouraging that the Republican leadership has learned from the 1996 experience not to wait to be bulldozed on this

enormously popular public issue," said Frances Taylor, top lobbyist for the AFL-CIO.

Congress approved legislation in 1996 for a 30-cent an hour increase phased in over two years. But at GOP insistence, attached package of tax relief for small business.

This time, Kennedy and Bonior, backed by the White House, are calling for a \$1 boost, to \$6.15 an hour, over two years.

Balenger and other Republicans say a \$1 increase may be possible, but perhaps spread over three or four years.

In addition, they have floated business-backed proposals such as full tax deductibility for the self-employed for health insurance, or a cut in the federal unemployment tax.

The National Restaurant Association also favors an increase in the deductibility of business meals from the current 50 percent to 80 percent. It also supports a permanent reauthorization of a federal tax credit designed to encourage employers to move unskilled workers into better jobs.

Detroit aims lawsuit at gun makers

and recklessly sold to individuals who should not be armed in our society.

DETROIT (AP) — Detroit and its county sued the gun industry for more than \$800 million Monday for the havoc wreaked by illegal firearms.

The lawsuit was brought against 30 manufacturers, distributors and sellers in a labor law suit, which Detroit is a part, separately sued the industry, too.

The city said the industry should pay for the damage it wrought on the city of Detroit by illegal handguns and other firearms that have been carelessly

and recklessly sold to individuals who should not be armed in our society.

The lawsuits do not specify the amount of damages, but lawyers said they could exceed \$800 million.

"The industry profits from the assaults, maimings and killings on the streets of our city and county," Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer said. "Detroit and Wayne County have had enough."

The lawsuits are similar to the court actions that forced tobacco

companies to pay billions of dollars for smoking-related health costs. Plaintiffs include Adams, Chicago, Cleveland, New Orleans, Bridgeport, Conn. and Miami-Dade County.

A gun industry lobbying group said the lawsuits do nothing to prevent crime and would drive companies out of business.

"Not one life will be saved by such lawsuits," said Jack Adkins, director of operations for the American Shooting Sports Council in Atlanta.

Therapist blasts 'Jenny Jones' show

Michael Abrams testified for the family of Scott Amedure, a gay man who was killed by Jonathan Schmitz in 1995 after Amedure revealed a crush on Schmitz during a taping of the show.

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — A psychologist told a jury Monday that "The Jenny Jones Show" played Russian roulette by not screening its guests for mental illness before.

Michael Abrams testified for the family of Scott Amedure, a gay man who was killed by Jonathan Schmitz in 1995 after Amedure revealed a crush on Schmitz during a taping of the show. Amedure's family is suing the show and Warner Bros., its distributor, for \$50 million.

Not screening guests for mental illness is "Russian roulette. You're just waiting for something to happen," Abramsky said.

Abramsky blamed Amedure's slaying on the show, saying that after the taping, Schmitz slept little, drank more and lost control over his mental illness.

"He began to feel his whole life was ruined," Abramsky testified. "He thought his grandpa would think he's gay."

The psychologist added, "He came to be extremely depressed and extremely paranoid."

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Man gets life for slaying pastor

DAYTON, Ohio (AP) — A choir member who shot his pastor to death in church after a Bible class on the afterlife was sentenced Monday to life in prison.

"You killed the messenger, but the message will go on," the Rev. Andrew Lofton's daughter, Candace Henry, told Kenneth Nance. "The devil did not win this round."

Nance, 59, pleaded guilty to murdering Lofton, 65, at Christ

Temple Apostolic Faith Church in suburban Trotwood last September.

Nance sat quietly during the Bible class while Lofton explained the Book of Revelation and urged his students to prepare for the afterlife. After class, Nance pulled a gun and shot the pastor several times.

Police have said the shooting may have been prompted by unspecified religious differences between the two men.

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MORNING BREAK

ACROSS

- 1 Writer Aurnov
- 6 Church area
- 10 Vault
- 14 Dance music
- 15 Follow orders
- 16 Tilt
- 17 Major highway
- 19 Sleep
- 20 ...the fishes we go
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- 23 Pave
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- 26 Undrinking
- 27 Tire rollers
- 28 Horseplay time
- 29 Janey's name
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- 35 Punched
- 37 Training course
- 41 Composition
- 42 Florida shores
- 43 Grassy ground
- 44 Cancel out
- 47 Salt extending pole
- 49 Sex number
- 50 Bible country
- 54 Na No
- 56 Upgrade
- 58 Resident
- 59 Fire story, "The Cask of ..."
- 60 Lower digit
- 61 Geometric solid
- 62 Downpour
- 63 Cautious
- 64 Cleptomaniac
- 67 Actress Sommer
- 68 Nesting's comment
- 69 "Itanic" floor
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Monday's Puzzle Solved 427/99

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Libra gets social; Aries regains confidence

IF APRIL 27 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You bustle back for over-coming distance, language barriers. Aries, Libra persons play important roles in your life, could have these letters, initials in names I and R. Mother probably was good cook, father was of metaphysical bent. He brooded a great deal, possibly was psychic. Current cycle relates to variety of experiences, travel, romance, possible change of marital status. Fresh start for you in-May along with new love affair.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Confidence restored, creative spark flashes. Major domestic adjustment featured, relates to need for giving and receiving love. Emphasis on music, income, marital status, Libra involved.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Hold off on making final decisions. Terms have yet to be clearly defined. Legal papers might not actually be legal. Protect self in close quarters, be sure that guarantees are up-to-date.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Individual who tests your veracity

HOROSCOPE Sydney Orman

will be pleasantly surprised focus on funding, ability to handle additional responsibility. Minor position equates to physical attraction, challenge, sex appeal.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Project you are involved in will be finished on time. Deadline a met, people ask, "How do you do it?" Your response could be something like, "I just do." Aries gives prominent role.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Season slowness, design's continuation - routine undergoes dramatic change. Love relationships serious, could be the start of something big. You'll miss, "This is one of the most exciting Tuesdays!"

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Utilize ability to analyze, discover - someone who talks a great game has nothing to back it. You'll know instantly the kind of marriage Capricorn. Cancer natives will

play fascinating roles. **LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Spotlight on social affairs, participation in campaign aimed at funding charitable-political issues. Effortful personality, creativity, sex appeal. Go for it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Association with Libra proves beneficial for both. Be aware of contracts, time print. Rebuild, rewrite, be receptive to romance. In matters of speculation, stick with number 4. Taurus plays role.


SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Trip out-of-town could lead to something more than mild flirtation. Pinpoint self in cliches, don't stray out of bounds. Excellent for starting diary, for writing, teaching, Gemini involved.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Deal with authorities, present program relating to art, music, education. Domestic adjustment includes possible change of residence, marital status. Your voice will be charming, compelling, helps you win.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): People who failed to notice you previously will now be at your doorstep. Emphasis on transportation, travel, publishing. What was rejected will be accepted. Pisces, Virgo natives dominate scenario.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Dig deep for information, required data will be found in obscure literature. Ask questions, insist on answers. Capricorn is drawn to you, will help. Wishes concerning career will be fulfilled.

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Early curfew irks college student

DEAR ABBY: I am almost 19 years old. I live at home with my parents while going to school full-time, working part-time and helping my mother baby-sit two little boys four days a week. I have never given my mother a reason not to trust me.



DEAR ABBY
Abigail Van Clief

If your child refuses to talk to you about personal things, consider seeking professional help. This help is as much for you as it is for your child.

There's no such thing as a "perfect" teenager as a "perfect" parent. It's OK to ask for help.

— BEEN THERE IN PORTLAND

My problem is my curfew. My mother feels I should be home every night by 11 a.m., and I feel I am mature enough to decide what time to come home. I have a cell phone and a pager, so I can be reached at any time. I don't get off work until after 10 p.m., and one night a week I would like to stay out late with my friends.

DEAR ABBY: You recently printed a list of signs of marijuana drug abuse. Although the list is valuable for parents, you should know that a majority of those signs could also be signs of sexual, physical or emotional abuse.

Out of the 13 warning signs, I exhibited nine as a teen-ager, and I wasn't using drugs. I had been twice molested as a child by my neighbor boys. During my teens, I struggled with my sexuality and insecurities brought on by the abuse. I was felt dirty.


I was able to get past being a teen-ager, but I was angry at my parents for not recognizing I needed help. I came from a close family with parents who cared very much for me. There were many good times, but I had a deep soul hurt that never truly went away. It affected my entire family.

DEAR BEEN THERE: I agree that if a child is "acting out" or using drugs, it's a family problem. And the logical place to start to resolve it is by alerting the family physician that something is wrong, and seeking an appropriate referral.

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Death row was blue in Brazil

Q. When did Jim Croce come out with "Bad, Bad Leroy Brown"?

A. In 1973. Same year the new campus ward "humongous" turned up in a student newspaper at the University of Denver. And the same year vodka first outsold whiskey in the United States.

Q. What country was it that dyed capital criminals blue before he executed them?

A. Brazil a century ago. It was against the law there back then to execute whites. So those death-sentenced were painted indigo, then killed.

There is a juvenile time in the lives of eels when you could lay them across this printed page and clearly read the type through their transparent bodies.



WHAT'S WHAT
L.M. Boyd

A retired funeral director writes: "At the start of my career, I thought the ever-present fragrance of flowers would compensate for much. It didn't. Flower scents soon became a stench, and I put up with flowers because I had to, not because I wanted to."

Claim is big beavers 6,000 years ago almost but not quite wiped out the forests of northern Europe.

DEAR NIGHT OWL: Your request for an extension of your curfew one night a week sounds reasonable to me.

However, in your parents' home they are entitled to make the rules, and as long as you live under their roof, you must abide by their decisions. Consider moving out and sharing an apartment with some of your friends. That way you can make your own rules.

— IN LIFE —
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6 ways to get on the Net

A lot of Internet on-ramps exist. Generally, the more speed you want, the more it will cost. Complexity hinders many high-speed options.

Type	Availability	Usual monthly cost	Pros and cons
ISDN	Widespread	\$50-\$130	Costly for only modest speed gains (128Kbps). Setup prone to hassles.
Modem	Widespread	\$30-\$100	Dependent on phone line. Limited bandwidth.
Cable	Limited	\$30-\$65	A great way to get a high-speed connection. Availability is scarce. Must use only one ISP.
DSL	Very limited	\$50-\$120	Uses regular phone lines and is very fast. Usually requires a dedicated line.
Frame relay and T1 or T3	Widespread	\$300-\$3,000	Very fast, though very expensive. Complex installation and equipment.

SOURCE: PC World

Copyright News Service/Dan Clifton

Friends re-connect over the Internet

By Frances Grandy Taylor
The Hartford Courant

Ron Vajnar was called to the phone while at work the other day. The caller turned out to be his best friend from high school, someone he hadn't heard from in nearly 25 years.

"His first words were, 'Is this the Ron Vajnar who went to North Kansas City High School?'" he couldn't believe it," said Vajnar, 46, who now lives in Lebanon, Conn.

Vajnar's long-lost friend had found him through the Internet, where his name appears in a Yahoo directory for people who enjoy collecting.

"Thanks to the Internet, organizers of family or school reunions are having much greater success tracking down relatives or former classmates separated by decades and lost addresses. Searches that once might have taken years can now be done in days, sometimes minutes."

Sonnie Delluripa, 36, had spent 10 years searching for her father, whom she last saw when she was 6. She went to adoption agencies but kept running into dead ends. She even paid several hundred dollars to a search company.

"They came back with every last name like mine except his," she said.

Two-year ago, she went on-line and searched using telephone directory search engines like 555-123.com, 800.com, 400.com and others.

"Up popped his name, address, phone number, and my uncle's as well," said Delluripa. "I couldn't believe it. I picked off a letter, and within three days I got a call from my uncle, and a few minutes later, that I got a call from my father. It was very emotional, and it was all because of the Internet."

Search engines like 555.com, for example, turn down e-mail addresses or home addresses and phone numbers from telephone directories. Typing in a name produces the e-mails or home addresses of people with that same name anywhere in the country.

There are some Internet sites — Find People Fast (www.findpeoplefast.com), for example — that do searches for a fee. Searches for the death indexes of the Social Security death master lists, or a search using a Social Security number, can be done through the sites. Searches using a Social Security number can also be done.

Other sites, such as searching university or company names, said the company has produced 250,000 successful reunions and contacted more than 330,000 searches.

Feared virus turns out to be a dud

NEW YORK (AP) — The computer virus known as Chernobyl seemed to be affecting few computers Monday, allaying fears that the computer bug would sweep the world as another virus did several weeks ago.

By midday Monday, the 13th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, only four sites with 30 individual computers had been infected, the Computer

Emergency Response Team at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh reported.

The most common version of the Chernobyl virus, also known as "CIH," was programmed to activate on computers using Windows 95 and Windows 98 on Monday.

Another version, less common, strikes computers on the 26th day of any month.

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Defragment a messy drive for performance

By Lou Dolar
Newsday

Computer Q & A

Q: Would you please clarify when to defragment the hard drive and how often? I have had my computer for over a year and use it frequently. My PC is a Gateway G6 300 with a 6-gig hard drive. I defrag about once every two weeks and have no problem. My buddy, on the other hand, had a friend who is computer savvy and was told that he did not have to defrag for at least five years, based on his usage. And he was told by some other people that they never defrag the hard drive. Am I doing something wrong?

A: Like a lot of these things, the answer is it depends.

Let's go back to the basics of disk fragmentation: Your disk is a random access storage device, as opposed to a cassette tape, which is a sequential storage device. That means that on a disk drive, data is divided into blocks. If there's a room when you write a file to disk, the data is written to a sequential series of blocks, which can be read quite quickly. The catch is when you start erasing and writing new data to the drive. If a file is, say, 10 blocks long and there is no 10-block space, it could end up being scattered into non-sequential blocks, with pieces of other files in between. Jumping across the disk like this wastes time. Multiply this by a multi-gigabyte hard drive that's been rewritten repeatedly, and things can slow down dramatically, particularly if the disk is almost full and if the Windows swap file — where Windows temporarily and continually stores and retrieves data —

gets fragmented too.

Will fragmentation be a problem for you? Assuming you've got a big disk that is less than half full, that you never install new software and just write a couple of letters a week, you may never need to defragment your hard drive.

