



GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Chance of fog early today, then mostly clear, high 54. Low tonight 34.
Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Mind the gap: Officials are narrowing their search for a site for a possible new Snake River Canyon bridge.
Page C1



Queen competition: A Hailey resident is getting ready for a national rodeo queen competition in Las Vegas.
Page C1

MONEY

Travel in style: Idaho now has a limited-edition, millennium travel guide available in Twin Falls.
Page D4

RELIGION



A Thanksgiving story: These new United Methodist ministers in the Magic Valley have found solace at church during tragic times.
Page D1

SPORTS

Always exciting: The Golden Eagles women's hoops team hosted its annual Coca-Cola Classic Friday.
Page B1

COMING SUNDAY

Evans' activism: Former Idaho governor John Evans is out of active politics, but he's hardly out of the limelight these days.

SECTION BY SECTION

- Section A** Morning break .6
- Section B** Nation7
- Section C** World8
- Section D** Religion13
- Section E** Money14
- Section F** Community1
- Section G** Comics2
- Section H** Classified3-16

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The first in a crowd of more than several hundred people burst through the doors of the Twin Falls Fred Meyer store at 6 a.m. on Friday. The day after Thanksgiving is traditionally the busiest shopping day of the year.

Clerks prepare for onslaught

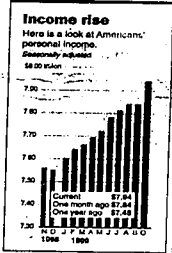
Customers hit stores on biggest shopping day

By Rachel Deery Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS — At 5:30 a.m., 30 minutes before opening, the shoppers were already waiting. Inside, the workers were preparing for the onslaught. "I have no idea what it's going to be like," said Dan Jones, an employee at Fred Meyer's home electronics department, as he put last-minute touches on his display. "I think it's going to be pretty crazy, but I can handle it. I do it every other day." At the Twin Falls Fred Meyer and stores across the Magic Valley, the Christmas retail season got off to a pre-dawn start, with many retailers looking to lure in consumers with early-morning sales. Stores opened to a dawn patrol of shoppers; in

Numbers look good for sales

The Associated Press
WASHINGTON — Americans' personal income vaulted ahead in October at the fastest pace in more than five years, giving consumers plenty of cash to spend as they head into the holiday shopping season. The Commerce Department reported that personal income — which includes wages, interest and government benefits — rose 1.3 percent last month. The boost came from a big jump in federal subsidy payments to farmers and signing bonuses for union workers at car and aircraft factories. Wages also grew by a solid 0.6 percent. "Confident consumers have the money to go out and spend in November and December so businesses are looking at a very strong holiday shopping season," said economist Joel Naroff of Naroff Economic Advisors Inc.



e-commerce Impact - D4

"This is really going to bring my November in," said Jeffrey Hansen, manager of the Burley Wal-Mart. Hansen said he was counting on a week's worth of regular business on Friday, a day that drew more than 3,000 paying customers to the store. The early sales — Wal-Mart, for instance, opened at 5 a.m. — meant early and long days for employees. "I've had to beat them off with a stick before," home fashion manager Peggy Armstrong said. "It is (a bad experience), but sometimes you meet fun people. People are generally in a good mood." If Armstrong hadn't been at work Friday, she was not sure people were waiting outside their doors before sunrise Friday. Please see SHOPPING, Page A2

Heavy rains isolate Oregon towns

The Associated Press
TILLAMOOK, Ore. — Residents who thought they lived near the ocean found themselves living on an island Friday after torrential rains and swollen rivers closed several highways, virtually cutting two coastal counties off from the rest of the state. The storm, the first major one to hit the Pacific Northwest this fall, is moving on its way. But flooding continued Friday, cutting off Tillamook and Lincoln counties, forcing evacuees and keeping highways closed around Oregon. "There's no way in or out of the county, no matter which direction you go," said Marge

'I told her to get a little boat and come on over.'

— Trina Venton, 19, Thanksgiving cook, whose mother was trapped by water

Meyer, a Lincoln County sheriff's dispatcher. "We're kind of on an island right now." The northern Oregon coast bore the brunt of the storm, and heavy rains, overflowing rivers and mudslides made

Thanksgiving Day miserable for many travelers. Trina Venton, 19, cooked her first turkey Thursday, but her mother couldn't make the 10-minute drive to her house. "She's still trying to get here," Venton said Friday. "I told her to get a little boat and come on over." Tom Manning, emergency services director in Tillamook, said three shelters had been set up, and about 100 stranded motorists and homeowners have been staying there. About 25 people were rescued from a nursing home. "The river is receding," Manning said.



Richard Robertson peddles across Highway 101 Friday in Tillamook, Ore.

Trade show may be remembered more for protests than trade

Top trading partners of U.S.

These nations represent 53% of U.S. exports and 56% of U.S. imports:

Country	Exports (\$ billion)	Imports (\$ billion)
Canada	\$157	\$173
Mexico	\$79	\$122
Japan	\$58	\$94
U.K.	\$39	\$71
Germany	\$27	\$50

SOURCE: Census Bureau

SEATTLE — When thousands of protesters from around the globe descend here next week to try to disrupt the World Trade Organization summit, a phalanx of communist activists in home-made cardboard tortoise shells will lead the way. Very, very slowly. "They're putting 240 mock sea turtles on the streets of Seattle to protest the WTO's environmental record," said Mitchell Fox, a local free-lance columnist and protest supporter. "And they'll all be method-acting, so if the police try to roast them, they'll say they can't break character."

Labor promises protests - C7

The WTO gathering, the largest trade event ever held in the United States, will open Tuesday. So will the biggest, wildest, most civilly disobedient bit of street theater ever to unfold beneath the Emerald City's clam-chowder skies. Angered by what they consider the WTO's disregard for global human rights, labor laws and environmental issues, activists from hundreds of groups have threatened to shut down the four-day conference with peaceful yet colorful and persistent protest.

"We're about to witness a historic confrontation between civil society and the corporate world that's pulling the WTO's strings," said Michael Dolan of Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch, the Ralph Nader-founded, Washington, D.C.-based group that's orchestrating much of the protest. "Before we have any new rounds of trade talks, we're calling for an assessment of the damage the WTO has done to date." The trade summit, which will draw 3,000 delegates from 165 member and observer nations, is pushing ahead with its global talks in Seattle. The WTO's agenda at its Third Ministerial

Dogging drugs at work

Some employees urge Idaho firms to bring in K-9 sniffers

The Associated Press
NAMPAs — As drugs siphon thousands of dollars a day from companies across Idaho, hundreds of businessmen in Canyon County have turned to a no-nonsense sheriff for an advantage over the dealers. Even Sheriff George Nourse admits the tactic is heavy-handed. "It almost smacks of Gestapoism," he said early on. After the American Civil Liberties Union looks askance, wondering about the constitutional implications. But employers — and the vast majority of their workers, for that matter — seem to welcome the sheriff's deployment of his 11 drug-sniffing dogs into parking lots and workplaces to root out drug users and eventually dealers. "We just had to resort to this to keep people who have drugs from wanting to work here," said Christy Ramey, assistant production manager for Alumna-Glass Industries Inc. It was the rank and file who raised the problem of fellow workers allegedly selling drugs on the job. In addition to the random drug searches, the company has instituted mandatory drug testing, and there only one work has raised legal questions. "We slowly over the last 90 days, we've been able to weed out a lot of the ones we were suspicious of," Ramey said. She maintained that the county's reputation for drug problems seems to have contributed to the difficulty of finding drug-free workers. And that possibly contributed to Nourse's decision to offer the talents of his dogs on the private property and parking lots of local businesses. The effort has mostly yielded small drug seizures and misdemeanor arrests. But last month, again at the request of the employer, officers arrested three workers at the Nestle Brands Food Service Co. in Hamlet for drug dealing to fellow workers. The dogs then went through the plant and parking lot, setting the stage for additional arrests. Please see DRUGS, Page A2

THE REGION

Camas Prairie
 High 46 Low 22
 Mostly sunny today and clear tonight. Same Sunday. High 48

Treasure Valley
 High 56 Low 35
 Mostly sunny today and clear tonight. Same Sunday. High 57.

Sawtooth Mountains/Wood River Valley
 High 45 Low 23
 Mostly sunny today and clear tonight. Same Sunday. High 47.

Eastern Idaho
 High 50 Low 26
 Mostly sunny today and clear tonight. Same Sunday. High 51.

Northern Idaho
 High 41 Low 26
 Mostly cloudy today. Trace of rain or snow. Same tonight. Partly cloudy Sunday. High 43.

Northern Utah
 High 58 Low 34
 Partly sunny today and clear tonight. Same Sunday. High 58.

Northern Nevada
 High 55 Low 33
 Mostly sunny today and clear tonight. Same Sunday. High 56.

MAGIC VALLEY FIVE-DAY FORECAST

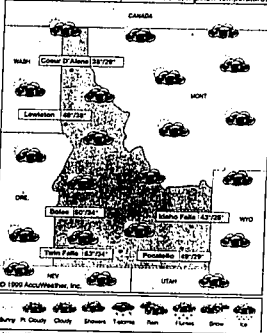
Today	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
High 54 Low 34 Chance of fog early, then mostly sunny.	High 55 Low 35 Chance of fog early, then mostly sunny.	High 50s Low 20s Partly cloudy.	High 40s Low 20s Partly cloudy and cooler.	High 40s Low 20s Partly cloudy and cooler.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER

Twin Falls	Precipitation	Idaho	Highs/Lows
Yesterday 57 48 Month to date: 110 Normal 46 24	Yesterday in Twin Falls Month to date: 1.10 Normal year to date: 0.72 Normal year to date: 1.03	Max 58 Min 31 Boise 53 45 Burley 60 49 Coeville 43 39 Grangeville 40 30 Hagerman 40 30 Idaho Falls 40 30 Lewiston 53 48 Madras 40 30 Malta 52 40 McCall 42 38 Pocatello 57 43 Salmon 45 37 Stanley 37 34 Sun Valley 37 34	Idaho: High 40 degrees at Burley, Low 34 degrees at Sun Valley. National High 85 at Simi Valley, Calif. Low 1 at Grand Lake, Colo. Comfort factor: New Hampshire 31% New Hampshire 21.92 Pullen and mead crowd: The reporting season has ended for the year. Autism & Allergies Idaho returns in March.

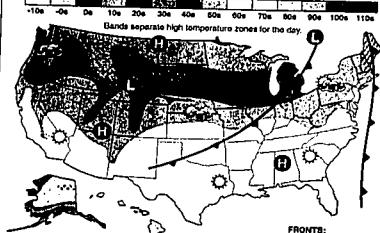
Idaho weather

Saturday, Nov. 27
 AccuWeather® forecast for daytime conditions, high/low temperatures



National weather

The AccuWeather® forecast for noon, Saturday, Nov. 27.



© 1999 AccuWeather, Inc.
 For the weekend the gpm state can expect continued partly cloudy skies with a slight warming trend.

Elsewhere Shoppers kicking off the start of the holiday season saw mostly cloudy skies and soggy conditions across much of the country on Friday. The upper Ohio Valley through the Carolinas through the northeast areas of New York state found the staidest rains. Parts of the West were also experiencing damp conditions. Flowing along a frontal boundary which lies from Oregon through the northern Rockies through upper Nebraska, this moisture is generating mostly cloudy skies and rain across Washington through Northern California.

Tune to the National Weather Service radio band at VIF-FM 162.4 or 162.55 MHz. The Internet address for Idaho Transportation Department road reports is: <http://www.state.id.us/tda/nad/index.html>

ACROSS THE NATION

FOR MORE INFORMATION

FRONTS: COLD WARM STATIONARY

High Low Showers Rain Tornadoes Hail Sleet Snow Ice Heavy Fog Cloudy Cloud

— The Associated Press

Idaho

Max	Min	Pcp	Idaho: High
58	31	0.00	40
53	45	0.00	34
60	49	0.00	85
43	39	0.00	34
40	30	0.00	85
40	30	0.00	34
40	30	0.00	34
53	48	0.00	34
40	30	0.00	34
52	40	0.00	34
42	38	0.00	34
57	43	0.00	34
45	37	0.00	34
37	34	0.00	34
37	34	0.00	34

The Nation

Max	Min	Pcp
58	31	0.00
53	45	0.00
60	49	0.00
43	39	0.00
40	30	0.00
40	30	0.00
53	48	0.00
40	30	0.00
52	40	0.00
42	38	0.00
57	43	0.00
45	37	0.00
37	34	0.00
37	34	0.00

Trade

Continued from A1

Conference - creating a framework for new talks on reducing trade barriers - might not seem as sexy as sea turtles in handoffs. But backers praise the deal that since the WTO was created in 1995 as the successor to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, it has helped pump life into economies around the world.

"The WTO has become a target of grievances for everything that has gone wrong in the world in many decades," Mike Moore, the new head of WTO and a former prime minister of New Zealand, said recently in an interview. "If we were not a democratic institution, we'd re-brand ourselves and start again."

The WTO's defenders credit it with helping to create 1.5 million jobs worldwide and boosting international trade by 37 percent since 1994, to \$6.5 trillion a year. Thirty more countries have signed on as members since its founding and more than two dozen are clamoring to get in. Earlier this month, an agreement with the United States helped pave the way for China to enter.

Still, a rowdy crowd of dissenters is poised to draw a line in the rain, and Seattle is bracing itself.

The anti-WTO camp, with anywhere from 10,000 to 50,000 protesters expected, includes environmentalists from Bolivia and Israel, human rights workers from Nepal, feminists from Nigeria, fishermen from Bangladesh and, of course, Jose Bove. This French sheep-rancher-turned-folk-hero was arrested last August for vandalizing a McDonald's restaurant during a protest over WTO approval of American tariffs on French Roquefort cheese.

Organized labor is up with the WTO, claiming it allows membership to skirt acceptable labor practices. Food safety groups resent the WTO for pushing foods they're trying to boycott. And animal rights activists say the



Francis Defour, left, president of the French farmers union, speaks a flat note presented to Jose Bove Friday on Vashon Island, Wash. Bove is the activist who attacked a McDonald's restaurant in France. He and Defour are in Seattle to protest the World Trade Organization meetings set for next week. WTO has a shameful record when it comes to protecting endangered species.

The city, led by Mayor Paul Schell, has been walking a fine line of its own. On one hand, it wants to play gracious host to a major-league conference that promises to stick Seattle in the global spotlight. On the other, it must stay true to its constituents, a labor-friendly, free-spirited bunch who love their vegetarian restaurants and treat environmental issues with the same reverence they give L.L. Bean.

"This is a big moment for Seattle, but also for the protesters," said Vivian Phillips, an aide to Schell. "This is a great opportunity for them to make a point, and we hope to provide a forum where everyone's freedom of speech is honored."

Protesters say they'll push the free-speech envelope. Take the Ruckus Society, the Berkeley,

Drugs

Continued from A1

Manager Gary Bogenreif said numerous employee complaints about the sale and use of drugs in the plant spurred contact with Nourse.

In the last four years, more than 4700 people have been booked into the county jail on drug charges, and that was without the latest initiative in the war on drugs.

Localized statistics on drug use in the workplace have not been reliably compiled. The U.S. Labor Department estimates that nationwide more than 10 million workers are drug users who cost employers in Idaho and the other states over \$11 billion annually in lost productivity.

In his profile of Idaho, Clinton McCaffrey found that 24 percent of the state's workers have used illegal drugs although there is no information on whether they are currently taking drugs or do so at work.

But McCaffrey did take note of Nourse's latest anti-drug tactic - one that has been greeted by many businesses with signs declaring "drug drugs welcome."

Amalgamated Sugar Co. negoti-

ated Nourse's unannounced drug searches into its latest union contract. The initial search turned up nothing but a reminder that in the future timing is important.

"We intruded upon the lunch hour of the people who wanted to get to their lockers and get their food," spokesman Jim Kusterer admitted.

Motor West trucking was the first major employer to see the dogs come through the parking lot this fall. The sheriff has dispatched the canines to several smaller strip mall-type lots as well. The point, he contends, is that "if drug users can't get a job or park a car in Canyon County, there is no future for them here unless they clean up their act."

But despite reinsurance from county officials including Prosecutor Dave Young that the searches are legal, they have left the ACLU's Jack Van Valkenburgh uneasy. He acknowledges the limited individual protections workers have at their place of employment, but he says the random nature of the searches raises some questions.

"There's a little bit of hysteria," Van Valkenburgh said, "and I think our constitutional liberties could suffer because of it."

Shopping

Continued from A1

she would have been on the other side of the door, waiting to shop.

"It would have to be a great sale," she said.

For customers such as Marlene Kessler, the sales were reason enough to do early shopping. But to opening store director Mark Ehlers warned the employees over the intercom that 6 a.m. was nearing. At three seconds till, he launched into a countdown. Then, the doors were unlocked.

The shoppers rushed in, power walking, not quite running. Some paused for just a moment to get a cart; others didn't bother, opting to use their arms instead.

And within moments Jones was ringing up radios and televisions.

"I didn't expect it to be this mad," said Jones, working his first day-for Thanksgiving morning shift. "I can't easily handle it, though."

And the early shoppers knew what they wanted.

At the Burley Kmart, a hot item was a supply of 70 19-inch televisions, on sale for \$98.

"That was the first thing they had in a store manager Fred Suvo-Sanchez said. "In about five minutes they were all gone."

Passengers: Pilot made plane wait to grab new meal

ANN ARBOR, Mich. (AP) - Northwest Airlines will investigate passengers' complaints that a pilot kept them waiting 30 minutes because he didn't like the meal the airline provided.

Peggy Thomas of Ann Arbor said she was aboard a flight from Las Vegas, awaiting takeoff to Detroit on Tuesday morning, when the co-pilot told passengers there would be a delay.

"He said the pilot is hungry, hadn't eaten, and will only eat certain food. They were supposed to bring his food, but when it wasn't brought, he left, and he had no idea when he would be back," she said.

"We just looked at each other, like, 'What?' It's so unbelievable somebody would make a whole plane wait so he could eat. He couldn't eat a sandwich?"

An airline spokesperson, who said the pilot's name was not given, said the pilot was given a hot dinner meal but he had wanted a hot breakfast meal. He returned more than an hour later with fast food.

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 Daniel Walock, circulation director

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POWERBALL
 2 4 15 37 43
 POWERBALL NUMBER 40
 WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24 NUMBERS
WILD CARD 2
 1 14 16 23 27
 WILD CARD: JACK OF CLUBS
 FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 26 NUMBERS
FAST 5
 3 4 6 8 10

Cubans can stay, U.S. says

MIAMI (AP) — A 5-year-old Cuban boy and two adults who floated to Florida on inner tubes after their boat went down in the Atlantic will be allowed to remain in the United States, a Border Patrol official said Friday.

The boy was picked up by fishermen Thursday morning, a short time after the adult man and woman washed up on Key Biscayne. Authorities have recovered the bodies of at least seven others who drowned after the boat sank on Tuesday, and three others were missing. The adults told Coast Guard officials that the group had left Cuba early Sunday.

The boy, Elian Gonzalez, whose mother was among those who drowned, was released from the hospital where he had been treated for dehydration and minor cuts.

Relatives told television station WPLG they would be taking care of him. "God wanted him here for freedom," cousin Marilys Gonzalez said. "And he's here, and he will get it."

Elian and Arianne Horta, 22,



Relatives guide Elian Gonzalez, 5, through the lobby of the Joe DiMaggio Childrens Hospital Friday in Hollywood, Fla. He was found floating on an inner tube off the coast after the Cuban boat he was on sank.

and Nivaldo Fernandez-Ferra, 33, who remained hospitalized, "would be offered the opportunity to reside here in the United States," said U.S. Border Patrol Deputy Chief Mike Sheehy. "There is no provision to remove Cuban nationals to Cuba."

Sheehy said the group was being smuggled into the United States. "We believe that an individual in the United States took a boat to Cuba to pick them up. We believe that individual is one of the deceased," he said.

Coast Guard Petty Officer Silvia Olvera said searchers had recovered six bodies from sea.

Radiation blast causes spacecraft to miss some shots of Jupiter moon

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — NASA's Galileo spacecraft was unable to record its closest encounter with Jupiter's moon Io after a blast of radiation shut down its cameras and other instruments, the space agency said Friday.

NASA was able to get the instruments working four minutes later, allowing Galileo to complete more than half its planned observations of Io and another moon, Europa.

The Io flyby took place Thursday night. Galileo passed within 186 miles of Io's surface — a risky maneuver because the moon is deep within the Jovian system's radiation belts.

Four hours before the point of closest approach, radiation caused a failure in the spacecraft's computer, Jet Propulsion Laboratory spokeswoman Jane Platt said. Galileo turned off its cameras, stopped receiving data through its science instruments

and waited for instructions from controllers on Earth.

The difficulty was compounded by the distance involved. Transmissions took 35 minutes to travel the 386 million miles between Earth and Galileo.

It will take several weeks for all of the information collected by the spacecraft to be transmitted to Earth.

Several of Galileo's systems were damaged during a October flyby of Io. But the spacecraft returned data showing that the moon is even more active than previously known, with more than 100 erupting volcanoes and vast lava flows.

Galileo was launched from a space shuttle in 1989 and began orbiting Jupiter in 1995.

MALL HOURS THIS WEEK

Sunday Nov. 21	Monday Nov. 22	Tuesday Nov. 23	Wednesday Nov. 24	Thursday Nov. 25	Friday Nov. 26	Saturday Nov. 27
11-6	10-9	10-9	10-9	OPEN	8-10	8-10

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A community forum
The Times-News
Opinion pages

Locks trap man in bank

RARITAN TOWNSHIP, N.J. (AP) — An ATM lobby, activated to lock automatically on Thanksgiving evening, trapped a man as he completed a withdrawal, holding him inside until a bank employee arrived for Friday morning.

James Kahlike, 36, spent nine hours at a Raritan Township branch of Commerce Bank — pushing on a door, pacing, making periodic withdrawals and finally curling up on a rug to sleep.

From 9 p.m. Thursday, when he heard the door click behind

him, until 6 a.m. Friday, when the bank's assistant manager arrived, Kahlike was trapped in the ATM lobby.

"I heard a click and realized I was locked in," he said. Commerce Bank spokesman David Flattery described Kahlike's experience as a "very freak accident" and said the bank is looking into the problem to find out what happened.

Kahlike said the ordeal convinced him to take his money elsewhere. "As soon as I made use of the phone and their facilities, I closed my account."

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Couple leaves millions to small town

OSGOOD, Ind. (AP) — A couple who made a fortune by discerning changes in the way Americans lived and investing carefully left \$23 million to their tiny hometown — more than its entire budget or the assessed value of every business, house, school and street.

The money from the estate of Gilmore and Golda Reynolds will be doled out to the community of 1,800 in yearly chunks of more than \$1 million.

The foundation that will administer the money was created in 1990 after Gilmore died at 91. It has been giving out relatively small grants over the years — to the volunteer fire department, the library — and helped build the town hall and community center.

Mrs. Reynolds died last year at 98. The \$23 million gift was the childless couple's entire fortune.

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GARDEN CENTER

NATION



Press secretary Eric Hooser keeps a close eye on his boss, Democratic presidential candidate Bill Bradley, during a press conference last month in Nashua, N.H. Hooser worked for eight years with Bradley when he was a senator from New Jersey.

The Bradley Bunch

Close-knit, loyal group comprise candidate's top aides

WASHINGTON (AP) — Their nickname, "The Bradley Bunch," derives from those 1970s TV goody-goodies, the Bradys — as in Greg and Marcia, Peter and Jan. The comparison makes Doug and Gina, Eric and Anita groan. But with the four top aides to Bill Bradley's presidential campaign sharing a collective 22-year history with the candidate, there also is a certain pride in their reputation for being close-knit and loyal.

There is very much a sense of collective mission," press secretary Eric Hauser said. "Most people are here because they really believe in their guy that this guy would absolutely be the best thing for this country."

In Bradley's West Orange, N.J., campaign headquarters, the receptionist sometimes announces incoming phone calls over a loudspeaker. That practice would have been unthinkable in Vice President Al Gore's Washington headquarters, so rife with internal divisions that aides kept watch over each other's calls and lunch dates in order to finger leaks to the news media.

The Bradley camp is so tight that, to date, just one non-sanctioned story on behind-the-scenes strategy found its way into headlines. That one — about Bradley's consultations with Madison Avenue ad agencies — appeared to leak from New York executives outside the campaign.

Gore, Bradley's rival for the Democratic presidential nomination, abruptly moved his offices to Nashville, Tenn., last month, in part to try and build a Bradley-like esprit de corps among his own team.

Evidence that Gore suffered a loyalty deficit: Boyfriends and outside consulting businesses proved a bigger draw for several aides who opted to skip the campaign and stay in Washington.

Gore said in a recent interview that he was glad the Nashville move had smoked out, in his staff, the workers who are not "focused singularly on the campaign."

Donna Brazile, who took over as campaign manager in Nashville, sees an improvement. "We have a renewed sense of pur-

pose and direction and the vice president has helped us focus on the important objective, which is to help him get his message out to the American people," said Brazile.

Brazile witnessed a bit of team bonding, when Gore's Tennessee volunteers taught the newcomers the Two-step.

"I'm convinced it's just a slower version of the Electric Slide," Brazile laughed.

Bradley's West Orange crew doubtless had a head start on bonding.

Hauser and communications adviser Anita Dunn, who each worked eight years in Bradley's Senate office, took leave of their respective Washington public relations firms and families (he, his new bride; she, her 2-year-old son) to move to New Jersey and help Bradley.

Campaign manager Gina Glantz, who backed Bradley's Democratic primary opponents in his first Senate run in 1978, has since become, in her words, "a convert and a zealot," logging 15 years in Bradley's service. She left her home and business in California this year.

Glantz and campaign chairman Doug Berman (21-year history with Bradley, dating from 1978) shared a single desk with the candidate when they opened the "Bradley 2000" office last winter.

Other staff veterans include finance director Rick Wright, who has known Bradley for 38 years since they played Princeton basketball together, and fund-raiser Betty Sapoch, who claimed her share of a grab bag of T-shirts and other treats from the campaign trail for colleagues stuck at a desk.

None of this is to say the Bradley bunch is without problems, only that they have yet to air any laundry in public. "We

don't talk about what happens inside," said Hauser.

After sitting through Gore's blockbuster performance at a joint Iowa dinner appearance swarmed by reporters last month, Bradley privately erupted to his staff and demanded more private time with supporters.

"I think we're experiencing growing pains," Dunn said at the time, a rare glimpse of an inside wrinkle. "It was more fun when nobody was around."

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NATION

Getting a read on candidates' favorite poses

By Ken Fireman
Newspay

WASHINGTON — OK, listen up. In honor of a certain Texas governor who had trouble running some foreign leaders, the following multiple-choice quiz is offered.

Question: What has become the photo of choice for presidential candidates this time out?
Answer: (a) kissing babies; (b) shaking hands at factory gates; (c) striking a stern pose with uniformed cops; (d) sharing field rations with American soldiers on the edge of a war zone; (e) none of the above.

Anyone choosing (c) has obviously been paying attention. The other options, so popular in earlier campaigns, have fallen from favor in these times of peace, prosperity and falling crime rates.

No, to be truly so current, the candidate has to do a story on time. That's right, President Wannabe, you gotta read a book to a kid.

George W. Bush may not have known who the president of Chechnya is, but he's done it. His wife, Laura Bush, who as a former librarian actually has some credentials for the job, has done it. And Al Gore has done it, as usual, with an I-try-harder twist.

When Gore came across 6-year-old Nikkita Gortling in a bookshop in Hanover, N.H., last month, he didn't just kneel down



George W. Bush Al Gore

and read her "Elkwh Means Slope" by Parmine Polanco. He also bought the book and presented it to her complete with vice-presidential autograph.

When Gore visited an after-school tutoring program in Pasadena, Calif., recently, he made a point of bringing along three popular children's books: "The Giving Tree" by Shel Silverstein, "The Rainbow Fish" by Marcus Pfister and "I Thought My Soul Would Rise and Fly" by Joyce Kilmer — and donating them to the program.

And before the campaign is over, political experts say, all candidates probably will have hunkered down in front of a youthful audience and given their best impromptu reading of "The Cat in the Hat," "Mullin and the Gypsies" or the parable of Barry Prince.

Besides the obvious — and visual — the experts say, reading to children allows a politician to communicate some important messages to a much older audience:

"It's a three-fer," says pollster John Zogby. "Education is among the top two or three issues, sometimes No. 1. Besides that, it makes the candidate human. It makes the candidate a family-oriented person. It makes the candidate an adult mentor. It makes the candidate a role model. How many is that? I think I'm probably up to about a five-fer."

But the emergence of this particular campaign schtick may also say something about the evolution of the nation's political mood at the end of the century.

For one thing, reading to kids taps into the post-Monica Lewinsky, post-impachment search for a leader who exceeds the minimum daily dose of moral fiber. "It's definitely post-Clinton thinking," says Norman Ornstein, a political analyst at Washington's American Enterprise Institute. "It says you're a family guy, you're com-

fortable with a child on your lap — and the child is comfortable with you."

Beyond that, it shows how the burning issues of previous campaigns have been largely neutralized by the nation's long run of economic growth and global preeminence. "If you had a lousy economy, the candidate would be standing out on the docks or at the auto plant vowing to make sure that these cars are our cars and not their cars," Ornstein said. "But those things wouldn't resonate right now."

Finally, it underscores how voters seem to be more concerned this year with character than substantive issues. "What isn't working this time is the kind of Ross Perot graphic-with-a-trend-line," says Lee Miringhoff, director of the Marist Institute of Public Opinion. "It's too detached. This is very connected. For Bush, it helps show him as compassionate. For Gore, it humanizes him."

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Aide says POW stint toughened McCain up

WASHINGTON (AP) — James B. Stockdale, the highest-ranking prisoner of war in Vietnam and later a Reform Party vice presidential candidate, says John McCain is "solid as a rock" and the harsh treatment he endured as a POW made him mentally stronger and more stable.

Stockdale's defense of McCain comes days after Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch made a similar claim. Hatch said Wednesday he's offended by underhanded suggestions that years as a war prisoner in Vietnam have affected McCain. Hatch said McCain has as many political enemies as friends and that anyone could be behind a whisper campaign questioning McCain's sturdiness. The candidate was confined for five years during the Vietnam War.

In an opinion piece for The Washington Post last week, political columnist Elizabeth Drew said the rumors were being spread by a small group of Senate Republicans, including Utah Rep. Bob Bennett and campaign supporters for the GOP presidential front-runner, Texas Gov. George W. Bush.

A spokeswoman for Bennett denied any involvement. "It's wrong. It shouldn't be done," Hatch said Wednesday at the Poplar Grove Boys and Girl's Club, where he lent his name to a campaign to discourage underage drinking.

"I'm offended by it personally," he said.

Stockdale said he was not surprised by assertions that the Republican presidential contender's flashes of temper are a sign he was psychologically affected by his POW experience and may not be fit for the White House. Stockdale dismissed the idea.

"The military psychiatrists who periodically examine former prisoners of war have found that the more resistant a man was to harsh treatment, the more emotionally stable he is likely to become later in life," Stockdale wrote in an article Friday in The New York Times.