On the other hand, if your machine's a couple of years old, your disk is almost full, if you're always playing with and deleting software, creating and deleting files or using the Internet (browsers create a stack of temporary files on the disk), then your every-two-week cycle is probably about right.

Back when I was doing database reporting, which placed a premium on speed and huge files that were forever being rewritten, I defragmented every night when I left work and usually saw a difference in performance the next day. That is another way of thinking about defragmentation: Your computer will feel a little snappier when you defrag a messy drive; if it doesn't, you probably didn't need to bother.

If you're still confused after reading this, you might as well listen to your defrag program. Both Norton Utilities and the Windows 95 defragmentation utility test your computer for the degree of fragmentation and issue recommendations on whether you should defragment.

Send questions for the Q & A column to plugin@newsday.com.

PhoneMate checks your e-mail

By Gareth Branwyn
Special to The Baltimore Sun

What's hot

Casio PhoneMate's new IT-380 E-Mail Link (\$149) is an unusual telephone that combines normal desk phone functions with a digital answering machine and an "e-mail advisory" feature. As it receives your schedule, the IT-380 will dial your Internet service provider and alert you to new messages waiting for you online.

A three-line, 18-character LCD screen displays the headers of up to 40 e-mail messages, showing the sender's e-mail address, and time-date stamp. The E-Mail Link doesn't download the entire message; instead, it gives just enough information so you can decide if you need to go to your PC and log on.

The IT-380 is geared toward casual users who don't check e-mail on their PCs very often, home office workers who don't want to be connected to the Net

continuously, and e-mail obsessive users who'll buy any inexpensive gizmo that will keep them wired to their e-mail inboxes.

The IT-380 E-Mail Link also works with Mail Call, a text-only remote access service. If you can't wait to log on to download your messages, for a few Mail Call will read them to you. The Mail Call service starts at \$7.50 a month for 30 minutes of usage.

This phone has other nice features, including a speakerphone (naturally), a hand-dialer — only one person can speak at a time — a digital answering machine with 14 minutes of recording time, variable speed playback, and the ability to find out if "you've got mail" from another phone.

Information: (800) 638-9970 or www.casiophonemate.com

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EDITORIAL

Jimmie Vurel Thomas deserved conviction

Despite his lawyers' insistence to the contrary, Jimmie Vurel Thomas is guilty of first-degree murder. The sooner society can wash its hands of this creature, the better.

Thomas, you'll recall, is a wildly jealous man with a violently short fuse. He was convicted of firing of gunning down Steven Louder, who was the new man in his ex-wife's life.

The Ada County jury wasn't fooled by defense attorney Lynn Dunlap. Some of Dunlap's antics on Thomas' behalf were distasteful to watch — particularly when Dunlap suggested that Thomas' ex-wife was the real killer. But the legal system arrived at its proper conclusion. Dunlap's vigorous defense may have a residual benefit.

Thomas can't complain on appeal because his lawyer didn't work hard enough.

The evidence against Thomas was overwhelming, especially given that he had confessed to the murder. His ex-wife, Anna Marie, saw him burst into the home that she and Louder had recently begun to share. He had a gun in his hand and a wild look in his eyes, she said.

Thomas was guilty as sin and the jury knew it. Justice was served in this case. Everyone in America — even a despicable murderer — is entitled to a legal

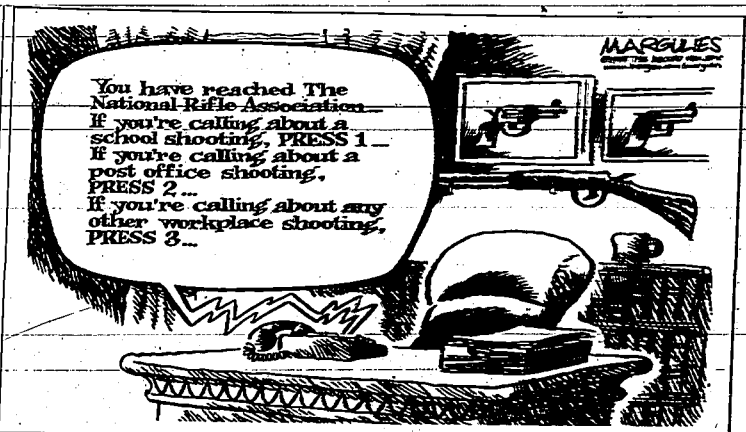
defense. Plenty of guilty criminals escape justice through legal loopholes, so it's refreshing to see a guilty murderer convicted in court now and then.

No one can claim Jimmie Vurel Thomas is a Mr. Nice Guy who was framed. Louder's death wasn't the first murder in which he's been implicated. Nor was it the second.

Twenty years ago, a hung jury saved him from the death penalty in California. Police officials in South Africa still want to ask Thomas how the bullet-ridden body of one of his former friends wound up stuffed inside a freezer.

On top of that, Thomas has already been convicted of kidnapping another of his ex-wife's boyfriends at gunpoint. That man wrestled the gun away from Thomas and lived to tell the tale. Had he not done so, there's a good chance he would have suffered the fate that eventually befell Louder.

Let's not cry for Jimmie Vurel Thomas, even though he could be sentenced to death. He is an evil man who has forfeited his right to walk free in society. Unfortunately, there probably would be years of appeals, to the court's enrichment of the legal profession, before a death sentence could be carried out.



The NRA must wake up to guns' carnage

KAREN GRIGSBY BATES

I'm a question that will — and should — be asked over and over in the wake of the bloody Colorado school shooting spree. Can the National Rifle Association continue to justify its stand on gun possession and self-defense?

Guns don't kill people, as the NRA likes to point out, people kill people. In this case, at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colo., enraged, irrational, depressed young men killed 12 of their fellow school mates and one teacher and wounded many more. But you'll notice they didn't club them to death with baseball bats. They used guns.

For years, the NRA has lobbied vigorously against virtually every piece of anti-gun legislation introduced around the country, from local to national levels. Americans should be able to exercise their Second Amendment rights, the group posits, and legally be allowed to bear arms. Unconcealed, concealed, whatever? Well, it's not the bearing part that's so worrisome — it's the using part.

I'm not a gun fan, but I understand why, in our violent, high-crime neighborhoods that a gun, even one they may not really know how to use, isn't better real-life protection than a burglar alarm.

But the NRA, despite its patronizing blather to the contrary, isn't terribly in-

terested in making sure that law-abiding citizens maintain the ability to protect themselves with firearms. And while the organization is more diverse today than it has been in years, a demographic check of the NRA's roster probably would reveal its members are, overwhelmingly, white, male and fairly politically conservative. They believe in the Second Amendment because bearing arms protects them from everyone else. And any incursion, no matter how small or rational, is met with a blitzkrieg of resistance.

Intelligent compromise just isn't possible in such circumstances, because there's always an explanation for how each gun death tragedy is an exception to the rule. You're probably staring to hear the rationalizations for Columbine High already. NRA President Charlton Heston, for instance, says tragedies like Columbine would be averted if armed guards are placed in every school across America. But an armed guard was at Columbine, and he was helplessly outnumbered by the number and caliber of firearms the adolescent assassins carried and used to horrify effect.

Gun advocates are right: A gun did not almost kill Ronald Reagan's press secretary, James Brady, a person did. But guess what he was using? Same for Colin Ferguson on the Long Island Railroad when he calmly slaughtered and wound-

ed a car full of homebound-bound commuters. And guns were merely the necessary, unemotional choice in and places like Jamesburg, Ark., West Paducah, Ky., Springfield, Ore., Fayetteville, Tenn., Edinburg, Pa., Bessemer, Miss., and New Littleton, Colo. In these scenarios, it was definitely people killing and wounding people. With guns.

Essentially, the cost will be too high for the greedy politicians to support. They will begin to turn away NRA fundraising for their campaigns and do the right thing, and the long-postponed carnage of guns will begin.

But how many more schools will have to suffer the agonies we witnessed in Littleton before this happens?

It is an ineluctable part of the human condition that we sometimes kill each other. If we didn't do it with guns, we'd find another way. I'm not naive enough here for even children. Teachers, please: If gun laws were more stringent, Best I can do the math: A knife, a stick, a speck of volcanic carbon would produce the kind of multiple deaths we can't produce with modern weapons.

It's time for the NRA to wake up and realize that eliminating citizen use of such weapons is something that can — and should — happen.

Karen Grigsby Bates is a Southern California free-lance writer. She wrote this commentary for the Los Angeles Times.

The Times-News

Stephen Hargan, Publisher; Alan Wilton, Business manager; Clark Walworth, Managing editor; Peter York, Advertising director.

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hargan, William Brock, Clark Walworth, Steve Crump, Kevin Richard and David Lee.

LETTERS

Morality, prayer, curb violence

"Freedom of expression and tolerance" — really what our children need? Two young men demonstrated their freedom in Colorado. Were they truly living their "freedom" or were they responding to a society that tolerates "expressing oneself"?

Thanks to the freedom of speech, our news media has flooded us with reports of this tragic event. Who's to blame? Is it our government that pays our schools to teach "tolerance" and "that there are no absolutes"? Or are the parents who are too busy trying to make a living that are at fault? Or can we blame the schools for not protecting our children?

When our children are exposed to violence through TV, videos, Hollywood movies, arcade games or books, can we expect them to produce otherwise? We can't annihilate evil, but we can choose to prevent it from happening. There are effective ways of doing this. I find it quite interesting that our society that removed prayer from our schools is now crying out the beliefs of "prayer to God" — the beliefs that produces true peace in our minds and lasting comfort to our hearts and souls.

How much more violence can we afford to tolerate? How many more innocent lives will be lost at the expense of freedoms to express ourselves? Our children need to know right from wrong, good from evil. The beliefs of what is right and wrong can and do affect people when left unchecked. Ask any student at Columbine High School if their lives wasn't affected by the action of one student's choice to express

himself.

Until we start teaching our children good from evil, we can't expect them to know it is wrong and evil to kill. Yet our society refuses to be governed by morals — morals that teach evil is wrong and good is right. Americans cry out for their freedoms, yet in the same breath cry out against the outrages that lifestyles without morals produce! You cannot create a peaceful environment without moral self-government that teaches the absolutes of right from wrong.

SHERI HILLS
Twin Falls

LETTERS

Narrow thinking no longer works

We all mourn the tragedy in the Littleton high school and wonder how this could happen. But I certainly take exception to your suggestions of how to make things right in this country. You speak about a "junk culture" in this country. Just who is responsible for this culture? You suggest that its roots lie in the 1960s. Isn't that our generation? Aren't we the ones who advocated "cheap empathy" and "humanism"? Why is it that our enlightened Congress has continually diverted efforts to raise the cultural standard of this country by its lack of support for the arts?

Where do students learn ridicule and lack of tolerance? Why, at the breakfast and dinner table where they listen to their parents' comment on those others who just don't "see things and do things the way we do. They learn it from our government leaders who consistently look down, as expressed in the laws they pass on those who are marginalized or minorities. Let's look back to the 1980s and the Reagan administration for some examples of this.

Finally, you suggest that America should embrace its conventional wisdom, referring to gun control and capital punishment and that maybe an eye for an eye might be just the solution. I could not believe my eyes! That is the very

thinking that enables the sort of carnage we witnessed in Colorado. Why is it that we persist in the myth that guns are the answer to protection? Why do we continue to believe, in the face of evidence, in the contrary, that capital punishment is a deterrent? Whatever happened to the gospel injunction to love our neighbors, even those with whom we disagree or who consider us an enemy? What love is translated in understanding, respect, care, acceptance and support — what I call empathy. That is how we avoid just tragedies like that in Colorado.

Twin Falls is probably a lot like Littleton. The same thing could happen here, and it just might if we continue to think to law and order answers that have proven repeatedly that they just don't work.

JIM KEHOE
Monastery of the Ascension
Jerome

Massacre is a wake-up call

I am sure by now we have all heard about the murder-suicide in Littleton, Colo. I cry for the families and friends of people in the town. I believe that even though we live in a different state, we should do what we can to help the people involved. And we can use this tragic event to help ourselves.

Use this as a wake-up call. We are not

Public apologies were effective

The three letters submitted to the opinion section from the three gentlemen apologizing for their acts of vandalism at the Big Creek Reservoir is a reminder we all citizens of Idaho that we should be held accountable for any acts of vandalism that result in the destruction of private or public property. I feel the letters submitted were not only adequate but sincere toward the public. These gentlemen obviously walked through the fire to have made public their apologies.

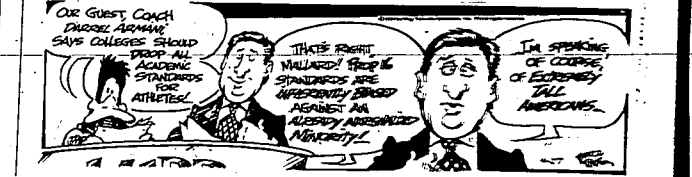
I wish to thank The Times-News for publishing the letters, and the three gentlemen who submitted their letters.

PAUL E. BOFFENS
Filer

Doonesbury



Mailard Fillmore



WORLD

Ukraine remembers Chernobyl

KIEV, Ukraine — As Ukraine marked the 13th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear accident Monday, one of the country's nuclear reactors shut down by mistake and another was taken offline for scheduled repairs.

The reactor shutdowns came as Ukrainians held solemn ceremonies to remember the world's worst nuclear accident and underscored concerns about the safety of the country's five nuclear plants.

Commemorations began before dawn in Shvorytch, a town east of Chernobyl that now houses the power plant's workers. Several hundred people gathered to pay tribute to Chernobyl victims at 8:25 a.m. — the exact time the nuclear plant's No. 4 reactor exploded and caught fire on April 26, 1986.

British newscaster killed on her own front steps

LONDON — A BBC anchorwoman and host of a crime-fighting program was fatally shot on the steps of her London home Monday in a slaying that horrified Britons and prompted stunned reaction from the "queen" and millions of viewers.

Jill Dando, 37, one of the most recognizable faces of the British Broadcasting Corp., died at a local hospital after she was found slumped against her front door outside her home in Fulham, southwest London.

Witnesses who saw her body had earlier reported she appeared to have been stabbed, but police later said a post-mortem showed she died from a single gunshot wound to the head.

Detectives launched a manhunt after a well-dressed man in his late 30s or early 40s carrying a mobile telephone was spotted



Jill Dando

Bomb blast rips through prominent Moscow hotel

MOSCOW — A bomb placed in an elevator exploded on the 20th floor of Moscow's huge Intourist Hotel on Monday, showering glass down on a main street just a short distance from the Kremlin. At least 10 people were injured, police said.

The mid-afternoon explosion blew out windows and part of the exterior walls on the 19th and 20th floors, and victims suffered cuts, burns and contusions, officials said.

The falling glass and other debris smashed the roofs and hoods of cars on Tverskaya Street, one of the busiest thoroughfares in the city.

The Soviet-era hotel, which caters mostly to foreign tourists, is only a few hundred yards from the walls of the Kremlin and Red Square.

While most of the hotel is devoted to guest rooms, the 20th floor is made up of office space. There are at least 10 offices there, including one belonging to Iosif Kobzon, one of the country's

Most popular singers who are known as the Frank Sinatra of Russia

Foreign Minister Andrei Shurnov will invite Pope John Paul II to visit the Holy Land during the upcoming millennium year when the two men meet this week in Rome.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Aris Shiron said Monday that Shiron also will discuss plans to plan for 2000, including plans to

Israel asks pope to come for visit

celebrate the millennium in Jesus' hometown, Nazareth.

Shiron will also discuss the status of church property in the Holy Land when he meets pope on Monday, Shiron said.

Israel has been pushing for a papal trip to the best 2000 celebration, and the pontiff has expressed a keen desire to travel there.

China, EU to discuss Beijing's entry to trade

BEIJING — Senior U.S. and Chinese trade negotiators discussed differences over China's bid to enter the World Trade Organization in a meeting Monday, state media reported.

The deputy U.S. trade representative, Robert Cassidy, had been scheduled to return to Washington on Sunday. The delay of his departure underscored the importance that both sides have placed on reaching a trade-spending agreement.

Cassidy and three other U.S. negotiators met Monday afternoon with China's top WTO negotiator, Long Yongtu, at the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Cooperation, Xinhua News Agency said.

After the meeting, Long described the talks as "constructive" and "beneficial to both sides," the agency said. He did not elaborate.

The two sides have held talks in Beijing since Thursday to wrap up an agreement based on the market-opening offer made by Premier Zhu Rongji during his visit to Washington two weeks ago.

President Clinton rejected it as insufficient but agreed with Zhu to try to conclude negotiations by June.

U.S. spokesman Marie Okabe identified the victim as Nicholas Speight and said he was shot after providing the water.

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A New Zealander working for the United Nations mine-clearing program in northern Iraq has been killed, apparently by assassins who opened fire from an approaching taxi.

"The victim was killed almost instantly when an unknown assailant who had asked for some water a few minutes earlier shot him three times at close range," U.N. spokesman Manoel de Almeida e Silva said Monday in New York.

U.N. spokeswoman Marie Okabe identified the victim as Nicholas Speight and said he was shot after providing the water.

—Compiled from wire reports

New Zealander working with U.N. killed in Iraq

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GreenView Electronics: 50 Industrial Park, Dopp 354-8029
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Kia's Satellite: 915 Washington, Montpelier 847-1800
A & H Cellular: 4155 Yellowstone, Inside the Bon Marche, Pocatello 251-2212
A & H Cellular: Magic Valley Mall, in the Food Court, Twin Falls, 736-6340
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Caldwell: 736 East Lander, Twin Falls 734-7336
Caldwell: 736 East Lander, Twin Falls 734-7336
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AROUND THE VALLEY

Filer man dies in crash near Gooding

GOODING - A 23-year-old Filer man was killed and three people were taken to the hospital Sunday night when their Jeep Cherokee rolled off a clear lakes grade near Gooding.

Michael Shawn Knight, the driver, was crushed beneath the vehicle after being ejected in the rollover, the Idaho State Police said. Knight was driving eastbound when the Cherokee went off and road, hit a bank and flipped, the ISP said.

Knight died at the scene beneath the vehicle, and the three passengers were taken to Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Lonnie Ray Sorichita, 27, of Wendell, was in status Monday evening. Joseph Robert Freeman, 21, and Joshua James Bussman, 20, both of Buhl, were treated and released.

Sister gets probation in murder case

TWIN FALLS - The sister of two men convicted in a 1996 double murder was sentenced Monday to three years' probation for covering up her brothers' crimes in the slaying of Dolina Delacruz, 21, who didn't tell investigators what she knew about the shooting deaths of Walter Feste Ellison and Jafrá Janelle Sumaya, also received a suspended 3- to 5-year prison sentence. She pleaded guilty in February to being an accessory to murder.

Her brothers, Esequiel "Junior" Delacruz, 18, and Clarence Delacruz, 23, were sentenced last week. Junior Delacruz will serve 15 to 30 years in prison on two counts of second-degree murder, and Clarence Delacruz will serve five to 10 years in prison for two counts of accessory to murder.

The gunman in the killings, Eric Thomas Ferriter, 21, was sentenced to life in prison. Delacruz's mother, Susan McLaws, 44, who also tried to hide her sons' involvement, received five years' probation and a suspended 2- to 5-year prison sentence for her accessory-to-murder conviction.

Couple will face drug trafficking charges

TWIN FALLS - A Buhl couple charged with trafficking marijuana and cocaine will face trial after a magistrate judge waived the case to district court.

Joanne Elaine Adams and Robert Joseph Adams, both 53, were arrested early this month after authorities found a total of 5 pounds of marijuana, 4.4 pounds of hashish, 3.5 ounces of cocaine and more than \$72,000 in their Buhl home and in another home they owned in Filer, according to documents from the Idaho Criminal Investigation Bureau.

Joanne Adams faces two counts of trafficking marijuana, one trafficking cocaine, one concealing evidence and three counts of failing to affix a drug tax stamp.

Robert Adams faces three counts of trafficking in marijuana, one trafficking cocaine and four counts of failing to affix a drug tax stamp.

Magistrate Judge John Melson dismissed one count of trafficking marijuana against Joanne Adams, and the prosecutor dropped one of the original marijuana trafficking charges against both defendants.

BSU radio plans Twin Falls town meeting

TWIN FALLS - BSU Radio plans a town meeting here tonight for listeners to comment about local public radio service. The meeting is planned for 7 p.m. at the broadcast studios in the Canyon Building on the College of Southern Idaho campus.

BSU Radio broadcasts in south-central Idaho through the facilities of KEZJ-AM, CSI's campus radio station. Public-central programming is the fair ground on 91.7 FM.

Jerome County Fair Board meets tonight

JEROME - The Jerome racing contract, garbage proposals and tree removal top the agenda for the Jerome County Fair Board meeting tonight.

The meeting will be held at 7 p.m. in the Messersmith Building on the fair grounds.

The meeting is open to the public.

Compiled from staff reports

What's next

Jerome's San, public works and planning departments will be the subject of the public hearing on the city's annexation of about 20 acres west of town near the center of town.

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Jerome expects traffic

Analysis predicts over 6,000 trips per day into retail development site

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

JEROME - Traffic counts at the south end of Jerome are expected to balloon with a retail store planned for South Lincoln Street, which would require new traffic lights and widening of a county road.

The city annexed almost 20 acres northeast of South Lincoln's intersection with Interstate 84 - at the request of an Arizona-based acquisition company - but Jerome officials say they still don't know the

future store's name. They do know some of its likely effects.

Developers' recent traffic analysis predicts 6,042 new trips into that location daily - "which is a little less than the entire population of Jerome, on a daily basis," City Administrator Jon Cecil said.

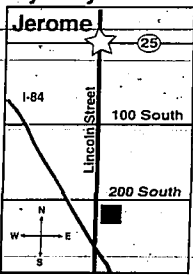
The property owner plans to pay for a new traffic signal at South Lincoln and 200 South and has recommended to the state that signals be installed on either side of the Interstate entrance to Jerome, Cecil said.

The developer would have to pay for widening and perhaps reconstructing 200 South by the store, depending on how much more truck traffic is generated, said Jerome Highway District road supervisor LeRoy Lewis. Until annexation is final, the district has jurisdiction over the road.

Now, the 20-foot-wide road has two lanes, but the district has right of way for the needed 41- or 44-foot width, Lewis said. The new pavement would allow

Please see TRAFFIC, Page B2

Mystery retailer



Site of mystery retailer

CITY LIGHTS



Alan Hill of Pocatello installs one of more than 150 new light poles in downtown Twin Falls Monday afternoon. The 1920s-era lamps were financed by the Twin Falls Urban Renewal Agency.

Jerome sets levy date, but not the amount

By Theresa Jacoby
Times-News writer

JEROME - Jerome residents will vote May 25 on a supplemental override levy for a proposed classroom addition and multi-purpose gymnasium complex at Jerome High School.

But the Jerome School Board has not yet determined the amount of the levy.

Before setting a figure, the board will consider the project's four pieces - the classroom addition, a gymnasium complex, added locker rooms, and classrooms within the gym complex.

The school board is interested in what voters have to say about the project and the levy, board member Alice Thibault said.

Voters can call their trustee or the school district unit Monday to offer their thoughts on the issue.

The School Board will hold an advisory meeting Monday to discuss the levy proposal. This meeting will follow a closed executive session to discuss student discipline; that meeting is scheduled to begin at 11:30 a.m. Monday at the district office, 107 W. Third.

The levy proposal was presented to the School Board on April 20. It came as a response to the failure of a bond issue election on March 11.

Jerome voters have rejected school building bond issues four times since September 1996. The purpose of the levy is to relieve the district's overcrowding problem, district business manager Mike Gibson said. The

Voice your opinion

The Jerome School Board would like to hear the public's opinion on a proposed supplemental override levy.

Call your zone's trustee or the Jerome School District administrator.

- Zone 2A/B/C Thibault 324-2923
- Zone 2 Taylor Brown 324-2973
- Zone 3 Henderson 324-7857
- Zone 4 Ext Stagers 324-4330
- Zone 5 Corrine Berman 324-1132
- Jerome School District 324-2292

Classroom addition	Cost
Classroom addition	\$682,560
Gym and lobby	\$308,136
Locker rooms	\$22,544
Total (including equipment)	\$1,013,240

bond issues also were aimed at reducing overcrowding.

A supplemental override levy requires only a simple majority, not the two-thirds supermajority a bond issue requires.

Also, the levy asks voters only for a two-year commitment, not the 20-year commitment sought in a bond issue.

Times-News writer Theresa Jacoby can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 259.

TF Council approves canal water for new developments

By Brian Haynes
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The City Council approved an ordinance Monday to use canal water instead of drinkable water for irrigation in new developments.

The decision came after an hour and a half of heated discussion, mostly about whether the Council should pass the ordinance before specific standards were worked out.

"No one has advocated this policy more than I have," but we're rushing into it," Councilman Tom Kilstead said.

Other members of the council emphasized that the policy needed to be in place before standards were worked out.

"Either we do limit the use of potable water for irrigation or we don't," Mayor Gale Kleinkopf said.

The ordinance, which applies to any new subdivision or planned unit development bigger than two acres, requires canal

water be used for irrigation.

The ordinance was brought on by a water committee's recommendation earlier this year. Without a limit on drinking water use, the city's water supply won't be enough to meet demand, the committee said.

After debate the Council passed the ordinance and said the standards must be ready within 30 days.

The ordinance was approved by the Council 5-1, but that won't be the end of it.

If the Council approves the recommendations, the Planning Commission will recommend change certain zoning ordinances, which must then get the Council's approval.

The Council also approved painting turn lanes at the intersection of Fillmore Street and Pole Line Road.

Officials stress safety after Declo accident

By John T. Huddy
Times-News writer

DECLO - In the wake of an accidental shooting of a 16-year-old Declo boy, Cassia County Sheriff's Department officials are stressing the importance of safety when handling firearms.

William Wyatt Rodgers was accidentally shot in the head while he and a 16-year-old male

friend were playing around with rifles, a sheriff's report says.

The accident occurred around 5 p.m. Friday afternoon as the juveniles played at Rodgers' home. Rodgers was dead when sheriff's deputies and emergency personnel arrived at the scene.

The report says that Rodgers and his friend had returned home from school Friday afternoon and began playing with two

rifles. Rodgers' friend said they were practicing loading and unloading the weapons.

The friend said he got up to move from the sofa he was sitting on. When he got up, he said he slipped, dropping the rifle to the floor. The rifle went off, shooting Rodgers in the head.

Sheriff's department detectives are still investigating the

Please see GUN, Page B2

Sheriff calms fears, outlines Blaine County handgun incident

By Barb Nelwert
Times-News correspondent

HAILEY - Blaine County Sheriff Walt Fleming Monday outlined the case against a teen-ager charged with threatening a 15-year-old girl with a handgun, and stopped short of saying the incident was gang-related.

Fleming also tried to allay some fears about the incident - especially in light of last week's shootings at a Liletton, Colo., high school.

"I see a need right now to try to de-escalate any type of panic in the community,"

Fleming said at a news conference.

The sheriff's office and school officials have received calls from parents, because an arrest in the Blaine County case was made one day after the shooting at Columbine High School in Liletton. But Fleming Monday underscored some key facts about the local case.

The suspect - Jonathan Wilkins, 18, of Hailey - was arrested Wednesday in the principal's office of Wood River High School, but the incident in question actually took place March 24 at a home in Ketchum's Weynakin subdivision. No hand-

gun was brought to school.

After a two-week investigation, Wilkins was charged with aggravated assault, a felony that holds a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a \$5,000 bond.

Fleming said the incident occurred after the victim invited Wilkins to the home of a friend she was visiting in the subdivision. Wilkins was one of four people who drove to the house. Police say Wilkins showed a clip into the handgun while he waited in the car, then pointed the gun in the direction of the victim and made threatening remarks. The victim said she was "scared for her

life" during the incident, investigating officer Tasha Bradshaw said in a report filed with court documents.

Wilkins was arraigned in District Court Thursday and released on \$5,000 bond. A preliminary hearing has not been set.

The sheriff's office has not recovered the handgun in question, Fleming said.

According to court documents, Wilkins is a Wood River High School senior, has no prior record and has been accepted as a student at the Seattle Art Institute.

The investigation continues, Fleming said.