Stockdale, who ran as Ross Perot's running mate in 1992, said he would still from a friend who is close to the GOP presidential campaign of Texas Gov. George W. Bush "soliciting comments on Mr. McCain's weaknesses" although the Bush campaign has denied fanning the speculation.

"I think John McCain is solid as a rock," Stockdale said he told the caller, whom he didn't name. "And I consider it blasphemy to smudge the straight-arrow prisoner-of-war record" of McCain.

Stockdale, a retired Navy vice admiral, was a POW for eight years, half of them in solitary confinement. He said that at one point McCain replaced him in one particularly unpleasant structure.

"McCain, critically injured when his plane was shot down during a bombing mission over Hanoi in 1967, survived 2.5 years until the end of the war and endured beatings that broke bones. The son of a Navy admiral, McCain refused an enemy offer to release him ahead of his fellow POWs."

For news with values, see today's RELIGION section



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Though annoying, ATM fees aren't a stick-up job

Everyone agrees that those non-depositor charges at automated teller machines can be annoying. Daily life seems to be a multiplicity of little fees, at times, and banks can seem awfully big and impersonal. When you're taking money out of your own account, why should you have to pay an extra \$1.50 that so many bank presidents can upgrade his yacht?

It was this train of thought that prompted Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., chairman of the Banking Committee, to conduct hearings last year on ATM charges. Of course, Sen. D'Amato was one person to hold on to his seat, and apart from showering money on breast cancer research or opposing child molestation, it is difficult to think of a more popular political gesture than prying at bankers about ATM fees.

As it happens, the Senate took no action against the banks last year, and D'Amato lost his seat. But this does not mean that the public has reluctantly accepted ATM fees as a cost of the business of life. On the contrary, people are fighting back. This fall, there were two ballot initiatives in California municipalities - one in San Francisco, the other in Santa Monica - banning ATM charges for non-depositors. Both passed. And City Council President Peter Vallone has begun a campaign against ATM fees in New York.

It is not difficult to guess where the press will go on this subject: There was a mild panel cartoon on the op-ed page of the New York Times lampooning ATM charges, and recommending a host of new fees for such preposterous things as "risky investments" and "mergers."

Very funny. The trouble, of course, is that we have grown so accustomed to convenience and affluence in America that we sometimes fail to ask ourselves how it all came about, when and why. A few weeks ago, I found myself in the former Soviet republic of Kazakhstan which, as foreign countries go, is about as foreign - and certainly as distant - as it gets for an American traveler. This is the land of Genghis Khan. A few generations ago the nomadic Kazakhs of the Central Steppes relentlessly rode from one desolate station to another, sleeping in huts and dining on horse meat. They still dine on horsemeat; but when I found myself short of cash one afternoon in downtown Almaty, near the Mongolian hotel, I was pleased to see that modern Kazakhs have embraced the principles of modern banking. There, in the outer lobby of a small office building, was an ATM machine.

I shoved my card into the tray, and after entering the same four-digit "personal code" I employ at my branch bank in suburban Washington, out flew a stuffy



PHILIP TERZIAN

cent number of sense on get me through the rest of the day.

I remember thinking at the time: What a nuisance, and yet extraordinary, incident. Less than a generation ago, Americans in need of quick cash were subject to the hassles of banking hours. Now, it is not only possible to draw from your account at any time, day or night, on any day of the week, but also as well by means of a plastic card, four or five times a day, and to increasing human. I was able to conduct a financial transaction 3,200 miles from home in a country where I don't speak the language and have no bank account.

It is all worth a \$1.50 charge, in the long run, I think so. The fact is that our quick money to furnish and maintain automatic teller machines for the convenience of customers, and the ease of providing services for non-depositors is even greater. Of course, I would prefer not to pay such fees in principle, but would that the annoyance of small charges, weighed against the huge convenience of automated banking, is genuinely trivial.

While I had no beef for the banking profession, it is far an assume that the ATM fee is a reasonable charge for a costly amenity. This point seems to be lost on the left-wing activist and sundering politicians who seek to ban such charges. Their object is not the convenience of consumers, but the discipline of banks, which they loathe. But the banks, to their credit, are not playing dead. In San Francisco and Santa Monica, they have not only gained impetus against the ban on federal courts, but have had the good sense to determine what such initiatives mean. In both places, banks have hatched the use of their ATM machines by non-depositors, explaining that the hated fee remains a possibility. This is an admirable posture for business, but welcome, and long overdue. In a land where first lawyers are prepared to deny any segment of the economy for billions in damages, or demagogues like Jesse Jackson shake down vulnerable companies for cash, it is time for business to fight back, and banks show what that \$1.50 charge really buys for consumers.

Philip Terzian is the associate editor of the Providence Journal in Providence, R.I.

HOW SURCHARGES ON ATM TRANSACTIONS WORK

ONE FOR YOU, ONE FOR ME, ONE FOR YOU, TWO FOR ME...



Old pros explain why politics is in decline

Two old friends of mine, Jack W. Germond and Jules Witcover, who share the byline on one of the best newspaper columns going, have published a pair of books that speak volumes about the estrangement even the most sympathetic of observers feel from today's political culture.



DAVID S. BRODER

Germond's book is a memoir of 40 years of covering politics, with the off-beat title, "Fat Man in a Middle Seat," a reference to the place unsympathetic airlines too often placed his bulky frame. It is filled with wonderful anecdotes of two generations of politicians and the reporters who covered them - a great read. But the undercurrent of "Fat Man" is the growing disillusionment Germond has felt about the field to which he has devoted his journalistic life. The chapter on the last three presidential campaigns he has covered is titled simply, "Hitting Bottom."

"I have not given up on politics, however," he assures readers on his final page. "I still nourish the notion that one of these years they will get it right and we will elect someone to the presidency who will bring out the best in the country. We might even find a leader willing to take an unpopular position occasionally because it is the right one to take, then set out to persuade Americans of that fact. That has been known to happen, but not lately."

His partner, Jules Witcover, explains why, in a book titled "How to Pick a President: How Money and Hired Guns Have Betrayed American Elections" - an angry, uncompromising survey of the steady debasement of the political coin. Witcover, whose first campaign was the Eisenhower-Stevenson race in 1956, has a multi-part answer to the question: Why

don't we have candidates of stature anymore? He says the cost of a presidential candidacy - in time, money and privacy - has grown so great that many of the ablest politicians flee from the prospect of running. The 1999 experience - where half a dozen credentialed Republicans were forced to the sidelines before a single vote was cast and such Democrats as Dick Gephardt, Bob Kerrey and John Kerry took a pass - will raise that barrier even higher.

Second, he says, the gamut of primaries - and especially the insane crowding of contests early in the calendar year - has made it nearly impossible for the public to take a measured view of those who do run. Irrational momentum has replaced careful judgment.

Third, he says, the entire campaign finance system with its inculcated costs and unwelcome regulations has virtually forced anyone who wants to run for president to cheat one way or another. And this problem, he accurately notes, has grown worse in every cycle.

Fourth, he says, the whole political system - not just the presidential contest - has fallen increasingly under the sway of "hired gun" consultants "who may or may not have a close attachment to the candidate and who are driven primarily by the lure of influence, money or notoriety, or all three."

Fifth, he says, the "hired guns" have instilled a "campaign mentality that

preaches that anything goes. Whatever it takes to win is done, the only caveat being that one's tactics should not be so egregious that they backfire."

And finally, Witcover says, "The news media that traditionally played watchdog, holding the candidates and their handlers to account for what they say and do, has been reduced to being either a bystander or accomplice in the artful manipulation of politics by the hired guns."

"This depressing state," he concludes, "is not what our Founding Fathers envisioned. They never foresaw the election of the American president evolving into an all-consuming competition for campaign funds to feed a political technocracy dominated by people whose first and often only loyalty is to themselves - to their own influence, power, celebrity and greed."

Defenders of today's politics could argue that the Founding Fathers were elitists who distrusted the people and disliked the hurly-burly of politics. They could argue that money and manipulation always have been part of presidential campaigns.

But it would be a mistake to dismiss what Germond and Witcover say as the ramblings of old reporters pining for a nonexistent golden age. They love politics and have a soft spot for political leavening influence. What they miss, as I do, is the confidence in their own values and viewpoints, who respect their opponents, and who conduct their campaigns in a way that sets the stage for governing, rather than poisoning the atmosphere with an overdose of the venom that produces public cynicism.

David S. Broder is a Washington Post columnist.

LETTERS

The drug war is a lost cause

In the land of the free and the home of the brave, few are add to that list the name of Kathy Tadlock, who, despite the threat of a prison sentence, spoke her truth and belief in the medicinal benefits of marijuana. False contention might have gotten her a less-harsh sentencing recommendation from the prosecuting attorney. As I sat in the courtroom and during portions of the trial and at the sentencing hearing, I thought how sad the whole scenario was - what a waste of time, of lives, of money, brought about by an illogical and possibly unnecessary law that has imposed on us all because of the prohibition of marijuana. The benefits of hemp and marijuana far outweigh any perceived harms.

The war on drugs has created more criminal activity than it has stopped. Prohibition creates a climate in which underground criminal activity thrives. It doesn't do so well in the light of day, in a free society that deals with its problems through open debate and honest discussion. The whole drug hysteria stifles that kind of debate. The driving force behind

the criminal activity is not the drugs themselves, but the money that goes with their being illegal. Few politicians have the vision and courage to speak out on this. Let's hope there are two politicians that are putting this issue on the table for public debate. Several states have passed medical marijuana initiatives and several states are looking at medicinal benefits. It is time to come out of the Dark Ages.

I won't pretend that there are not serious problems that exist with drug abuse, and I don't believe there are any more serious than the abuse of children, of species of the environment. Abuses of economic and political power are far more costly and detrimental to society than an individual's abuse of drugs. In fact, they are contributing factors for drug use and abuse. We don't need to create a police state to solve our drug-related problems. Open discussion and compromise will go much further than court-ordered incarceration. Let's take on this issue of abuse, we will make far more constructive gains in creating a just and free society.

BILL CHERSOLM
Buhl

Let's support the mentally ill

I wish to add my support to those who have written of late to request greater compassion for and acceptance of the mentally ill.

A hundred years ago, our society was still putting mentally ill people in institutions termed insane asylums where many of them were horribly treated as if they were some sort of wild animals. While medical science has made great progress in treating mental illness, society at large still looks at diseases of the mind differently than other health problems. Such conditions are frequently viewed in fear and ignorance. In fact, I believe there are many folks around who feel that some mental illnesses, such as depression, could be healed if only those afflicted would "get off their rear ends and work it out."

Mentally disturbed people who seek

medical help and/or counseling are often seen as being weak. And, yes, we even put them in jails, detention centers, and prisons for committing acts related to their illnesses. Society does, in fact, need and deserve protection, but sentencing punishment for being sick seems to me to be terribly unfair, unjust and unfitting for a modern civilized nation.

RICHARD DYKES
Filer

We need more lively elections

This is in regard to your recent editorial concerning the City Council election.

It is disappointing that only a fraction of the voting population voted in the City Council election. I wonder why. Are the citizens of Twin Falls not interested in voting or do they not believe that

their voting will make any difference? Your paper, which is the only source for news in this area, should take a more active role in such an election. You can also sponsor debates and create more interest.

I attended the debate between the candidates which was sponsored by the chamber of commerce. It was very pleasant to see candidates like Glenda Thompson who was very well prepared and well-informed. She did a very good job, and her answers were substantive. Our city will benefit from the new council members.

Diversity is not the only positive factor in the new array of the City Council members. Leadership, responsiveness and competency are other factors that the new members have.

SAIID DABESTANI
Twin Falls

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Because of space constraints, please limit letters to 400 words, include your signature, mailing address and telephone number. Writers who sign letters with false names will be permanently

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GO FOR IT!

NATION

Small plane crashes into New Jersey neighborhood

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — A small plane crashed into a residential neighborhood Friday morning, killing at least three people and leaving a fiery trail as it hit two buildings. At least 20 people on the ground were injured.

The single-engine 1964 Beech Bonanza 35 took off from Linden Airport at 10:45 a.m. and was en route to Dulles International Airport in Chantilly, Va., Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Jim Peters said. Air traffic controllers lost radio and radar contact with it five minutes later.

Mayor Sharpe James said three people were killed, all on the plane. The cause of the crash and the identities of the dead were not immediately known.

The plane hit a factory, which was set afire, and broke apart before hitting a fast-food restaurant that was closed. Several witnesses said they saw body parts and plane parts scattered in the area.

"All the cars on the block were on fire," said Rhonda Savage, who lives in the neighborhood.

James said an off-duty police officer saw the plane spinning out of control and losing altitude before it crashed. It hit a tree, the factory and three cars as it tried to gain altitude.

The plane finally crashed into a Kentucky Fried Chicken restaurant. The street between the restaurant and the factory was littered with burned cars, one with its roof sheared off. One of the airplane's red-and-white wings was leaning against a small tree near the restaurant.

Ibrahim Hussien, 32, was one of three workers on the first floor of the factory when the plane hit. All three managed to escape without injury. The other two floors were unoccupied.

"I heard something like a bomb," he said. "It shook the building."

They ran outside, and Hussien saw that "everything is destroyed outside the cars, the building," Rogers Ramsey, spokesman for

University Hospital in Newark, said 20 people who were on the ground — 18 adults and 2 children — were admitted for treatment. One man was in critical condition with first and third-degree burns. A woman who suffered burns was listed as fair. The others suffered mostly cuts and minor burns and were expected to be released, Ramsey said.

- CORRECTION -
In the Cain's Home Furnishings advertisement on Thursday, November 25, 1999, there is an error. In the disclaimer it states "no monthly payment required" and it should have stated "a minimum monthly payment is required." We are sorry for any inconvenience this may have caused our valued shoppers.
~ Cain's Home Furnishings

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save 30-40%
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Seven die in accident in New Orleans

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — A tractor-trailer carrying Christmas trees slammed into a minivan and a car on a freeway Thanksgiving night, killing seven people and injuring six, all of them relatives.

The accident happened about 11 p.m. on an elevated stretch of Interstate 10. The victims lived in the New Orleans suburb of Gretna and were believed to be returning from a family gathering.

The dead all were passengers in the minivan, which was crushed against a guard rail by the truck. One other person in the minivan was injured, as were all five people in the car. Four were hospitalized in guarded condition.

The truck driver was not hurt. No charges were filed.

The cause of the wreck was under investigation.

The road was dry at the time. Police spokesman Lt. Marlon Defillo said the minivan was following the car, which had its emergency blinkers on. The tractor-trailer hit the back of the minivan.

The driver of the car "may have stalled, he may have had mechanical problems and it was not obvious that perhaps he had slowed down," Defillo said.

"That's what we'll have to determine."

The names of the dead were not released.

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- Pro basketball
- Pro football
- CSI sports
- Pro golf
- Idaho college sports
- Idaho high school sports

SPORTS

INSIDE

Local sports B2
Scores and stats B3
NBA B5

Sports editor: Jeff Rosen, 733-0931, Ext. 219

Section B

The Times-News

Saturday, November 27, 1999

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“You’re probably not even shaving yet.”

—Mark O’Meara, to 19-year-old rookie Sergio Garcia before today’s Skins Game

TODAY’S SCHEDULE

Women’s college basketball
Lady Eagles Coxa-Cola Classic at CSI
College of Eastern Utah vs. Green River CC, 6 p.m.
Casper College vs. CSI, 8 p.m.
Idaho at Colorado State’s Coors Rocky Mountain Invitational

Men’s college basketball
Idaho at Washington State, 1 p.m.

College volleyball
Idaho Challenge in Moscow

Girls’ basketball
Gooding at Glenns Ferry

Boys’ basketball
Sho-Barat Rut River
Castelford Jamboree at Castelford, 6 p.m.
Wired River at Gooding Jamboree, 6 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Coaches: Last call for questionnaires

TWIN FALLS — Boys’ basketball coaches and athletic directors at Bliss, Hansen and Murtaugh high schools are reminded to send completed questionnaires, rosters and update schedules to the sports desk today to ensure inclusion in the Times-News’ 1999-00 winter sports previews.

Teams that do not return questionnaires now may not be included in Sunday’s Class A-4 boys’ basketball preview.

Also, all area wrestling coaches are encouraged to fax their questionnaires back to the sports desk early next week to ensure inclusion in the Times-News’ upcoming wrestling preview. Wrestling forms should be faxed to (208) 734-5538 no later than Wednesday, Dec. 1.

Jackpot team roping slated for weekend

TWIN FALLS — Sundance Farms hosts a jackpot team roping event Saturday and Sunday beginning at 1 p.m.

Sign up for Christmas for Kids Volleyball

GOODING — Entries are being accepted for the second annual Christmas for Kids Volleyball Tournament at Gooding Middle School, sponsored by the Avonmore and Side Out Volleyball Team.

Entry fee for teams looking to participate in the Dec. 4 event is \$75 plus one new unwrapped toy from each squad member. Good used children’s coats are also being accepted. T-shirts will be awarded to first-place teams in each division (upper and lower), and prizes will be given away during the tournament.

All proceeds will benefit needy Magic Valley children through the Community Resources for Families program. Contact Pam Pereira at 324-0354 or Kenny Anderson at 536-6273 for more information.

2’ags pound Eastern Washington 81-47

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Reserve Zach Gourde scored 22 points as No. 25 Gonzaga routed Eastern Washington 81-47 Friday night in the Bulldogs’ first-ever home game as a ranked team.

Ricke Fruhn added 15 points for Gonzaga (2-0), while Matt Santangelo had 13. Gourde, a freshman, scored most of his points in the second half with the outcome decided.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

1999-00 WINTER SPORTS PREVIEW

Pocatello powers loom large once again

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Like last season, the giants of Region III basketball reside in the East.

With defending state champion Pocatello, and fourth-place state-finisher Highland again looking strong, it’s a good possibility the regional championship will be settled following a bus ride up Interstate 86.

“The road to a regional championship will go through Pocatello this season,” said Burley head coach Alan Harr. An

informal survey of area coaches supported Harr, as highest ranked Pocatello and Highland finishing in the top two spots. Those opinions are well-founded.

Last season, the Indians cruised to an 10-2 regular-season finish and coasted through the state tournament with consecutive wins over Lake City, Capital and Idaho Falls. In three wins, Pocatello’s average margin of victory was nearly 10 points a game, including a 12-point decision over Idaho Falls in the title game.

While the Indians graduated nine players off that team and lost 13 other potential prospects to upstart Century, they return one of the state’s best athletes in 6-foot-3-inch guard Matt Hagler.

Highland, although not as dominant as Pocatello, ended last year with a 13-7 regular-season record. The Rams finished fourth in the state tournament by beating Meridian but losing to both Idaho Falls and Capital.

Looking to knock off the Pocatello powers will be a host of teams from the Magic Valley.

Beginning in Mini-Cassia, Burley and Minico return with solid squads. The Bobcats lost 80 percent of their offense when scoring machines Aaron Bradley and Micah Adams graduated last year, and where that lost production will be made up remains to be seen. Burley has a number of potential weapons, including its only returning starter, Eric Hoskins or fellow post player, Troy Holland. With good size, Burley figures to be a physical team with a lot of talent in the

Please see PREVIEW, Page B4

Winter Sports Preview



The Times-News previews the region’s high school winter sports teams:

- Today: Idaho, A boys’ basketball
- Sunday: Class A-4 boys’ basketball
- Next week: Wrestling and Jackpot basketball

CSI women hold off Gators

Golden Eagles improve to 5-3

By Matt Peterson
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — If nothing else, the College of Southern Idaho women’s basketball team made it interesting Friday.

The Lady Golden Eagles watched a 14-point, second-half lead dwindle down to one, then hung on to win 68-65 against Auburn, Wash.’s Green River Community College in opening-day action of the 5th annual Coxa-Cola Classic Tournament at the CSI gym.

“It looked like a game we could kind of sail away with,” said Southern Idaho coach Joel Bate. “But we kind of slumped our shoulders and we relaxed a bit and let them back in it.”

Leading 28-24 at halftime, Southern Idaho opened the second half with a 12-2 run, getting baskets from five different players and pushing its advantage to 40-26, just five minutes into the final frame.

Green River fought back to within nine, at 44-35, then closed to eight, at 51-43, with 6:31 remaining. Southern Idaho managed to maintain its eight-point cushion until 3:55 left in the game when Green River picked off a pass and raced the other way for a layup, narrowing the Golden Eagles’ lead to 57-51.

After two Lauren Dickman free throws, Dickman hit a three-pointer from the top of the arc to bring CSI’s lead to five, at 59-54 with 2:52 left.

Banasak then pulled the Gators to within three at 64-61 on a three-point play with 1:10 remaining. After a Green River timeout and a Southern Idaho miss, Kristin Banks hit a short jumper from the left corner, pulling the Gators to 64-63 with 41 seconds left on the clock.

A Sara Cellan short jumper with 20 seconds left gave Southern Idaho a 66-63 lead, but Green River refused to go easily, scoring on a Natalie Steck layup with one tick left on the clock.

Two Tonya Phillips free throws after a quick foul iced the game, giving Southern Idaho the 68-65 win.

Dickman led all scorers with a game-high 20 points. She also pulled down a team-high eight rebounds.

“That might have been a career night for Lauren,” said Bate, who had three other players score in double figures. Cellan had 15, McGrath 12 and Kim Wegner 11. A stifling man-to-man defense from Green River and poor execution on offense resulted in a slow start for the Golden Eagles. Falling behind 30 early, CSI didn’t reach double digits until 10:17 into the first half when McGrath hit a pair of free throws, making the score 11-10 in favor of Green River.

Seven of the Gators’ first nine points came from 6-1 post player Jill Swanson. Dominating the boards



Lauren Dickman fights for the ball against Green River’s Kemo Savage during the College of Southern Idaho’s win Friday night.

Arizona cages Kentucky Wildcats

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — No. 8 Arizona shook off some erratic shooting to go on a 11-0 run midway through the second half Friday night and defeated No. 11 Kentucky 63-51 to win its third Preseason NIT championship.

More college Maryland No. 24 basketball — 85 hung on for a 72-67 victory over Notre

Dame in the consolation game. Lonny Baxter topped the Terps with 17 points and 14 rebounds. Troy Murphy led all scorers with 25 and had 11 rebounds for the Irish.

Both Arizons (4-0) and Kentucky (3-1) were struggling with their shooting until midway through the second half. Leading 35-33, Arizona suddenly began finding the range.

Consecutive three-point plays by Richard Jefferson and Gilbert Arenas started the run. Then, after another basket by Jefferson, Jason Gardner added an exclamation point to the run with a 3-pointer and just like that, Arizona had a 46-33 lead.

In this rematch of the 1997 NCAA tournament championship game won in overtime by Arizona 63-59, neither team looked much like a Final Four candidate. Arizona shot 39.7 for the game but that was better than Kentucky’s 35.6.



Arizona forward Luke Walton (4) looks to pass the ball around Kentucky’s Jamaal Magloire during the first half of the preseason National Invitation Tournament Championship game at Madison Square Garden in New York Friday.

Texas A&M wins for accident victims

The Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — The tears came easily for Texas A&M — even in victory, even after a week of heartache.

Top 25 college With flags at half-staff football “A Amazing Grace” echoing

at halftime, the Aggies beat their biggest rival Friday in a game played amid grief for the 12 people who died building the traditional bonfire before the Texas game.

No. 24 A&M rallied to beat the No. 7 Longhorns 20-16. Before a crowd of 86,128 — the largest ever to see a game in Texas — Je’Mar Toombs rushed for 126 yards and two touchdowns for A&M. Quarterback Randy McCown hit Matt Bumgardner from 14 yards out for the winning touchdown with 5:02 left.

Texas (9-3, 6-2), winner of the Big 12 South Division, plays Nebraska on Dec. 4 in the Big 12 title game in San Antonio.

No. 2 Virginia Tech 39, No. 22 Boston College 18
BLACKSBURG, Va. — Virginia Tech’s first perfect regular season in 81 years ended on a sweet



Virginia Tech tailback Shyrone Stith (38) powers in for a touchdown during first-half action against Boston College in Blacksburg, Va. The Hokies won 38-14, to finish the season 11-0.

note, but was it sweet enough to be Sugar?

The Hokies (11-0, 7-0) got three long touchdown passes from Michael Vick and another big effort from its defense Friday to beat No. 22 Boston College 38-14 at Lane Stadium. The victory capped the Hokies’

Please see COLLEGE, Page B3

SPORTS

Pro players lack professionalism

COMMENTARY Mitch Albom

From the moment Latrell Sprewell came bounding onto the court last Saturday night...

his Knicks winning Saturday night, it was only because he wanted to show up his old team.

Sprewell sees himself as do as many of today's athletes: some unique warrior on a mountain, shouting for all the creatures below to give him his proper respect...

Football is just as bad as basketball. It's rare to see a game anyone in which you don't peg up after every play and point a finger, pound a fist, or more commonly, pound their own chest over and over...

Remember that old expression, "There's no I in team?" To paraphrase Tim Turner, "What's team got to do with it?"

Well, as long as he had fun. Welcome to the last days of the millennium, where the truth about sports now lies in this sentence: "It's all about me."

Never mind, Bailey sees the game as a chance to stamp his identity all over your consciousness. And he's not alone.

It's not that kind of player. "I'm not that kind of player," Favre said afterward, "but I was today, I guess."

Between the dances, the flexes and the leaps into the stands, you wonder how anyone has time to actually play the game anymore.

They are athletes like this today: in part, because TV. The "SportsCenter's" of the world have become video bulletin boards for the players' egos.

They capture all this ridiculous posturing and preening and replay it over and over. And while most of America is disgusted, somewhere back home, the player's family and friends are cheering and saying, "Look at our guy!"

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Campbell closes with rush at Aussie Open

SYDNEY, Australia - Michael Campbell, still on a high from snatching Tiger Woods' four-tournament winning streak Nov. 14, birdied the final four holes Friday for a 7-under-par 65 and a one-shot lead after two rounds of the \$640,000 Australian Open.

The 30-year-old New Zealander, who won the Johnnie Walker Classic two weeks ago, had been four strokes off the lead after the first round at the Royal Sydney Golf Club.

Campbell was at 10-under 134 for the tournament, one stroke ahead of Aaron Baddeley, an Australian amateur, who shot a 4-under 68.

Colin Montgomerie puffed well for the first time in four tournaments to stay in contention with a 67 after an opening round 72 to leave him five off the lead.

Greg Norman shot a 73, leaving him at 1-under.

Olauiwon leaves Blazers game with injury

PORTLAND, Ore. - Houston Rockets center Hakeem Olauiwon left in the third quarter of Friday's game against the Portland Trail Blazers with an injured left hand.

Olauiwon, holding his left hand, was taken to the locker room. The extent of the injury was not immediately available.

Olauiwon was hurt when he fouled Blazers center Arvydas Sabonis away from the Portland basket. The injury occurred just 13 seconds into the third period and with the Blazers ahead 44-44.

Bond set at \$1.5M for Caruth, two others

CHARLOTTE, N.C. - Carolina Panthers wide receiver Rae Caruth and two other men were arraigned Friday on charges they planned and carried out the drive-by shooting of the player's pregnant girlfriend.

Mecklenburg County District Judge C. Jerome Leonard set bond at \$1.5 million for each of the three defendants.

Caruth, 25, the Panthers' first-round draft choice in 1997, and William Watkins, 44, of Charlotte were arrested Thursday and charged with conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, attempted murder and shooting into an occupied vehicle.

Michael Kennedy, 24, of Charlotte was arrested Friday morning on the same charges.

Attorney: Cota, Newby to plead innocent

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. - The attorney for Ed Cota and Terrence Newby said the North Carolina basketball players will plead innocent to misdemeanor assault charges next month.

"We're hoping they will not be found guilty," attorney Bill Blue said. "That is consistent with our review of the case."

Cota, considered one of the best point guards in the nation, and Newby were charged with three counts each of assault inflicting serious injury and two counts of simple assault following a brawl on the North Carolina campus Halloween night.

Ghana beats U.S. in third-place game

AUCKLAND, New Zealand - Ghana scored goals in each half to beat the United States 2-0 on Saturday in the third-place game of the Under-17 Soccer World Championship.

Pimpeng Rasiak opened the scoring in the 35th minute, and star striker Ismael Adoo made it 2-0 in the 84th minute.

Brazil plays Australia in the final later today.

Canada's Greene wins Halva award

BEAVER CREEK, Colo. - Nancy Greene Raine, recently named Canada's athlete of the century, was honored Friday as the 17th winner of the Halva International Skiing Award.

The lifetime-achievement award is given annually to "an individual whose commitment to excellence and dedication to skiing have profoundly enriched the sport."

Compiled from wire reports

Skins

Continued from B1 younger than Woods was his first time in the event.

Asked about playing with one of the best players in the world, who happens to be half his age, the 16-year-old Coules said, "I love it. I watch a lot of what Sergio does. I think it's remarkable. He does it in style."

"I'm not intimidated by other players. I'm intimidated by him, but he is not intimidated by them," Coules added. "Tiger and Sergio are a lot more mature, ready to compete now than we were in the past. They don't have a lot of fear, and they can really play."

Coules is a replacement in the



Sergio Garcia

Skins Game for the late P. A. Stewart

Garcia, who freely shares his success on the course but is, like Woods, very poised, was accompanied by the couple's friends from Stewart's funeral.

O'Meara and Coules.

"I feel like I'm on a cloud," Garcia said. "It's only one year. I need to keep working hard and hopefully I will be up there for years."

Stewart's funeral was held in

American golf fans will see a lot of Garcia next year, he plans to play in 17 or 18 U.S. events in addition to about 14 in Europe.

He is looking forward to his first Skins Game.

"We seem in a couple of times with their own image they set our selection, and it's a little different," he said. "You kind of talk with the people, and you joke with your friends."

Coules, who has pledged any money he wins from the \$1 million purse to the Payne Stewart Memorial and the First Ocala Foundation, said Garcia is "the king of the event, with 51.3 million and 41 skins in the six tournaments he's played."

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In the Skins format, the four-seen plays nine holes today and nine Sunday, with prize money at stake on each hole. A player wins the money if he wins the hole (the "skin") outright. But if two or more players tie a hole, all are considered tied and the money is carried over to the next hole, with the pot building until one player wins a hole.

The first six holes of the Skins Game, being played at the new Landmark Golf Club, will be worth \$25,000 each, the next six holes \$50,000 each, Nos. 13 through 17 \$70,000 each, and No. 18 a "super skin" worth \$200,000.

With the win, the Lady Golden Eagles improved to 5-3 overall and will take on Casper College tonight in the tournament's final game. In the early game Friday, Casper downed Eastern Utah 100-88.

Senior P.C.C. 24-41-85
Casper 28-40-88

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Casper 28-40-88

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Casper 28-40-88

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Wooden Classic opens today

The Orange County Register

ANAHEIM, Calif. - A couple of Pac-10 basketball coaches whose teams won't hook up for more than two months will get a taste of some of the best of what the South has to offer in the sixth John R. Wooden Classic today in Arrowhead Pond of Anaheim.

The USC Trojans' whose coach, Henry Bibby, was an All-American under Wooden at UCLA in 1972 - make their first appearance in the event when they face No. 16 USC in a game expected to tip off at about 2:30 p.m.