VALLEY IN BRIEF

St. Benedicts holds annual health fair
JEROME - St. Benedict's Family Medical Center welcomes the community to participate in its annual Health Awareness Fair from 6:30 to 10 a.m. today, Wednesday and Thursday. Blood tests will be available for \$10 and will include testing for glucose, triglycerides and HDL, LDL and VLDL cholesterol. The hospital recommends participants fast 10 hours before attending. Blood test results will be mailed one week after the fair, a hospital release said.
 A continental breakfast will be served after the blood tests. Life Flight, Saint Alphonsus' air transport service, will have a helicopter on display today and Wednesday and staff will be on hand to give information about the service.
 St. Benedict's is offering a monography special throughout May. The screenings will cost \$60 and include professional and tech fees. To schedule an appointment, call 324-4301, ext. 233.

Buhl hearing will discuss highway study
BUHL - A public hearing is scheduled for tonight to discuss a Buhl-Wendell highway corridor study.
 The meeting is scheduled for 7 p.m. at the Buhl Moose Hall, 1101 Main St.
 Project coordinators will present the project and the planning process, introduce various players involved in the project, and then take comments and concerns from the public.
 The Idaho Transportation Department is funding the study, sponsored by the city of Buhl and the Buhl and Wendell highway districts.
 For more information, call Riedel Engineering at 733-2446 or KMP Planning at 734-6208.

Minico schedules vocal concert
RUPERT - The Minidoka County School District's spring vocal concert will be held at 7 p.m. on May 6, at the Minico High School auditorium.
 The concert will feature the East Minico and West Minico junior high school choirs, the Minico Concert Choir, the Minico Spartan Singers and the Minico Reflections.
 Admission is \$2 for adults and \$1 for students. A compact disc featuring the Spartan Singers and Reflections can be ordered at the concert for \$15.
 Tickets are available at the end of May.
 For more information call 436-5355, Ext. 153.

Compiled from staff reports



Casala County commissioners Paul Christensen, Dennis Crane and Shirley Povlsen talk with Algot Coltrin, who constructed the new dispatch center at the Casala County Law Enforcement Building. The new center comes along with an enhanced 911 system in the county.

Dispatch center nears completion

By John T. Hudley
Times-News writer

BURLEY - A new dispatch center in the Casala County Law Enforcement Building should be up and running by May.

Casala County commissioners Paul Christensen, Dennis Crane and Shirley Povlsen toured the center Monday. The new center, which cost more than \$3,000,000 and is located in the south wing of the building, will include three computer terminals, an office, a radio room and a bathroom.

Linda Martinez, a dispatcher for the sheriff's department, said she was looking forward to moving into the new center.

"There's more space for us to lay out our papers and we can be away from the public," said the current dispatch center is located at the public entrance of the law enforcement building. When people come into the sheriff's department with questions or concerns, the dispatchers have to act as receptionists. This is not only distracting but dangerous as well, Martinez said.

"It will be much more easier to concentrate in the new area now," Martinez said. "We have to answer emergency calls and can't be distracted by the public."

The new dispatch center will be about 21-feet by 24-feet. It will be handicapped-accessible,

Algot Coltrin, owner of the contractor Coltrin Enterprises Inc., said.

Coltrin has done construction and remodeling of other county offices and buildings, including the Burley City Hall, the law enforcement building, the 5th District magistrate courtroom in the Casala County Courthouse and the commissioners' meeting room in the basement of the courthouse.

While equipment is being moved into the new center, a computer terminal will be left in the current dispatch area in case there are any electrical problems with the new operation. When the new center is up and running, the old area will be turned

into a public-reception area, Martinez said.

The new center comes amid plans to enhance the county's 911 system, which is expected to be in operation by July.

"It's a good resource for the area," Christensen said. "We wanted to do it with the enhanced 911 system."

The new system, which will cost the county \$2,500 per month, will give dispatchers caller identification complete with a name, address and background information if there is any.

Times-News Staff writer John T. Hudley can be reached in Burley at 677-4042.

Minidoka woman fears possible cancer cluster

By John T. Hudley
Times-News writer

RUPERT - Teresa Herrera is so sure that she has a "Cancer Ridge" problem of 10 years ago might be back and taking a new generation of victims.

Herrera, a Minidoka County resident, expressed her concerns Monday to the county commissioners about a recent string of cancer cases that have been reported in the county.

"I truly believe it is necessary to find out what's going on out there," Herrera said.

Ten years ago, more than 100 people were reported as having cancer in an area east of Meridian Road. This area was called "Cancer Ridge" because of the abnormally high number of people who got sick, Herrera said.

Now, more than 40 cancer cases have been reported in a 5-square-mile tract of land about 21 miles north of Paul and just east of "Cancer Ridge." More than 100 cases of cancer have been reported in Minidoka County as a whole in the last year, Herrera said.

Herrera told the commissioners about her efforts to get the area checked out for possible contaminants in the water or air. She said she has asked numerous pesticide agencies to conduct tests in the area. She has gone to the Idaho Department of Agriculture, the Idaho Fish and Game Department and even the Environmental Protection Agency.

None have been willing to work with her, she said.

"We've been getting the run-around from all the agencies,"



Minidoka County resident Teresa Herrera meets with County Commissioners L. Donald Handy, Larry Harper and Dennis Crane at their meeting Monday. Herrera was concerned about a high rate of cancer cases around Minidoka County.

"I think the industry is very cognizant of our concerns," Rensberg said. "But I still remain very concerned."

Rensberg said he worried about the truckloads of chemicals being brought into the county and used on the farmland. He added, however, that the chemical industry has been revolutionized and environmentally is much safer.

Herrera said she didn't want to bad-mouth farmers, she just wanted to alert the commissioners to her concerns and ask for their help.

"I want to make people more aware," Herrera said. "I hope to get someone to come into the

area and do some tests."

The next step for Herrera is to contact the Southcentral District Health Department. She said she hopes the agency will be amenable to her concerns and will perform some tests in the area.

The commissioners said if tests were done and statistics proved there was a problem with pesticides or other chemicals polluting the soil and air, they would help out.

"The health department said they would run statistics on the area," commissioner Larry Harper said. "If the statistics show that there is something causing the problems, then we'll get involved."

local auto dealer.

"I'm sure that the sentiments are all over the spectrum," said Paulos, also waiting for word about the retailer's identity.

In the long term, the development will be one of the best things that has happened to Jerome's retail sector, but there's concern in the short term about existing businesses, he said.

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 242.

Futuristic flying machine prepares for its first tests

SANTA CLARA, Calif. (AP) - Up, up and away, commuters. Two Silicon Valley engineers frustrated by jammed highways, have designed a jetson-like flying machine to hover above the busy streets.

"The traffic here is horrible," said Robert Bulaga, chief engineer of the SoloTrek "Exoskeleton Flying Vehicle." "I'd love to be able to fly to work in this."

Michael Moshier, who invented the SoloTrek, unveiled his 8-foot-tall prototype Monday in a free small and private laboratory.

It looks like a giant mechanical bug. Pilots are strapped, standing up, in the middle.

The SoloTrek, three years in the making at a cost of \$1 million, has until now been a top-secret project for the two aerospace engineers. It hasn't actually left the ground yet, but the first test launch is now just a few months away, Moshier said.

"I sleep it, I read it, I eat it, I dream it. This just can't wait to go up," said Moshier, a former Navy combat pilot.

The SoloTrek's pilot stands on two footrests and controls the wing-bank-back. The gizmo is maneuvered by gripping handles that control the tilt and speed of command ducts blowing air at about 45 mph. A helmet slips over the pilot's head; a built-

in final sensor prevents the device from turning on unless the pilot is identified as having been through a rigorous training course.

"The last thing we want is John Q. Public to get in one of these things and go out and kill themselves," said Bulaga, who has spent the past two decades as an aerospace engineer. An active pilot, Bulaga is also a flight instructor who performs in air shows.

As an additional safety feature, the SoloTrek includes a built-in parachute that can be deployed in half a second and works from as low as 30 feet above ground.

Initially, Moshier said the vehicle will probably be used by the military or law enforcement for disaster response, search and rescue and other emergencies. But eventually, they would like to see them used for recreation and commuting.

Moshier said the prototype will allow pilots to take off straight up and land literally anywhere a person can stand. It's supposed to go up to 60 mph, climb to 10,000 feet if necessary, and get about 20 miles to the gallon of regular gasoline. When it reaches command ducts blowing air, Moshier said it should cost about the same as a luxury car.

Judge sets date for closing arguments in murder case

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) - The judge in the trial of two alleged white supremacists accused of murdering an Arkansas family said Monday he will allow limited testimony from three prisoners who say a prosecution witness told them he gave false information to investigators.

U.S. District Judge C. Thomas Eisele said he would allow testimony from Ohio state prisoners James Harrison, Deono Glenard and Robert Taylor about certain comments Cheyne Kehoe made to them while he was in prison in Ohio.

Kehoe is the brother of Chevie Kehoe of Colville, Wash., who is on trial on racketeering, conspira-

cy and murder charges, along with Danny Lee of Yukon, Okla.

The judge said he would allow limited testimony from the three prisoners Tuesday, after which the defense is expected to rest. The judge scheduled Wednesday as a day off in the two-month-old trial, which is set to resume on Thursday. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty.

Cheyne Kehoe, an unindicted co-conspirator in the indictment, has testified for the prosecution that his brother related how Chevie Kehoe and Lee killed Tilly gun dealer William Mueller, Mueller's wife, Nancy, and her 8-year-old daughter, Sarah Powell, in January 1996.

Gun

Continued from B1

shooting. No other information had been released as of Monday evening, Capt. Jim Hignens said.

Hignens stressed the importance of safety when handling weapons whether they are unloaded or not.

"You have to make sure you treat every gun as if it was loaded," Hignens said. "This wasn't a matter of young children getting into mom and dad's guns. These two were young adults who had handled

weapons before."

It doesn't matter if the person handling the weapon is a child, a teenager or an adult. Weapons do not discriminate and should be treated with the same respect and with extreme care, Hignens said.

Hignens did not know specifically what kinds of firearms were involved in the accident, he said.

Times-News staff writer John T. Hudley can be reached in Burley at 677-4042.

Traffic

Continued from B1

wider lanes and either street-side parking or a parking zone on the planned centering location.

Lewis didn't know when road work would commence.

"Everybody's getting excited," Rodney Williams, Jerome's building official, announced a preliminary site plan on Monday that shows building location, parking and site access. But it's not a building permit application and it doesn't show structural

details or interior layout, Wilson said.

And it doesn't name a name.

The Jerome site is even larger than the 117,000-square-foot home-improvement center The Home Depot chain plans for Twin Falls.

The development's largest building will be 152,420 square feet, Cecil said. Also, three one-acre pads - spaces available for commercial operations - are planned west of the huge retail store, fronting South Lincoln.

Within 30 to 45 days, Cecil said, city officials expect to see building plans so they can issue a building permit.

"We're excited about this development, and we look forward to the announcement," Cecil said.

Elsewhere in town, some are elated about the prospect of a big, traffic-drawning retailer. And some are terrified it will put them out of business, said Con Paulos, a chamber of commerce executive board member and

local auto dealer.

"I'm sure that the sentiments are all over the spectrum," said Paulos, also waiting for word about the retailer's identity.

In the long term, the development will be one of the best things that has happened to Jerome's retail sector, but there's concern in the short term about existing businesses, he said.

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 242.

IDAHO/WEST

Tax collection builds cash surplus

Revenues exceed expectations again



Dan Boush

BOISE (AP) — The Kempthorne administration opened the week with good economic news — another across-the-board surge in state tax collections in March that pushed the cash surplus to its highest level of the budget year.

It was the second time in just five months that every revenue category performed ahead of monthly projections, creating a financial cushion of \$34.7 million heading into the final quarter of the spending year.

"Each of these is a surprise at the moment, but that's welcome news," a cautious Gov. Dick Kempthorne said on Monday as the monthly financial update was issued. "We still believe it's going to be a tight budget year."

Indeed, the excess collections amount to only a fraction of the \$1.6 billion expected to be generated by the tax system through June. That is growth of just 4 percent over the previous year, matching the annual levels during the non-spending days of

the mid-1980s. But if it holds through the rest of the budget year —

But paycheck withholding, a key indicator of the economy's underlying job strength, was significantly higher and more than offset weak direct tax payments.

Chief economist Mitchell Ferguson called that "consistent with very strong employment growth in the first three months of 1992."

Sales tax collections, which reflect consumer confidence in the economy, were \$700,000 higher than projected for March, pushing surplus revenue from that tax to \$7.4 million. That more than offsets the one-time \$6.5 million state got in back sales taxes uncovered by Tax Commission auditors.

But a \$1.3 million bulge in miscellaneous revenue resulted from another one-time payment in back mix license taxes that auditors found.

improved processing and accelerated filing that apparently led to higher-than-expected refunds in February.

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Paleontologist identifies two dinosaur species

CLEVELAND (AP) — Bones found over the past two years have led to the identification of two new species of heavily armored dinosaurs larger than elephants, a researcher said Monday.

The species, both 30 feet long, are of an ankylosaur, or club-tailed armored dinosaur that's the oldest ever found, and a clubless armored dinosaur or nodosaur, the biggest on record, said James Kirkland, incoming state paleontologist for Utah.

He said they were identified as new species because the bones differ from those of known dinosaurs. The bones include two partial skulls, limb bones, a handful of armor and some backbones of the ankylosaur and a shoulder blade and several dozen smaller bones of the nodosaur.

The remains of the plant-eaters were found in a Price, Utah, fossil bed that has been a productive area for dinosaur researchers.

Analysis This
(R) 12-15, 230; 4-45, 7-20, 9-40

Out Of Towners
(PO-1) 12-15, 230, 4-45, 7-20, 9-40

Lost and Found
(PO-19) 12-10, 220, 4-25, 7-10, 9-30

Pushing Tin
(R) 12-20, 330, 7-30, 9-25

GO
(R) 12-20, 225, 4-50, 7-16, 9-15

She's All That
(PO-15) 12-25, 225, 4-10, 7-25, 9-25

HIGHLY RECOMMENDED BY THE STAY
INFORMATION CENTER

GRAND OPENING
SATURDAY, MAY 1
Cooking At Home

Com Beef & Krellish sandwiches and other food samples
Drawing for a free DeLonghi convection toaster oven
KHX live remote from 11 am to 1 pm with the Super Prize Machine and prizes up to \$1000
Come and join the fun at *Cooking At Home*
733-8191
778 Falls Ave. Suite C1 in the Turf Plaza

Off-hours work creates concern for city leaders

LOGAN, Utah (AP) — Some City Council members say it may be inappropriate for the police chief to work for Armoxy with other employees from the police department.

"That makes me a little uncomfortable," Logan Councilwoman Karen Burg said. "What do you do if your boss on the outside is your subordinate in the city? Or vice versa?"

Mayor Doug Thompson said he's conducted two investigations into whether Police Chief Richard Hendrick considered police department employees' involvement in distributing Armoxy products when he made decisions about hiring and promoting. However, Thompson said he found no evidence of wrongdoing.

But Councilman Steve Thompson said, while the influence might not be intentional, it might be unavoidable.

"It could create some confusion," said Thompson, who admitted he harbors a bias against multilevel marketing enterprises.

Community — A page for you and your activities. Find it in *The Times-News* 5 days a week.

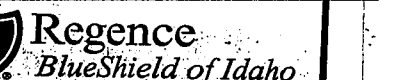


"We have 350 employees and it's important to take care of every one of them."

Rhonda Millick, Franklin Building Supply

As the Chief Financial Officer of Franklin Building Supply of Boise, Rhonda takes health insurance seriously. It's the most important benefit a company can offer to employees and their families. Idahoans like Rhonda want a dependable health insurance company that will back them up when they need it, with flexible plans and a large network of doctors and hospitals.

Our goal is to be that company. It's just one reason why we've joined The Regence Group of affiliated health plans in Idaho, Washington, Oregon and Utah. The combined resources of The Regence Group will enable us to continue providing dependable health insurance, and a variety of products — for groups, individuals and seniors — for generations to come.



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We start with the **BEST BEEF** to bring you the **BEST TASTE**.
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\$7.95

Complete Dinner: 6 oz. steak, baked potato & salad
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We'll beat anybody's "House" Sirloin.

THE ORPHEUS
Lida Murphy 7:00
Martin Lawrence (R) 9:20

JEROME CINEMA
Eddie Murphy Life (R) 7:15-9:15
Never Been Kissed (R) 9:20-9:50
Lost & Found (R) 7:15-9:15
The Matrix (R) 9:20-9:50

TWIN CINEMA 12
The Matrix (R) 7:20-9:47
Ed TV (R) 1:00-3:45
Patch Adams (R) 7:15-9:45
Shogun (R) 12:01-4:47
Never Been Kissed (R) 1:30-2:45
Baby Geniuses (R) 5:30
Forces of Nature (R) 7:20-9:30
October Sky (R) 12:15-2:40
10 Things I Hate (R) 3:00-5:15
Doug's 1st Movie (R) 12:01-1:15
The King & I (R) 3:30-4:45
True Crime (R) 7:00-7:15
The Other Sister (R) 6:45-8:15
Star Wars: Episode One (R) 12:01-1:15

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Improving the quality of life



Jack Rasmussen to Frances Wells

Jack Rasmussen drops Frances Wells off for dialysis treatment in Jerome. Rasmussen calls volunteering a fulfilling experience.



Kevin Kraal

Dr. Kevin Kraal talks to a medical student in the emergency room at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Volunteer drivers fill need for dialysis patients in region

By Rachel Denny
Times-News correspondent

JEROME — Without a volunteer to drive her to dialysis in Jerome, Frances Wells doesn't know what she would do. Thanks to Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers, she can continue to live in her own home in Filer and take care of herself.

"It would be difficult without the volunteers," she says. "One of the medications I'm taking, they don't advise me to drive. That's why I'm using the volunteer services."

"The need in the Magic Valley for people to transport dialysis patients is growing and there are not enough volunteers to fill the need."

"We provide the service where there are no other avenues available," says executive director of Interfaith, Nora Wells, no relation to Frances. "The people we help have no other way to get there. We are available when all else fails."

The dialysis unit is located at St. Benedict's Family Medical Center, but will move later this year to Twin Falls. Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center is a partner in the new dialysis, which will be expanded.

Interfaith volunteers transport at least six people each week, but many of those people must go to dialysis about three times a week for treatments that last between four to five hours. So, two volunteers are needed for each patient, one to drop them off and one to pick them up.

"It is an urgent need, there is a growing number of especially older people who do not have transportation to dialysis," Nora Wells says. "If someone has a few hours a week, it could make all the

Want to help?
 Volunteer for dialysis transportation (no car). More info at Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers • 733-NEED.

difference in the quality of their care."

"One of the goals of Interfaith is to help people stay at home as long as possible. If this (dialysis transportation) was not available to them they might not have any alternative but to go to a care facility," Nora Wells says.

And that is one thing many patients don't want.

"I can live in my home and still have a fairly active life," Frances Wells says. "They take it upon themselves the responsibility of being a volunteer. They get no pay for it, they do it on their own."

One volunteer, Jack Rasmussen of Twin Falls, says that people should give something back to their community if they can.

"As an adult, I needed to do something and commit something to the community that has done such a nice job," he says. "It's a fulfilling task, there's no question about it, and I enjoy working very much with Interfaith."

Interfaith volunteers also provide a variety of services throughout the Magic Valley, including respite care for the homebound caregivers, housekeeping, yard work and friendly visits.

"Volunteering does so much for the community and the person volunteering," Nora Wells adds. "It builds a stronger community bond. It gets people away from their own needs and helps them focus on others. Some day we'll be in need, and hopefully, someone will be there for us."

By Janet Mitchell
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — With a humanity his co-workers appreciate and a competence his patients rely on, Kevin Kraal diffuses tension in the harried reality of trauma drama.

An emergency-room physician at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center for nearly 10 years, Kraal works in some of medicine's most critical moments.

But staff members say Kraal also has had a larger impact on the community. Kraal, the hospital's medical director of paramedics, was instrumental in getting Life Flight, an air ambulance service, off the ground in Twin Falls.

His involvement in the hospital's performance improvement team speaks directly to his goal of continuous quality improvement.

"There's always something more that can be done to improve the quality of care and patient satisfaction," Kraal says.

He's off to an excellent start, medical staff coordinator Anne Jensen says. She worked with Kraal during his term as hospital chief of staff from 1996 to 1998.

"His aim truly is to better patient care. He is a great leader, a combination of clinical expertise and human compassion."

The emergency room has gained attention for its treatment of heart attack patients by reducing door-to-needle times — the time between a cardiac patient's arrival and the administration of a clot-busting drug that dissolves the problem.

When the national target time was one hour, Magic Valley Regional touted a 42-

About Kevin Kraal
 Kevin Kraal attended Central College in Middletown, Wis. He graduated from the Medical College of Oregon Health Sciences Institute in 1982. He completed a family practice residency at the University of Oregon. He is board certified in Family Practice by the American Board of Family Practice. He is a past president of the Magic Valley Family Physicians of Idaho. From 1989 to the present he has been a full-time emergency physician with the Emergency Physicians of Idaho and works at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

minute response. After responding to nurses' suggestions, the time was cut to 24 minutes, and later reduced further to 18 minutes, one of the fastest in the nation, says Kraal, who presented information about the hospital's success to national symposiums in Florida.

"If you want to have a heart attack, this is one of the best places in the country to do it. I'm real proud of that," Kraal says.

Recently, he was named the medical director of the Magic Valley SAFE KIDS Coalition, which is dedicated to improving the safety of children, says coalition director Blossom Mathews. He replaced Dr. Paul Miles, who recently vacated the position.

"As an emergency-room physician, Kevin has direct experience seeing what it is that the coalition is trying to prevent," Mathews says.

Kraal emphasizes that his successes are founded in the hospital's support and willingness to improve patient care.

"What drives this facility is the urge to do it better. The vision of MVRMC is to make the Magic Valley the healthiest place in the country, without question," Kraal says.

He understands that improvements happen one project at a time.

"We can't fix the world at once, so instead we say, 'Let's focus on this ...,'" Kraal says.

"For example, the improvement team observed that the mammogram rate in the Magic Valley was well below national target numbers, and a survey of the female population at the hospital revealed similar findings. The team first focused on the women within the hospital walls.

"We increased education here first, asking 'why?' and addressing issues with employees. Then, we can take the lessons learned in-house out to the wider community," Kraal says.

People in the community also must play an active role, he says.

"We create our own realities. People aren't wearing seat belts and smoking cigarettes keep me in business," Kraal says.

In a job that could take its toll, Kraal is still learning new tricks, like running marathons. He ran his first marathon last fall and is gearing up for his next 26.2 mile run on Saturday in Boise.

Emergency room clinical manager Marlene Rodgers says that in the world of cold metal gurneys, Kraal's approach is a soft touch.

"He's caring, compassionate, open-minded and non-judgmental; those are pretty big words for such a little guy," Rodgers says with a grin.

"I can't imagine any work more fascinating," says Kraal.

Bliss High School students make Constitution come alive



Clayton Pleyta, left, and Brian Vandervort from Bliss High School Constitution Club scrape a fence for painting as part of activities emphasizing civic responsibility.

By Dare Jensen
Times-News correspondent

BLISS — A class that started out studying the U.S. Constitution has turned the spirit of the document into actions.

The class at Bliss High School has started a Constitution Club that purs an emphasis on consumer responsibility.

Recently, the students painted Sam Bishop's house and a fence for Ruby Bishop, both senior citizens in the Bliss community. Powdered Pains and Ace Hardware of Twin Falls donated materials.

"People talk about their rights, but what about our responsibility to give back to the community?" says Robbie Sauer, teacher and school principal.

"It is part of your civic responsibility to learn about government and to take an active role in the community," student Darla Brizendine says.

"This is a good project," parent Kim Faulkner says. "Mr. Sauer and kids are to be commended."

The students also participated in a Constitution concert attended by several Magic Valley schools.

"It was a great learning experience for me as well as everyone in the Constitution class," student Mickey Jensen says. "It is good for people to get out and take challenges for themselves and if they exceed that challenge, they believe they can do anything."

The students say they have learned the Constitution is more than history.

"The class has taught me to voice my opinions and be tolerant of others and their feelings," student Jeremy Norsteborn says. "You need to listen to others so you may be informed."

Tara Brizendine gained not only an appreciation for the workings of American government but for the people who formed that government.

"We need to give credit to our founding fathers for their foresight," the student says. "We take our freedom for granted. We learn information we need to know for when we grow up we will be the leaders. It is our responsibility to know."

Other students in the club include Mark Bennett, Martha Diaz, Rachel Faulkner, Anni Gough, Dana La Croix and Josh Rance.



Mickey Jensen

Pictured left to right are Mickey Jensen, Jenni Sawyer, parent Julie Gough, Tara Brizendine and teacher Robbie Sauer as they scrape a house to prepare for painting.

COMMUNITY



At a state competition, Bon Hamlett, left, took first place in electronic presentation, electronic project and laboratory. He won semester scholarships at the College of Southern Idaho, each worth \$618. He also took second place in car design. Paul Hamlett took first in prepared presentation and won a \$618 semester scholarship to CSI. He also was selected state Technical Student Association president. They are students from Twin Falls High School.

Photo courtesy of Robert Stuart Junior High

Local technology students shine at competition

TWIN FALLS - Five technology students from Robert Stuart Jr. High and two from Twin Falls High School placed in competition at the State Technology Student Association conference at the College of Southern Idaho March 11-13th.

Students competed in events such as tech bowl, problem solving, structural engineering, digital imaging, safety poster, prepared presentation, job interview, electronics and more.

They competed against students from around Idaho and as far away as Moscow and Idaho Falls.

Jim Siggaard is advisor for the Stuart and Twin Falls High School Technology Student Association chapters.

Allison Koopman and Christina Rabe, both seventh grade students, won the team gold in structural engineering, where students designed and built a bridge out of balsawood

and glue. Derek Wheeler, a ninth grade student, and Ashley Bordeyck, a seventh grader, won the third-place bronze metal in structural engineering.

Wheeler also went on to win another bronze when he teamed up with Kelsie Skrudlund, a ninth-grader, in problem solving. This year's problem solving competition entailed building a transportation device powered only by a mouse trap and a balloon.

SENIOR CALENDAR

<p>Twin Falls Senior Citizens Center 685 Eastland Drive Dinner served from noon to 12:30 p.m. Suggested donation is \$3 for seniors. The cost is \$4 for non-seniors under 60 and \$2.50 for children under 12. Tuesday: Film Wednesday: Birthday roast Thursday: Anniversary salad Friday: Spaghetti Saturday: French breakfast Monday: Swiss steak</p> <p>Activities: No more exercise classes for the summer. Library, Pool Room, and Bargain Center with cards, games, color televisions, puzzles and movies. Open weekdays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Tuesday: Blood pressure check 10 a.m. to noon Wednesday: Quilting 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Thursday: Dinner Friday: Pinchle at 1 p.m. Anniversary dinner Friday: Officer at 2:30 p.m. Blood pressure at 10 a.m. to noon Bingo at noon meal Saturday: Quilting from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Four clinic by appointment.</p>	<p>begins at 1:30 p.m.</p> <p>West End Senior Citizens Inc. 1010 Main St., Buhl Noon meals served Monday through Friday. Buffet meal at 1 p.m. on Sunday. Evening meals served at 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday. Suggested donation for meals is voluntary: \$2.50, Sundays \$3.50, non-seniors \$4.25 and children under 12-year-old \$2.50. Meals can be delivered Monday through Friday. Call 543-4577 for more information. Free bus service to and from meals is available Monday evening, Tuesday noon and Thursday noon and evening. Please call 543-4577 by 10 a.m. to arrange a ride. Thrift shop open every day. Tuesday: Pork chops Wednesday: Beef pot pie Thursday: Corned beef and cabbage Friday: Rubeen sandwich Saturday: Roast, Beef buffet Monday: Picnic</p> <p>Activities Tuesday: Quilting 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday: Exercises at 10 a.m. Thursday: Quilting 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Friday: Free hearing screening at 11:45 a.m. Bingo after noon meal Cards after evening meal Friday: Exercises at 10 a.m. Saturday</p>	<p>Fishing trip to Hagerman, call 543-4577 for details Sunday Buffet at 1 p.m. Meals Exercise at 10 a.m. Picnic meal at noon Evening meal at 5:30 p.m. with cards following.</p> <p>Filer Senior Haven 222 Main St., Filer Dinners served at noon on Tuesday and Thursday and at 6 p.m. on Friday. Suggested donation is \$2 for seniors. Home delivered meals available each meal time. Tuesday: Roast beef sandwich Thursday: Birthday fried chicken Friday: Baked meatloaf</p> <p>Ageloss Senior Citizens Inc. 300 Main N., Kimberly Wednesday: Beef biscuit roll Friday: Hot turkey sandwich Saturday: Pork chops Monday: Chili</p> <p>Activities Thursday: Wellness exercise class at 9:30 a.m. Cards at 10 a.m. Friday: Bingo at 11:55 a.m. Pinchle at 1 p.m. Sunday: Sandwich dinner from noon to 2 p.m., \$5 for adults and \$2.50 for children 12 and under. The public is invited.</p>
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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Magic Valley Doll Club meets in Filer
FILER - The Magic Valley Doll Club meets at 1:30 p.m. Thursday at the home of Ruby Lierman at 2383 3800 N.
New members and visitors are welcome. For more information, call 326-4653.