In the first game, No. 9 Stanford faces on No. 2 Auburn at noon.

The Trojans are 2-2 after winning one of the three games this week in the Maui Invitational.

USC meets another 2-2 team today in the Blue Devils and, after losing to No. 5 North Carolina on Monday night, the Trojans might have had their fill of Atlantic Coast Conference teams by this evening.

Despite losing five of its top eight players from last season - four to the NBA draft and Chris Burgess transferred to Utah - Duke is in a rebuilding mode that would be the envy of any other coach in the country.

"We're a young team that isn't as good as this as we will be in January and February," Duke coach Mike Krzyzewski said Friday morning. "This is the youngest team I've had."

Lost in all of the discussion about the loss of underclassmen Elton Brand, William Avery and

Corey Maguire to the pros is the very uncertain possibility that Krzyzewski might have the best pair of forwards in the nation in senior Chris Carraswell and junior Shane Bauer.

"They're the best 2-2 team in the country," Bibby said of Duke. Bibby looked over his right shoulder and smiled. "And," he said, "if any of them want to transfer, we'd be glad to have them."

Mike Montgomery of Stanford (4-9) is the only coach taking a week off this year for the season and time. The Cardinal knocked off Georgia in JRW Classic IV, 76-74.

But the Tigers are much stronger than the Georgia team Stanford beat in Anaheim two years ago.

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College

Continued from B1
First perfect regular season since the 1918 team went 7-0.
The Holies and No. 3 Nebraska are battling to play No. 1 Florida State in the designated national championship game...

No. 3 Nebraska 33, Colorado 30 OT
BOULDER, Colo. — Nebraska's national title hopes are still alive. Barely.
Dan Alexander ran for a career-high 180 yards, and Eric Crouch scored on a 1-yard run in overtime Friday as the No. 3 Cornhuskers defeated the No. 2 Buffaloes 33-30 in a fourth-quarter lead before recovering for a 33-30 victory over Colorado.

With their eighth straight win against Colorado, the Holies (10-1, 7-1 Big 12) advanced to the Big 12 championship game Dec. 4 against seventh-ranked Texas, the only team to beat Nebraska this year.
Colorado (6-5, 3-3) came within a few feet of spoiling Nebraska's bid for its fourth

national title in six seasons, but Jeremy Aldrich's 34-yard field goal attempt was wide-right as time expired.

LSU 35, No. 17 Arkansas 10

BATON ROUGE, La. — With a new coach and an old quarterback, LSU finally got a victory.
"Everybody was having a good time," said Rohan Davery, who threw three touch-down passes in LSU's 35-17 victory over No. 17 Arkansas. "For a change, it was really fun to go out and play."

It was the first victory since Sept. 11 for the Tigers (3-8, 1-7 Southeastern Conference), coming just over a week after coach Gerry DiNardo was fired.
The Razorbacks (7-4, 4-4) led the SEC in fewest sacks allowed with 12, and had not allowed Tennessee or Mississippi near Clint Stenerud. But LSU sacked him twice in the first half.

No. 12 Marshall 34, Ohio 3

HUNTSVILLE, W.Va. — When Marshall's Chad Pennington finally got adjusted, Ohio collapsed.
Pennington overcame a sluggish start by throwing for 378 yards and three touchdowns Friday as No. 12 Marshall beat

Ohio 34-3.
The victory kept the Thunder Herd (11-0, 8-0 Mid-American) among the few undefeated teams in Division I-A. Marshall ran its winning streak to 15 games overall and 30 at home, both tops among major colleges.

Ohio (5-6, 5-3) got only Kevin Kerr's 53-yard field goal in the first quarter against a defense which allows the fewest points in the nation at 10.1 per game.

The winner of the Dec. 3 MAC title game gets an automatic berth in the Motor City Bowl against an in-state opponent on Dec. 27 in Pontiac, Mich. Marshall is seeking its third straight MAC title.

USC 45, No. 25 Louisiana Tech 19

LOS ANGELES — Chad Morin rushed for 84 yards and three touchdowns in his final game at Southern California as the Trojans won their third straight game.
USC (6-6) also snapped Louisiana Tech's eight-game winning streak. The loss likely cost the Bulldogs (0-3), who averaged 37 points in their previous 10 games, any chance at playing in a bowl game.

UI spikes Gonzaga in volleyball

MOSCOW — The University of Idaho clinched its eighth straight winning season on Friday with a 15-11, 15-11 win over Gonzaga University at Memorial Gym in the Brannan's Northwest Dodge Volleyball Challenge.
Idaho (17-14) has won 14 of its last 15 matches against the Lady Bulldogs (6-23).

"I was real pleased to see how we came out in Game 1," said third-year Idaho coach Carl Fortman.
Gonzaga gave the Vandals fits in Games 2 and 3. Idaho had to climb back from an 8-5 deficit in the second set and a 10-6 score in the third.

"It shows a lot of character to maintain composure the way we did," Ferreira said.
Jenny Knies led UI with 11 kills, nine digs and a 318 hitting average. Younger sister, Heather, added eight kills.

Idaho next hosts Eastern Washington tonight at 7 p.m. in Memorial Gym. Boise State, which fell to EWU 11-15, 7-15; 6-15 earlier Friday, plays Gonzaga at 4:30 p.m.

Bad-Boy Morrison faces more charges after wreck

HUNTSVILLE, Ark. (AP) — Less than four weeks before he is to be tried on drug and weapon charges, former heavyweight Tommy Morrison has been arrested on charges of public intoxication and illegally possessing a weapon.
Morrison, who knocked out George Foreman in 1993 to win the World Boxing Organization title, was arrested Thursday after a car accident in Madison County. He was a passenger in a Corvette registered to his wife when he car-tossed about four miles west of Huntsville, the sheriff's department said.

The man who investigators believe was driving the car, Bart Bumpass, 30, was arrested on weapon, drug, alcohol and driving charges. Several hours later, police received a call that Morrison had been seen in a field; he eventually was arrested at a residence near Huntsville.

Morrison was charged with public intoxication and being a felon in possession of a weapon, according to the sheriff's department.
On Dec. 21, Morrison is to go on trial in Washington County Circuit Court on charges of cocaine possession, simultaneous possession of a handgun and firearms, being a felon in possession of a firearm, possession of drug paraphernalia, misdemeanor possession of marijuana and driving while intoxicated.
Those charges stem from a Sept. 16 arrest made after police stopped Morrison for driving erratically.
On Sept. 10, Morrison received a two-year suspended sentence for drunken driving in Oklahoma after pleading guilty.
In 1997, an Oklahoma jury convicted Morrison of driving under the influence and other charges related to a chain-rear traffic accident that injured three people. He was ordered to spend time in treatment. He also avoided jail time on charges of drunken driving and speeding in Kansas in 1997.
Morrison had 40 knockouts during his career; the last in 1996 — just after testing positive for the virus that causes AIDS.

SCORES AND STATS

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

Table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams and their records.

COLLEGE STANDINGS

Table with columns for Division I, II, III, and NAIA, listing teams and their records.

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IN THE BLEACHERS

By Steve Moore



"Return him by 10 a.m. Monday, and remember — you're responsible for any damage to his knees, elbows, shoulders, ankles, neck or back."

ON THE AIR

TELEVISION

Table listing television programs and their times, including College football, NFL, and NHL.

TOP 25 RATED

Table listing top 25 rated television programs and their viewership.

BASEBALL

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FOOTBALL

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SPORTS

Yzerman scores 600th goal to lead Detroit past Oilers

DETROIT (AP) — Steve Yzerman scored his 600th goal in Detroit's victory over Edmonton to become the 11th NHL player to reach the milestone.

The Red Wings captain scored on a power play at 12:30 of the first period.

Yzerman took a pass from **NHL** skater

ed up the goal line and lifted a shot that bounced off the back of goalie Tommy Salo's legs and into the net.

Yzerman, who topped 900 assists last week, joined Wayne Gretzky, Gordie Howe, Marcel Dionne and Mark Messier as the only NHL players with 600 goals and 900 assists. Yzerman has 1,503 points to rank seventh on the career list.

Panthers 6, Rangers 2

SUNRISE, Fla. — Florida scored four goals in an 11-minute span in the second period and Trevor Kidd made 39 saves as the Panthers beat New York.

Pavel Bure and Jaroslav Spacek also scored for Florida. Alexandre Daigle and Kim Jonnsson scored for the Rangers.

Capitals 1, Predators 0

WASHINGTON — Ulf Dahlend scored on a power play with 15:48 to play, and backup goalie Craig Billington made 19 saves for his second consecutive shutout as Washington beat Nashville.

Billington, subbing for Olaf Kolzig for the second time in 10 games against the Oilers, kept the game in 135 minutes of play. He stopped 28 shots in a 3-0 victory in Boston last Saturday.

Blues 2, Sabres 0

BUFFALO, N.Y. — Mike Eastwood and Lubek Bartoško scored second-period goals as St. Louis beat Buffalo.

Jamie McLennan made 19 saves for his sixth career shutout and first since February.

St. Louis ended Buffalo's three-game winning streak and NHL-best stretch of seven straight home victories. The Blues have won five of their last seven games and five of their last six road games.

Hurricanes 3, Lightning 3

TAMPA, Fla. — Robert Kron scored early in the third period as Carolina remained unbeaten in 10 games against Tampa Bay. Kron tied the game during a power play just 41 seconds into the period. Vincent Lecavalier had a

goal and an assist for the Lightning 0-5 size last beating the Hurricanes on Oct. 1, 1997.

Paul Coffey had two assists, helping the Carolina defenseman, 1,992 career points.

Mighty Ducks 4, Stars 2

DALLAS — Teemu Selanne scored three goals as Anaheim beat Dallas for its first victory at Reunion Arena since 1993.

Selanne broke a 2-2 tie with 10:33 remaining, tucking a rebound under Eric Belfour. The Finnish star also scored the tying goal in the second period, and added his 11th goal of the season into an empty net with 44 seconds to go.

Tony Hawk added a goal for Anaheim. Dallas' Brett Hull scored his 559th career goal, and Jon Sim also scored for the Stars.

Bruins 2, Canucks 2 OT

BOSTON — Steve Heinze scored his sixth goal of the season at 7:47 of the third period, to lift the Boston Bruins to a 2-2 tie against the Vancouver Canucks on Friday afternoon.

Garth Snow made 34 saves for the Canucks, including three in overtime, in just his fifth appearance of the season.

The Bruins have a three-game unbeaten streak and are 11-2-2 in their last 15 games.

Flyers 3, Maple Leafs 2

PHILADELPHIA — Mark Recchi's goal with 51.5 seconds left in overtime kept Philadelphia unbeaten at home in its last seven games.

Recchi beat Toronto goaltender Glenn Healy with a slapshot from the left circle after tak-

ing a pass from Eric Desjardins from behind the net.

Penguins 5, Senators 0

PITTSBURGH — Jaromir Jagr scored three goals in a 7:01 span of the first period as the Pittsburgh Penguins routed the Ottawa Senators 5-0 on Friday night.

In addition to his first hat trick in nearly three years, Jagr assisted on Matthew Barnaby's goal for the Czech star's 900th NHL point.

Jagr, who had 18 goals in 19 games, increased his league-leading point total to 38.

Tom Barrasso, playing for the first time since Oct. 8, stopped 20 shots for his 35th career shutout. Barrasso missed the last 17 games after spraining a knee ligament in the second game of the season.

Preview

Continued from B1

Low post.
On the north side of the river, rival Minico enters the season with a deep and experienced bench. While the team had a relatively poor showing last year, it should improve this season by utilizing its quickness at the guard position while picking up its defensive intensity.

Moving west, Twin Falls and Jerome look to get back on track after frustrating seasons a year ago. Of the two, the Bruins return the most starters, as three of last season's starters and four of Twin Falls' top six players, are back. The Tigers, on the other hand, return only one starter from last year's team — junior guard Brad Stokes.

The final team — first-year program Century — looks to establish itself as a competitive Region III presence this season. To their advantage, the Diamondbacks drew from a talented pool of players, as 13 of its 14 varsity members hail from Pocatello High School, while head coach Cody Shelley comes over from Highland where he worked as an assistant last year.

Here is a look at each Region III team:

Burley Bobcats

Coach: Matt Harr, 4th season
Assistants: Allan Perron, Kody Beck, Jack Bagley, Eric Page
1998 record: 16-8

Returning starters: G/P Eric Hoskins (sr., 6-3), P Troy Holland (sr., 6-4).

Others to watch: P Josh Garn (jr., 6-3), PG Adam Hope (sr., 5-10), G Elliot McMillan (jr., 5-11), W Collin Searle (sr., 6-3), G Parker Lyons (sr., 6-2), C Curtis Hall (sr., 6-5), C Brandt Draper (sr., 6-4).

Outlook: The graduation of

Aaron Bradley and Micah Adams cost Burley 80 percent of last season's offense. Consequently, the Bobcats will need solid performances from all of their players if Burley is to be successful this year. The team's only returning starter is Hoskins.

The 6-3 senior averaged six points a game last season, but is expected to improve his offensive output this year. Holland, a 6-2 senior who averaged six points a game last season, also brings valuable varsity experience, as well as rebounding ability, to this year's team. Guards Hope and McMillan should both see time at the point position, while Searle and Lyons give Burley two potent, long-range scoring threats. While the Bobcats have good size, their inexperience could pose a major obstacle to early-season wins.

Coach Harr says: "We have a strong frontcourt and should be very physical. That should get us a lot of second opportunities underneath. As the season progresses, our confidence in scoring from the outside will improve as we have plenty of good perimeter players who just need experience."

Opener: Dec. 2, Skyline.

Century Diamondbacks

Coach: Cody Shelley, 1st season
Assistants: Layne Coffin, Mitch Opatica
1998 record: N/A

Returning starters: None.
Others to watch: F Matt Stuecki (so., 6-3), G Aaron Tremayne (jr., 5-11).

Outlook: Thirteen of Century's 14 varsity players come to the first-year program from Oakes High School, home of the defending state basketball champions. While none of Century's players saw varsity

time with the Indians, they hail from an established winner. That alone should help the Diamondbacks find their identity and aid their efforts in establishing a winning tradition. Leading the team will be sophomore Stuecki and junior Tremayne.

While not especially big, Dan D'Backs look to have a formidable post player in 6-8 Dan Crabtree. With virtually no varsity experience, rookie head coach Shelley expects inexperience to hamper his team in the early going.

Coach Shelley says: "Our quickness and enthusiasm should be our strength. (The kids) have a desire to play hard."

Opener: Dec. 4, at Blackfoot.

Highland Rams

Coach: Chris Frost, 10th season
Assistants: Stan Hales, Brian Deatridge
1998 record: 18-10

Returning starters: N/A
Others to watch: G Danny Frasure (sr., 6-1), G Tanner Harris (sr., 6-0), G Rocky Rhodes (sr., 5-7), F David Knoff (sr., 6-1), P Pip Kugler (sr., 6-5), F Aaron Williams (sr., 6-2), G Richard Reavis (jr., 6-0), F Jordan Hill (sr., 6-2), F Jeff Carpenter (sr., 6-4), P Corey Gates (sr., 6-3).

Outlook: N/A
Coach says: N/A
Opener: Dec. 3, at Boise.

Jerome Tigers

Coach: Larry Walter, 1st season
Assistant: Dennis Capps
1998 record: N/A

Returning starters: G Brad Stokes (jr., 5-11).

Others to watch: P Jason Lierman (sr., 6-4), P Sam Dickinson (sr., 6-6), F Todd Capps (sr., 6-4), F Brad Pettengill

(sr., 6-3), G Brett Cook (sr., 5-8).

Outlook: With Stokes the only returning starter, Jerome will rely on a variety of players with limited experience at the varsity level this year. The Tigers should have no trouble with height, however, as Lierman, Dickinson, Capps and Pettengill all stand 6-3 or taller. First-year head coach Walter says he is excited about the season and so far is impressed with his team's commitment to improving themselves in practice. On the flip side, the coach expresses concern over filling leadership roles on the team.

Coach Walter says: "Our strengths will be team chemistry and our ability to go inside or outside."

Opener: Dec. 3, at Bishop Kelley.

Minico Spartans

Coach: Blair Garner, 3rd season
Assistants: Kent Chandler, Kelly Armit, Travis Hanks
1998 record: 5-17

Returning starters: F Derek Kunz (sr., 6-4), G Buck Fife (sr., 6-5), G/F Jared Price (sr., 6-2).

Others to watch: G Gilford Gillette (sr., 5-7), G Casey Jensen (sr., 6-1), G Ross Herrera (sr., 5-8), F/EC Everett Crane (sr., 6-5), F John Fennell (so., 6-7), F Nate Christiansen (jr., 6-3), G John McKenzie (jr., 6-1), G Andy Coates (jr., 5-11), F Skylar Scott (jr., 6-2).

Outlook: The Spartans finished with a disappointing 5-17 record last season, but return three starters and a deep bench of talented players for the 1999 campaign. Fife (10 ppg, 4 apg) will head up a quick Minico backcourt, while football standouts Price (5 ppg, 2 rpg) and Kunz (8 ppg, 5 rpg) should give the Spartans solid minutes in the

frontcourt. With seven seniors on the team, Garner has plenty of experience and leadership on this year's team. Of early concern to the coach has been his team's defensive play.

Coach Garner says: "We have a good work ethic and will play hard. ... We need to play good defense and be a good rebounding team. We have to be able to stop their run scoring."

Opener: Dec. 2, Idaho Falls.

Pocatello Indians

Coach: Greg Evans, 7th season
Assistants: Tony Stapleton, Don Birch, Darin Anderson, Arthur Quarterman
1998 record: 24-5

Returning starters: G Casey Oliver (jr., 5-11), G Matt Hagler (sr., 6-4).

Others to watch: G Ty Pearson (jr., 5-10), C Brandon Mennear (sr., 6-4), P Jim Chadwick (sr., 6-5), P John Beckstead (sr., 6-5), W Nate Hale (jr., 6-2), G Ben Brown (jr., 6-3), G Sterling Mennear (jr., 6-0), C Mark Williams (jr., 6-6).

Outlook: Pocatello returns only two starters from last year's state championship team, but don't expect the Indians to fade from the front of the Region III pack.

One of their returning players, Hagler, who plays the two, three or four position, stands as one of the state's top players. A versatile player who averaged 12 points a game last season, Hagler has a bruised shoulder and a yet-to-be-diagnosed knee injury, both suffered during football season.

One of their last year, the Indians are also faster. Evans, adding that his team will play an uptempo game on offense while pressing all 32 minutes on defense.

Coach Evans says: "We're going to run, and we're going to make other teams run."

Opener: Dec. 3, at Timberline.

Twin Falls Bruins

Coach: Dan Vogt, 6th season
Assistants: Stacey Behrens, Mary Espinoza
1998 record: 4-19

Returning starters: G Brandon Nielsen (jr., 6-1), P Jeremy Sudd (sr., 6-2), G Jonas Brady (sr., 5-9).

Others to watch: G Ben Thompson (sr., 6-2), P Ryan Thomas (sr., 6-2), P Leigh Castillo (so., 6-4), F Colt Jones (jr., 6-2), G Zach Gregersen (sr., 6-2).

Outlook: After limping to a 4-19 finish last year, the Bruins face a brighter future this season, as four of their six top players return to the lineup. That experience, coupled with good depth at the guard position, has coach Dan Vogt optimistic about his team's chances. The conspicuous absence of a dominating big man — apart from sophomore Castillo — could cause problems for the Bruins against some of the region's taller teams.

Coach Vogt says: "We're small inside and don't have a lot of proven depth at our post positions, but we've experienced and have good perimeter depth."

Opener: Dec. 3, at Mountain Home.

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Raptors surprise Utah 100-87

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Vince Carter scored 10 of his 18 points in a burst that opened the fourth quarter and Tracy McGrady added 17 points off the bench as Toronto beat the Utah Jazz 100-87 on Friday night.

Carter had 10 of Toronto's first 12 points in the fourth, helping the Raptors extend a 73-71 lead over the Jazz.

Held to six points in the first half, Carter helped Toronto build an 83-73 lead midway through the fourth.

The Jazz, meanwhile, got plenty of open looks but couldn't score. Utah shot 39.8 percent (35-of-88).

Karl Malone scored 24 points, six short of the 30 he needed to pass Michael Jordan for third place on the NBA's career scoring list. Malone struggled, shooting 8-of-23, and missing shots that usually seem effortless to him.

Spurs 101, Bulls 78
SAN ANTONIO — Tim Duncan scored 23 points and had a career-high eight blocks to lead San Antonio over Chicago. The Spurs won their fourth

straight game as Duncan and Malik Rose dominated inside. Rose added 13 points, while Duncan pulled down 10 rebounds. San Antonio tied a franchise record with 20 blocked shots on the night.

Chicago, which has now lost six straight games, was led by rookie Elton Brand's 24 points.

Blazers 91, Rockets 88, 07
PORTLAND, Ore. — Scottie Pippen got to upstage his old team, but not without plenty of help from Steve Smith and the rest of his new Portland Trail Blazers teammates.

Smith hit three key jumpers in overtime to overshadow the Pippen-Charles Barkley feud and help the Portland defeat Houston.

Pippen led the Blazers with 19 points, but he was held scoreless after the third quarter. Smith and Rasheed Wallace each added 15 points for Portland, which improved to 12-2 and 5-0 at home.

Bucks 114, Celtics 112
BOSTON — Sam Cassell had 28 points and Ray Allen hit a go-ahead jumper with 4:30 left as the Milwaukee Bucks over-

came a 21-point deficit to defeat the Celtics 114-112 Friday night.

After Vitay Potapenko gave the Celtics a 108-103 lead with 3:20 left, the Bucks used an 8-2 run to take a 111-110 lead on Allen's jumper.

Antoine Walker had 27 points to lead the Celtics. Potapenko finished with 22 points and 11 rebounds for Boston, which has dropped two straight games.

Homets 118, Wizards 85
CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Brad Miller and Bobby Phillips led an overpowering display by Charlotte's reserves that led the Hornets to a victory over Washington.

Rookie Richard Hamilton had 16 points for the Wizards, who showed plenty of signs of futility in their third game in four days, including 27 turnovers that the Hornets converted into 29 points.

76ers 106, Cavaliers 83
PHILADELPHIA — Tyrone Hill had 17 of his season-high 22 points in the first half as Philadelphia cruised to a win over Cleveland.

Hill's scoring was a huge boost to the 76ers who were missing three starters. Forward Theo Ratliff is nursing a sore right ankle and is day-to-day. He joined injured starters Allen Iverson and Matt Geiger on the bench.

Anton McKie also had a season-high 23 points as Philadelphia won for just the second time in its last six games.

Pacers 105 Grizzlies 86
INDIANAPOLIS — Rik Smits led seven Indiana players in double figures with 21 points as the Pacers routed Vancouver.

Jalen Rose scored 15 points, and Dale Davis and Travis Best each added 14 for the Pacers. Shaheed Abdul-Rahim had 22 for the Grizzlies, who dropped their sixth straight game and lost their 28th consecutive road contest dating to last season.

Pistons 93, Hawks 91
AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Grant Hill scored 30 points as Detroit beat Atlanta for its fifth straight victory.



Boston Celtics forward Adrian Griffin (44) battles for a rebound between two Milwaukee Bucks, Ray Allen, left, and Dale Ellis, Friday in Boston.

Top-ranked Bearcats run wild over Cleveland State

HILO, Hawaii (AP) — Top-ranked Cincinnati's mix of a veteran frontcourt and a young backcourt worked well again Friday as the Bearcats beat Cleveland State 91-56 in the opening round of the Big Island Invitational.

Senior center Kenyon Martin scored 20 points, while sophomore Steve Logan had 17 and his freshman backcourt partner DeMarr Johnson added 15 to lead the Bearcats (2-0), who have won their opening games by an average of 31 points.

Cleveland State (0-2) fell to 0-11 all-time against the Bearcats.

No. 3 Michigan State 59, South Carolina 56
BAYAMON, Puerto Rico — Morris Peterson had 21 points and Charlie Bell added 13 to send Michigan State to the championship game of the Puerto Rico Shootout.

Travis Kraft tried a heave at the buzzer to tie for South Carolina (3-1), but it came up short.

The Spartans (3-0) next face No. 20 Texas for the title. The Gamecocks (3-1) take on No. 18 DePaul for third place.

Indiana 67, No. 5 Temple 59
SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — A.J.

Top 25 college basketball

Guyton scored 22 points and Kirk Haston added 20 for Indiana. Lynn Greer hit six 3-pointers and scored 25 points to lead Temple (1-1), which was playing without point guard Pepe Sanchez, who sprained his ankle earlier in the week.

No. 17 Tennessee 86, Notre Dame 67
NEW YORK — Lanny Baxter controlled the boards and No. 24 Maryland held off Notre Dame 72-67 Friday night in the consolation game of the Precision NIT.

The Irish had no inside answers for Baxter, a 6-foot-8 sophomore, who scored 17 points and grabbed 14 rebounds. He and Terence Morris helped Maryland open an 11-point halftime lead that grew to as much as 18 in the second half.

Maryland (4-1) outrebounded Notre Dame 38-34 and hurt the Irish with some timely 3-point shooting.

Martin Ingelsby and Carroll had 11 each for Notre Dame.

Women's basketball
No. 1 Connecticut 109, No. 14 Old Dominion 66
HARTFORD, Conn. — Shea

approach against Northeastern: She rested almost all her starters.

Davalyn Cunningham, the only regular who started, scored a career-high 17 points and ignited a game-breaking 19-3 first-half run to lead No. 8 Rutgers to a 61-39 win over Northeastern in the Coca-Cola Classic on Friday night.

Shawnetta Stewart added 11 points, 10 rebounds and five assists, and Tasha Pointer added 10 points as Rutgers (1-1) got back on track after an upset by North Carolina State in its season opener.

No. 10 North Carolina 82, ETSU 55
CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — LaQuanda Buckles scored 21 points, and Jackie Higgins added 13 points and 12 rebounds to lead No. 10 North Carolina to an 82-55 victory Friday night over East Tennessee State.

Nikki Teasley scored 13 points for North Carolina (2-1), and was one of the few Tar Heels players not in foul trouble.

Christina Forman scored 12 points to lead East Tennessee State (2-1).

No. 11 Auburn 82, Mercer 41
AUBURN, Ala. — Tasha

Hamilton scored 20 points to lead No. 11 Auburn to an 82-41 win over Mercer Friday in the Thanksgiving Classic.

Hamilton hit 7-of-8 from the field, including all three of her 3-point attempts. LeCoe Willingham added 11 points, while Tiffany Krantz scored five points and had nine assists.

The Tigers (3-0) shot 57 percent for the game while holding Mercer (2-1) to 33 percent shooting.

No. 20 Purdue 90, Florida 50
WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Katie Douglas broke out of a one-game shooting slump to score 21 points and lead No. 20 Purdue past Florida, 90-50 on Friday night.

Douglas, who scored 31 points in the Boilermakers' Nov. 19 opener at Dayton and followed with 24 last Sunday against Vanderbilt, was held to just six points on Wednesday against Valparaiso. She entered the Florida game with a 20.3 scoring average.

Michelle Duhart and Shinika Parks added 10 points apiece for the Boilermakers (4-0). Duhart also finished with nine rebounds.

Florida (1-1) was led Tiffany Travis with 10 points.

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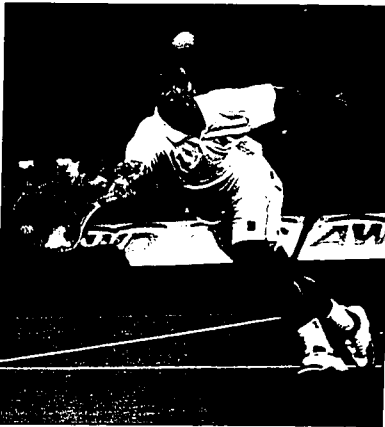
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SPORTS

Sampras makes ATP Championship semis



Pete Sampras reaches for a forehand return during his match against Nicolas Lapentti, of Ecuador, at the ATP World Championship in Hanover, Germany, Friday. Sampras won 7-6 (7-2), 7-6 (7-5).

HANOVER, Germany (AP) — His game still nowhere near where he wants it to be, Pete Sampras struggled into the semifinals of the ATP Tour World Championship on Friday by beating Nicolas Lapentti 7-6 (7-2), 7-6 (7-5).

"He really made me work hard," said Sampras, who has dropped to No. 5 in the rankings. Sampras actually needed to win only one set to advance, and he admitted he didn't know that was all that was required of him in the tournament's complicated breaking mechanism.

"I didn't play great but I got through," he said. "That's the bottom line."

Coming off a three-month lay-off because of hip and back injuries, Sampras joins Andre Agassi, Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Nicolas Pietrangeli in the semifinals of this \$3.6 million season-ending tournament.

Kiefer, inspired by a boisterous, hometown crowd, hit booming winners from all over the court in beating Kafelnikov 6-1, 4-6, 6-2.

"It's a great experience I am having at the moment, 14,000 spectators behind me and cheering the whole time," Kiefer said.

Although Kiefer upset Kafelnikov both still moved on. Agassi was idle Friday and already had qualified in this

round-robin event.

In the semifinals, it's Agassi vs. Kafelnikov and Sampras vs. Kiefer. Kafelnikov, ranked No. 2, was assured of advancing even before he played Kiefer, who is ranked No. 6 and reached the semifinals in his first appearance in this tournament.

Under the tiebreaking formula, Todd Martin and Thomas Enqvist were eliminated. Lapentti and Gustavo Kuerten also failed to advance from the eight-player field.

Sampras, supplanted at No. 1 this year by Agassi, is making his 10th straight appearance at the ATP Championship and has reached the semis the last nine years. Ivan Lendl made 12 straight semifinal appearances, ending in 1991.

Earlier, Martin beat Enqvist 6-4, 6-1, a result that qualified Kafelnikov but did not help Martin. Kiefer and Kafelnikov finished with 2-1 records in the White Group, while Martin and Enqvist ended 1-2.

Maier leads downhill training for second day

BEAVER CREEK, Colo. (AP) — For the second straight day, Hermann Maier was master of the mountain, pacing downhill training Friday in preparation for a men's World Cup downhill race today.

The powerful Austrian, who paced Thursday's training run by 21 seconds over Italy's Kristian Ghedina, led the Friday run by .68 seconds over teammate Hannes Trinkl.

Austrians, in fact, swept the top four positions as well as six of the top 10 and eight of the top 14.

Maier was timed in 1 minute, 43.98 seconds, nearly two seconds quicker than his run the day before. Trinkl came across in 1:44.66. Peter Rzezbak was third in 1:44.88, and Roland Assinger placed fourth in 1:44.98.

Assinger, sixth in Thursday's training, won't compete in Saturday's race, however. He has been training in Colorado with the intention of competing on the Europa Cup circuit this season following a serious shoulder injury.

Switzerland's Didier Cuche ranked fifth in 1:45.02. Canadian Darrin McBeath and Austrian Christian Greber tied for sixth in 1:45.03.

Another Austrian, Fritz Strobl, was eighth in 1:45.09, followed by Switzerland's Bruno Kernen and Silvano Beltramini, in 1:45.15 and 1:45.38, respectively.