Ascension Church hosts indoor garage sale
TWIN FALLS - Ascension Episcopal Church will host an indoor garage sale noon to 6 p.m. Friday and 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the church, 210 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. in Twin Falls.

Buhl High School presents mystery
BUHL - Buhl High School and Phantom Pig Productions will present the musical murder mystery "Something's Afoot" at 7:30 p.m. Thursday through Saturday in the Buhl Middle School Auditorium.
Tickets are \$5 for adults and \$3 for students. Admission is free for students with activity cards.
The public is invited to the opening night gala at 7 p.m. on Thursday. Refreshments will be served.

CSI Halley center offers Spanish cooking
HAILEY - The College of Southern Idaho Blaine County Center is offering a one-night class on Spanish cooking.
Chef Eric who has 15 years of experience in the food industry,

will teach students how to prepare authentic cuisine.
The class will meet at Eric's Restaurant in Hailey from 6:30 to 9 p.m. tonight. The cost is \$15 per student, plus materials.
Call the CSI Blaine County Center today at 782-2033.

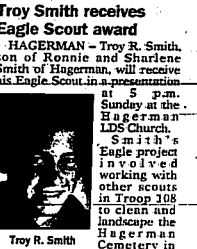
Kimberly hosts incoming freshman orientation
KIMBERLY - Kimberly High School will hold an orientation for the parents of eighth-graders. The orientation start at 2 p.m. in the auditorium and 6:30 p.m. in the high school library.
Parents will fill out registration forms and learn about new programs the school is offering.
For more information, call Debbie Klug at 423-5541, Ext. 3112.

Twin Falls Library holds puppet show, story time
TWIN FALLS - The children's staff at Twin Falls Public Library invites children and families to the last "Friday at Four" puppet show and story time at 4 p.m. Friday.
Among the spring stories to be featured are "Pigs in the Mud in the Middle of the Road" by Lynn Plurdey and "Piggy Makes Applesauce" by Judith Schick.
The puppet show will be an adaptation of "Peter Rabbit" by Beatrix Potter.
No pre-registration is required.

Annual Postal Food Drive Underway in May
TWIN FALLS - The Annual Postal Food Drive will be held May 8.
The drive also is coordinated by the United-Way of Magic Valley.
Postal workers will collect food that Twin Falls residents place in plastic bags at their mail boxes, coordinators say.
This food drive is the primary way that local food pantries and food banks are replenished, the United Way says.
Food donations can also be dropped off from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 8 at Smith's, Fred Meyer, the Lynwood IGA or the Albertson's on Blue Lakes Boulevard North.

Camas County Library site of INEEL display
FAIRFIELD - The Environment, Science and Research Foundation will place an informational display describing the foundation's Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory off-site environmental monitoring program May 3-27 at the Camas County District Library in Fairfield.
Through a contract with the U.S. Department of Energy, the foundation says, it conducts the off-site environmental monitoring program at the INEEL.
The program involves testing pathways that radionuclides could take from the INEEL to reach members of the public and the off-site environment through air, water, soil, game animals, livestock and locally-grown or produced foods, the foundation says.
The display will describe the program and explain the results of the surveillance.

Troy Smith receives Eagle Scout award
HAGERMAN - Troy R. Smith, son of Ronnie and Shardene Smith of Hagerman, will receive his Eagle Scout in a presentation at 5 p.m. Sunday at the Hagerman LDS Church.
Smith's Eagle project involved working with other scouts in Troop 108 to clean and landscape Hagerman Cemetery in preparation for Memorial Day. He also repaired and painted the fences at the cemetery, made a new sign and cleaned headstones.
The Scoutmaster for Troop 108 is Jon Clapier and the group is sponsored by Hagerman LDS 1st Ward.
Smith has completed 27 merit badges preceding this award.
He is a junior at Hagerman High School and has participated in varsity football and basketball and is the assistant priest's leader in Hagerman 1st Ward.

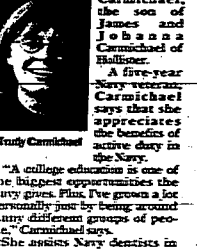


Troy R. Smith

Hodkins graduates from Warrant Officer school
CHAD E. HODKINS graduated from the Warrant Officer Candidate School and was appointed as an Army warrant officer at Fort Rucker in Daleville, Ala.
Hodkins received training and experience in Leadership, Army doctrine and tactics, drill and ceremonies, military uniforms, land navigation, military history, professional ethics and physical training.
Hodkins, a 1996 graduate of Kimberly High School, is the son of William E. Hodkins of Twin Falls and Pamela Hodkins of Kimberly. His wife, Christine, is the daughter of Craig and Barbara Heffelfinger of Kimberly.

Carmichael works as Navy dental technician
TRUDY A. CARMICHAEL, a 23-year-old dental technician in the U.S. Navy, is married to Jason Carmichael, the son of James and Johnna Carmichael of Hailey.
A five-year Navy veteran, Carmichael says that he appreciates the benefits of active duty in the Navy.
"A college education is one of the biggest opportunities the Navy gives. Plus, I've grown a lot personally just by being around many different groups of people," Carmichael says.
She assists Navy dentists in providing all aspects of dental health care to sailors.
"The reason I joined the Navy was to see the world and serve my country," Carmichael said.

Larson graduates from Air Force basic
ERIC A. LARSEN has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas.
During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization and customs and received special training in human relations.
Larson, a 1998 graduate of Kimberly High School, is the son of Alan Larson of Kimberly, and Kathy Covert of St. George, Utah.

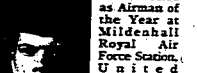


Eric Larson

Wood assigned to vessel near Kosovo
ROBERT A. WOOD, son of Robert O. Wood of Twin Falls, has arrived in the Adriatic Sea while assigned to the aircraft carrier USS Enterprise, homeported in Norfolk, Va.
Currently on a six-month deployment, the vessel is the lead ship of the USS Enterprise Battle Group. The ship arrived in the area to increase NATO presence near the Yugoslavian province of Kosovo.
Shortly after arriving, the vessel's air wing began conducting flight operations.
Wood graduated from high school in Pendleton, Ore., in 1978, and joined the Navy in 1981. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy.

Milo Davis selected as Airman of the Year
MILO T. DAVIS, assigned to the 627th Air Mobility Support Squadron, has been selected as Airman of the Year at Mildenhall Royal Air Force Station, United Kingdom.
His grandfather, Bill Davis of Buhl, says Davis' accomplishments have been praised by the White House Communications Agency, Hughes and Boeing Aircraft representatives and a senior U.S. Secret Service agent for his outstanding execution of short notice tasking.
Milo Davis has also participated in numerous NATO exercises

Taylor completes training in Aniston
NICHOLAS A. TAYLOR has graduated from One Station Unit Training at Fort McClellan in Aniston, Ala.
His instructor included basic military and advanced individual training.
Taylor received instruction in various areas including drill and ceremonies, map reading, military courtesies, combat area support and law and order operations.
His wife, Lisa, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Morrow of Twin Falls. He is a 1998 graduate of Elfers High School in Madras, Calif.



Milo Davis

Watson completes basic training in San Diego
SEAN P. WATSON, son of Barry D. Watson of Kimberly, has completed basic training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif.
Watson successfully completed 12 weeks of training designed to challenge new Marine recruits physically and mentally.
He is a 1996 graduate of Kimberly High School.

Watson completes basic training in Aniston
NICHOLAS A. TAYLOR has graduated from One Station Unit Training at Fort McClellan in Aniston, Ala.
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We want your news

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Email: tvhnews@netnet.net

• Community meetings.
• Celebrations
• Social events
• Reunions
• Individual achievements
• Your ideas and their activities.

For the Sunday page: noon Wednesday
For the Tuesday page: noon Monday
For the Tuesday page: noon Friday
For the Saturday page: noon Tuesday
For the Wednesday page: noon Friday

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Wilkinson wins Miss American Starlet crown
Rachael Wilkinson of Twin Falls has been crowned Queen for the Tiny Miss division of the Miss American Starlet beauty pageant for the state of Idaho.
She will compete in the national finals in August in Palm Springs, Calif., her family says.

Rachael is the daughter of Brad and Amy Wilkinson. Her grandparents are Dorothy and Rusty Wilkinson, Roland and Charm Petersen.



Rachael Wilkinson

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Wily investors can do well with unusual closed-end mutual funds

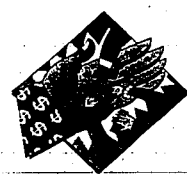
By Chet Currier The Associated Press

NEW YORK — They're holding a 5-percent-off sale at the mutual fund store, but not many investors are showing up to shop. The markdown can be found in the category of investment companies known as closed-end mutual funds...

Open-end fund sponsors stand ready at any time to buy and sell shares in direct transactions with the public, at a price determined by the net asset value of the fund's portfolio.

Go buyers or sellers at any time may find that the going price stands either at premium (above) or discount (below) a fund's net asset value per share.

While nearly 10,000 options exist for investors in open-end



OF MUTUAL INTEREST

foreign countries or areas of the globe outside the United States have lately traded at substantial discounts, given that foreign markets in general have lagged behind Wall Street for the past five years.

A closed-end bond fund may trade consistently at some discount to its NAV simply because it expenses out into the portfolio's yield before it is passed along to investors.

Conversely, a fund may trade at a premium if it owns exotic securities that are scarce or not easy to buy directly, especially if those securities are considered hot properties.

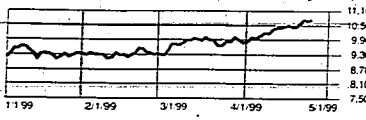
But on many occasions, the reasons for a premium or discount may be hard to figure out. A mysterious discount tends to put many would-be buyers off, no matter how attractive the resulting price, simply by creating the impression that the smart money knows something bad that just hasn't come to light yet.

Wiesenberg says his research shows that people brave enough to invest regularly in deeply discounted closed-end funds can make some good money — but that the game gets very chancy and volatile at times.

Even if you aren't interested in anything this complicated, it pays to be aware of closed-end funds

Please see FUNDS, Page C4

Dow Jones Close High 10,728.90 Net change +28.92 10,718.59 Low 10,649.86 Pct change +0.27



Micron boosts production; chip prices fall

BOISE (AP) — Increased chip production at Micron Technology Inc. plants in Idaho and around the world is helping to drive down prices.

As a result, financial analysts are downgrading their ratings on the company's stock, because its profits likely will not be as high as previously expected.

That has served to cut stock prices in half. But boosting chip production is part of the company's strategic plan, spokeswoman Julie Nash said.

Some analysts argue the chip market oversupply is putting pressure on smaller memory chip companies, which could help Micron in the long run.

Technology shares push Nasdaq to record high

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Renewed strength in technology shares took the Nasdaq composite index easily into record territory Monday, extending a heavy rebound from last Monday's 5.6 percent plunge.

Blue-chip stocks also rose, with the Dow Industrial moving within 9 points of a new high and the Standard & Poor's 500-stock setting a record.

The Dow Jones industrial average advanced 28.92 to 10,718.59 after wobbling no more than 40 points up or down throughout the day.

Technology stocks were back in the limelight, as investors digested encouraging personal-computer sales data ahead of some key earnings reports.

Computer memory chip prices have been falling for weeks, and analysts are blaming the trend, in part, on oversupply.

Computer memory chip prices have been falling for weeks, and analysts are blaming the trend, in part, on oversupply.

Industry analyst Victor de Dios predicted that Micron would eventually be one of the largest suppliers of dynamic random access memory chips.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table listing various stocks on the New York Stock Exchange with columns for Name, Dr, Last, Chg, and Volume.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table summarizing market activity for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ, including Most Active and Gainers/Losers.

INCREASERS

Table listing stocks that have increased in price, including their names and percentage changes.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table listing stocks of local interest with columns for Name, Dr, PE, Last, Chg, and YTD % Chg.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

How to read the 255 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most active on the American Stock Exchange, and the 200 most active on the NASDAQ National Market.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table listing various stocks on the NASDAQ National Market with columns for Name, Dr, Last, Chg, and Volume.

Paper records may help in case of Y2K mayhem

Keep good records of all of your banking transactions, including those done via ATM, says a consumer expert...

The arrival of 2000 could create computer problems. All you have to do is check your records...

It's probably prudent for people to balance their checkbooks if they haven't done so in a while...

The Fed and other banking regulators are recommending that consumers get nippy about their financial records...

The biggest fear is that the glitch will cause consumers to record transactions incorrectly...

Experts also recommend that you document your property-tax payments because municipalities are believed to be among the worst...

They're going to send you a form letter," Dilberto said. "I don't care what you ask. It's a liability issue..."

The Federal Deposit Insurance Corp., which regulates banks, suggests the following:

Get a copy of your credit report now. If you spot a problem, get it corrected promptly...

For instance, before you buy an open-ended bond fund at NAV, you might check to see if the fund is trading at a discount...

That same principle applies in reverse: If you are attracted to a closed-end fund that is trading at a premium...

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MARKETS

LIVESTOCK

FOSSIL FUELS

METALS

CHEESE

POTATOES

SUGAR

MUTUAL FUNDS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Month, Commodity, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various futures contracts like Soybean, Corn, Wheat, etc.

SOYBEAN

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists soybean futures contracts.

CORN

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists corn futures contracts.