Italy's Kristian Ghedina, second to Maier on Thursday, was 11th in 1:45.41, and teammate Lorenzo Galli was 12th in 1:45.48. Austrians Werner Franz and Stephan Eberharter were 13th

and 14th, respectively, in 1:45.55 and 1:45.63.

Daron Rablves of Truckee, Calif., was the top American, 221 seconds off the lead in 31st place at 1:46.19. Chad Fleischler of Vail, who finished second in the final downhill of the season in March, was 62nd in 1:47.23.

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Matinees from Noon Thursday to Sunday at The Twin & Jerome Cinema and Orpheum

AROUND THE VALLEY

Family searches for missing girl

FILER - The family of a missing 17-year-old girl were looking for the public's help in finding her.

Randa Rogers has been missing since Nov. 18, her grandfather Clair Holloway said. Rogers is about 5 feet 6 inches tall and 170 pounds. She has dark hair and complexion, he said.

The family heard she might be in the Jerome area with two men, Holloway said. Anyone with information about Rogers' whereabouts can call 326-3268 or 735-1911.

Silek to speak in Buhl about schools, justice

BUHL - Idaho Supreme Court Justice Cathy Silek will speak to the Building Buhl's Future Committee at 7 p.m. Monday at the Eighth Street Center. Silek will discuss how the judicial system intersects with education and how much authority school districts have over students. The forum is open to the public.

Buhl planners hold hearing next week

BUHL - The city Planning and Zoning Commission will hold a public hearing at 7 p.m. Dec. 2 at City Hall at 203 Broadway. The purpose of the meeting is hear testimony on a request by Homestead Properties to build a planned unit development on 3.46 acres of land located east of Fair Road South and south of R & B Grocery Market. The planned development will consist of 36 apartments, 22 senior citizen units and 13 single-family dwellings. Additional details on the planned development are available at the city clerk's office.

Idaho Power offers free learning resources

BOISE - Idaho Power is now offering a catalog of free educational resource materials through the company's Internet site at www.idahopower.com. A link on the company's homepage provides educators, scout leaders and others access to a comprehensive Educational Resource Guide. The guide offers a catalog of program packages on a wide variety of presentations including environmental programs, safety, migratory fish programs and electricity generation. The materials include teachers' guides, work sheets, audiovisual materials and brochures. Those requiring materials from the resource guide can download a convenient order form which, when filled out, can be mailed to Idaho Power. Once an order is received it is sent by United Parcel Service. Return shipping costs for resource materials is prepaid by Idaho Power. The Educational Resource Guide also provides background information on Idaho Power and information on company-sponsored scholarship programs.

Compiled from staff reports

Eyeballing the next big span

Choice for a new bridge nears completion

By John T. Huddy
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - A site plan for construction of a new bridge over the Snake River Canyon is nearing completion, and as it does, officials are planning final public meetings to discuss the multimillion-dollar project. W & H Pacific, a consulting firm hired by the Idaho Transportation Department earlier this year, has been looking at possible locations in the Magic Valley for a new Snake River crossing.

Andy Mortensen, project manager for W & H, said several public meetings were held with residents and officials discussing the plan. The set of final public meetings likely will be scheduled for the second or third week of January.

A final plan is scheduled to be completed by February. Using survey results and public comment, the ITD and W & H Pacific have screened crossing alternatives and narrowed site options for a bridge. These list 12 feasible options, with three top choices and one possible route.

The options are all several miles west of the Perrine Bridge and range from \$67 million to \$100 million.

Goals for the bridge include reducing congestion on Twin

Falls' Blue Lakes Boulevard and providing safe alternatives for north-south traffic while preserving farmland and residential areas.

The crossing study will be aided by results of a recent survey which produced concrete data on how drivers use the bridges, Mortensen said. The survey found that much of the Perrine Bridge traffic was made up of workers going to and from the Jerome and Twin Falls areas. Traffic on the Clear Lakes and Hansen Bridges was even more work-related and more local.

One of the main problems with the project, though, is how to pay for it, Mortensen said.

Mortensen has said it might take a "significant state struggle to get this money saved up,"

adding that it could take at least 15 years to start the project, depending on how long it takes to save the money.

Mortensen also said money would come from state and federal highway and gas taxes. If the state decides to go ahead on the project, many other state projects could be put on hold, he said. Residents have expressed concerns about agricultural land impacts. Several residents at a meeting earlier this year said they were afraid bridge construction could endanger nearby farmers.

Mortensen said that issue was taken into consideration.

Others have questioned whether the bridge plan would have anything to do with the state's plan for a U.S. Highway 93 alternate route. That plan

would transform 2400 East and most of Pole Line Road into a four-lane highway to send traffic around the heart of Twin Falls, alleviating traffic congestion on Blue Lakes Boulevard North.

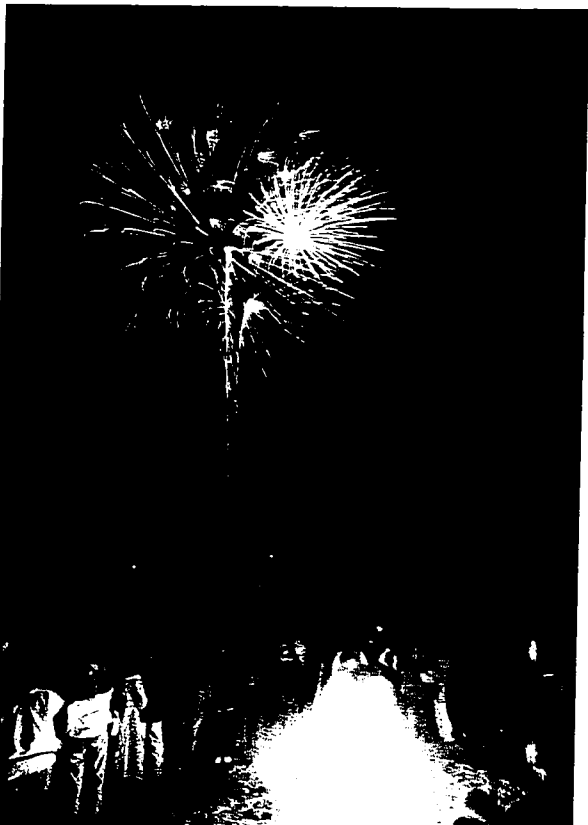
Bob Humphrey, ITD project manager, said the projects aren't related.

Mortensen said the final aerial photographs of the 12 crossing-route alternatives are also close to completion. The photographs will give planners a better look at the sites, he said.

Dates and times for final public meetings will be announced soon, he said.

Times-News staff writer John T. Huddy can be reached in Twin Falls at 733-0931, Ext. 259, or by e-mail at jhuddy@magvalley.com

OOOH! AHHHH!



A pyrotechnic burst mesmerizes the crowd at Kimberly's Memories during Christmas in the Nighttime Sky. This is the ninth year the winter spectacular has been held in Twin Falls.

Taking time to ponder AIDS

By Rachel Denny
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - One by one candles will be lit in the Twin Falls City Park Wednesday in an attempt to make people stop and ponder, for at least one day, how AIDS affects people not only worldwide, but also in southern Idaho. For the second consecutive year Twin Falls will partici-

pate in World AIDS Day, a national campaign aimed at educating people about AIDS. Last year about 65 people participated in the event.

The theme this year is "AIDS - end the silence." "World AIDS Day tries to assure for at least one day in the year, preferably a week, people stop to look at how AIDS has affected people in

Please see AWARE, Page C3



Miss Rodeo Idaho Selbi Board of Halley is busy preparing for the Miss Rodeo U.S.A. competition Sunday in Las Vegas.

Rodeo queen eyes the national title

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

HAILEY - Selbi Board would like nothing better than to come home to Hailey next week wearing a Miss Rodeo America crown.

But first she has to know what hyperkalemia, periodic paralysis does to horses. She has to learn that saddle broncs are saddle horses crossed with draft horses to get a peculiar bucking motion. She has to form an opin-

ion about whether embargoes work to keep foreign countries peaceful. And she has to concentrate on talking from her abdomen, so her voice sounds lower, less squeaky.

You see, being a rodeo queen is more than mastering the art of waving your hand. "The girls are judged on their knowledge of demurring horses, as well as their poise and personality, speaking ability and appearance," said Sandi

Please see QUEEN, Page C3

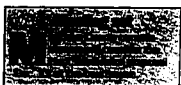
Proposed subdivision near Heyburn worries some residents

By Lorraine Caverer
Times-News writer

HEYBURN - Some residents are questioning plans for the new Hunt subdivision recently approved by the Minidoka County Planning and Zoning Commission. The subdivision, which would add just one house for now, still must get the approval of county commissioners.

The Hunt subdivision would be about half a mile beyond the Atchley subdivision - west of Burley and Heyburn on the north side of the Snake River - which county commissioners approved in August.

The new subdivision already is controversial. Commissioners' criteria for the Atchley subdivision included that future subdivisions could not be granted on property



further than two miles outside the Burley city limits, to allow for possible future annexation. But the Hunt subdivision is further than two miles from Burley limits, said neighbor Mury Ann Shuff.

"We're seeing a lot more houses go in," Shuff said. "If they are going to set a mileage limit, they need to stick by it."

But Paul Aston, Minidoka County's building and zoning director, interpreted the commission's stipulation differently than Shuff, who measures miles by road's shortest route. "Commissioners didn't want to

open the gate for subdivision development further out, but my interpretation is two miles as the crow flies," Aston said. County commissioners' ruling didn't specify how to measure two miles.

A stipulation placed on the Hunt subdivision by planning and zoning commissioners is that it be divided only once. Shuff fears the lot could be sold, then subdivided again.

"As long as it's just one house, I'm fine," she said. But Aston said he does not think the property would be subdivided again.

"A new owner would have to go through all the hoops to get an amendment. I don't think it would be approved," he said. Cary Hamilton, one of the owners of the 17-acre Hunt parcel, spoke with Shuff after the recent

meeting and told her they had no plans to apply for further subdivisions on the property.

Allowing the Hunt subdivision to fudge on the distance is also a concern of Earl White, who spoke out against the Atchley development and is not in favor of the Hunt subdivision.

"It gives an open door to anybody who wants to split land and up even more," White said. "They are setting a dangerous precedent."

White's concerns about subdivisions in his neighborhood near 850 West and 400 South stem from his concerns about high nitrate levels found in the area's water. Although White has not brought up nitrates in the Hunt issue, he said in connection with Atchley that he does fear more homes mean more chance for nitrate levels to rise.

Higher property values and a

large number of manufactured homes are also among Shuff's worries - the same concerns she expressed about the Atchley subdivision.

When the Atchley one was allowed, she manufactured homes already were in place in the area.

The Hunt subdivision has one manufactured home already on the lot, and if the split is approved there are plans for another manufactured home on the other lot, Hamilton said.

Although the county can control a parcel's number of divisions, the county cannot discriminate against manufactured homes, Aston said.

Times-News writer Lorraine Caverer can be reached at the Minidoka Bureau in Burley at 677-4042 or e-mailed at lcaverer@magvalley.com

WANTED

in the Magic Valley

Name: Tonie Mae Plos.
Age: 35.

Description: Hispanic, brown eyes, female, 5 feet 2 inches tall, 165 pounds, brown eyes and black hair. Charged with manufacture and delivery of a controlled substance. The Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office asks anyone with information to call 736-



MAGIC VALLEY

FOR THE RECORD

TWIN FALLS - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Twin Falls County included the following:

Misdemeanor sentences

Twin Falls County
Mary Jane Lopez, 48, 567 Oakley Ave., Burley; driving without privileges; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$150 fine; \$63.50 court costs; ten days' jail time; suspended; six months' probation; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.
Robert Craig Hatfield, 31, 1038 1/2 Keegan Lane, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; 34 days' jail time; suspended; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Daniel Mejia Rodriguez, 26, 2100 N. Filer; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; one day jail time; suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Jeffrey M. Dionne, 38, 3543 B U.S. Highway 93, Twin Falls; battery; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; 90 days' probation; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.

Antonio Morales Salazar, 30, 1848 E. 4300 N., Buhl; driving without the influence; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs, uncollectible; six days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Alfred Ray Bolish, 58, 1224 C. E. 4425 N., Buhl; count 1, driving under the influence (passive); pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; ten days' jail time; 365 days' driving privileges suspended; count 2, on probation; pleaded guilty; count 3, fictitious display card or plates; pleaded guilty; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Herman W. Bennett, 30, 601 Yakima; Filer; unlawful transfer without proof of ownership; pleaded guilty; \$50 fine; \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
David Allen Hance, 45, 627 Blake St. S., Twin Falls; aggravated assault; amended to domestic violence; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; 180 days' jail time; Magistrate Judge John McLaughlin.
Ted Terhorst, 34, 127 Seventh St. N., Twin Falls; domestic battery; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; 180 days' jail time; suspended; 12 months' probation; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Alberto Carmona, 16, 622 E. 3600 N., Cassified; resisting or obstructing officer; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; \$63.50 fine; \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
James David Gill, 19, P.O. Box 536, Filer; reckless driving; pleaded guilty; \$150 fine; \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Daniel Ruit Garcia, 19, 190 Ramage St., Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.

City of Twin Falls
Patrick E. Haddleton, 25, 2913 E. 3600 N., No. 10, Twin Falls; driving under the influence; amended to inattentive/reckless driving; pleaded guilty; \$50 fine; \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Cody Allen Hartwell, 23, 1625 Maple No. 2, Buhl; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; two days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Brian Russell Winslow, 27, 311 Elm St., Twin Falls; count 1, petty theft; amended to willful concealment; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; five days' jail time; count 2, failure to appear for misdemeanor citation; pleaded guilty; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Jeffrey A. Zimmerman, 19, 184 W. 75 N., Jerome; count 1, resisting or obstructing officer; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; 58 days' probation; count 2, failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; 58 days' jail time; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Carlos E. Bittencourt, 19, 1322 Washington St., C7, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; two days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Jan Jensen, 45, 3678 Addison Road E., Hansen; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; two days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Miguel Angel Deaton, 26, 236 Ramage St., Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; 90 days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Randall Thomas Guyman, 42, 432 Meadows Lane, Twin Falls; count 1, lead cause of accident; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; two days' jail time; suspended; count 2, inattentive/reckless driving; amended

to backing violation; pleaded guilty; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Vanilmy V. Phommahansy, 17, 396 Dubois Ave. W., Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; four days' detention time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
David L. Swain, 52, 949 Madison N., Twin Falls; unlawful possession/transporting wildlife; pleaded guilty; \$25 fine; \$71 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Donald L. Olson, 35, 1230 Sunburst, Twin Falls; unlawful possession/transporting wildlife; pleaded guilty; \$25 fine; \$71 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
David Lee Hill, 32, 2401 S. Owyhee No. 85, Boise; driving without privileges; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Steven Eugene Hendricks, 29, 966 Sunrise; driving without privileges; disturbing the peace; pleaded guilty; \$100 fine; \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Darin A. Azevedo, 19, 3900 N. 2064 E.; Filer; driving without privileges; amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$100 fine; \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Dora Mae Watson, 26, P.O. Box 465, Filer; vicious dog violation; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; 30 days' jail time; suspended; 12 months' probation; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Dorothy Serran, 48, 1222 Freeman, Twin Falls; unlawful possession/transporting wildlife; pleaded guilty; \$25 fine; \$71 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Joseph E. Bohren, 48, 1222 Freeman, Twin Falls; unlawful possession/transporting wildlife; pleaded guilty; \$150 fine; \$63.50 court costs; 30 days' probation; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.

Joey A. Bohren, 48, 1534 Laurel, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; two days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Erin Edwards, 21, 521 Taylor St. W., Kimberly; driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; 90 days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Arzucna M. Sillis, 20, 1354 Washington St., No. 55, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; two days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Quinn H. Garner, 38, 344 Harrison, Twin Falls; driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$1,000 fine; \$200 suspended; \$78.50 court costs; 90 days' jail time; suspended; 24 months' probation; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumback.

Juvenile appearances
Jose M. Loughmiller, 16, 2383 E. 3300 N., Twin Falls; petty theft; public defender appointed, in custody of detention center.
Michael Lewis Rendon, 15, 164 Ramage; Twin Falls; count 1, battery; count 2, battery; count 3, battery; count 4, intimidating a witness; public defender appointed, in custody of juvenile detention center.
Jason Rogers, 16, 183 Yeburn Ave. W., Twin Falls; count 1, inebriated; public defender appointed; pretrial November 23, released on warrants on lieu of conditions of detention center.

Juvenile sentences
Sarah Holcomb, 13, 102 Brookline E., Twin Falls; driving without parent's consent; pleaded guilty; 90 days' detention time; suspended; 12 months' probation; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumback.

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probation; 25 hours' community service; submit to search and seizure; no association; Magistrate Judge John Varva.
Kristina Herbert, 16, Snake River Detention Center, Twin Falls; resisting or obstructing officers; pleaded guilty; 90 days' detention time, suspended; 12 months' probation; 20 hours' community service; submit to search and seizure; no association; shall not possess any weapons; shall not have possession or use of drug or alcohol; Magistrate Judge John Varva.
Boulevard, Twin Falls; 158 Lakes and 90 days' detention time, suspended; 12 months' probation; 25 hours' community service; submit to search and seizure; no association; shall not possess any weapons; shall not have possession or use of drug or alcohol; Magistrate Judge John Varva.
Tim Hreck, 16, 1048 E. 4200 N., Buhl; aggravated battery; amended to battery; pleaded guilty; nine months' probation; submit to search and seizure; no association; shall not possess any weapons; shall not have possession or use of drug or alcohol; Magistrate Judge John Varva.
Sherry Ortica, 30, 203 Blue Lakes Boulevard S., Twin Falls; petty theft; pleaded guilty; 90 days' detention time, 87 days' suspended; 25 hours' community service; submit to search and seizure; no association; shall not possess any weapons; shall not have possession or use of drug or alcohol; Magistrate Judge John Varva.
Joseph M. Serran, 48, 1222 Freeman, Twin Falls; unlawful possession/transporting wildlife; pleaded guilty; \$25 fine; \$71 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Joseph E. Bohren, 48, 1222 Freeman, Twin Falls; unlawful possession/transporting wildlife; pleaded guilty; \$150 fine; \$63.50 court costs; 30 days' probation; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.

Charity Anywhere Foundation presents its third annual CELEBRATION OF THE NATIVITY Over 300 creches on display at the Armory on the CSI Campus Friday November 26 6-9 p.m. Saturday November 27 10 a.m.-9 p.m. Sunday November 28 12-6 p.m. Start the Christmas Season on a spiritual note.

City of Twin Falls
Patrick E. Haddleton, 25, 2913 E. 3600 N., No. 10, Twin Falls; driving under the influence; amended to inattentive/reckless driving; pleaded guilty; \$50 fine; \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Cody Allen Hartwell, 23, 1625 Maple No. 2, Buhl; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; two days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Brian Russell Winslow, 27, 311 Elm St., Twin Falls; count 1, petty theft; amended to willful concealment; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; five days' jail time; count 2, failure to appear for misdemeanor citation; pleaded guilty; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Jeffrey A. Zimmerman, 19, 184 W. 75 N., Jerome; count 1, resisting or obstructing officer; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; 58 days' probation; count 2, failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; 58 days' jail time; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Carlos E. Bittencourt, 19, 1322 Washington St., C7, Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; two days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Jan Jensen, 45, 3678 Addison Road E., Hansen; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; two days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Miguel Angel Deaton, 26, 236 Ramage St., Twin Falls; driving without privileges; pleaded guilty; \$78.50 court costs; 90 days' jail time; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.
Randall Thomas Guyman, 42, 432 Meadows Lane, Twin Falls; count 1, lead cause of accident; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs; two days' jail time; suspended; count 2, inattentive/reckless driving; amended

search and seizure; no association; shall not possess any weapons; shall not have possession or use of drug or alcohol; Magistrate Judge John Varva.

Child support cases
State of Idaho, Child support services vs. Scott Timothy Abrahamson. Seeking \$328 monthly support; \$330 attorneys fees and costs.
State of Idaho, Child support services vs. Brandy Jo. McLaughlin. Seeking \$152 monthly support; \$330 attorneys fees and costs.
State of Idaho, Child support services vs. Roger Dean Hunt. Seeking \$144 monthly support; provide insurance; \$330 attorneys fees and costs.
State of Idaho, Child support services vs. Douglas Norgard. Seeking \$331 monthly support; provide insurance; \$330 attorneys fees and costs.

Divorces
Ronald Baumgartner vs. Sherry Lee Baumgartner.
Joy M. Corbett vs. Jack W. Corbett. James James vs. Mary James. Brenda Short vs. Gary E. Short. Renee Dye vs. Larry Dye. Benjamin Hall vs. Stephanie Hall. Lisa M. Carter vs. Michael A. Carter.
Felony dismissals
Twin Falls County Maria Shirley Brown, 41, 4041 N. 3500 E., Kimberly; non-support of children; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Kevin Cassidy.
Melvin Wayne Chapman, Jr., 30, 259 Thurston Road No. 1, Twin Falls; sexual battery of minor child; dismissed by prosecutor; District Judge Daniel Meehl.
Daniel Ben Nopara, 21, 245 Washington St., Twin Falls; theft by receiving; possessing stolen property; dismissed by prosecutor; District Judge Daniel Meehl.
Jonathan F. Walling, 37, 190 Adams, Twin Falls; robbery; dismissed by prosecutor; District Judge Daniel Meehl.

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Group seeks funds for wolves

BOISE (AP) - A sportsmen's organization is calling on Idaho's Republican congressional delegation to seek federal funding for future wolf management, including depredation, if and when wolf control is turned over to the state.

An Idaho panel has tentatively approved a plan for state management of transplanted wolves in anticipation that the federal government will remove the predators from the endangered species list earlier than expected.

In a letter to U.S. Sen. Larry Craig, Idaho Wildlife Federation president Jack Fisher expressed concern that sportsmen could be saddled with the financial burden at a time when the Idaho

Department of Fish and Game is short of money.

Craig's office was unavailable for comment on Friday.

"It is the position of IWF that Idaho's wolves should be delisted as soon as recovery goals are met for Idaho, and they should be managed by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game," Fisher wrote. "However, it would be of Idaho to have to pay for any aspect of wolf management. Therefore, on behalf of thousands of Idaho sportsmen and women, we request you do everything in your power to seek recurring federal funding to pay for wolf management in Idaho," Fisher said.

The target for delisting the wolves was 10 breeding pairs, each in central Idaho, Yellowstone National Park and northern Montana.

This spring, federal experts estimated as many as 13 breeding pairs in Idaho and 10 or 11 in Yellowstone. Conflicts, however, cut the number by fall to 10 pairs in Idaho and nine in Yellowstone.

Fisher added there seems to be an unwritten expectation that Idaho hunters and anglers ultimately will foot the bill. That is especially true in regard to depredation costs since sportsmen's license dollars already pay for livestock losses caused by cougars and black bears.



Police move in to detain an unidentified protester who chained himself to the door of L'Ours Blanc Furs in Salt Lake City early Friday.

Trio face charges after arrest while protesting Utah fur shop

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Three young animal-rights activists were arrested Friday for chaining themselves to the door of Salt Lake's last specialty fur shop.

The protesters had been picketing every week for months at L'Ours Blanc Furs, 10 North State St., but switched tactics by locking the shop's entrance, demanding the store owner agree to a debate on the fur trade.

Police arrested Erica Valenti and Sarah Wilmot, both juveniles under 18, for trespassing. They also arrested Eric Ward, 20, who had to be carried out of the shop headfirst into a patrol car.

"Fur is dead! Fur is dead," their supporters shouted. The protesters want shop owner Mary Jeppson to quit selling furs and open a fur-cleaning business or sell fake fur instead.

"She's selling every kind of fur, from mink to fox and exotic,"

said Jeremy Parkin, 17. "It's a cruel trade that should not exist." The demonstration was part of Fur-Free Friday, a nationwide protest held every year on the day after Thanksgiving. Animal-rights activists protested in San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York and other cities.

Fur protests in the Salt Lake region have been a regular event for years. Members of the Straight Edge gang have been charged with raiding mink farms and bombing a Fur Breeder's Cooperative.

Sidewalk demonstrators moved to L'Ours Blanc Furs after the ZCMI department store liquidated its downtown Utah of Camoo Room furs last March. ZCMI executives said they quit selling furs for business reasons, not because of the protests.

Even before Friday's protest, organizer David Wilson of the Coalition to Abolish the Fur

Trade said another activist he claimed not to know had tried to keep shopkeeper Jeppson from leaving her home in Magna by gluing the locks at her home. Jeppson refused comment.

At her shop, city firefighters had to break a window and use a chain cutter to free the protesters. "It was all for the animals," Valenti said as she was led away.

"We had some people who wanted to exercise their First Amendment rights but did it illegally," City Police Lt. Mark Zelig said.

Parties swap snide talk over clinic closure case

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - A closed clinic has its landlord and the facility's exchanging caustic comments and a potential lawsuit in the works.

The board members of the bankrupt East Shoshone Hospital District say the district cannot afford to keep paying for a building that was a bad deal in the first place.

In the opposite corner are the Magnuson family members who own the Wallace Clinic.

"It's grossly derelict to sign a stipulation in the summer saying 'We're going to pay the debt and yes, we want the clinic,' then three months later someone drops off the keys," attorney John Magnuson said. "They turn off the utilities, they don't insure it."

Board member Jon Ruggles accused Magnuson of bullying the board by sending them a letter threatening to sue them personally for breach of contract.

"We've shut down the water, the power and everything to the hospital. What makes them think we want an empty clinic building?" Ruggles said.

The hospital in Silverton, the Silver Valley Medical Center, closed for lack of patients in September 1998. The district opened the clinic in Wallace as an inducement to keep doctors in the area.

Ruggles said the clinic was built by Harry Magnuson, a prominent businessman and long-time hospital board member, who then sold it to the district.

Dinner train gets prepared for routes in central Idaho

LEWISTON (AP) - A passenger train consisting of four cars and a locomotive will begin running routes in northcentral Idaho on Dec. 10.

The train, which can seat 100 comfortably, will run on the various Camas RailNet routes around Lewiston, said Charles Smith, president of the nonprofit organization that has a lease-purchase agreement on the train.

In the winter, the routes may be from Lewiston to Orofino and

from Lewiston down the Snake River past Lower Granite Dam. In better weather, the train could go to the higher elevations, Smith said.

The cost of the dinner trip will be \$75 per person, although it is higher for two New Year's Eve trips planned this year.

The organization published its first advertisement about the New Year's Eve excursion a few weeks ago. The response has been amazing, Smith said.

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MORNING BREAK

ACROSS
1 Tosses
2 After-dinner treats
3 Singer Redding
14 Poi starter
15 Benefit
16 Clotheless lead
17 Read caddy
18 Fluid diver
19 Pol star
20 Small pies
21 Smiling painter
23 Pic in Britain
24 Tree logs with snail trails
25 Used a hammer
26 Mist
27 Dunderhead
28 Tumble rumpus?
30 Piddles paper
31 Symbol in WWW addresses

32 Do-over service
33 Gibson of "Homer"
40 Pull from a jug
41 Coercion
42 Spin
44 Call for help
45 Think like a pig
46 Naval research project
48 Evidence
53 Low spot
57 Ash or ice follower?
58 Spooky
59 Natural region
61 Having the skill
62 Thought
63 Humble bird
64 Auctioneer's
65 Winter Shelby
66 Pauses
67 Ash or ice follower?

DOWN
1 Ship's poles
2 Remove the cover
3 Drummer
4 Picked from the bench
5 Nile
6 — had it!
7 Buff-colored cotton
8 Dubbed
9 Enter the arms of Morpheus
10 Barn nester
11 Scatter
12 Negative contraction
13 Small outbuilding
19 Form a new opinion
21 Crawling progress
25 Hands over
26 Builder's map
30 It is
27 Took off
30 Hedgepodge
31 Knocks lightly
32 Tacks on
33 Split

34 Shiver through difficultos
36 Rapids
37 Main course
42 Grusse rousers
44 Frodo! **59 At the ready**
47 Confront boldly
48 More painful

50 Shaded area
51 Writer Cather
52 Squall
53 Travel on water
54 Racemes' love
56 Rumpus rumpus
58 At the ready
60 Thoughtful rousers

Friday's Puzzle Solver
JESU GLUR AIFALJ
AVER HATE PLANE
LION OIS PLASTE
SEALION GURER
BLOW IN LESTION
ORIS BLETMS HEIR
BEA SANTI REIGID
SIEDE TIEICART
REASANTS SCORER
GIDE ALLIANCE
SLOT TIGUE
HOSTS REINE SETS

Want to cool things off? Wack termites

Q. Which way do the prevailing winds blow in the Indian Ocean?
A. The monsoons? From north-east to southwest in winter, from southwest to northeast in summer. Monsoons are like that. They reverse direction seasonally. So? So that's why deep-sea trade got its start in the Indian Ocean. Sailors there found out they could go far, and get back.
Q. What does a pool player mean by the "jam"?
A. The opening is a pocket. Everybody is born with that feet.
Kill enough termites and the weather will get cooler. Or so it's theorized by some who purport to know that termites give off enough methane to warm the climate.
Seventy-four percent of the people over 50 have played a music instrument, if you count voice.
The King penguin dives about



144 times a day to depths of 150 feet in search of food. Persistent nasal. He only scores in one dive out of 10. That's about average, says our Love and War man.
It's illegal almost everywhere to max different insecticides together.
Q. The wreck of which U.S. aircraft has been seen by the most people? If you don't know, guess.
A. No guess this. Try Thomas Nast, the cartoonist who created the Democrats' Donkey, and the Republicans' Elephant and that plump bearded caricature we now recognize as Santa Claus.

Q. Try your hand at explaining why more people die by fire in the United States than anywhere else in the world.
A. More people live alone here. That's one but not the only explanation.
Construction of underground exits in beaver dams indicates the beavers know how thick the ice will be come winter. But nobody knows how the

beavers know.
Women tend to play dumb at home, but play smart on the job. Men tend to play smart at home, but play dumb on the job. Sort of. These are said to be patterns of their getting-along techniques, at any rate.
That slang imperative "Get lost!" comes from Yiddish.
"Scan-tigh" is Gaelic for "old house" pronounced "shanty".

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Aries gets more social; Taurus needs a change

IF NOVEMBER 27 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You are universal in outlook, you learned plenty about food and cooking from mother, father was more distant, introspective. You are always willing to fight if cause is right. You are passionate, creative, some say you are aggressive. Aries, Libra persons play major roles in your life, could have these letters in names: I and R. In year 2000, April will be your most profitable month.

HOROSCOPE
Sydney Omarr

let others know where you stand and stand tall for principles. Let go of preconceived notions. Aries involved.
LIBRA (Sep. 23-Oct. 22): Step forward, you will be regarded as leader, accept that role graciously. Imprint style. Leo, Aquarius persons figure in scenario.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Emerge from emotional shell; emphasize creativity, change, travel, variety. Romance blossoms whether married or single. Taurus, Scorpio persons play roles.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Slow pace. Look around you, fulfill obligation to family member. Cancer native extends dinner invitation — waste no time in accepting. Broiled lobster featured.
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Diversify, highlight versatility, open lines of communication. Individual in foreign land has something very interesting to discuss. Gemini plays top role.

TAURUS (April 10-May 20): Make necessary changes that will bring you greater freedom of thought, action. Former opponent could become valuable ally. Sagittarius in picture.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Be willing to rewrite, revise and rebuild. Those in positions of authority will eventually flash green light. Do not waiver in your faith or persistence.
AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Exciting Saturday. You exude personal magnetism and sex appeal — don't break too many hearts. Short trips connected with relative may be necessary. Virgo involved.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Family members boost morale, you could be talk of the town. You'll be asked to speak, to represent neighbor in legal dispute. Libra figures prominently.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Domestic involvement dominates — make intelligent concessions. Remember recent resolutions concerning exercise, diet, nutrition. Libra, Scorpio persons play roles.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): What was missing or lost will be located. During time between lost and found you meditated, discovered what was really of value. Pisces plays sensational role.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Cycle high, take initiative, highlight originality, willingness to experiment, to give and receive love. Your talents surge forward and you'll be at right place.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Look beyond the immediate,

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On globalization

Percent of Americans who agreed with these statements on world trade:

In general		Trade and business	
	The U.S. should "actively promote" globalization or "allow it to continue"		U.S. trade policymakers give "too little thought" to U.S. workers
	The U.S. should support reciprocal lowering of trade barriers		Growth of trade is good for U.S. business
Workers		Environment, social issues	
	The U.S. government should help workers who lose jobs		Nations should be able to restrict imports of products made in a way that damages the environment
	Nations that sign world trade pacts should have at least minimum standards for working conditions		Trade with nations that violate nuclear weapons treaties should be limited
	U.S. should bar products made by children under age 15 who work rather than attend school		Trade with nations that violate human rights should be limited
	Would pay more for clothing certified as not made in a sweatshop		Nations should be able to bar genetically modified foods

SOURCE: Program on International Policy Attitudes survey of 1,620 U.S. adults Oct. 21-26, 1999. *± error margin

DESIGNED BY CAPRI GUNAWAN/KEITH DAMON/CARTER

AFL-CIO might get scrappy at WTO meeting

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — When delegates from 135 nations gather in Seattle next week to discuss the World Trade Organization's future, an army of union workers will be outside banging on the door, demanding to be heard.

AFL-CIO President John Sweeney vows that "tens of thousands" of union workers and their leaders from more than 200 countries will march outside the WTO conference. He promises a "confrontation in Seattle," where mass protests in the streets are likely to overshadow the droning talks on global trade inside the convention hall.

Sweeney's goal is nothing less than to force the world's governments to shape and enforce rules guaranteeing minimal rights to workers — just as they guarantee legal protection to corporations — when they negotiate new terms for trade in the global economy. The WTO session in Seattle is designed to kick off a three-year round of talks on new world trade rules for the new millennium.

China and most developing nations are against Sweeney. Big

business accepts that trade's impact on global workers should be studied, but little more.

The Clinton administration and the European Union are more sympathetic, at least rhetorically. Their shared concern reflects rising public anxiety in rich nations about the pervasive disruptions to treasured lifestyles that the increasingly competitive global economy is fostering.

Perhaps most important, Sweeney believes history is on his side. America's own experience teaches that this battle must be fought and can be won, he says.

"At the turn of the last century, when the great trusts and banks of the Gilded Era forged a national industrial economy, America faced a similar challenge. It was an era of sweatshops, child labor, brutal repression of workers and poisonous workplace conditions," Sweeney recalled recently in a major address about the WTO at the National Press Club in Washington.

Back then big business had cops and courts to enforce the rules on its side. Union organizers were beaten and jailed.

But after decades of struggle,

"eventually we wrote new rules, including the minimum wage, a 40-hour workweek, workplace health and safety, the right to organize, antitrust and the Fair Labor Standards Act. The result, after World War II, was a growing economy in which the blessings were widely shared and the great American middle class was created," Sweeney noted.

Just as workers' rights required legal protection in the new U.S. industrial economy of a century ago, Sweeney contends, they deserve the same now in the emerging global economy.

"We all know we're part of a global economy. . . . The real debate is not over whether to be part of the global economy, but over what are the rules for that economy, and who makes them."

Economists talk of global trade negotiations in terms of lower tariffs, cheaper goods, rising exports and more jobs. But labor leaders like Sweeney believe today's global trade rules permit big corporations to exploit underpaid workers in backward economies to produce cheap goods that U.S. workers cannot compete against. The result, in this view, is fat profits for the few, and low wages and

lost jobs for the many.

Sweeney says the WTO is the court that must enforce new rules protecting workers as well as corporations.

"The WTO, founded five years ago, is the capstone of the corporate-dominated world marketplace. It oversees and enforces the rules of the global economy, arbitrates trade conflicts and claims the authority to challenge state and national laws that conflict with its rules — rules that protect corporate interests but not the people," Sweeney said.

"Our objectives are simple: Every worker deserves protection of basic human rights, prohibitions against child labor, slave labor, discrimination and the freedom to join together with others in a union," the AFL-CIO leader proclaimed.

The Clinton administration is newly sensitive to labor's concerns after years of bitter conflict over trade, especially the North American Free Trade Agreement.

"I am extremely sympathetic" to union goals at the WTO conference, said Charlene Barshetsky, the president's chief trade negotiator. "These are issues whose time has come."

Boy Scout ranks split over issue of gay ban

The Baltimore Sun

WASHINGTON — The Boy Scouts of America, already putting on a full defense in court of its ban on homosexuals, now finds it has to defend that policy within its own ranks, too — especially among groups that sponsor Scout troops.

The future of the ban now depends heavily on the Supreme Court. The Scouts have appealed a New Jersey Supreme Court ruling that struck down the exclusion of gays as youth members or adult leaders.

Scouting has begun a preliminary study of whether to keep the ban. The proposal for a study, recommended at Scouting's national meeting in San Diego last May by the Inlandhead Scout Council of St. Paul, is in the hands of the national organization's committee that deals directly with sponsoring organizations, the Committee on Relationships.

The idea for a study gained new impetus earlier this month when the second regional Scouting organization, the Narragansett Council that oversees troops throughout Rhode Island, added its support for the study.

That council manages one of Scouting's premier outdoor sites, Camp Yawgoog, recently embroiled in a series of incidents that put new emphasis on the policy against homosexuals. An Eagle Scout was barred from a summer job after being questioned about his sexual orientation, a Scout leader was asked to leave after using for target practice a photo of the former New Jersey Scout leader involved in the Supreme Court case, and another leader was arrested on molestation charges.

The council, in a resolution, said, "Fundamental Scouting principles urge us to value and respect human diversity." It said Scouting should deal with the membership dispute "before growing countywide discussion interferes." Sources familiar with Scouting's review of the gay ban say that the idea for a study has

been put on hold by the Scouts' National Executive Board until after the Supreme Court acts. The board examined the idea at a private meeting last month but decided not to act then, sources said. The Scouts' national office would not confirm or deny the report.

David A. Rice of Petaluma, Calif., president of Scouting for All, a group formed last year to oppose the gay ban, contended in an interview: "There is a broad feeling within Scouting that change must occur."

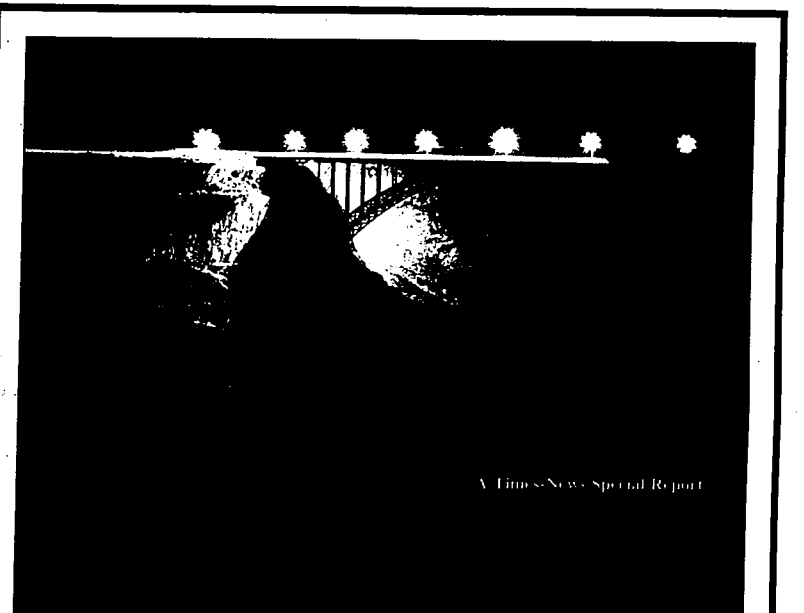
The issue, it appears, has become divisive within the Scouting community. The nation's largest sponsor of the Boy Scouts movement, the United Methodist Church — its churches have 11,739 Scout units, with more than 421,579 boys — has its own internal division on the subject.

The Methodist Board of Church and Society, the denomination's social action arm, strongly condemned the homosexual ban last month. Earlier, however, the United Methodist Men supported the Scouts' right to choose its own membership. The denomination as a whole has taken no position.

The national organization of the Unitarian Universalist denomination has opposed the gay ban, and several regional religious entities that sponsor troops — like the Episcopal Diocese of California — and individual churches or synagogues have objected to it.

This fall, in Rhode Island, the Boy Scouts found the policy assailed in several forums. At the annual corporate fund-raising luncheon in Providence, a vice president for Fleet Bank accepted a "corporate citizenship award" from the Scouts, then promptly denounced the ban. So did the Providence mayor.

After the luncheon, the United Way of Southern New England, a source of Scout funding, adopted a statement expressing its concern "that Scouts and adult leaders who merely identify themselves as being gay may be denied access."



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Assessor agrees to stop 'English only' exemptions

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. (AP) — A county tax assessor has agreed to stop refusing to give property tax reductions to residents who can't speak English very well.

Madison County Tax Assessor Wayland Cooley was sued in 1996 by a Dominican couple and a Korean woman who said they were forced to overpay about \$400 each year because Cooley wouldn't give them homestead exemptions and other waivers.

Cooley, 83, had said immigrants should learn to speak English. His attorneys pointed to a 1990 amendment to the state Constitution that made English the official state language.

As part of a settlement approved Tuesday by a judge, Cooley agreed to give standard tax exemptions to property owners who don't speak English, as long as they bring along interpreters when they apply.

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WORLD

Military victories in Chechnya might not solve the torn republic's problems

By Angela Charton
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia's military has advanced swiftly in Chechnya and claims to be on the verge of capturing its capital. Yet Russia's politicians stand silent about what they would do if they regain control over the rubble-strewn, crime-soaked republic.

Moscow has failed to develop a strategy for the Caucasus Mountains region and its cauldron of ethnic and territorial disputes since the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991. Turmoil and bloodshed have filled the policy vacuum.

That failure is now on display in Chechnya. Federal troops marched into the rebellious republic two months ago — but they still unclear what Moscow wants to achieve when the military campaign is completed.

The stated goal is to quash Chechen-based Islamic militants who crossed into other Russian territories in August and are blamed for ensuing apartment

bombings in Russian cities that killed about 300 people.

The underlying aim of the campaign, however, appears to be revenge for the humiliation and casualties Russia's military suffered during a 1994-96 war with Chechen separatists. That war ended in a withdrawal by Russian troops followed by de facto independence for Chechnya, though Moscow still claims it as part of Russia.

"The military people have an easy task, just come home victorious. But after that? There are no plans. That's why the government is being quiet," said Alexei Malashenko, an expert on the Caucasus at the Carnegie Endowment for Peace in Moscow.

The Kremlin has laid little groundwork for solving its deeper Caucasus problems in Chechnya and elsewhere. Those include settling long-running political disputes, developing the economy in one of Russia's poorest regions, and preventing crime and disorder.

Moscow has alienated regional

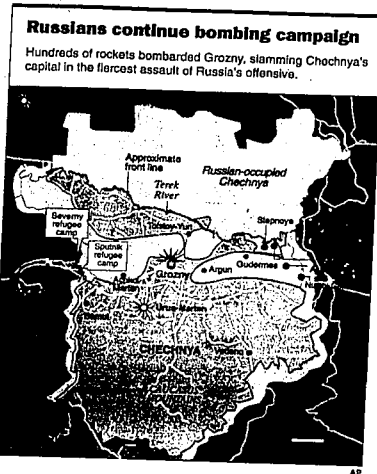
leaders and has not delivered on promises of financial aid. Also, many Russians routinely make sectarian comments about the dark-skinned people from the Caucasus and blame them for widespread crime.

The Kremlin's political options for Chechnya look limited.

Russian soldiers have shed too much blood in Chechnya for Moscow to grant the territory any measure of independence. Yet full Russian control over the republic also appears beyond Moscow's grasp.

The war is going much better for the Russians than last time, when small bands of tenacious rebels proved a formidable match for the demoralized, poorly trained federal army.

But even if Russian troops seize the capital, Grozny, the Chechens should still be able to wage guerrilla attacks if the fighting moves to the republic's rugged southern mountains. Observers say guerrilla resistance could drag on there for years.



Ukraine fires Chernobyl reactor again

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — Ukrainian authorities on Friday restarted the last working nuclear reactor at the Chernobyl power plant, ignoring international pressure to shut it down.

Reactor No. 3 was restarted at 5:30 a.m. Friday after almost five months of repairs. It was initially running at about 5 percent of capacity and was gradually increasing its output, said a spokesman for the plant who declined to give her name. She wouldn't say when the reactor was expected to reach full power.

Officials at Chernobyl insist that reactor No. 3 is safe, and is free of any potential problems from the Y2K computer bug.

Western governments and environmental groups have long urged Ukraine to close the plant, and a 1995 agreement between Ukraine and the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations said the plant should be closed by 2000.

Mass grave discovery in Timor prompts probe

DILI, East Timor — A top U.N. official promised Friday to investigate the mass slaying of 25 East Timorese — including three Roman Catholic priests — whose decaying corpses were found in mass graves in West Timor.

"We will follow up on all the evidence found in West Timor," said Sonia Filardo, who heads the U.N. human rights inquiry in East Timor.

The killings, which occurred Sept. 6 in two churches in the town of Suai, are considered the deadliest incident to have occurred during the three-week militia rampage that followed East Timor's Aug. 30 vote for independence.

The United Nations human rights inquiry has requested access to West Timor, which is still under Indonesian control, but hasn't yet received permission, U.N. spokesman Fred Eckhard said Friday in New York.

World in brief

cause of the series of crushing regional election losses for the Social Democrats and their junior coalition partner, the Greens, since summer.

Severed hand used by artist mailed to office

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — A severed human hand that was stolen last week from a gallery where it was being displayed as art has turned up in the mail of a government office, police said Friday.

The hand was part of an exhibit titled "The Hand that Never Stopped Painting," Morten Viskum, the artist, claimed to have used it as a brush for four paintings, gallery owner Christian Dam said.

The Ministry for Ecclesiastical Affairs found it in their mail on Wednesday. It was sent in an ordinary envelope with a letter identifying it as the stolen hand. The note also asked the government to ensure that the hand would be "put to rest" and "reunited" with the rest of the body, detective Per Sylvest Pedersen said.

Shower of volcanic ash continues over Ecuador

QUITO, Ecuador — New eruptions from Ecuador's Pichincha volcano sent heavy showers of ash raining down onto the capital Friday and prompted officials to close schools and order the airport shut for at least six days.

A column of vapor, ash and gases blew 9 miles into the sky late Thursday and was carried by strong winds several miles east over Quito, scientists said.

The volcanic explosion, the latest in a series of eruptions, was followed by several seismic tremors and smaller volcanic bursts throughout the night.

A coat of gray ash covered most of this city of 1.4 million people by Friday morning, and in some areas was as thick as a quarter of an inch.

Morning commuter traffic threw swirling ash clouds into the sky, and street vendors did a brisk business peddling plastic and cloth masks to help people breathe.

—Compiled from wire reports

Alling Yeltsin resting at country residence

MOSCOW — President Boris Yeltsin, acutely by a viral infection and side bronchitis, will need at least a week to recover and was resting Friday at his country residence, the Kremlin said.

Whenever Yeltsin falls sick, rumors inevitably begin circulating that the Russian leader is seriously ill, and the latest episode was no exception.

But Yeltsin's doctors sent him home Thursday afternoon after treating him briefly at the Central Clinical Hospital. And the president's press service said today that Yeltsin was recuperating at Gorky-9, his secluded residence in the woods west of the capital.

Death toll of about 300 expected in shipwreck

BEIJING — Just 22 of more than 300 passengers and crew aboard a Chinese ferry that caught fire and capsized managed to find a lifeboat or rope in the icy, storm-pounded sea and make it to safety, authorities said Friday.

Scores of bodies washed up on shore after the Dashun ferry sank Wednesday night off the northeastern Chinese port of Yantai, and authorities confirmed immediately that more than 150 had died. But with gale-force winds and relentless snow falling around the wreckage, Yantai officials said there was little hope of finding more survivors.

The fire started in the ferry's lower vehicle deck just after the vessel left Yantai port, the China News Service said. The ship began heading back and sending out distress signals before losing power and capsizing about six miles off a coastal island, Xinhua said.

German parliament passes belt-tightening budget

BERLIN — Germany's parliament passed spending cuts Friday that trim the country's generous social welfare system and force to eventually balance the budget.

After four days of heated debate, the 2000 spending plan gained final approval in the lower house with the vote of Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder's center-left coalition. The cuts have triggered street protests by pensioners, public employees and others.

The budget has been cited as a

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Making room for a sojourner

A thought for Thanksgiving: I believe that every church ought to have a sojourner's apartment, a small room where complete strangers could spend a couple of nights as they passed through town on their way to the promised land.

People tell me churches once cared about the sojourner, those desperate people who are trying to get someplace where hope awaits. And they are striving to travel with little or nothing in their pocket. They need places to stay, to shower, to get a bit of encouragement and a boost for the long journey.

There are many biblical injunctions in the first five books of the Old Testament that believers should "love" the sojourner. In my mind, that means we ought to at least provide them with a narrow cot where they could sleep for a night or two.

This past year I have been interviewing pastors around the Twin Cities and getting tours of their church facilities. Some congregations have such incredible buildings with big offices and fellowship rooms and even gymnasiums where members and their friends can cavort and get firm. But few congregations have a sojourner's apartment. They have showers and conference rooms and kitchens, but no places where a poor, outcasted person can find a bed and a bit of hospitality.

Just recently I chatted with the Rev. Peter Boehlke, an affable fellow with a congenial firmness entrenched in the city. This United Methodist congregation is not wealthy, and yet it members seem to find plenty of joy in their ministry. Young people are responding every day to this neighborhood church that is making its way into the future with determination.

Every once in a while Boehlke will face a person who not only needs work, but also a place to sleep. He will always find a place where a poor, outcasted person appeared out of nowhere and asked for work. Boehlke had some tasks that needed the attention of a man with a wheelchair. He hired the guy, put him in the church parlor, and after about 11 days of work, the man was on his way to his personal promised land.

I know what you're thinking - Boehlke took a big risk. Perhaps he did, but isn't compassion always a risk? When you reach out to help another human being in any way, you are risking disappointment or rejection. What if that man had torn apart the church lounge, trashed the bathroom and failed the work?

Just guessing here, but I think Boehlke would have pulled together a bunch of volunteers and they would have made the sojourner's folly into a sign of redemption for the congregation.

But there are at least two issues that get in the way. First, we have to build such opulent palaces that materialism that most church members have come to believe the congregation's mission is to protect existing buildings and find ways to build more. In many churches, there is not one place in the entire structure where it would be acceptable for a tired or sick person to stretch out and catch a couple of winks.

What would happen if staff members found a disheveled person sleeping in a study school room? Would they throw the bum out or find some ways to make the sojourner more comfortable? You'll find some churches that question, because every congregation will provide a different response. My guess is most congregations would give the sojourner a gentle but forced out into the street.

The second issue is that most Americans have a deep fear of being without. In all our endeavors, we are driven to get out, and we fear that someday we will be living without staff. And that is exactly where the religious message enters life and doesn't call us to be collectors of staff. God calls us to give it away and, in the process, to give ourselves away, fears and all.

Clark Morpheu is an ordained clergyman and is religion writer for the Saint Paul Pioneer Press.

Faith in the face of tragedy

Family finds the will to go on after son's death

By Kelly Bryant
Times-News correspondent

JEROME - At the new home of the Rev. J. Quinton Kimbrow and the Rev. Sandra Wise Kimbrow are keepsakes from their time spent ministering in Ketchikan, Alaska. The hand-carved totem poles tell the story of the birth and resurrection of Jesus Christ and the faith is central in the life of this husband and wife ministry team, but that faith was tested this summer, when the Kimbrows' 12-year-old son, Anthony, died in an accident at the family home in Jerome.

Tragedy struck just five days after the family moved from Alaska to Idaho. Members of their church and others in the valley joined together to help.

"We have been surrounded and supported by our churches, our neighbors and friends," the Kimbrows said. "We are thankful to Bishop (Ed) Paup and our churches in Jerome and Filer for their love and support, and for this opportunity to continue to serve in ministry."

A ceremony to honor Anthony is set for today at the Jerome United Methodist Church.

And life goes on, this holiday season. People describe the Kimbrows as warm, compassionate and humble people. He's pastoring the Jerome church, and she's pastoring the Filer United Methodist Church. Both said they are looking forward to working with their congregations, "discovering the gifts and graces" of each community.

"It is very pleasant living in Jerome," he said. "Everyone is wonderful."

The pastors are members of the Texas Annual Conference and are also United Methodist missionaries. They completed their first year of ministry in Ketchikan before moving to Jerome.

He holds degrees from three United Methodist-related institutions and received his master of theology degree from the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas. She holds a bachelor of arts degree in sociology and work from the University of Texas and a master of theology degree from Perkins.



The Rev. J. Quinton Kimbrow and the Rev. Sandra Wise Kimbrow, with son J. P., find their strength in God this holiday season as they prepare to participate in a ceremony to honor Anthony Kimbrow, who died in July.

He leads his church in worship on Sundays, holds Bible studies on Tuesdays, makes daily visitations and still finds time to play catch with J. P., the couple's adopted and only surviving child.

She leads her church in worship, too, and volunteers as a chaplain at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center. She also leads a Discovery Club after school at the church, substitute teaches and takes J. P. to his Tiger Cub meetings and soccer practices.

J.P., 6, is in first grade at Horizon Elementary School in Jerome. He is active in Tiger Cub Scout Pack 139 and is a sport enthusiast, like his father was.

The Kimbrows said they are looking forward to experiencing the change in sea-

Boy Scouts to honor Anthony Kimbrow tonight

The Jerome United Methodist Church will hold an observance at 7 p.m. today to honor Anthony Kimbrow, who died in July. The observance will be held at the active Boy Scout Troop 3, in Jerome. Anthony's best friend and fellow scout, Earl Ginter, will present the award. Anthony is the son of the Rev. J. Quinton Kimbrow and the Rev. Sandra Wise Kimbrow. The award is given to a Scout who has demonstrated exceptional leadership and service to the community. Anthony was a member of Troop 3 and was awarded the award in the Snake River Council.

sons after Ketchikan's weather of rain, snow and incessant gray skies. They live in the Jerome church parsonage. When they aren't busy with their ministerial duties and volunteer work, they can often be found somewhere on a train excursion - one of their passions in life.

LDS Church gets foothold in the South

By Amy Frazier
The Associated Press

ATLANTA - When Chloe Belle Hodge was baptized in 1939, most of the Mormons around Raleigh, N.C., were members of her family. It was not rare for some Southern Mormons to go half their lives without setting foot in a temple.

"I couldn't even dream of a time when we would have a church building," said Hodge, 83.

But she'll soon be able to visit a temple whenever she wants, as Raleigh is one of several Southern cities scheduled to complete temples by the end of 2000.

"The blessing to have a temple right here at our elbows is almost beyond comprehension," Hodge said.

It's an enormous change in less than two decades for Southern Mormons. Until 1983, when a temple was built in suburban Atlanta, Southern members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints had to travel to Washington, D.C., or Western states to perform baptisms on behalf of dead persons, undergo "endowment" that affects one's heavenly estate and seal marriages "for eternity."

The church is now working to increase the number of temples in areas with growing membership. Some Southern states have seen their Mormon population grow by 80 percent to 100 percent, according to statistics in a church-sponsored almanac.

In Alabama, church membership is 27,000 (up from 7,800 in 1974); Florida 105,000 (30,000 in 1974); Georgia 55,000 (14,630 in 1974); Kentucky 21,000 (13,956 in 1974); Louisiana 24,000 (16,000 in 1980); Mississippi 17,000 (6,527 in 1970); North Carolina 33,000 (29,512 in 1980); South Carolina 28,000 (10,775 in 1974); Tennessee 29,000 (15,839 in 1980); Virginia 63,000 (55,789 in 1990).

The growth is due primarily to



Members of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Atlanta make their way through their sanctuary. Many Southern states have seen their Mormon population grow by 80 to 100 percent since 1980.

an influx of Mormons from other regions and to the church's efforts to increase its visibility in the South, said Nancy Einstrand, a professor at Emory University's Candler School of Theology. Conversions and in-migration are related because as Mormons move to the area, they work to bring in new converts.

The church, based on revelations that Joseph Smith said were brought to him in the 1820s by heavenly messengers, has more than 10 million members worldwide and 32 operating temples. An additional 46 are now under construction or in the planning stages.

Certain basic ceremonies, including eternal marriage and proxy baptisms for dead ancestors, can only be performed in the more sacred temple buildings.

Until the Oct. 16 dedication of

a temple in Columbia, S.C., the only other Southern temples were in Atlanta and Orlando, Fla. Ground has recently been broken on temples in Nashville and Memphis, Tenn.; Birmingham, Ala.; Baton Rouge, La.; Louisville, Ky., and Raleigh.

It was 1967 before Dexter R. Noble, 74, of Atlanta, had saved up enough money to fly his family out to Salt Lake City to visit a temple.

"I closed my shoe store for a week to go. That's how important it was to me," he said.

Eldon Monte J. Brough, the church's regional president for most of the South, says he expects the church to continue growing in the region. And the South has long carried a reputation for strict, family-oriented conservatism, which the Mormon church shares.

"I think the reason we do so

well is that we are very assertive in proclaiming family values," he said.

Some traditional Bible Belt religions have spoken out against Mormons. Southern Baptists used a 1998 annual convention in Salt Lake City to evangelize to Mormons, whom they do not consider to be Christians.

Adding to interchurch tensions is the fact that Mormons and some evangelical denominations in the South are competing for converts among the same group: the unchurched, said Marie Cornwall, a Brigham Young University sociology professor.

"Orthodox Christianity has some specific doctrines that are important, and Mormonism also has specific doctrines that are important to its story," said the Rev. Chris Graham, pastor of the Church of the Savior, Baptist Church in Roswell.

Get in the holiday spirit with new music

The Dallas Morning News

CHRISTMAS MUSIC
"A Christmas to Remember," by Amy Grant (Myrrh, 39 min.) Santa, Grant's third holiday outing isn't quite the classic that her previous two were. The "P a r t i c k W i l l i a m s Orchestra contributes a classic feel to "Welcome to Our World" and "Mister Sandman," but "Can't Be Far Away" and "Silent Night" (one of the few carols Grant hadn't already



Amy Grant

traded) as well as the bagpipes and strings instrumental "Highland Cathedral." Two new songs, written with "Breath of Heaven" collaborator Chris Eaton, are only fair. "Mister Santa," sung to the tune of "Mister Sandman," is flat wafel, ending with a line - "Mister Santa, bring us love!" - that kinda misses the point. Most of the rest of the album's more in the Christmas spirit, with other highlights coming in Chris Rice's "Welcome to Our World" and a duet with Beau Vinca Gil on "Til the Season Comes 'Round Again." - Chris Black

"A Christmas Album," by Michael Crawford (Atlantic, 55 minutes). Fans of Crawford's "Eagles' Wings" inspirational CD, or his Broadway work, should find this an enjoyable way to get into the season. As on "Wings," rich symphonic arrangements accom-

RELIGION

Survey says Americans are most thankful for families

What are we thankful for on Thanksgiving? A new survey by the Pew Research Center indicates that Americans are most thankful for their families.

The survey, commissioned by the Lutheran Brotherhood, states that among the 1,000 people surveyed in September, 53 percent to 62 percent listed family as tops on their list.

They are most thankful for good health, friends, education, finances, a harmonious relationship with a spouse, the happiness of their children and a nurturing religious faith.

To me, Thanksgiving is a great holiday because Buddhists, Baptists, Catholics, Methodists, Disciples, members of the Church of Christ, Lutherans, Unitarians, Congregationalists, Anglicans, Jews, Muslims, Presbyterians, Pentecostals, Mormons, Hindus, Jains, Zoroastrians, Bahais and people of other

COMMENTARY Jim Jones

faiths can celebrate it in peace together. I am grateful for my family, too. And for my friends, my health and many other things - including my work as a journalist, which has allowed me to meet obscure and famous figures who illustrate the best in the world's great religions.

When I met the Dalai Lama and Cardinal Joseph Bernardin at the Parliament of World Religions in Chicago in 1993, I was astounded by how much they possessed some of the same qualities. The Dalai Lama, of course, is the world's most famous Buddhist, and the late Cardinal Bernardin was an internationally renowned and respected Roman Catholic. Despite the two men's obvious differences,

they possessed the openness, kindness, humility, love, compassion and sincerity I've always associated with the forgiving and humble carpenter from Nazareth.

That same sort of personality was present in the ex-Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, the former leader of the worldwide Anglican Communion, who left his chair to greet me and another reporter one morning before he spoke at Thanksgiving Square in Dallas.

Although some Americans have the greatly mistaken impression that all Muslims are terrorists, I have been impressed by the kindly and hospitable people who have helped me learn more about Islam.

The very word "Islam" means peace. My contacts in the Jewish faith have shown the same kind of peaceful "shalom." The eloquence and spiritual depth of Rabbi Harold S. Kushner, the famous author, and other rabbis and lay

people have inspired me repeatedly. Baptists make headlines over their denominational controversies, but many of the most peaceful and loving individuals are members of that faith. One of the privileges of my life is to have known the late T.B. Maston, a pioneer in racial ethics at the Southwest Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, who embodied the walk of Jesus as well as any person I've known.

Similarly, the Rev. Billy Graham, whom I've interviewed one-on-one on two memorable occasions, has the same kind of qualities that Maston, the Dalai Lama and Cardinal Bernardin exhibited.

Although I've never spoken to Pope John Paul II, I feel that I most know who this warm, courageous and humble spirit I have seen blessing people in Rome, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Mexico and San Antonio.

Hindu leader Mohandas "Mahatma" Gandhi was a charismatic revolutionary

who openly admired the nonviolent teachings of Jesus, and illustrated the spiritual qualities we associate with the best in religion.

The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr., a Baptist minister, borrowed from both Gandhi and Jesus in leading the 1960s civil rights revolution in America.

The people who gave us Thanksgiving, the successors forged a Constitution that allowed unprecedented religious freedom.

On this last Thanksgiving weekend before 2000, let us give thanks that we can choose a variety of paths to God - so different and yet so similar.