WHEAT

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists wheat futures contracts.

MINERAL OILS

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists mineral oil futures contracts.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists grain futures contracts.

POCATELLO

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists Pocatello futures contracts.

PORTLAND

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists Portland futures contracts.

CHICAGO

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists Chicago futures contracts.

NEW YORK

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists New York futures contracts.

BISCUITS

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists biscuit futures contracts.

NEW YORK

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists New York futures contracts.

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists livestock futures contracts.

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists fossil fuel futures contracts.

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists metal futures contracts.

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists cheese futures contracts.

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists potato futures contracts.

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists sugar futures contracts.

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AMERICA

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists America futures contracts.

AMERICA

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists America futures contracts.

Funds

Continued from C3. The new Mutual Fund Forecaster in Deerfield Beach, Fla. notes that plans have been filed to bring out a closed-end fund specializing in Internet stocks...

For instance, before you buy an open-ended bond fund at NAV, you might check to see if the fund is trading at a discount...

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FOCUS: THE BALKANS CRISIS

Reality sinks in for refugees

Call for peace

Yugoslav official criticizes stance on Kosovo — again

Knight Rider News Service

For the second day Monday, Yugoslavia's Deputy Prime Minister Vuk Draskovic criticized his government's stance on Kosovo, apparently in a search for an opening to a peace settlement.

"My personal right is to wish no participation of NATO countries in U.N. peacekeeping forces in Kosovo," Vuk Draskovic told a Belgrade news conference. "But if the security council of the U.N. says the U.N. mission must (be) composed in part of NATO countries, we must respect that."

"It was unclear what prompted Draskovic to make the proclama-tory comments, or what they might mean. While some U.S. and NATO officials welcomed the remarks as "rumblings of discontent" within the Yugoslav government, others were more cautious in their interpretation, suggesting that Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic was orchestrating the comments.

Draskovic said he believed he was expressing the "stand of Mr. Milosevic himself." But as head of the center-right Serbian Renewal Party, Draskovic was a political foe of Milosevic until he became the most of deputy prime minister in January. He is not considered a Milosevic confidant.

"It's difficult to say whether he has Milosevic's support," said Belgrade's Deputy Mayor Milan Bogic, who also is an aide to Draskovic and a member of his opposition party. "Our government is a strong coalition of four parties. Because we are part of a coalition doesn't mean that we have finished with our rights as political parties," Bogic said.

In a telephone interview, Bogic said Draskovic was trying to trigger negotiations that could end the fighting.

"It's trying to look for something that can be put onto political rails, that can be the beginning of negotiations, without offering the outcome of the negotiation," Bogic said.

But Draskovic might have signaled dissent within the government rather than a change in policy. On Sunday, he said on a TV station controlled by his party that NATO is growing stronger and not weaker in its campaign against his country, and called on his government to tell its people that they are isolated in the world. "We are alone," he said in a defiant television address. The media campaign that suggests NATO resolve is weakening and its alliance threatened with internal dissent.



An ethnic Albanian boy cries as his brother receives a vaccination inside a UNICEF medical tent in the Stankevce refugee camp outside of Skopje, Macedonia, Monday. The refugee camps are composed of about 60 percent children. Refugees in the fenced-in camps are beginning to replicate the initial relief over simply having survived with fraying nerves and flaring tempers.

Stress shows in crowded camps

STENKOVCE, Macedonia (AP) — In the sticky mud of a refugee camp where long rows of tents stretch in all directions, two angry 10-year-olds flail at each other with dirty fists as their mothers try to break up the fight. "Boys, boys!" they bellow in voices thin with exhaustion.

For many ethnic Albanian refugees trapped for weeks in police-guarded, fenced-in tent camps, the initial relief over simply having survived is wearing off — replaced by fraying nerves and flaring tempers.

For the children, who make up 60 percent of the refugees, quiet shock over their families' frightening journeys out of Kosovo is beginning to give way to tantrums, fighting, bedwetting — all signs of lingering trauma.

Compounding the stress is the fact that many camp children are fatherless — perhaps temporarily, perhaps forever. Men make up a disproportionately small share of the arriving Kosovo refugees, and many have told of fighting-age men being shot or killed when they were driven from their villages.

"It's two weeks since I've seen my husband, and I don't know if he's dead or alive," said Jisavere Xeladini, 34, who fled the southern Kosovo village of Slivice with her three children, ages two to 10.

Hunted by Serb police, her husband was afraid the family might not make it across the border if he traveled with them. They decided he would try to join them later, but have had no word of his fate.

"At first the children asked every day when they would see him again," Mrs. Xeladini said, her eyes welling with tears. "Now they are stopping asking."

Close quarters and an endless battle with mud and rain wear people down as well.

Physical activity provides a bit of an outlet. "Older" people take a morning promenade, even if the only place to walk is in the muddy aisles between rows of tents, and soccer balls are precious commodities for kids and adults alike.

Often, it's the little things, the small affronts to dignity, that break people down.

One woman managed to speak stoically of her husband, who she said had died fighting for the rebel Kosovo Liberation Army. But her eyes filled with tears when she talked of not having hot water to wash.

Another kept putting a self-conscious hand to her eyebrows, once carefully plucked, they now had stubby hairs pushing through.

"I miss my books," sighed Maksut Shehu, 68, a distinguished retired newspaper editor who was mentor to generations of Kosovo Albanian journalists. And Trassy — he laughed loudly —



The injured ethnic Albanian woman is carried by medics after she collapsed in the crowd of refugees waiting to cross into Macedonia at a border check point on the Kosovo-Macedonia border.

miss my teeth!" Shehu left his dental plate behind when the family fled after being routed from their beds at dawn. His bottom row of teeth had only a single discolored one of his own.

Like Shehu, some were able to somehow summon a touch of wit or irony over their much-changed circumstances.

their mothers. Business grumble that family connections and money help speed the way for some.

On a recent day at Stankevce, a ragged, desperate-looking man holding a wheezing baby girl approached an outsider, pleading: "Help me. Help me leave this place."

Amid the deprivation are scenes of heartbreaking tenderness. One woman leaned to murmur gently to another as she helped her wash her hair with water from a plastic jug. In the long lines for meals, old people lean on the arms of young.

The refugees strive to maintain some remnant of normal life, such as the all-important custom of haggling. Aid agencies have been handing out tin cans, rings, fur heating mitts, and Mame Dibrani, 28, and eight months pregnant, beamed with pleasure when she was able to offer a visitor a cup of tea, served in an empty jam jar.

"You are the first," she said. "Outside the tents, aid agencies spread cardboard and blankets to make a place to sit, then engross themselves in conversation, just as they might in an Albanian tea-house at home.

Ferid Agari, who was a pediatrician at home in Kosovo, said he has been amazed to encounter patients who had been brought crying at home — depressed or anxious — somehow huddled together as they settled into the camps. But he didn't think there showed any strength or will to survive." "Up until now, they were thinking only of survival," he said. "Now everyone has time to think — nothing but time to think. So all this despair will return in force."

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Check your ad to ensure the first day. The Times-News will be responsible for the first incorrect insertion and no greater extent than the cost of space occupied by the error. The publisher assumes no financial responsibility for errors or omission of copy.

- Classified Specials -
Call a Customer Service Representative for information on Classified Ad Specials available even to the first ad.

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Line	Day	Deadline
1	Sunday	5 PM Friday
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5	Thursday	2 PM Wednesday
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7	Saturday	4 PM Friday
8	Any Weekday	4 PM Thursday

Display Ads: 3 business days prior to publication. Call a *Times-News* advertising sales representative for more information.

The Times-News Online features web-based classified ads. Any classified ad placed in the print version of the *Times-News* can be placed online for the same day, per ad. Classified ads are included in our national network of classified ads, though a partnership with AdOne Classified Network and more than 200 newspapers across the nation.

1050 Legal
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS
Notice is soliciting bids for original artwork for the new Idaho State Capitol building.

FOUND Well-mannered young adult required for position of Assistant Director of the new Idaho State Capitol building.

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Fast-paced busy environment requires individual who is outgoing for a challenge.

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Experienced OTR reefer driver. Clean driving record.

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Now Hiring for Mixer Driver. Long hours, full time, benefits.

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Need qualified drivers with good driving record.

LABOR
Immediate openings
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Sanitation/Cleanup

PERSONNEL PLUS
LANDSCAPE
Bird Wood Landscape, Kelchum, ID, is accepting applications for a Chemical Spray Tech.

LIBRARY TECHNICIAN
Need a person to assist in library training and general maintenance.

MAINTENANCE
Need a person to assist in maintenance of equipment.

DRIVERS
Need qualified drivers with good driving record.

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Need qualified drivers with good driving record.

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MECHANIC
Experienced Mechanic
Wrench, enthusiastic people to set up equipment.

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101 LOST & FOUND
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Lamb Weston has an opening at its Twin Falls, Idaho Potato Processing Plant for a Maintenance Mechanic.

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Sports Editor: Damon Clark 733-9931, Ext. 241

Section D

Track league will need TV to stay alive

Competing relay meets on the national college level took center stage over the weekend. In fact, on the front page of this section, stories appeared that touted the Penn Relays and how a record crowd was expected Saturday, as well as the formation of a U.S. track and field league.

More than 40,000 track and field fans jammed into Franklin Field for the Penn Relays on Saturday. It was the largest crowd in the history of the meet, known as "Penn" - to watch the likes of Marion Jones and Michael Johnson.

Even if you're not completely and wholeheartedly devoted to track and field, Lassiter's anchor legs of 3:55 in the men's 4x400-meter relay and 4:48 in the 4x800-meter relay kind of make ya go, "Wow!"

Halfway across the country, the Drake Relays were held at the same time, and in Saturday's Scores and Stats section of The Times-News, a Timothy Dume of the University of Missouri - a Jerome high jumper - was listed as a member of the Tigers' winning 4x800 relay. Dume ran a FR-1:12 - on the third leg.

It's great that a national track and field league is being established, but without a television audience, the league is destined to fail. It's the fruidless efforts to establish a reputable professional soccer league in this country can you name at least five MLS teams? Plus, it doesn't help when people such as Mary Slaney (see related story on this page) are stripped of medals for failing to pass a drug test.

Without TV, the nation's track and field athletes will remain what they are now - athletes whose names pop up every four years when Olympic fanatics jump on the track and field swimming or rowing bandwagon and say, "Let's root for the American!"

It's not enough, nor will it be enough, to simply televise the highlights of the NCAA championships when they are contested at Bronco Stadium - yes, Bronco Stadium's Bronco Stadium - June 25. It will more than likely be a taped, one-hour show that fails to adequately represent what really happened.

What was that guy's name, Lassiter? Changing of the guard? It's great to see teams that haven't won titles in the last few years finding themselves atop the results list of area high school meets.

Off to BYU Jim Hamblin, Murtagh's athletic director and boys' track coach, informs me he might be off to Provo as a graduate assistant with the team this summer. Anyone who knows Hamblin, and actually likes him, will miss him.

Wal-Mart heiress buys Denver sports franchises

HELENE - Wal-Mart heiress Nancy Lurie has agreed to sell the Denver Nuggets, the Colorado Avalanche and the nation's future home, the Pepsi Center, in a deal valued at \$400 million.

Wednesday to discuss the sale in detail, declining initial comment out of respect for the families of victims in last week's shootings at Columbine High School.

Ascent's stock dropped \$1.25 to \$11.13 share Monday, fueling speculation among some analysts that the proposed sale of the two teams and the state-of-the-art Pepsi Center, which is under construction, may have been undervalued.

Analyst Murray Aronson of Bank of America Securities said the price "came in a little light of what we expected" which was a range of \$400 million to \$435 million.

Woes for the O's

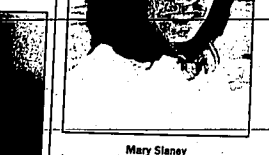
Hapless Baltimore endures 4-14 start

BALTIMORE - Ray Miller certainly has had enough of merely throwing his hands up in disgust - he's now performing a wall. Such is his frustration with the Baltimore Orioles.

Miller's frustration was expressed last season after a first-inning balk by an Oriole pitcher. Field a team that was expected to contend for the playoffs.



Baltimore manager Ray Miller shows his frustration last season after a first-inning balk by an Oriole pitcher.



Mary Slaney Stripped of silver medal

IAAF strips Slaney of medal

MONTE CARLO, Monaco - Mary Slaney was stripped of her silver medal from the 1997 world championships after track authorities determined Monday she failed a drug test three years ago.

Slaney is free to compete since the IAAF said she has retroactively completed her two-year ban. A three-man IAAF arbitration panel said the 40-year-old runner's test results for high testosterone levels before the 1996 Olympics.

Slaney repeatedly has proclaimed her innocence. Earlier this month, she sued the IAAF and the U.S. Olympic Committee, which restored the original ruling. She claims the testosterone-epitesterone test is unreliable for women who take birth control pills.

Slaney's 1983 world champion 3,000 meters, gave a urine sample during the 1996 U.S. Olympic trials that showed a T:E ratio above the 6:1 limit. The U.S. Olympic Committee's presence of testosterone, a naturally occurring muscle-building hormone that also is taken in concentrated form to improve performance.

Detroit tries to complete sweep of Anaheim

ANALYST - Detroit's Red Wings can finish things off by winning tonight in Anaheim.

Still, the Red Wings, who have outscored Anaheim 14-6 in the series, are trying not to look beyond Game 4.

moment, and that his hit was "overly aggressive and inappropriate," was suspended by the league Monday for one game, so he'll sit out Game 4.

White's suspension was costly, the story of the series has been the play of the Detroit defense, especially Chris Chelios and Nicklas Lidstrom, on the Mighty Ducks' high-scoring duo of Teemu Selanne and Kariya.

Miller's frustration was expressed last season after a first-inning balk by an Oriole pitcher. Field a team that was expected to contend for the playoffs.

Miller's frustration was expressed last season after a first-inning balk by an Oriole pitcher. Field a team that was expected to contend for the playoffs.

On the Run Vin Cappiello

Flightless Orioles

Detroit's Red Wings

IAAF strips Slaney of medal

SPORTS

Elway was blessed with good luck, bad luck and much more

CHICAGO—One afternoon several years before he had won two Super Bowl titles, John Elway walked onto the field at training camp in Greely, Colo.