Jim Jones is religion editor of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

CHURCH NEWS

Church plans events in Temple Square

'SALT LAKE CITY - The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will continue the tradition of inviting the public to enjoy holiday lights and music at Temple Square this year. The event, which has attracted hundreds of thousands of visitors, is in its 34th season and will be offered every night now through Jan. 1, 2000.

An annual Christmas concert featuring the Mormon Tabernacle Choir is set for 7:30 p.m. Dec. 17 and 18 in the Tabernacle on Temple Square. There is no charge for the concert, but tickets are required.

Tickets will be distributed two to a person beginning at 10 a.m. Monday at Temple Square and other locations throughout Utah. Children must be 8 or older to attend these concerts.

Rupert Methodists to celebrate Advent

ADVENT - The United Methodist Church will begin the Advent Season with a party set for 4 to 6:30 p.m. today at the church, 605 H St. Participants are asked to bring a bag of chips or cookies to go with the furnished spookey Joe's and drinks.

The church has also scheduled Advent services. Sunday School is from 9:45 to 10:40 a.m. Worship, with Pastor Keith Wise, is at 11 a.m.

This Sunday, children's sharing will be with Leanna Bruns. On Dec. 5, the Minico High School Spartan Singers will perform. The Christmas cantata, "Love Came Down," by Max Baer, will be Dec. 12. A handbell choir will perform Dec. 19, with children's sharing led by Jean Wise.

Children's Eve confirmation services are set for 6 and 11 p.m., with a prayer vigil from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the church. The Sunday School Christmas program is at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 26, with Peggy Hess directing children's sharing.

The New Year's Eve Watch Night communion service will be for 11 p.m. to 12:15 a.m. Dec. 31. The church invites the community to any of the events. Services are broadcast over KBAR radio at noon Sundays. For more information, call 436-3354.

Quartet to perform at Hagerman church

HAGERMAN - The Liberty Southern gospel quartet, with Royce Mitchell, Keith Jones, Ralph Yerkes and John Cotner, will perform at 7 p.m. Sunday at Hagerman Christian Center.

Everyone is invited. An offering will be taken for the quartet ministry.

Rusty Martin to lead services in Kimberly

KIMBERLY - Evangelist Rusty Martin will lead services at Eternal Life Christian Center, 712 Center St. W., at 10 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday and at 11:30 a.m. (luncheon) and 7 p.m. Monday through Wednesday.

For more information, call 423-6234.

New Zealand band to perform in TF

TWIN FALLS - The Parachute Band, a praise and worship team from New Zealand, will perform a free concert at 7 p.m. Friday at Calvary Chapel, 241 Main Ave. W.

The group performs songs such as "Pure and Holy, Adore," "God of Glory" and "Spirit Come. Many of the songs are played on KAWZ 89.9 FM Radio. For more information, call 733-3133.

Monastery plans Advent retreat

COTTONWOOD - The Mon-

astery of St. Gertrude is holding an Advent retreat with stories, art and music Friday through Dec. 5.

A suggested donation of \$80 includes noon and board.

To register or receive more information, call 963-3224.

Ladies of Grace plan yule celebration

TWIN FALLS - The Ladies of Grace Christmas celebration will feature Donna Stewart at 7 p.m. Thursday at Amazing Grace Fellowship, 1061 Eastland Drive N.

Bring an appetizer or treat and a small wrapped gift for an Amazing Grace lady.

Dr. Ken Stewart will speak at the church at 8:30 and 10:30 a.m. and at 7 p.m. Dec. 6 and also at 7 p.m. Dec. 7. He is an author, college professor and consultant to Bible schools.

The Times-News welcomes news of church events. Send information to Ellen Thomson, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or Joey Bryant, The Times-News, Bureau, 325 1/2 E. Fifth St. N., Burley, ID 83318. Deadline is noon Thursday for publication on the Saturday religion page.

Boise man works to defend cross on Table Rock Mesa

The Associated Press

BOISE, Idaho - To show support for a 60-foot-tall cross that has stood on the city for more than 40 years, Larry Butler is working to build thousands of small wooden crosses.

Butler, the 2-foot crosses, painted white and stenciled with the words "save the cross," have been cut, nailed and painted by Butlers and members of his family. They are free to anyone who will display them. So far they have 10,000 orders and have filled 4,500.

Butler, a truck driver retired at 50 with a disability, doesn't consider himself a religious man. But

he wants to do his part to defend against activist Rob Sherman. The Chicago atheist has questioned the constitutionality of the light-colored cross that has stood on Table Rock Mesa since 1956.

The cross was erected by the local Jaycees on land owned by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management. In 1972, the Jaycees paid \$100 at auction for less than an acre of land surrounding the cross.

Sherman is asking the Jaycees' national board to review its charter, which he says prohibits promotion of any one religion or denomination. He also plans to ask the BLM to review the constitutionality of selling the small land parcels.

Music

Continued from C1

pany his deceptively powerful voice; these are put to especial good use on the opening medley "The Very Best of Time/Most Wonderful Time of the Year," a lovely, dramatic "O Holy Night," and the painfully beautiful "All a Well." His arpeggios at pop are less convincing. A duet with Twila Paris on 4Him's "Strange Way to Save the World" and a cover of "Mary Did You Know" take Crawford's voice in new directions; it's clearly not meant for. Those missteps aside, this is my favorite holiday release of '99.

38 minutes). "Joy to the World," part of Maranatha's series for small group worship, is recorded in "Split Track" mode with instruments on the left track and vocals on the right. But with the balance knob set right in the middle, "Joy to the World" is a simple, powerful holiday CD built on Maranatha's traditional folk guitars and keyboards. Kelly Willard's vocal soars beautifully in "Away in a Manger," and "Joy to the World" features a pulsing guitar that perfectly accents the march-like tempo of the carol. Different - and very cool. -Michael E. Young

-Pete Bittick

"White Christmas," by Martina McBride (Sparrow, 42 minutes), released 1998. "White Christmas" has been re-released to the Christian market on Sparrow Records this year, with a few additional tunes tossed in for good measure. But no matter when it first hit the market, the country star's seasonal offering is a winner. McBride wraps her lovely voice around a package of traditional tunes, both religious and secular, accompanied by the Nashville string machine and individual musicians playing her voice on the oboe to penny whistle. But it's "O Holy Night," with its simple piano accompaniment, that is the most beautiful. -Michael E. Young

"Joy to the World: Acoustic Worship for Small Groups," by Maranatha's Music (Maranatha, 38 minutes), released 1998. "Majesty & Wonder: An Instrumental Christmas," by Phil Keagy and the London Festival Orchestra (Myrrh Records, 50 minutes). Resist any urge to consider this background music. And don't miss the chance to focus on the remarkable fretwork by one of the best to pluck six strings. For the first Christmas project in his 30-odd career, Mr. Keagy plucks acoustic electric and classical guitars. But he leaves room for other instruments, too. On "What Child Is This?" he duets with a harpist, and there's an Irish flute in the Celtic-flavored "Good-Christmas Men Rejoice" and "Nativity Suite." "Silent Night" gets a jazzy treatment, and "O Holy Night" is a collage of six-class guitars with mandolin, bass and Michelle Tunes' vocals. -Marcus Stewart

MISSIONARIES

Several area residents have been called to serve or returned from serving missions for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

Called to serve:

Elder Jacob McIntosh will serve in the Venezuela Barcelona Mission. He will speak at 2 p.m. Sunday at the Gooding 3rd Ward chapel, 1228 Main St. McIntosh graduated from Gooding High School in 1999, where he was active in football and track. His parents are Jan and Scott Shepherd of Gooding.

Elder Daniel M. Dowdle will serve in the Japan Hiroshima Mission. He will speak at 12:30 p.m. Sunday at the Burley 3rd Ward chapel, 2200 Oakley Ave. Dowdle graduated from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City with a degree in linguistics and Japanese. He is the son of Mark and Terri Dowdle of Burley.

Sister Melissa Handy will serve

in the Australian Melbourne Mission. She will speak at 2:45 p.m. Sunday at the Burley 2nd Ward chapel, 515 E. 16th St.

Handy graduated from Burley High School and Ricks College in Rexburg with an occupational therapy degree. She taught dance in the Hagerman area and toured Europe with the Ricks International Folk Dancers and with the Rocky Mountain Express. Her parents are Clay and Kristine Handy of Burley.

Elder Denton Scow will serve in the Brazil Manaus Mission. He will speak at 2:45 p.m. Sunday at the Burley 6th Ward chapel, 344 E. 8th St. Scow graduated from Minico High School in 1998 and attended the College of Southern Idaho. He is the son of Marvin and Beverly Scow of Rupert.

Elder Raul and Sister Margarita Soto of Burley will serve in the New Mexico Albuquerque Mission. They will speak at 2:45 p.m. Sunday at the Burley 2nd Ward chapel, 515 E. 16th St.

in the Canada Montreal Mission. He will report on his mission at 10:30 a.m. Sunday at the Rupert Snake Center, 324 E. 18th St.

Bradshaw graduated from Minico High School in 1996. He plans to continue his education at the University of Utah. His parents are Steve and Joy Bradshaw of Rupert.

Sister Shantel Bray, daughter of Elders Vaughn and Sister Jenn Stoker of Burley served in the Missouri Independence Mission. They will report on their mission, 10:45 a.m. Sunday at the Unity LDS Church, 275 S. 250 E.

Elder Justin Silcock served in the Brazil Marilindia/ Londrina Mission. He will report on his mission at 10:40 a.m. Sunday at the Springdale 1st Ward chapel, 200 S. 475 E.

Silcock plans to work for continuing his education. He is the son of Richard and Kaye Dawn Silcock of Burley.

Elder Casey Bradshaw served in

A church's produce patch just keeps on producing

By Annie Calovich Knight Ridder News Service

WICHITA, Kan. - The pre-Thanksgiving dinner, the Emmanuel Pentecostal Temple Church served the hungry and the homeless had a kick to it this year. That's because the garden at the church's unlikely garden in an unlikely spot at 11th and Minnestrta keeps pouring in during the unlikely days of November. Semi-hot tomatoes from the garden were added to the usual milk and flour, bread crumbs and sage of the gravy and dressing. "Can you believe this garden?" Pastor Dorcas Vynn asked recently as a gust of wind ushered her into a fenced plot of green vines

and orange marigolds southwest of the church. The church's pre-Thanksgiving dinner is served each year on the Saturday before Thanksgiving, "free to those who want to come by and enjoy some loving hospitality." The church even provides transportation to and from the meal and delivers meals to those in neighborhood nursing homes who can't get out. More than 200 people are usually served. It seems odd to be talking about garden vegetables and Thanksgiving at the same time, but this fall's unusually warm weather made it possible. The garden stands to become a tradition of helping the needy, just as the dinner has.

Find out where all the best holiday sales are in The Times-News

CROWLEY'S the Quad Magic Valley Mall 734-6781 Open 10 am - 9 pm Monday - Saturday In The Strength of The Lord: The Life and Teachings of James E. Faust By James P. Bell - Hardcover From his childhood in the Cottonwood area, south of Salt Lake City to his life-time service for the Lord as the First Presidency. He has traveled far and wide, sharing the good news of the gospel as chronicled in the first part of the book. The second part of the book features his teachings as presented over the course of many years as the General Authority, including his service as an Apostle and counselor in the First Presidency. LDS AND OTHER CHRISTIAN BOOKS & GIFTS

An Evening in December DINNER THEATRE DECEMBER 14, 15, & 16, 1999 AMAZING GRACE FELLOWSHIP 1061 EASTLAND DR. N. - TWIN FALLS A CATERED Dinner Theater and 2-hour Show featuring: 40 VOICE CHOIR ♦ ENSEMBLES SOLOISTS ♦ SPECIAL EFFECTS DYNAMIC MUSIC ♦ DRAMA Doors Open at 5:30 p.m. Dinner Served at 6:00 p.m. Christmas Show at 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service Dec. 24th 6-7pm Tickets on sale at Amazing Grace Fellowship \$12.50 per person (208)736-0727

Gay Catholics struggle with church's stance

By Martha Irvine
The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Almost every week, Mark Fristop and Chester Banowski go to Mass at a stately Catholic church on Chicago's North Side.

They pray. They take communion. They listen to the homily. And they go home — together — as they have done for 10 years.

Unofficially, they are among dozens of couples who attend church-sanctioned services that have entered to Chicago's gay community longer than Fristop and Banowski have been together.

"Here, you're less self-conscious about expressing your self — whether that's hugging someone or holding a hand," Fristop says as he stands on the crowded steps outside Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church, about a block from one of Chicago's main gay thoroughfares.

In the eyes of the church, however, he and Banowski are not a couple. Officially, they are two men seeking guidance from a church that says such relationships between anyone other than a married man and woman are "intrinsically evil."

To deny that the power of God's grace enables homosexuals to live chastely is to deny, effectively, that Jesus has risen from the dead," Cardinal Francis George of the archdiocese of Chicago said during a speech last month at a conference in suburban Chicago.

Such a stance has caused some gay Catholics, including a local chapter of the national organization Dignity, to hold their own unsanctioned Masses in churches of their own organizations. On the other end of



Chester Banowski, left, and Mark Fristop, who have been same-sex partners for 10 years, attend services at Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church on Chicago's North Side.

spectrum, a national group called Courage has steadfastly stood by the church, encouraging gay men and lesbians to lead chaste lives.

The gap between the two sides has only widened since last summer when Vatican officials banned a priest and nun in Baltimore from their longtime ministry to gay and lesbian Catholics because they disagreed with the church's stance that homosexual sex should be categorized as an intrinsic evil, along with such sins as murder and lying.

Members of Courage applauded the decision to discipline the Rev. Robert Nugent and Sister Jeanette C. It is, however, the Maryland-based New Ways Ministries for more than 20 years.

Banowski, who is a salesman,

and Fristop, a teacher, wonder why the church would stress a teaching that could end up pushing gay parishioners away.

"How many churches are full like this? Tell me," Banowski said after a service attended by nearly 200 people, most of them younger men.

And while church leaders are taking a very public stance on the issue of homosexual sex, privately they often look the other way. The Rev. James Halsead, director of Catholic Studies at DePaul University, says it's very Catholic — to "love the sinner, not the sin."

"We know full well that lots of Catholic school teachers practice birth control and are divorced. We also know there are lots of Catholics who are bigoted or racist," Halsead says. "So my true Catholic side says, 'Oh, what else is new?'"

Presbyterians approve gay man's candidacy, same-sex holy unions

By Jeffrey Gold
The Associated Press

NEWARK, N.J. — Two rulings by a regional governing body of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) have upheld the rights of homosexuals to participate in certain religious ceremonies.

One decision allowed a church in Dobbs Ferry, N.Y., to continue performing same-sex "holy unions," finding that they are not marriage ceremonies. The other allowed a non-affiliate gay man from a southern New Jersey church to remain a candidate for the ministry.

Consenters in the 25-million-member church were expected to appeal the rulings, announced Monday by a governing group of the church's General Assembly.

Both rulings stem from trials held in Newark this month.

The court ruled 8-2 in favor of the South Presbyterian Church of Dobbs Ferry, which holds same-sex "holy unions."

Challengers claimed the church constitution does not allow the Christian understanding of marriage to be diminished. But the synod decided that principle "does not apply to ceremonies of same-sex unions."

In the other case, the court ruled 8-1 in favor of allowing Graham Van Keuren, a gay man who is seeking to become a minister, to continue as a candidate — to be ordained as a minister.

Presbyterians accept gay ministers if they vow not enter into same-sex relationships. He was accepted as a candidate.



Graham Van Keuren of Cherry Hill, N.J., recently told a Presbyterian committee considering his application to become a minister that he is gay and celibate, but anticipates someday committing to a same-sex partner.

by the West Jersey Presbytery, a group of congregations in southern New Jersey, although it acknowledged that he could not be ordained because of his intention to have sexual relationships with men.

That was opposed by six churches in the presbytery and 11 pastors, who said the candidacy lowered the church's stan-

dards. The court ruled that Van Keuren's "manner of life" can be regularly evaluated prior to any ordination.

Van Keuren, 27, the Presbyterian chaplain at the University of Delaware, said he hopes his example will allow the church to accept a person who is called to the ministry and a same-sex relationship.

Church helps deaf worshippers feel at home

By Allison Kennedy
Knight Ridder News Service

LANETT, Ala. — When the Rev. Raymond Alexander was a boy growing up in Jasper, Ala., he went to a lot of church because of classmates' tauntings.

He was teased not because of who he was, or something he did, but because of his parents, Charles and Jelene Alexander. Both were deaf.

Other children mimicked the Alexanders in front of Raymond, making noisy noises and imitating signs with their fingers as if using sign language. Raymond, whose first language was sign language, couldn't stand it.

"It's been a lifetime burden," he said.

So much of a burden that Alexander, ordained last summer, still finds himself an advocate for deaf people in a hearing world.

In July, he founded Emanuel Missionary Baptist Church for the Deaf, located off Highway 105 in this sleepy mill town. He and his wife, Sandra, started the church with 12 charter members and on a recent Sunday saw 15 in the congregation.

Emanuel, a ministry supported by Emanuel Baptist Temple, meets in the former Good News Revival Church. The church stands in the shadow of bigger churches with bigger names and fancier frontages. It is decorated plainly, with clear glass windows and a bed of flowers out front under the sign.

The worshippers come from all over the Chattahoochee Valley, with the nearest churches for the deaf located in Talladega, Ala., and on a recent Sunday saw 15 in the congregation.

About 44,000 deaf people live in Alabama and some 28 million nationwide, with one of the most

famous — Heather Whitestone of Alabama — capturing the Miss America crown in 1995. A devout Christian, Whitestone was the first deaf person to win the title.

Sunday services at Emanuel begin with a Bible lesson at 10 a.m. Teacher Cecil Kirby, who is not deaf, often uses an overhead projector to highlight verses. The class uses a study booklet called "Bible Lessons for the Deaf," published by LifeWay of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The class is followed by the main service at 11 a.m., with singing and the preacher's sermon. Some soloists use musical accompaniment. Many people clap.

Here's how deaf people clap: By raising both hands skyward and waving their fingers. Here's how they say "Amen": By putting their right fist into their open left hand.

Chew on this post-feast wisdom

By Tom Schaefer
Knight Ridder News Service

I know you're still full from your Thanksgiving feast. So here are a few tasty truths that won't tip the scales. And all of them are good for you, spiritually speaking.

At a time when most people give thanks for all they have, let's not forget those who have very little.

An important step last week, congressional leaders agreed to move ahead on debt relief for the world's poorest countries. The World Bank lists 41 countries as heavily indebted. Poor nations that owe about \$220 billion in foreign debts. As always, the crushing weight of debt nearly drowns the poorest in a nation.

Credit for moving this debt-reduction effort ahead goes to the Justice Dept. and a group of religious and secular groups and people worldwide. Supporters include Pope John Paul II, the Rev. Billy Graham and Bishop Desmond Tutu.

For more information on the project and how you can help, click the Web site <http://www.2100usa.org>. Let's stay focused on the issue of gratitude. In "Waste Right in the World," author Nancy Mitros refers to the parables of Jesus and explains how they shed light on human experiences. One example: our living with abundance.

Matt focuses on Jesus' words in Matthew 23:23 (to him who has, more will be given, and to him who has not, even that will be taken away) and offers an insightful interpretation of this passage of the Gospels.

You believe yourself richly blessed, then your life will seem to turn over with gratitude; but if you feel deprived — of money, prestige, affection, control, win-

ever you value most — you will squander your energies defending what little you perceive you have.

To paraphrase Jesus' words: "Those who have ears to hear, listen up."

A post-Thanksgiving challenge: Spend one day saying "thank you" — to other people and for the beauty around you (fall foliage, the sunset, the star-filled night sky, etc.) as often as possible. (In this challenge, the minimum number of thank yous in a day should be 10.)

At the end of the day, reflect on your state of mind and see if you're not a happier, more content person. If so, repeat the exercise the next day.

You're welcome. As a non-religious note on the theme of thankfulness and community.

The turkey has been consumed, and the relatives are

heading home. Thanksgiving is over. Now is the time to rethink the discarded ritual of eating together as a family.

In the New Yorker magazine of several years ago, Franco di Pelisse Gray explained why the ritual is so important: "We may be witnessing the first generation in history that has not been required to participate in that primal rite of socialization, the family meal. The family meal is not only the core curriculum in the school of civilized discourse; it is also a set of protocols that curb our natural savagery and our animal greed, and cultivate a capacity for sharing and thoughtfulness."

Thanksgiving is over, but it's never too late to set the table again — for family sharing.

Tom Schaefer writes about religion and ethics for the Wichita (Kan.) Eagle.

Hindus, Buddhists pledge to work together

LUMBINI, Nepal (AP) — Hindus and Buddhists have pledged to work together to face challenges to their religions from Christian proselytizing.

A recent call by Pope John Paul II for missionaries to spread Catholicism in Asia had led to a sense of crisis among the Hindu religious leaders gathered for the international conference.

A resolution passed Nov. 21 by 1,000 delegates from across Asia in front of a three-day conference in southern Nepal made no direct reference to the pope's call, but delegates expressed concern. Many described conversions as a war against "Hinduism and Buddhism" and a "spiritual crime."

It was the first gathering of Asian religious leaders since the pope's visit to New Delhi earlier this month.

Hindu groups accuse Christian missionaries of using inducements and sometimes coercion to gain converts, a charge church officials have denied.

Antimosity over the conversion controversy has led to several recent attacks on Christians in India. For centuries Hindus and Christians have lived in harmony in India, which currently counts 23 million Christians and 820 million Hindus among its 1 billion people. Muslims, Buddhists and Sikhs account for the rest.

The delegates approved a two-member committee to decide how to improve Hindu-Buddhist unity. It would be led by B.K. Modi, international president of the World Hindu Council, and Dallen Daido, head priest of the Daijokji Buddhist Temple in Japan.

"If we don't treat our younger people our great religion, I'm afraid, however persecuted we might be, we cannot stop conversions taking place," said Maj. General Bharat Keshar Simha, chief of the Nepal-based World

Religion in brief

Hindu Federation and conference coordinator.

Pilgrimage to Canterbury draws a dozen Christians

RUANAICH, Scotland — A dozen Christians of various denominations are on a 600-mile pilgrimage in the Middle Ages across Britain from the island of Iona to Canterbury to mark the millennium.

"Pilgrimage 2000 will comprise the most sustained declaration of Christian allegiance in Britain, in the millennium context," Ruth Davies said, speaking for organizers.

Canterbury was a popular destination in the Middle Ages because the cathedral held the remains of St. Thomas a Becket, the archbishop of Canterbury murdered in the north transport in 1170. These early pilgrims inspired Geoffrey Chaucer's "Canterbury Tales."

The group leaving from Iona will be joined by others as they journey south to Canterbury. In total, some 2,300 miles will be covered, including a number of old pilgrim pathways.

All groups are to assemble Dec. 31 for a service at the ruins of St. Augustine's original abbey in Canterbury, seat of the Church of England and the Anglican Communion worldwide.

Hindus protest depletion in Baptist prayer book
BOSTON — Nearly four dozen Hindus picketed outside a church

to protest a Southern Baptist prayer book that said Hindus have "darkness in their hearts that no lamp can dispel."

The booklet, released during the Hindu festival of Diwali, contains a number of other phrases considered offensive by some Hindus. It has ignited similar protests in Houston.

"At any sign of religious intolerance, we have to speak up," said Chandra Kany Pansy, a spokesman for the New England Hindu Against Religious Intolerance, which organized the protest last Sunday at Beacon Hill Baptist Church. "We would like the convention to drop this attack and apologize."

Similar guides have been distributed by the convention's International Mission Board, urging Baptists to respect the Hindu conversion of Jews and Muslims. David Draper, pastor of the 15-member Boston congregation, said, "We Christians just pray that Christ's light will be spread around the world."

Still he said the booklet was poorly titled and was "arrogant." He added, "The article incites fear and distrust toward the Hindu community. For this I am embarrassed and on behalf of our congregation extend our apologies."

—Compiled from wire reports

Bell's Family Books
Your Ultimate LDS Book & Gift Shop
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AMERICAN PROPHET:
THE STORY OF JOSEPH SMITH
By Heidi S. Swinton Video: Harmonize CD

Commentary from leading scholars and historians, writings of Joseph Smith and his contemporaries. Plus a portrayal of his youth and home.

Magic Valley Places Of Worship

**AMAZING GRACE
FELLOWSHIP**

**Celebration
Services**
8:30 A.M. & 10:30 A.M.

Pastor Lynn J. Schaal

(208) 736-0727

1061 Eastland Dr. N. • Twin Falls, ID
Come Visit Our Website: www.2100usa.org

Church of Christ

"He who believes and is baptized will be saved, but he who does not believe will be condemned." Mark 16:16

Worship Services

Sunday 11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

Bible Study

Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

Radio Program

Sunday 9:05 a.m. MLX 1310 AM
Bronson Ostic, Preacher
(208) 324-9131
513 South Buchanan Street
Jerome

**CHRISTIAN
SCIENCE SERVICES**

Thursday Thanksgiving Service -
10 A.M.

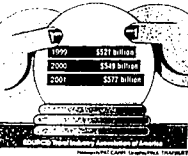
Worship — 10:00 A.M.
Sunday School — 10:00 A.M.
Reading Room
Wed. 1:00 - 3:00 P.M.

160 9th Ave. E.
Twin Falls
734-1982

This week's lesson:
"Soul & Body"
"What I say unto you, I say unto all, reach ye."

BizFACTS

A travel forecast
Americans spent \$480 billion on domestic and international travel in 1998. Projected spending



BRIEFLY IN MONEY

KeyCorp plans to cut costs, boost profits

CLEVELAND - Although KeyCorp plans to slash some 3,000 jobs nationwide in the coming year, company officials say the cuts should have little effect in individual markets.

The company this week unveiled its plan to cut costs and increase profitability. In addition to cutting 11 percent of its work force, Key's proposal calls for outsourcing back-office functions, selling its credit card business and consolidating some nonbranch operations. It also calls for the bank, which has \$83 billion in assets, to concentrate on businesses with high growth potential, such as e-commerce and asset management.

Key has a handful of bank branches in the Magic Valley. Company officials said the job-cutting should last through 2000. Executives will eye a wide range of jobs in deciding where to cut, and they hope to eliminate at least some through attrition, said Key spokesman William Murschel.

Executives don't know how the cuts will play out on a market-by-market basis, but because they will occur across the country, individual markets shouldn't experience substantial losses.

Workers who lose their jobs will get severance pay, transition counseling and a shot at other jobs within the organization, officials said.

The plan should incrementally increase pre-tax earnings by \$170 million by 2002, officials said.

Key expects to shoulder pre-tax charges as high as \$180 million during fourth quarter 1999 as part of the plan's implementation.

Buhl chamber calls for ballots for two open spots

BUHL - The Buhl Chamber of Commerce is looking for two new directors, and ballots are due Friday.

Leonard Sheets and Lynn Busmann have fulfilled their terms on the chamber's board, leaving two seats open.

Two people have been nominated for election to three-year terms, to begin in 2000, on the Buhl chamber's board: Pat Hamilton Jr. and Steve Kaatz.

But each chamber business, organization or individual can name other picks for the positions; each voter chooses two people. Ballots should be sent to the chamber at 716 U.S. Highway 30 E., Buhl, ID 83316.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

Banks fight bans on teller machine surcharges

Knight Ridder News Service

SANTA MONICA, Calif.—When this liberal city by the ocean last month became the nation's first to ban banks from charging other banks' customers for using their automated teller machines, the move hit a raw consumer nerve.

This month, San Francisco voters overwhelmingly passed a similar measure. Iowa and Connecticut have statewide bans. Now communities around the nation, including Los Angeles and New York, are considering taking aim, too. An ATM fee ban that was passed but vetoed may be introduced again next year in Philadelphia's City Council.

The laws, known as surcharge bans, represent only a small remedy for what appears to be a largely public malaise about modern banking, with its many fees and diminishing emphasis on face-to-face teller contact.

"The banks, they're collecting enough fees as it is," said Alfred Bennett, 68, as he used an ATM in Santa Monica. "When you take into account the obscene fees that they're charging for other things - like late credit-card payments, bounced checks - this ban, it serves them right."

Banking officials say the public doesn't think about how convenient banking has become. They point to the expense of placing ATMs in remote locations, paying rent at those locations, and keeping the machines maintained - a costly cost. The American Bankers Association estimates at more than \$1,000

ATM fees

per machine. "I think a lot of customers think that having to pay any fees at all is an annoyance, and these laws play into that feeling," said Kathleen Shilkrut, a spokeswoman for Wells Fargo bank, which is fighting the Santa

Monica and San Francisco laws on grounds that cities cannot regulate national banks. Wells Fargo has several Magic Valley branches.

"It's an attempt at a regulatory jihad aimed specifically at financial institutions," Shilkrut said of

the California bans, which are certain to face a long, costly legal battle.

At issue is the \$1 or \$1.50 that many banks charge other banks' customers for the convenience of getting cash from their machines.

Consumer groups call such surcharges "double-dipping." That's because most customers' home banks also charge them each time they use an outside ATM - tacking on a \$1.50 or \$2 charge.

Please see FEES, Page D-5



Elis Fishel uses the on-line ATM in the Dairy Mart store across the street from her Columbus, Ohio, apartment. Fishel says there's one reason she uses the ATM - it's free.

Shoppers rush for discounts

Traditional retailers wonder if Internet sales will hurt them

The Associated Press

The holiday season kicked off on Friday with shoppers packing the stores for \$99 TV sets and Pokemon freebies, and merchants wondering whether this is the year when the Internet finally hurts them.

Paul Misur braved the crowds and the rain - at the Toys R Us in Elizabeth, N.J., where he was first in a line of 100 people waiting for the store's 6 a.m. opening. He also plans to do much of his shopping online.

"It's a lot easier than doing what we're doing here this morning," Misur said.

While the Internet still only represents about 3 percent of total holiday sales, it is getting more attention this Christmas than ever before. E-retailers are spending hundreds of millions of dollars on TV commercials, magazine ads and billboards and offering bargains.

About 10 percent of shoppers say they will use the Web for gift buying this year, up from about 5 percent last year, according to a survey for the National Retail Federation.

But Americans aren't abandoning traditional bricks-and-mortar stores yet - as witnessed by the



Virgil Mobley, left, of Trenton N.J., calls his wife at home while Pat Geller, of Mercerville, N.J., shops in the clothing section of the Wal-Mart in Lawrenceville, N.J., Friday. More than 200 people waited for the 6:00 a.m. opening of the national chain, which also has a Barley store, with the majority seeking out advertised special prices on televisions and computers.

throng of shoppers who piled their kids into the minivan and headed to the mall on Friday.

"You don't get that rush of purchasing something and getting something brand new in your hands" when you buy online, said Gwen Yonis of Newmarket, N.H., at a J.C. Penney store.

Shoppers flocked to discounters Best Buy, Target and Ames

before dawn, with some stores running out of shopping carts before 8 a.m. and checkout lines as many as 20 people deep.

At a number of Wal-Marts around the country, there was near chaos as shoppers grabbed \$99 TVs and \$69 VCRs. Shoppers in Bossier City, La., literally beat down the doors of the stock room

Please see DISCOUNTS, Page D5

Idaho issues collector's edition of travel guide

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - A special millennium collector's edition of the Official Idaho Travel Guide is now available for Idahoans looking for a piece of history for the year 2000.

Only 2,000 copies were printed, and the person who purchases the copy numbered "2,000/2,000" wins a weekend getaway to Elkhorn Resort at Sun Valley, the Idaho Department of Commerce said.

"The Idaho state travel guide's special millennium edition is a wonderful keepsake - one that celebrates Idaho's rich heritage and diversity," Gov. Dirk Kempthorne said in a statement.

A four-page timeline chronicles significant people, places and events in Idaho history, from the first known evidence of human life at Wilson Butte Cave

near Jerome, to the opening of the Idaho Black History Museum, in Boise.

Travel information and color photographs fill the remaining pages.

Each limited-edition numbered copy includes Kempthorne's signature and a dark green hardcover, foil-stamped in gold with an Idaho 2000 logo, the Commerce Department said. The dust jacket features antique postcards and printed material from Idaho's past.

The 128-page book can be purchased by calling 1-800-VISIT-ID or at the Buzz Langdon Visitor Center in Twin Falls. Retailers wishing to buy the books wholesale may call 342-0925.

Elgin Syfer Drake Communications of Boise published the book on behalf of the Commerce Department and the Idaho Travel Council.

BANKRUPTCIES

The Times-News

BOISE - Recent activity in U.S. Bankruptcy Court included these Magic Valley filings:

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$50,000 to \$100,000
Keri Dale Koch, 2173 S. 1800

E., Gooding, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 99-41903.

Robert W. Lowe and Kris J. Ross, 160 Camarillo Way, Twin Falls

Please see BANKRUPTCIES, Page D6

These businesses promote themselves on The Times News internet site...and you can, too!



The Times-News Online

www.magicvalley.com ... a good place to promote your business.

D.L. EVANS

Bozzuto's
Furniture & Appliance

Southern Idaho
Waste Exchange

LATHAM

Chrysler • Plymouth • Dodge

THE HOMESTEAD
Crafts • Framing

DESERT
MOUNTAIN
HOMES

Microchips
Everything That Connects

JULES HARRISON
FORD • MITSUBISHI

Twin Falls area
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Terry's
HEATING &
AIR CONDITIONING

Interstate
Amusements

MONEY

Young women ask for flexible schedules

Knight Ridder News Service

CHICAGO — When Anne Marie Mitchell, then a communications coordinator for a utility company, returned to work in May after the birth of her son, Matthew, she started a work schedule providing exactly the kind of hours she wanted.

How did she get it? She asked for it. "My son's only a baby one, so I decided to switch from full time to three days a week," said Mitchell, 32, who is married to Jay Mitchell, manager of operations for Commerce Bank Futures. "The company was completely supportive."

And now, in a new job as a consultant for Qwest Consultants, a firm specializing in human resources, the 32-year-old has a flexible schedule — something Qwest offers all employees.

Noteworthy, young women like Mitchell who want balance in their lives aren't afraid to speak up about the nature of their work schedules.

"Women between the ages of 25 to 35 are twice as likely as women 36 to 45 years to propose a flexible arrangement to their current employer — and three times more likely to quit if they don't get it," said Nadine Mockler, president and co-founder of Flexible Resources Inc., a staffing firm based in Cos Cob, Conn., that specializes in permanent jobs with flexible hours.

Mockler, who started her business in 1989, cites figures from her firm's recent survey of 515 women who in 1998 sought jobs at Flexible Resources' headquar-

ters and six branches nationwide.

"All the women were seeking full-time jobs with flexible work arrangements — some of them even before they had children so they won't have to beg for them when they need them," said Mockler, whose firm will earn \$2.9 million this year. "The younger women want to work on their own terms, but they were shut down — or they wouldn't be here with us."

Mockler says the women she calls Generation Xers "are incredible people. I can't think of a better employee than someone who takes charge of her career and personal life."

The 30-year-old of Stamford, Conn., quit her job in July as an executive assistant at a shoe factory. She and her husband, Scott, a general contractor, have three children younger than 3. "After my third child was born in May, I reduced my 40 hours to 30, but when I next asked for 25 hours, they refused," said Thaler, who now works from home four hours a day, five days a week maintaining a Web site for Swisher International. "So they lost me."

Thaler expected to find exactly what she wanted. Her attitude doesn't surprise Marianne A. Forber, professor of organizational economics and women's studies who is a researcher at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

"The 75-year-olds of my generation — 7m job and did it well, you stayed there forever," Forber said. "But today, a well-trained young woman, if you give her the terms I want, I'm going elsewhere."

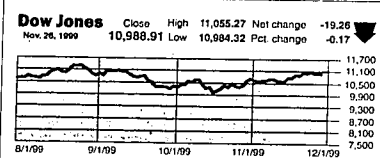


IBM employee Erina Sakurai displays a prototype of a wearable PC named PC Eye Trak jointly developed by IBM and Olympus in Tokyo Friday.

'Wearable PC' debuts

TOKYO (AP) — The screen is a monacle that fits over one eye. The 13-cm square, a pocketbook-sized box with two buttons. Sound futuristic? Japanese camera maker Olympus and the Japanese unit of IBM came out with a prototype "Wearable PC" on Friday and said the gadget could hit stores soon.

Microsoft Windows operating system. The tiny screen fits out from a headset and covers one eye, projecting the image of a much larger monitor. A banana-shaped handle with a touchpad and two buttons is used to select icons in the "Eye Trak" virtual screen. The "Wearable PC" doesn't have a keyboard yet, but "we may develop that in the future," said Olympus spokesman Shinichiro Murakami. In the meantime, users can open and look at files and play audio and video. Murakami said the companies will decide next year when to launch the computer.



Nasdaq index streaks to another record close

NEW YORK (AP) — The Nasdaq Stock Market sprinted to another record Friday, as investors gave Internet-related stocks a boost at the traditional start of the holiday shopping season. But stocks overall had a mixed performance in light of post-Thanksgiving trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 19.26 to 10,988.91. Broader stock indicators were mixed.

The Nasdaq composite index rose 27.31 to 3,447.81, for its 16th record in the past four weeks. The Standard & Poor's 500 index dropped 0.46 to 4,146.62.

For the week, the Nasdaq added 78.56, and is now up 57 percent so far this year. The Dow dropped 14.98 for the week while the S&P 500 slipped 5.38.

Stock gains were held back by inflationary concerns spurred by a Commerce Department report Friday that Americans' personal income in October posted its biggest jump in more than five years, and rose more than twice as fast as spending. Personal income includes interest and government benefits — surged by 1.3 percent in October.

It was another sign of the U.S. economic strength, which added to bond-market jitters that the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates again early next year to hold down inflationary pressures. Trading was listless as the stock market closed at 1 p.m. EST Friday, three hours earlier than usual, as traders were on a holiday weekend schedule. Benefiting from the traditional kickoff of the holiday shopping season on the day after Thanksgiving, online retailer Toys R Us 2.25 to 66.625, along with Amazon.com, up 5.875 to 53.125, at 1 p.m. Wall Street has high hopes for brisk online selling in the next month. Toys R Us gained 1.25 to 183.75.

Table with multiple columns: NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, and various stock indices. Includes sub-sections for Gainers, Losers, and Diaries.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ. Includes sub-sections for Gainers, Losers, and Diaries.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with multiple columns: NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, and various stock indices. Includes sub-sections for Gainers, Losers, and Diaries.

INDEXES

Table with columns: High, Low, Name, YTD, % Change, VTD, % Change.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, % Chg, YTD, VTD.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Stocks that rise in price are shown in the Market News, Stock Market, and Stock Market Index sections. Stocks that fall in price are shown in the Market News, Stock Market, and Stock Market Index sections.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, % Chg, YTD, VTD.

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various futures contracts like Mon Commodity, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

MARKETS

Table with columns: Date, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists market data for Dec 23, 24, 25, 26, 27.

DELTA BACKS OFF OF FARE INCREASE

ATLANTA (AP) - Delta Air Lines, the industry leader, quickly followed suit. But other competitors including Northwest, TWA, US Airways and American West refused to raise their prices, prompting a quick retreat by Delta on Thursday.

BANKRUPTCIES

Continued from D4. Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000, Case No. 99-11856.

FEES

Continued from D4. which is then used, in part, to pay the bank that owns the ATM and the electronic networks that link banks' ATMs.

DISCOUNTS

Continued from D4. to get more merchandise. "It was nuts. People are running all over each other," said Dustin Anderson, who was told by his new TWA by 6:15 a.m. from a Wal-Mart in Bismark, N.D.

BEANS

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists bean futures contracts like Valley Beans, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

CHEESE

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists cheese futures contracts like Cheddar cheese, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

POTATOES/ONIONS

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists potato and onion futures contracts like Idaho Falls, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

METALS/CURRENCY

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists metal and currency futures contracts like Gold, Silver, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

SUGAR

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists sugar futures contracts like New York, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

LIVESTOCK

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists livestock futures contracts like TWIN FALLS, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

GRAINS

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists grain futures contracts like Valley Grain, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

SOYBEANS

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists soybean futures contracts like Soybean, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

WHEAT

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists wheat futures contracts like Hard Red Winter, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists fossil fuel futures contracts like Light Sweet Crude, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Table with columns: Fund Name, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists various mutual funds like American Century, Baron Funds, etc.

PORTLAND, ORE (AP) -

Prices for steel and aluminum in Portland, Ore. are up. Steel prices are up for all grades, except pipes, coils, bars and wire.

NEW YORK (AP) -

Prices for steel and aluminum in New York are up. Steel prices are up for all grades, except pipes, coils, bars and wire.

ATLANTA (AP) -

Delta Air Lines has dropped a 3 percent fare increase after several competitors refused to hike their prices.

AMERICAN, THE NO. 2 CARRIER

raised prices on Monday, saying higher fuel costs were to blame. Delta, Continental and

COMPETITIVE, DELTA SPOKESMAN

Dan Lewis said Friday. "It was unclear Friday whether the other airlines would drop their fares," he said.

POOR CREDIT

Richard E. Beus and Jona Lee Beus, 150 Los Lagos, Twin Falls, joint business, Chapter 13, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000, Case No. 99-11861.

VALLEY BEANS

Table with columns: Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Lists valley bean futures contracts like Valley Beans, Dec 20, Dec 21, etc.

CHICKEN (AP) -

Prices for chicken futures are up. Chicken prices are up for all grades, except pipes, coils, bars and wire.

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BUILDING BUHL



From left to right, Paul Phillips and Dan Pehrson talk with Joyce Grindstaff at a booth at the Informational Community Fair earlier this month. The event was sponsored by the Building Buhi's Future Committee, city of Buhi and Buhi Chamber of Commerce and was attended by more than 400 people. In addition to a spaghetti dinner, residents learned about the many city departments and future plans for Buhi. Anyone interested in volunteering for the committee, call committee chairman Steve Kartz at 843-8576.

Area residents win Head Start Awards

By Loretta Burkhardt
Times-News correspondent

BUHL - West End Head Start teacher Lana Phillips and co-worker Edith Mace will compete for national recognition through the National Head Start Association.

Phillips was named Teacher of the Year at local and state levels of the competition and Mace was named Transportation Person of the Year. They will be honored in Anchorage, Alaska during an early childhood education training and workshop in March.

Phillips and Mace became eligible for the national honor by winning at the Region X division level.



Lana Phillips

national level, including the National Head Start Association meeting in March.

Other west end residents who earned awards were Alma Schooler, Ramona

Davidson, Art Freund, and Wayne Moberg, representing the Service Providers of the Year, and Susan Kersey, Parent of the Year.



Edith Mace

With more than 2,000 Head Start programs, the Head Start Association honors people and organizations annually for their service and dedication to the children and families they serve, organizers say.

Times-News correspondent Loretta Burkhardt can be reached in Buhi at 543-6683.

SOMEBODY NEEDS YOU

Hospice Vision seeks volunteers to assist with transportation and running errands, patient care and companionship, caregiver assistance, bereavement dinners, clerical and office duties, fund-raising and special projects, telephoning and bereavement and other duties. Training classes will be available for volunteers. For more information, call Flo Slater at 735-0121.

Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers seeks volunteers throughout the Magic Valley for a variety of projects and to aid individuals to achieve independent living. For more information, call Interfaith at 733-6333. All volunteers are insured.

The College of Southern Idaho is seeking individuals or groups to help sponsor a Christmas party for newly arrived refugee families. Donations of children's toys suitable for Christmas gifts, Christmas tree decorations, or cash donations are sought. For more information, call Tammy at 736-2166.

Volunteers are needed for the Senior Companion Program in the Magic Valley to help at-risk or homebound elderly citizens. Volunteers receive a stipend, mileage reimbursement, training and incident and liability insurance. Applicants must be age 60 or older and of low income to be eligible. In Burley, call Ida at 677-4872; and in Twin Falls, call Marcie or Pam at 736-2122.

Volunteers are needed for the Foster Grandparent Program to help children

in day cares, schools and Head Start programs. Participants are paid a stipend and mileage reimbursement, are provided with accident and liability insurance and will receive training. Volunteers must be age 60 or older, and be of low income. In Burley, call Ida at 677-4872 and in Twin Falls, call Marcie or Pam at 736-2122.

The Foster Grandparent Program and HUGS need men and women age 60 and older to serve 20 hours a week in four day-care centers, one in Burley, and three in Twin Falls. Volunteers earn a tax-free stipend, which does not affect Social Security, and other benefits. Call Pam, Marcie or Nancy at 736-2122, or Ida at 677-4872.

Volunteers are needed at the Twin Falls Senior Citizen's Center to help deliver meals to home-bound seniors. For more information, call 734-5084.

Volunteers are needed for the Senior Companion and Foster Grandparent programs in Lincoln County. Participants are paid a stipend and mileage reimbursement, are provided with accident and liability insurance and will receive training. Volunteers must be age 60 or older and be of low income. Volunteers work 20 hours a week. In Burley, call Ida at 677-4872 and in Twin Falls, call Marcie or Pam at 736-2122.

A family of seven seeks a set of bunk beds for four girls sharing a small room with two queen beds, leaving little space

in the room. A family of four living in a small two-bedroom house seeks bunk beds for two young girls sharing a twin mattress on the floor. Their father has been ill and they cannot afford bunk beds. For more information on donating bunk beds to assist these families, call Cindy Stanley, Community resource worker at 731-0607, or 733-8480, Ext. 3832, and leave a message.

Guardian ad Litem, seeks volunteers to assist children involved in the court system, conduct independent investigations of the child's circumstances and act as an advocate for the child at each stage of court proceedings. Guardians will give recommendations to the court in the best interest of the child. On average, volunteers devote 20 hours a month. There are about 230 cases and only 24 volunteers. For more information, call the Fifth Judicial District CASA Program at 324-6890, fax at 324-2016, or write the program at P.O. Box 22, Jerome, Idaho 83338.

This public service column is designed to match needs in the communities of the eight counties in the Magic Valley with volunteer help. If you need a volunteer, call Judy Tipton, director of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP), at 736-2122, Ext. 312. RSVP is a United Way sponsored agency at the College of Southern Idaho. To have your request appear in this column, please submit it before 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday for Sunday publication. Please call weekly to retain request.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

ISU advisers available Monday at CSI Mini-Cassia Center

BURLEY - Admissions and academic advising for Idaho State University will be available from 1-7 p.m. Monday at the College of Southern Idaho Mini-Cassia Center, 1600 Park Ave.

Current and prospective students can receive counseling for specific ISU programs, including classes offered in Twin Falls. Classes offered in Twin Falls include anthropology, history, English, psychology, sociology, political science, women's studies, education and nursing.

Non-degree seeking students may register for the spring semester which begins Jan. 10.

Kathleen Hedberg will teach a "Writing Local History" course from 4-6:30 p.m. on Thursdays at the Mini-Cassia center.

Part-time fees are \$119 per undergraduate credit and students over 60-years-old are eligible for special low rates.

To make an appointment, call the Mini-Cassia center at 678-1400.

Great Clips for Hair collects canned food starting Monday

TWIN FALLS - Great Clips for Hair is giving customers \$1 off a regular priced haircut, or price of any regular priced professional hair care product with the donation of one can of food Monday to Dec. 20.

Donations will benefit the Crisis

Center of the Magic Valley, an organization that assists victims of domestic violence and sexual abuse.

Great Clips is located next to Jamha Juice in the WinCo plaza on Blue Lakes Boulevard and Cheney Drive in Twin Falls.

Twin Falls Junior Club hosts annual Holiday Home Tour

TWIN FALLS - The Junior Club of Twin Falls presents the 10th annual Holiday Home Tour from 1-7 p.m. Dec. 12.

Homes featured on the tour this year include the residences of John and Susan Reitsma, Larry and Kathleen Truscott, Carletta Smith, John and Bonita Hepworth, Ray and Janet Goffin, and the Roger and Koreen Sall residence in Filser.

Cost is \$6 per person and children age 8 and over are welcome. Proceeds will benefit the Salvation Army and Neighbors in Need.

A private affair for ticket holders with refreshments and entertainment will be held at Inspirations, 1440 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. in Twin Falls during the tour. Tickets are available from any Junior Club member, The Little Red Hen, Kimberly Nurseries, Everybody's Business, Country Gift Garden, Inspirations, Wilson-Bates Superstore, Kelley Garden Center, Crowley's in Old Towne, The Quad Bookstore and Kurt's Pharmacy and Hallmark, all in Twin Falls.

Checkmate - chess tourney names winners

TWIN FALLS - Several Magic Valley players took top spots in the 1999 Idaho Open chess tournament held in Twin Falls Nov. 20-21.

Garrett Reynolds of Twin Falls won the tournament with 4.5, the only mark on a perfect score being the draw with Hugh Myers of Boise in round 1.

Myers finished with 3.5 to capture second overall and joined Reynolds, T C Hartwell and Glen Buckendorf of Buhi as the only players not to lose a game throughout the tournament.

Chuck Landgraver of Idaho Falls tied for second overall with Myers, but he

lost on a tie-break.

There were only 17 players, yet they represented Twin Falls, Boise, Buhl, Idaho Falls, Filer, Hansen, Rupert, Hagerman and even Salt Lake City, organizers say.

The player from Utah was 6-year old Tony Chen, who is the current National Kindergarten Champion and going to compete at the National Elementary Championship in the near future. He finished with 2.0 to win class F.

Results as follows:
First overall - Garrett Reynolds, Twin Falls

Second overall - Hugh Myers, Boise
First C - Chuck Landgraver, Idaho Falls

First A - Glen Buckendorf, Buhl
First B - Barry Eacker, Twin Falls
Top Senior - T C Hartwell, Twin Falls
Second C - Thomas Booth, Boise
Second B - Daniel Pocol, Twin Falls
Top Junior - Cody Camp, Rupert
First D - Don Shouse, Hansen
Second D - Paul Gorrings, Boise
First F - Tony Chen, Salt Lake City, Utah
First E - Earl McClellan, Twin Falls



The Minico Future Farmers of America team placed second in district competition and 10th in state competition. Team members include, from left to right, Niel Peterson, Tim Topfitt, Scott Heins and Jeremy Jensen.



The dairy team placed first in district competition Sept. 10 in Blackfoot. Members of the team are, from left to right, Kyle Stewart, Connie Romsberg, Jari Jo Burger and Niel Peterson. Gary Halverson is not pictured.



Minico High School's Future Farmers of America livestock team placed second place in district competition Sept. 10 at the Eastern Idaho State Fair in Blackfoot. The team members are, from left to right, Tom Topfitt, Jeremy Jensen and Daniel Zambco; and back row: Matt Bingham and Scott Heins.

FFA teams ride home with honors from competition

RUPERT - The Minico High School Future Farmers of America Chapter came home with honors from and attended events and activities at the state and district level.

The Minico chapter visited the Eastern Idaho State Fair to compete in horse, dairy and livestock judging contests. Several FFA districts, including the East Magic Valley FFA District, held district competition on Sept. 10 at the Blackfoot fairgrounds, reports Connie Romsberg and Shannon Woodman from the Minico FFA.

Minico's horse and dairy teams placed first in their district event

and the livestock team placed second. Team members judged the animals by conformation and other characteristics and placed the animals in ranks based on desired qualities.

Members of the group who received high overall individual scores were Karla Stevens, highest horse score; Jari Jo Burger, first highest dairy score; and Daniel Zunino, second highest livestock score.

Team members include Kyle Stewart, Connie Romsberg, Jari Jo Burger, Gary Halverson and Niel Peterson, dairy team; Jared Koyle, Ashley Hunt, Chris

Harrison, Karla Stephens and Richard Miller, horse team; and Tim Topfitt, Jeremy Jensen, Daniel Zunino, Matt Bingham and Scott Heins, livestock team.

The Minico FFA also participated in the District and State Soils Career Development (CDE) Event in October. The Soils CDE consists of several parts, including judging and texturing soils, shooting slopes and other factors that would influence crop management, crop development and the home-stead surroundings.

The soil team placed second at district and 10th at state. Jeremy Jensen was the highest

placing individual with a second place finish. Team members include Niel Peterson, Tim Topfitt, Scott Heins and Jensen.

The horse team in the Minico High School Future Farmers of America placed first in recent East Magic Valley District competition at the Eastern Idaho Fairgrounds in Blackfoot. Team members are, from left to right, Jared Koyle, Ashley Hunt and Chris Harrison. Karla Stephens and Richard Miller are not pictured.

Jari Jo Burger, Niel Peterson, Tim Topfitt, Scott Heins and Jeremy Jensen.



The Minico FFA Future Farmers of America livestock team placed second place in district competition Sept. 10 at the Eastern Idaho State Fair in Blackfoot. The team members are, from left to right, Tom Topfitt, Jeremy Jensen and Daniel Zambco; and back row: Matt Bingham and Scott Heins.

COMICS

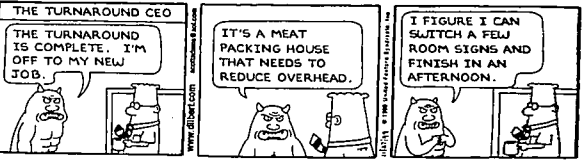
Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



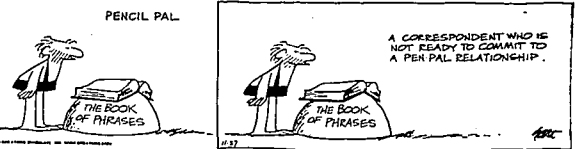
Dilbert

By Scott Adams



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



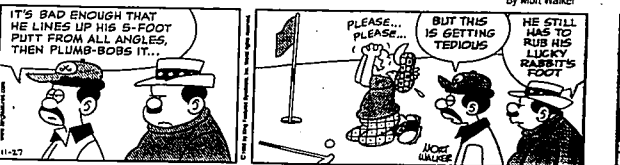
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



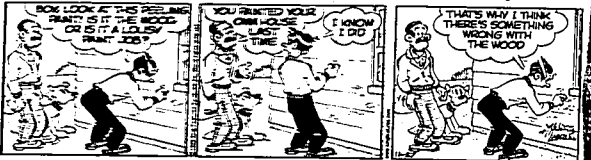
For Daffin or For Mease

By Lynn Johnston



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Picks

By Brian Crane

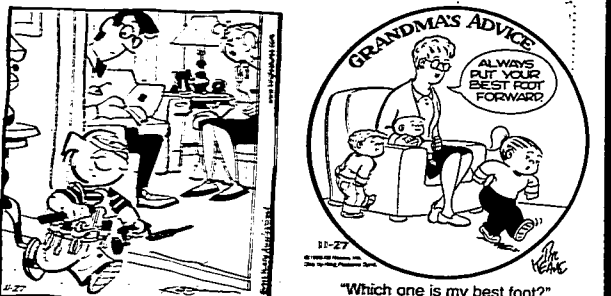


Denise the Minx

By Hank Ketchum

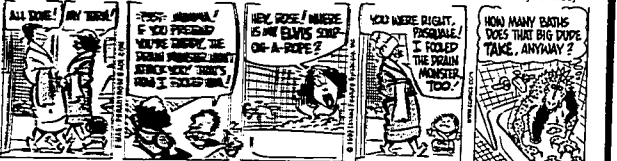
The Family Circus

By Bill Keane



Rose is Rose

By Pat Brady



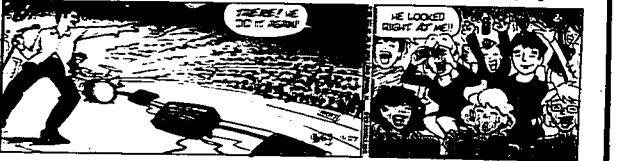
Zis

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Lemon

By Greg Evans



Strange Brew

By John Deering

Man Slaughter

By Wiley



50
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Any 1999 or 2000 model Ford bought from anyone other than authorized Ford dealer loses the right to Idaho state lemon law protection.

If a vehicle was wholesale because of a problem, regardless of miles (even less than 100) YOU LOOSE.

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 - a. A non-Ford dealer is paying invoice or more for USED Ford V-10 & Turbo Diesel Pickups. Obviously you are not saving thousands.
 - b. These vehicles are from surrounding states and Canada which means you will incur additional high transportation costs.
 - c. For these reasons dealers are not stating prices in their advertising.
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<p>\$84,900. Almost new 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, gas heat with central air. Big bedrooms, refrigerator, oven, range and washer/dryer included. Great deck! Partial enclosed 2 car carport. A must see! CALL 733-5715 OR 733-2121. ASK FOR NEERA. #99-03168</p>	<p>20 ACRE close to Wendell! 15 acres are farmable. 5 acres has the home with 2100 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Big country kitchen, fireplace & utility room. Very nice wooded deck. Also a 40x75 mesh shed with 4 big ramps doors, workbench, Barn & granary. PRICED AT \$299,900. CALL BOBBI 733-4304. #99-02853</p>	<p>A RIBBLE south of Kimberly Road on 3400 N by Jerome! 2456 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 3 barn, 3 car garage. 5 acres with water & gated pipe. Owner is looking at all offers. PRICED AT \$234,000. CALL BOBBI AT 733-4304. #99-02853</p>	<p>REDUCED TO \$54,500. Great home with lots of charm. Home has 1330 sq. ft. and includes 3 bedrooms, 1 bath, a large living room and dining area and a large kitchen. The home has an almost new roof and some new windows. Great home for \$54,500. CALL PAUL OR MARSHA AT 734-0448 OR 733-2121. #99-02818</p>	<p>HERE'S AN inexpensive way to own your own land with a manufactured home, for less than rent. Home has 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, large living room, dining room and kitchen area. Auto spotters on 2 large lots with front porch and rear patio. \$59,900. CALL PAUL OR MARSHA AT 734-0448 OR 733-2121. #99-3023</p>
<p>UNHEARD OF PRICE REDUCTION TO \$59,000 for this Wendell home with 3 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, large living room, unfinished family room, large kitchen/dining area and large laundry room. Orchard and nice yard. CALL PAUL OR MARSHA AT 733-2121 OR 734-0448. AT THIS PRICE IT WON'T LAST LONG!</p>	<p>JUST LISTED! Cute townhouse in Twin Falls with living room, kitchen/dining area, laundry room on main floor and 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 baths. ONLY \$59,900 for this cozy townhouse. CALL PAUL OR MARSHA AT 733-2121 OR 734-0448. #99-03207</p>	<p>EXCLUSIVE HOME with golf course membership and lots of space! Fantastic views, 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, see thru fireplace, large excellent kitchen. \$244,000. CALL DON AT 733-2121. #99-01018</p>	<p>1824 SQUARE FEET, 3 bedroom, 2 bath ranch style home on the Jerome Golf Course. Vaulted living area, A/C, sprinklers & 2 car garage. \$153,900. CALL DAN AT 733-2121. #99-00683</p>	<p>GREAT FLOOR plan with a great kitchen. This is a nice home needing a new family. \$79,000. CALL KOLEAN FOR DETAILS AT 733-2121.</p>
<p>QUITE HOME! This is not a drive by! Workshop in back, large dog kennel, 4 bedrooms, 2 bath, fireplace. PRICED RIGHT AT \$73,900. CALL NOLEAN AT 733-2121.</p>	<p>SEE WINTER and feel summer in a new home! CALL CRYSTAL KEIM AT 733-2121 OR 733-4034.</p>	<p>JUST ADD snow to this setting! Country dream home on 1+ acres just minutes from Twin Falls. 4 bedroom, 2 baths with nearly 2000 sq. ft. and 3 car garage. A joy for all seasons. CALL CRYSTAL AT 733-2121 OR 733-4034. #99-00217</p>	<p>BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY home, south of Curry Corner, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, outstanding view! Shopperage could be for your business. Site on 1.84 acres. OFFERED AT \$189,900. CALL RICH 733-2121.</p>	<p>NEW CONSTRUCTION on one acre in spacious Harrison View Estates. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath, 3 car garage. Bonus room for 4th bedroom or office. Gas fireplace and more. OFFERED AT \$169,900. CALL RICH WHITESCARVER 733-2121. #99-02840</p>

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Liz Gulch Real Estate • Prudential, Idaho Homes • Magic Valley Realty
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If you live in this area & are interested in being a newspaper carrier... Please call District Manager, 733-0931 ext. 347.

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D. St.-Sharon Heights Ct.

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ROUTE 816
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100-400 6th 7th Ave N.

ROUTE 850
100-300 Borah Ave. W
100-300 Wisloman

ROUTE 882
500 Bk. Bolton St.
100-500 Bk. Filer Ave. W

ROUTE 885
100-200 Bk. Carroy Ct.
300 Bk. Casa Grand Ct.
100 Bk. Martin

ROUTE 876
500 Bk. Brackton St. N
800 Bk. Birchwood Dr.
400-500 Bk. Falls Ave. W
800-900 Bk. Rose St. N
500-800 Bk. Rosewood

ROUTE 887
500 Bk. Park Meadows Ct.
1000-1100 Bk. Park Meadow Cir
400-500 Bk. Parkway Cir
1000-1100 Bk. Twin Parks Dr.

ROUTE 888
100-300 Bk. Crestview
900 Bk. Sparks

If you live on the West side of Twin Falls & are interested in being an independent newspaper carrier... Please contact District Manager 733-0931, ext. 347

TWIN FALLS (7)

THE TIMES-NEWS CURRENTLY HAS THE FOLLOWING INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER ROUTES ON THE EAST SIDE OF TWIN FALLS

ROUTE 701
2500 Bk. 9th Ave. E
600-1000 Bk. Cypress Way

ROUTE 724
800 Bk. Elm St. N
700-800 Walnut St. N
1200-1400 Wilmore Ave.

ROUTE 755
300-800 Bk. Alturas Dr.
1800-1900 Bk. Alturas Dr.

ROUTE 792
1600-1700 Bk. 2nd Ave. East
1500-1700 Bk. 3rd Ave. East
1500-1700 Bk. 4th Ave. East
200 Bk. Locust St.
200 Bk. Madrona St.

ROUTE 838
600 Bk. Borah Ave.
200-400 Bk. Fillmore St
300-400 Bk. Taylor St.

ROUTE 848
200 Bk. Caswell Ave.
500-600 Bk. Monroe St
500-600 Bk. Quincy St.