COMMENTARY Rick Morrissey

filled upon Super Bowl Jaws, when he would cross the street to avoid Dan Reeves' dog's shadow. This was when hope seemed to eternal spring a geyser.

defined by Elway's first pass of the game against San Francisco, a turf-sticking laser that missed the intended receiver by 10 yards.

Michael Jordan had Scottie Pippen. Wayne Gretzky had Mark Messier. Elway had Tom Dawkins in the midcourt of Denver's career.

Terrill Davis. This is not to say that Elway would have been a fortunate quarterback had he ended up Terrill.

down to earth by the limitations of others. Now, Elway isn't the most introspective of souls. He does not read much.

SCORES AND STATS

BASEBALL All standings Table with columns for Team, W, L, Pct, GB, and various league statistics.

IN THE BLEACHERS By Steve Moore



"Coach, me and the other players were talking, and it's really starting to freak us out when Clarence does that."

ON THE AIR TELEVISION

Table listing television schedules for NHL playoffs, conference quarterfinals, and NBA basketball.

LOCAL SCHEDULE

Table listing local sports events including college baseball, high school football, and high school golf.

PGA Tour Money Leaders

Table listing PGA Tour money leaders with names, earnings, and titles.

LPGA Money Leaders

Table listing LPGA Tour money leaders with names, earnings, and titles.

MAJOR LEAGUE LEADERS

Table listing major league leaders in batting average, home runs, RBIs, and other statistics.

HEAT 90, CLEVELAND 65

Table listing Heat 90 and Cleveland 65 statistics including batting average, home runs, and RBIs.

NEA Leaders

Table listing NEA leaders in various categories.

PGA Tour Money Leaders

Table listing PGA Tour money leaders with names, earnings, and titles.

LPGA Money Leaders

Table listing LPGA Tour money leaders with names, earnings, and titles.

ML STANDINGS

Table listing MLB standings for various leagues.

Collegiate Baseball

Table listing collegiate baseball statistics for various teams.

Wrestling

Table listing wrestling statistics for various teams.

Wrestling

Table listing wrestling statistics for various teams.

ATHLETIC SCORES

Table listing athletic scores for various sports including basketball, volleyball, and tennis.

BASKETBALL NBA Standings

Table listing NBA standings for Eastern and Western conferences.

Wrestling

Table listing wrestling statistics for various teams.

HOCKEY NHL Standings

Table listing NHL standings for various leagues.

NL box scores

Table listing NL box scores for various games.

Collegiate Baseball

Table listing collegiate baseball statistics for various teams.

Wrestling

Table listing wrestling statistics for various teams.

Wrestling

Table listing wrestling statistics for various teams.

Wrestling

Table listing wrestling statistics for various teams.

TRANSACTIONS

Wrestling transactions including signings and releases.

TRACK AND FIELD

Track and field news and results.

Wrestling

Table listing wrestling statistics for various teams.

Wrestling

Table listing wrestling statistics for various teams.

Wrestling

Table listing wrestling statistics for various teams.

Wrestling

Table listing wrestling statistics for various teams.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Buhl girls sweep Jerome softball

JEROME - Tiffany Ordonez pitched a two-hitter in a time-shortened girls' softball doubleheader to lead Buhl.

Ordonez struck out 11 as the Indians beat Jerome 7-6 in the opener. Buhl then went 5-for-25 from the plate in Game 2 to beat the host Tigers, 14-6.

Jerome drops to 3-15 with the 18kkes, but its biggest loss may be that of pitcher Ordonez, who was hit in the wrist by her own glove hand. Olsen, who was the starter and loser of the opener, was taken to St. Benedict's hospital for X-rays; coach Kurt Bradley said. The extent of her injury was not available at press time.

The Tigers will be in action again Thursday at Burley for a doubleheader at 4 p.m.

Baseball 27-12-194
Softball 11-11-111
Baseball 11-11-111
Softball 11-11-111
Baseball 11-11-111
Softball 11-11-111

Wendell's Wright signs with Lewis-Clark St.

LEWISTON - Lauren Wright, a senior at Wendell High School, has signed a letter of intent to compete for the Lewis-Clark State College women's cross country team this fall. Warriors coach Mike Collins announced Monday.

Wright was the second member of the Trejan girls' cross country team in high school, placing eighth at state as a junior and 21st as a senior.

"This is a benefit and experience she has never really had," Collins said. "I'm extremely excited about what you as she will be bringing to the team and what her future capabilities are."

Wright holds Wendell records in the 800 meters (2:27), 1,600 meters (5:59) and 3,200 meters (12:16). Her 5K best is 21:04.

Collins is also enthused about Wright's work ethic in the classroom. She holds a 3.91 GPA and is member of the National Honor Society.

Sempro football team seeks linemen

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Wildcats football team is looking for linemen for the upcoming season, which is scheduled to begin in late August.

Practices are Saturday afternoons in South Park. For more information, call Jeff Glenn at 734-8952.

Offense wins Bengals' Black/White Game

POCATELLO - Pete Fergo kicked a 28-yard field goal on time expired and the Idaho State University offense scored 10 points in the final 1:17 to beat the defense 17-16 in the annual Black/White game last weekend.

This was the first football game in 30 years at the Spud Bowl, the former home of ISU football.

With the offense down 16-7 (the defense scored one point for every stop and three for each turnover) Shane Griggs connected on a 44-yard score to senior wide receiver Brian Goodell with 1:17 left. Kevin McCarthy then engineered a 55-yard drive resulting in the winning field goal.

ISU track finishes 3rd and 4th at BYU

PROVO, Utah - The Idaho State University men's track team placed third in the field events and tied for fourth in the track events at last weekend's Clarence Robinson Invitational at Brigham Young University.

The women took fourth in the field events and fifth on the track. The event featured BYU, Utah, Nebraska and Illinois as well as ISU and several other regional schools.

WCHL expands, adds team in Las Vegas

BOISE - The West Coast Hockey League Board of Governors has approved Chandler Sports Nevada, LLC, as a member of the league. The new club will play in Las Vegas and is slated to drop the puck on October 2000.

In its fourth season of operation, the WCHL has teams in Alaska (Anchorage), California (Bakersfield, Fresno and San Diego), Colorado (Colorado Springs), Idaho (Boise), Arizona (Phoenix), and Washington (Tacoma).

The league is also evaluating a number of California cities for expansion including Anaheim, Los Angeles, Sacramento and Pomona, as well as in Vancouver, Wash., Reno, Nev., and Ontario.

Scenic West stars head to SLC for hoop

SALT LAKE CITY - Westminster College on Monday announced the first men's basketball player signings at the school in two decades.

Westminster, which is bringing basketball back to the school for the 1999-2000 season after a 20-year absence, has received commitments from three junior college players, two high schoolers and two athletes already enrolled at the college.

The signings include junior Josh Davis from Utah Valley State College; junior Mitch Montgomery and sophomore Brad Bentley from Snow College; Levi Gines of Tabor High School; and Sam Brown, a high schooler from New Mexico. In addition, current Westminster students Dane Ishihara and Chris McGill have committed to the team.

Westminster will compete in the NAIA's Frontier Collegiate Conference. The team will be coached by Tommy Connor, a former assistant under Rick Majerus at the University of Utah.

Tyson won't fight 'anytime soon'

NEW YORK - Mike Tyson will not decide on his boxing future until after his release from a Maryland jail, his manager said Monday.

"There is no definitive timetable for Mike to be back in the ring anytime soon," manager Shelly Finkel said. "Our immediate concerns are for him to be back with his family where he belongs."

The 32-year-old former heavyweight champion is serving a one-year sentence after pleading no contest to a misdemeanor assault charge in connection with a minor traffic accident last August.

He must still serve 60 days for violating probation for a 1992 rape conviction in Indiana and the earliest he can get out is in June.

Broken thumb ends Van Horn's season

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. - New Jersey Nets forward Keith Van Horn will miss the final two weeks of the NBA season after breaking his left thumb in Sunday night's victory over the Indiana Pacers.

The thumb is displaced and will require surgery, Dr. Charles Melone, a hand specialist, said Monday. The surgery has not been scheduled.

Van Horn was injured breaking a shot by Reggie Miller late in the fourth quarter of the Nets' 120-96 win. Both players fell to the floor on the play, and Van Horn got up holding his hand.

Correction

A College of Southern Idaho volleyball players was misidentified in Sunday's edition. The player in the foreground is Roberta Robert.

The Times-News regrets the error.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

Suns spar with, knock out Jazz, Malone

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Jason Kidd had 19 points, 12 assists and seven rebounds as the reeling Phoenix Suns, spurred by a series of confrontations with Karl Malone, rallied to beat the Utah Jazz 99-88 Monday night.

Utah lost at home for just the third time this season, while the Suns, who still have a shot at the fifth playoff seed, won their third straight and ninth in their last 12. Rex Chapman added 23 points for Phoenix.

NBA basketball

The teams were playing each other for the third time in 18 days, and Malone nearly came to blows with both Luc Longley and Joe Kleine in the first quarter. The second encounter left Kleine with a bloody nose which required stitches and Malone with a red handprint on his jersey after Kleine shoved him.

The Suns seemed energized by the game's physical play, while the Jazz, playing their 14th game in 21 days, simply looked tired.

After trailing 58-55 midway through the third quarter, Phoenix had a 124-run and went into the fourth up 74-62. Kidd had eight points and three assists during the stretch.

Heat 90, Cavaliers 65

CLEVELAND - Pat Riley moved into a second-place tie with Bill Fitch for career NBA coaching victories Monday night as the Miami Heat rolled to an easy win over the injured and overmatched Cleveland Cavaliers.

Riley, who recently moved past Red Auerbach on the list, earned victory No. 94 in his 1,345th game. No. 1 in coaching victories is Atlanta's Lenny Wilkens with 1,148.

Alonso Mourning had 23 points, 12 rebounds and four blocks and Tim Hardaway scored 12 points - all in the second quarter - as the Heat beat the Cavs for the third time in eight days.

Miami had a 117-game lead over Indiana for the best record in the



Los Angeles' Derek Harper, left, tries to recover a loose ball from Cleveland's Brent Price during NBA action Monday night. Heat and homecourt advantage throughout the playoffs.

Knicks 97, Hornets 84

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Chris Dudley and Charlie Ward led a cast of unlikely heroes as the reeling Knicks boosted their playoff hopes by holding off Charlotte.

Latrell Sprewell came off the bench to score 21 and Marcus Camby added seven blocks for New York, which moved to games ahead of Charlotte for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Dudley started in place of the injured Patrick Ewing and harassed Hornets center Elgin Campbell into a 3-of-14 shooting, setting the stage for the Knicks to win their third in a row after losing four straight.

Ward had 15 points - four short of his career-high.

Rockets 102, Lakers 80

HOUSTON - Scottie Pippen had 26 points and six steals as Houston built a big lead and didn't lose it.

snapping a three-game losing streak.

The Lakers lost their third straight game and their second straight by at least 20 points to fall 1 1/2 games behind Houston in the race for fourth place in the conference and homecourt advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

The Rockets used a 22-6 spurt starting in the first quarter to build a 41-29 lead with 8:11 to go in the half. Los Angeles, which has lost six of eight games, never got the deficit below double figures.

Charles Barkley had 20 points and 16 rebounds, Curtino Mobley added 15 points and Hakeem Olajuwon had 14 points and eight rebounds.

Knicks 97, Hornets 84

MILWAUKEE - With their bodies ailing and their playoff position dropping, the Bucks got 31 points from Glenn Robinson - including eight during a late 150-run.

Robinson scored 12 points in the fourth as the Bucks broke away

from the pesky Wizards, who lost their sixth consecutive game and their eighth straight on the road.

Milwaukee trailed 76-74 before the 150-run gave the Bucks an 89-79 lead with 4:32 left.

The Wizards pulled to 92-89 on Rod Strickland's free throw with a minute remaining, but Ray Allen, who scored 19, hit a 3-pointer with 34 seconds left to put it out of reach.

Mavericks 101, Bulls 93

DALLAS - Michael Finley scored 28 points, including eight during a decisive 18-4 fourth-quarter run, as Dallas rallied past Chicago.

Shawn Bradley had 14 points, 17 rebounds and six blocks for the Mavericks, who came back from a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter for their fifth victory in nine games.

Erick Strickland added 20 points off the bench, Gary Trent had 11 rebounds.

Toni Kukoc paced the Bulls with 26 points.

Ninth-inning rally lifts Braves over Fish

MIAMI (AP) - Andrew Jones hit a two-run homer and scored on a double steal, and Walt Weiss hit a tie-breaking RBI single in the ninth inning to help the Atlanta Braves beat the Florida Marlins 5-3 Monday night.

With the score 3-1 all, Javy Lopez singled to start the ninth against Antonio Alfonseca (0-3) and advanced on a sacrifice. Jones was intentionally walked by Matt Mantei, and Lopez scored when Weiss' grounder placed off the glove of a diving Derrek Lee at first base.

Rudy Seanez (1-0) pitched 1-3 innings to complete the five-inning, giving the Braves their win in their 11-game road trip.

Kevin Millwood allowed four hits in 7-1/3 innings and left with a 3-2 lead.

Hunter's homer, defense push Twins past Bosox

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - Torii Hunter hit a grand slam, drove in a career-high five runs and made two key defensive plays in center field, giving the Twins' best Boston Red Sox 6-2 Monday night, stopping a five-game losing streak.

Brad Radke (2-2) scattered eight hits in six innings and struck out four to win his first game since the Twins' opener April 6. Hunter aided him with a home run-saving catch and a strong throw to the plate in the sixth.

National League

Astros 5, Diamondbacks 2

HOUSTON - Jose Lima won his third straight start and Jeff Bagwell and Richard Hidalgo drove in two runs each.

Lima (3-1) allowed both runs and seven hits in eight innings, struck out four and walked two, retiring 11 of 13 in one stretch. Billy Wagner finished for his sixth save.

Todd Stottlemyre (2-1) lost for the first time in five starts this season, allowing all five runs - just three earned - and six hits in six innings with five walks and four strikeouts.

American League

Hunter's Fourth-inning grand slam came off Tim Wakefield (1-3), beaten by the Twins for the second time in nine career starts.

Mike Trombley pitched three innings for his first save.

H₂Oyeah!

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