If you live on the EAST side of Twin Falls & are interested in being an independent newspaper carrier... Please contact District Manager at 733-0931 ext. 348

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2000 MAZDA B4000 4X4 X-CAB 4 DOOR

SAVE THOUSANDS! \$279/mo. | \$19,949

2000 MAZDA B2500 SE REG. CAB

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217 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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Federal employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, call Career America Connection, 812-757-3000

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EASY WORK! EXCELLENT PAY! Assemble Products At Home. Call Toll Free 1-800-677-5598, ext. 0145.

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Home health RN case manager. Full time with benefits. 733-8600

218 Times News Carriers

THE TIMES-NEWS CURRENTLY HAS THE FOLLOWING INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER ROUTES IN BUHL

ROUTE 541
100-900 Bk. 8th Ave. North
100-200 Bk. 8th Ave. South

If you live in Buhl & are interested in being an independent newspaper carrier... Please contact District Manager 733-0931, ext. 347

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\$2436.00 Automatic, Air, Alloy wheels, 100 miles per hour, 100 miles per hour, 100 miles per hour

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98 Pontiac Grand Am \$12982 #1909 Blue Book Retail: \$15469	99 Pontiac Bonneville \$15180 Gold #1932 Blue Book Retail: \$20245
90 Jeep Wagoneer \$5325 #1910 Blue Book Retail: \$7847	95 Isuzu Rodeo \$17523 #1915 Blue Book Retail: \$21980
92 Dodge Caravan \$6447 #1900 Blue Book Retail: \$8995	98 Chev. 1500 Ext. Cab \$20475 #1921 Blue Book Retail: \$22980
96 Ford T-Bird \$10467 #1913 Blue Book Retail: \$13475	96 Chev. Tahoe \$25979 #1919 Blue Book Retail: \$29950

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M-F 8AM-7PM
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1107 Education

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Prudential Idaho Homes & Properties
 800-734-6536

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BUHL - Close-in 2 bdrm near downtown for lease. Credit check and references required. \$400 per month plus deposit. Call Barker Realtors 543-4371

BUHL in the country, 2 bdrm, 1 bath, \$450 mo. + \$200 dep. Call 543-5928. E-MAIL your classified ad to us at twinnad@micron.net

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GOODING 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, 301 1/2 4th Ave W, \$475+ dep. Call 736-0322

KAJERMAN 1 bdrm, W/D, back up, appls., 2nd floor, 1 yd., \$340. Call 536-2468.

HANSEN - Nice 2 bdrm, appls, water/water/garbage, no pets, \$350, 423-5131

HANSEN - 2 bdrm, 1 bath, family log, \$500/mo. No smoking or pets. Please call 423-9617

JEROME - 2 bdm, 1 bath, w/laundry hook-ups, garage, \$450/mo. + \$225 dep. Call 208-304-2244

TWIN FALLS - 3 bdrm, 2 bath home w/irreplaceable + 2 bdrm, 1 bath home Call Karla for more info. WINDERMERE Property Management 734-4334

TWIN FALLS - Nice 4 bdrm, 2 bath, great location, formal living rm, lam-berly fm, lots of storage, fenced yd., central air, apple, wood. No smoking! pets \$750. 1st/ast + dep. Ret's. 733-8151/733-4558

KIMBERLY - Extra nice 3 bdrm, 2 bath double wide, in quiet area, \$450 mo. No pets, refs. 325-5897

TWIN FALLS - Nice family home with 2 bdrms, 1.5 baths & partially finished basement. Kitchen with appliances, recently upgraded. Gas furnace! Lg back yard. No smoking, pets negotiable. \$550 Plus deposit. 733-8866.

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603 FURNISHED APTS/ DUPLEXES

WENDELL - 1 bdrm home, pets negotiable, immaculate, available immediately, \$425 inc. util. 1st and deposit. 536-6264.

604 UNFURNISHED APTS/DUPLEXES

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WASHER/DRYER - Pair \$150. Dryer needs new hose. \$40-644 days. 733-0517 evenings.

WASHER/DRYER - Pair \$200. Call 678-0071 leave msg. will return call.

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KING SIZE BED, book shelf headboard & drawers, \$250. **QUEEN SIZE WATERBED**, \$100. Call 637-4439 or 334-8445, ask for Shirley.

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ANTIQUE JUKE BOX 1982 Rowe with Oxi 45's, Good Cond. Runs Nice! \$2000. **ANTIQUE DESOTO**, 2 Door Hardtop, 1955, Hemi Sportsman, Runs Good, Has Electric Brakes & Electric Windows. Very Nice Car! \$5,500. Call 733-8139 Anytime or 423-4800.

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WOOD STOVE - Pioneer Maid, 48" x 22" cook stand with water jacket brand n o w. \$1500. 728-6545

WOOD STOVE, Blazo King for sale, \$500/offer. 423-4012 between 4 & 5 pm.

814 JEWELRY & FURS

FUR - 1 1/2 jacket, altered dark chocolate brown; trimmed w/white fur collar, front - 29" long, back - 31" long, approx. \$6000, asking \$3000/offer. 2) W. Tanuki fur coat, natural color w/dk skin notch collar, 48" long, 60" waist, approx. \$2400/offer. Both in exc. cond. - 934-8628 or toll free 800-948-1818 even.

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TREES - 2" 3" potted spruce and all evergreen plants, exc. cond. w/2k quality. \$10 each. Call 423-6111.

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NORDIC TRACK Ski Exerciser Pro, \$250. Call 526-3265.

NORDICRIDER, dual motion, excel. cond. \$150. Please call 208-352-4078.

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WEIDER PRO 9335 Home Gym, works every major muscle group, 78 inch high, 68 inch wide, 64 inch long, 3 stations, \$300. No form treadmill, folds up, auto incline \$300. Both like new. 532-4831

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 \$0 Due at Lease Signing

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 \$0 Due at Lease Signing

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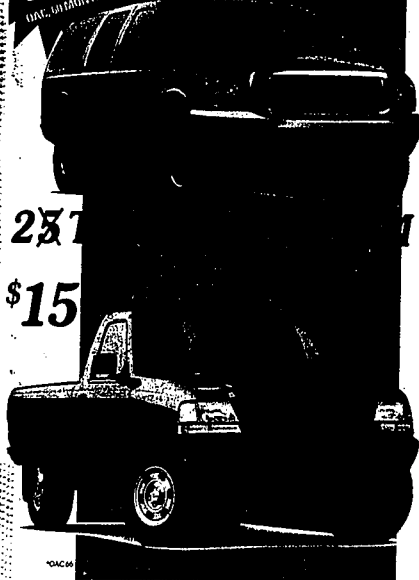
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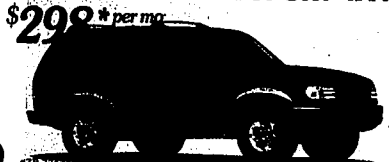
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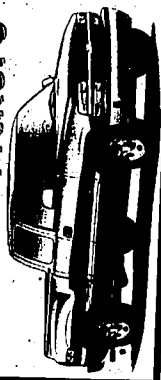
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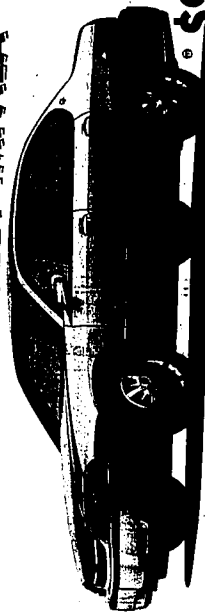
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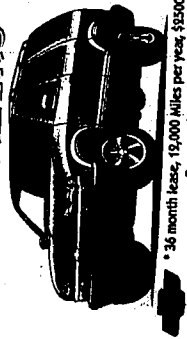
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Idaho's farmers get wired

By Sarah Glazer

Ag Weekly correspondent

TWIN FALLS—In 1999, Idaho led the nation in potato and Austrian winter peas production, ranking second in production of wrinkled seed peas, lentils, sugar beets, dry edible peas, barley and in access to computers.

Computers?
The most recent study, conducted by the National Agricultural Statistical Service, reveals that 40 percent of the nation's farms own or lease a computer. Idaho's producers lead all states except Arizona in access to computers, rank fourth in the nation in ownership and leasing of computers, and 12th in use of a computer for their farm business. Idaho is eighth in Internet access.

Top-tier ratings for the Gem State in most categories don't surprise Bill Hazen, University of Idaho extension educator for Gooding County.

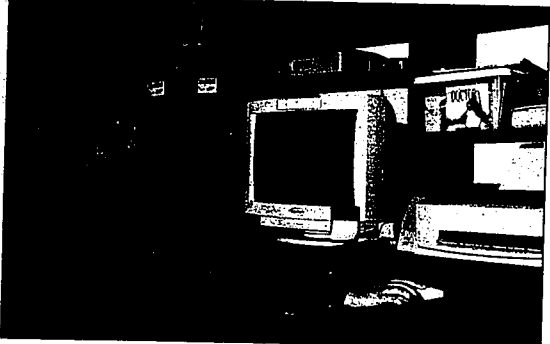
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Hazen and other University of Idaho faculty began teaching farm record keeping, and record analysis computer classes nearly 20 years ago.

"I believe electronic spreadsheets have done more to get farmers hooked on computers than anything else," said Hazen. "And for many, it's still all they use. They can do budgets and check registers and even cattle or crop records."

The University of Idaho enterprise budgets are also popular, particularly as people explore alternative Ag business ventures.

The technology is new to most, but others have utilized some, but others have utilized some, but others have utilized some



Stacy Butler, purebred Angus breeder, relies on her Internet connection for a myriad of business functions. See story on page 5.

years.

The diversified Norland operation including Crane Farms, Bar C Sales, and Ron Crane Farms adopted computer technology in the mid-'70s.

Still wired twenty years later, Clint Crane said, "We do the bookkeeping on computer and keep a ledger on the farms and different enterprises like the sugar beets, and hay, and grain. We keep track of expense categories, and budget comparisons, and maintenance records on equipment. We have a program for doing correspondence and legal forms like hills of sale."

Crane believes his farm's computer use is typical of other farms its size. Including the machines at their homes, Clint

and his father, Ron, have five computers. The office is also equipped with a satellite link terminal. Crane uses this computerized tool on a daily basis for tracking weather and world commodity markets, and is convinced, for their 1,800-acre operation, it's worth the monthly subscriber fee.

"I can check other major grain producing world markets like Argentina, Australia," he said, indicating columns of figures displayed on the terminal. "We're in a world market anymore in wheat. There's no crystal ball on markets, but we try to look at what the crops are doing, and what the weather, in those major production areas to make predictions on how long to hold

the crop, and when to sell based on the trends we see."

Using long and short-range weather information, Crane can also make decisions about irrigation scheduling and potential profits. Several producers in his area control their irrigation pivots from a home or office computer.

Crane states, "It's a troubled time in agriculture right now. Technology may not save that, but you need to take advantage of all the information you have on your own operation, and around the world, to make the best decisions you can."

Critical of the amount of time required to search out what he needs, he seldom uses the Internet, though he's compared equipment prices. He expects to

use it more as Amalgamated Sugar, his beet market, goes on line. When the company's system is fully operational, he'll be able to log on and check truck weights and loads through their site.

As local-cell access areas have spread to include outlying areas like Bliss and Norland, producers are able to connect to Internet carrier services without prohibitive long distance charges. Internet service offers electronic mail and the much-touted worldwide web — a benefit that's still somewhat problematic as far as Hazen is concerned.

"There's great information out there on the web," he acknowledges. "But you can spend a heck of a lot of time searching, and never, ever, get what you need. For agriculture, unless you know right where to go, it can be frustrating and too time-consuming."

"Computer programs have become more sophisticated and less cumbersome to use," Hazen said.

"And computers themselves aren't prohibitively expensive any more. There's no question they're a tool for agriculture. Even something as simple as being able to take a disk to the accountant — or e-mail your files — saves you money. But they aren't going to save lots of time," Hazen concludes.

"Computers are beneficial in allowing you to manipulate information to make decisions, and to give you access to different information and opportunities. Buying a computer doesn't make your farm management any better."

Hazen stresses, "You have to learn to use it, and figure out how this equipment can benefit your operation. It can. There's no question. But it's not going to happen automatically."

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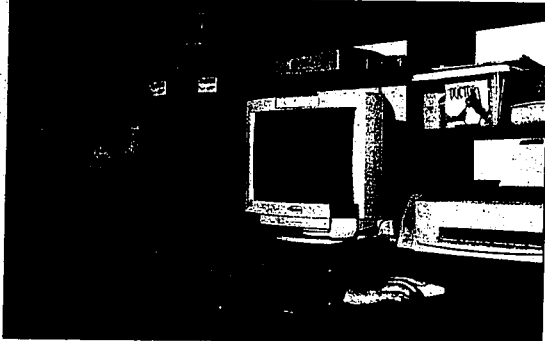
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STACY BUTLER/Ag Weekly

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AG WEEKLY

The weekly newspaper serving southern Idaho agriculture

Table of contents

Opinion4
 AG calendar5
 U.S.-Canadian trade.....6
 Ag briefs7

Prices and production

Finance.....8
 Cattle9
 Dairy10-12
 Sheep & Hog13
 Livestock14
 Grain.....15
 Potato16
 Bean17
 Organic.....18
 Crop.....19
 Water.....20

Country Life

Baxter Black21
 Over my shoulder21
 Early influences22
 Ag Profile23
 Desert Seasons24
 Allen Wilson25
 Almanac25
 Recipes26



TERRELL WILLIAMS/Ag Weekly

Casey Brunson of Wendell is the 1999 champion team roping heeler of the Idaho Cowboy Association. See story, page 22.

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The Times-Herald

Advertiser index

Auctions
 Auction Calendar24
 U.S. Auction21

Construction
 Cleary Bldg. Corp20
 J Bar S11
 Lancaster Grade All19
 Rayborn Construction6
 Sanstrom Scales Co.13
 Scales Unlimited11

Farm Equipment
 Agri Service17
 Buhl Implement19
 L.B. Trucks13
 Rocky Mountain Pipe L.C.12
 Twin Falls Crane Svc.22
 Walton Inc.8

Feed, seed, supplies
 Evans Grain Feed & Seed.....15

Financial
 Farm Credit Services.....8
 Farm Management Inc.17
 Zions Agricultural Finance7

Insurance
 Mountain West Insurance11

Irrigation
 Eaton Drilling and Pump.....20
 Floyd Lilly Company18

Livestock
 Bryngelson Ranch8
 Cattlemens Connection14
 Intermountain Beef9
 JDA/101 Angus/TLC.....9
 Magic Valley Equine Svc.22

Miscellaneous
 Adventure MotorSports20
 Avonmore10
 Brizee Heating23
 Bureau of Land Management23
 Enz a bac32
 Idaho Solid Waste12,16
 Jerome Cheese Co.3
 Northwest Lab12
 SafeLink Internet5,10,15
 Steam Store17

Real Estate
 D.R. Curtis10
 Intermountain Land18
 Magic Valley Realty20
 Mountain West Realty16

Transportation
 Kim Hansen Chevrolet6
 Young Ford18

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A plea to protect our land of plenty

WASHINGTON - With company gone and Thanksgiving leftovers in the refrigerator, it's a good time to reflect on what Thanksgiving meant to those who toil throughout the year to put ingredients for that meal on the table - America's farmland. It was a blessed blessing.

This was a brutal year for many farmers. Once again, Mother Nature played her tricks on many of them, with a drought for the eastern half of the nation.

Ironically, even the bountiful yields in other regions fell prey to another sort of drought. Exports markets dried up, driving prices below the breakeven point.

After a summer like this past one - which to some was the third bad season in five years - many farms will fail.

Farmers and their families will succumb to high debt; to the pressure of property and estate taxes that are often based on the land's speculative or development value; to the strain of farming near urbanizing communities and all the attendant conflicts with new neighbors unused to farming schedules, noises and smells; and to the tailing offers from those who would plant a final crop of houses.

So we must be thankful for those farm families hanging in there, and for the communities working to make it possible for the next generation of farmers to provide the same bounty we enjoy today.

In towns, counties and cities all around the country, key individuals are saying: Our farmland matters to us, we must protect it.

These landowners, legislators and concerned citizens are saying yes to what America's best farmland produces: locally

Guest Comment Ralph Grossi

grown food, wildlife habitat and the beautiful and productive working landscape that has shaped America's history.

For ideas and answers, farmland conservationists are looking to leaders like the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust; Montgomery County in Maryland; farmland-protection programs in Vermont, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware; and the group I head, the American Farmland Trust.

Farmers are talking to farmland about the benefits of farmland conservation programs, like those that offer them the option to protect their land by selling the development rights, or to create better economic returns for the farm. And voters are talking to political makers by casting ballots to protect the land.

The seeds for many more Thanksgivings are sown by these efforts to protect America's farmland.

By working to protect our nation's farmland, we can be sure that the food on the table comes from our rich soil and that our Thanksgiving Day walk or drive will continue to take us past open fields and countryside.

We're sure that when we pass Aunt Emma's pie on to our children, they'll have ingredients from America's farmland to make that pie for many generations to come.

Ralph Grossi is president of the Washington-based American Farmland Trust and a third-generation rancher from California's Marin County.



The weekly newspaper serving southern Idaho agriculture

Stephen Hargren Carol Ryan Dumas Janet Goffin
 Publisher Editor General Manager
 The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hargren and Carol Ryan Dumas.

GM foods: Genetically modified or general misinformation?

Guest Comment Dennis Tanikuni

Genetically modified foods and GM research have generated significant media coverage, and resulting public concern over food safety, in the United States and foreign countries. In an annual coincidence, European Union countries have raised GM foods as an issue in the upcoming World Trade Organization (WTO) talks.

We can be confident that increased production and competition from genetic modification has nothing to do with their concerns. Greenpeace, Friends of the Earth and other environmental groups have made GM an issue. Again, we the unwashed public, can be assured that food safety and not control of land use, is the environmental community's foremost intention. The fact that the American farmer produces the world's safest and most abundant food supply is sadly ignored in these discussions.

At present, only a few crops have been GMed, cotton and soybeans are the main concern. To achieve GM, current technology takes a gene from another organism and transplants it into the host plant's DNA chain with the hope of achieving a

desired trait in future generations of plants. Opponents are appalled, supporters say the process only speeds up the plant breeding process.

In a highly publicized and highly criticized study, English researcher, Dr. Arpad Pusztai, fed GM potatoes to rats and noted effects on their immune and digestive systems. English and Dutch scientists have discounted this study and generally state they see no problem with GM food. They also say that further studies are justified, but under strict control and protocol.

Some observers think the American consumer is becoming less concerned about GM foods than is more concerned about nutrition and other issues. British consumers are quite worried, giving recent problems in their food supply. British and Dutch scientists are generally supportive of the concept of GM food. Japan has voiced considerable concern.

The French seem quite opposed strange for a culture that

harvests waterfalls all over the world. All of us are worried about artificial sweeteners.

Once the food safety veneer is penetrated, trade issues and land use concerns are large in the GM food discussion. GM foods are subject to extremely stringent Food and Drug Administration, Environmental Protection Agency and United States Department of Agriculture testing and regulation. It's interesting that EU members on the continent that gave us cloned mammals and pigs' oppose GM food in WTO talks. GM crops produce increased yields and lower cost of production. Because of sensational media coverage and misinformation, once hopeful American farmers are now faced with discounted prices and smaller markets for their GM crops.

Consumers must be open minded and listen to all facets of the GM discussion. GM foods are not. Es is it safe with a diet soda, some sashimi, a little pate' and think obliquely.

Dennis Tanikuni is the assistant director of public affairs for the Idaho Farm Bureau Federation.

Consumers benefit from biotechnology

Guest Comment Mike Duff

The escalating controversy over biotechnology could have a profound effect on the potato industry, and that's unfortunate. To us, it's more Darwin than Frankenstin.

The concept of genetically engineering crops to repel various pests and diseases forces people to think outside the box. The And, as the major biotech companies are learning right now, change comes slowly. But it will come and we must be prepared. Biotechnology will play a big role in the future of agriculture.

A major question facing the potato industry is how to keep the technology going while facing the likelihood that there may be little or no market for genetically modified potatoes in the near future. Mobilizing a biotech potato program for even one year could add up to a five-year setback. We hope that doesn't happen.

Biotechnology has the full support of the Potato Growers of Idaho. We don't want to see the technology taken away before our growers have had the chance to utilize it and decide if it will benefit their operations.

Reducing the amount of chemicals required to protect potatoes from the various pests and diseases out there will

reduce the cost of production for growers.

The argument over whether biotech food is safe to eat has been centered in Europe. It has gradually spread to Asia and now concerns are rising in domestic markets. European consumer concerns stem from the mad cow disease dilemma that eroded the credibility of European regulatory agencies.

We haven't had those problems yet. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration and U.S. Department of Agriculture have both stamped their approval on genetically modified potatoes.

The debate over the safety of biotech food is being carried by a handful of radical anti-biotechnology groups and their arguments are fraught with contradiction. Ironically, the same people who want to force governments to shorten the list of chemicals farmers can use to protect crops from pests and disease, are the same people who oppose giving farmers the tools to achieve that end. We challenge these people to explain why.

Nationwide, less than three

percent of the potatoes planted in 1993 were of biotech origin. In Idaho, the percentage is even lower. We believe that consumers are being unfairly singled out in the scope of the debate, which leads us to another argument.

When we believe the arguments being raised against biotechnology. If all of the genetically modified food in the typical grocery store, or restaurant was removed, it would be immediately evident how important the technology is to the consumer. A significant portion of the products made from corn, cotton, soybeans and canola are products of genetic engineering.

Fast food restaurants would be hard pressed to find oil to fry potatoes in if biotech oil were outlawed. Margarine, soda pop and many other products would also be in short supply.

The bottom line we see it is that the American public is not afraid of the technology and American agriculture needs to remain competitive. We should continue to support regulatory agencies and not be fooled by radical scare tactics.

Mike Duff is executive director of Potato Growers of Idaho.

Computers evolve into workhorses for producers

By Sarah Skisar
Ag Weekly correspondent

BLISS - For some producers, a computer link to the web is a connection to profitability. Near Bliss, Stacy Butler relies on the World Wide Web as one part of the ranch advertising effort.

Getting to a computer screen displaying the award-winning Spring Cove Ranch web site, Butler said, "One ad that wouldn't have cost me \$1,000 or more to print in a national journal. For about \$20 a month I can host this site and include the bulk information about the sale, our breeding program, the ranch history, ourselves, and things that are of interest to someone who may want to do business with us."

She's concluded several sales directly as a result of contacts from the site, plus expanded the ranch database of potential customers.

As well as financial and tax records, Butler uses her computer to track herd and individual cattle performance, for correspondence, for graphics work including production of the sale catalog, and for bookkeeping. In a ranch-specific application, she's even able to conduct heat detection in a pen of heifers, utilizing a satellite

relying beaming information from an electronic patch on each animal to the office computer. This information is useful in the artificial insemination and embryo transfer programs.

As purebred Angus breeders, correspondence with the national association office is frequent. A computer program compatible with the national office system allows transfer of information electronically, reducing correspondence to mere days that once took weeks.

Butler spends four or five hours a day at her machine, often early in the morning, or quick work periods wedged between other ranch chores. Cyber-ranching offers much needed flexibility in timing.

"Using the computer, we have our data, and the national data, to work with. At any time of day or night, I can update records or send letters or look up figures. It's possible to come out here in a bathrobe and sort bulls," she said.

These businesses - one a large, diverse farm the other a purebred cattle ranch - are typical computer users according to the USDA figures.

Of Idaho's 24,500 Ag producers, 75 percent have access to a computer, compared to 47 percent nationally; 59

percent own or lease their own computer, compared to 40 percent nationally; 34 percent use computers for farm business management, compared to 24 percent nationally; and 41 percent have access to the Internet, compared to 12 percent nationally.

Magie Valley school systems get much of the credit for a surge in ownership, according to Bill Hazen, University of Idaho extension educator for Gooding County, who says it's often kids who push for that first home computer. But having a computer isn't the same as using one, he emphasizes. Many older producers have to learn keyboarding skills. Then, deciding on the needed level of detail is another challenge for newcomers to the technology.

"Farmers have huge amounts of data on their operations. Most are real excited and start out with way too much detail and complexity. They just get overwhelmed," he said. "It's a nightmare and they give up on it and quit. About two years later they usually start over again, with a more realistic plan. Some things just aren't worth doing, by computer or any other way, and people have to figure out what it is they really need."

Agenda hasn't been set for trade talks

The Washington Post

Trade envoys in Geneva trying to craft an agenda for next week's global trade talks in Seattle broke off their meetings without success Tuesday.

The impasse raised concerns that the Seattle meeting itself, which is supposed to open a three-year round of global negotiations on lowering trade barriers, might end in failure, but U.S. officials played down that possibility.

"You have lots of confusion, lots of posturing, lots of tactical moves" in preparation for real negotiation ahead, said U.S. Commerce Secretary William Daley.

U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky told reporters: "I don't think, ultimately, the divisions are all that deep.... This is a negotiation. It will break down. It'll resume. I'm not in the least bit concerned."

The Geneva impasse is "not

promising," said Pascal Lami, the European Union's trade commissioner. "... We will have to work harder in Seattle, no doubt about that."

The Seattle gathering, which starts Tuesday, will bring together thousands of delegates from member countries of the World Trade Organization, the Geneva body that polices world commerce.

The WTO is a consensus-based operation. In theory, every member must agree to everything that is up for

discussion. Countries typically agree to discuss things they'd rather see ignored in exchange for rights to talk about the things they do want.

The fact that the Geneva meetings failed to reach agreement means that the task of finding consensus for the agenda will roll over to the negotiating tables at Seattle. If after four days of scheduled talks there, agreement is still elusive, there will be no new round of talks for the coming three years.



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AG EVENTS

November

29-Dec-2

Annual Idaho Farm Bureau Federation meeting, Coeur D'Alene Resort, Coeur D'Alene.

December

50th Northwest Fish Culture Conference, Seattle, Wash. For more information call Ray Brunson at 360-753-9046.

December

GRAZING LANDS ENTERPRISE DIVERSIFICATION WORKSHOP, Weston Plaza, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. \$12 registration fee (includes lunch). For more information or to reserve a spot, call the Mid-Snake R&D at 733-5380 ext. 3.

Sixteenth Annual Water Law & Resource Issues Seminar, Doubletree-Riverside Inn, Boise. Sponsored by the Idaho Water Users Association Inc.

Idaho Smmmental Association annual winter meeting, 10 a.m. at The Turf Club with a no-host lunch. RSVP by Nov. 27 to Jim Lanring, 655-4346.

Western National Nugget Hereford Show and Sale, Reno, Nev. Managed by Kendall Cattle Sales.

Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers last meeting, 7 a.m., Depot Grill, Twin Falls. Speaker is Laird Noh; Senator from District 23; Topic: Up coming issues for the next legislative session. For more information call John Haight, Chairman, 734-7345 office, or 734-2302 home.

Idaho Wheat Commission meeting, 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesday. Commission Office, 1109 Main Street, Owyhee Plaza, suite 310, Boise. The meeting will include a financial update of the Commission, review of research matters, consideration of various education and service requests from the agricultural community, and an executive session. For additional information call 208-334-2353.

January

4-5

Farm Forum & Ag Show, TRAC, Pasco, Wash. Call 509-547-5538 or e-mail maurer@owl.com.

4-6

PNW Direct Seed/Cropping Systems Conference and Trade Show, Pendleton Convention Center, Pendleton, Ore. Call 509-547-5538 or e-mail maurer@owl.com.

10-11

Washington Mint Growers Convention, Double Tree Hotel, Pasco, Wash. Call 509-547-5538 or e-mail maurer@owl.com.

13-14

UI Sugar Beet School, College of Southern Idaho, Twin Falls, ID (John Gallian)

13-15

American Sheep Industry Annual Convention "Turning Point," Denver Marriott Tech Center, Denver, Colo. (303)771-3500.

18-20

UI Potato Conference, ISU Student Union Building, Pocatello, ID (Phil Nolle)

U.S., Canada strive for common ground

Knight Ridder News Service

ARGO, N.D.—Farmers, ranchers, elected and appointed officials from both sides of the U.S.-Canada border are promising to work to harmonize federal regulations and standards to pave the road to greater trade and cooperation between the United States and Canada.

Delegates at last week's Northern Plains Producer Conference, which carried the title, "On Common Ground," also agreed to start thinking beyond the international border, to view states and provinces with similar interests and economics as one unified region.

Farmers are in trouble on both sides of the border. Recognition is part of that, said North Dakota Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson.

It's important that we not point fingers, but that we work together to find solutions. Many of the issues before us may be opportunities."

Delegates represent commodity and agricultural interest groups from all over North Dakota, South Dakota, Minnesota, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

While a common sense of understanding and accomplishment waited through the Ramada Plaza Suites during the two-day conference, the atmosphere also carried an underlying current of urgency.

Paul Casper, president of the South Dakota Soybean Processors, a \$32 million co-op soybean processing plant completed by farmers in 1996, wonders whether the world will lead to action.

U.S.-Canada trade facts

The United States and Canada are each other's largest trading partners, moving approximately \$1.5 billion worth of goods and services across the border each day.

Total ag/food trade between Canada and the United States is roughly balanced in dollar terms. Canadian ag/food imports from the United States were \$7 billion for 1998, up 3.3 percent from 1997. Canadian exports to the United States during the same period were \$7.8 billion, up 4.6 percent from 1997.

The United States was the destination for 63 percent of Canada's ag/food exports, and Canada was the destination for 21 percent of U.S. ag/food exports. 30 million Canadians imported nearly as much U.S. agricultural products (\$7 billion) as 373 million European Union residents (\$7.8 billion).

"Where's the follow-through? Who's accountable for what?" The farmer from Lemmon, S.D., says.

"A lot of farmers in my area will not be here for another conference," says Kelly Shockman, a LaMoure, N.D., farmer and a national leader with the National Farmers Organization.

Johnson says another conference will be held next year, probably in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

Delegates agreed to use the conference as a launching point to foster better understanding and cooperation on both sides of the border. They agreed, among other things, to:

- Harmonize chemical regulations.

Since Canada has one-tenth of the population of the United States, this trade balance also means that, per capita, Canadians consume 7 times as much American ag/food products as Americans consume Canadian products.

In 1998, each U.S. resident consumed \$31 worth of Canadian ag/food products. In the same year, each Canadian consumed \$216 worth of U.S. ag/food products.

Over the past five years, U.S. and Canadian total trade has grown steadily, however Canadian exports to the United States still outpace U.S. exports to Canada.

All monetary figures are in U.S. currency.

Source: Manitoba Agriculture and Food; Saskatchewan Agriculture and Food; in cooperation with North Dakota, South Dakota and Minnesota departments of agriculture.

- Harmonize truck regulations.

Develop a unified position on the issue of genetically modified organisms.

Develop a regional approach to economic development, such as value-added cooperatives.

Pursue cooperative joint marketing ventures, such as durum or barley pools, to increase the region's bargaining power in global markets.

Create producer advisory groups to discuss cross-border issues.

Many at the conference plan to attend the World Trade Organization talks, slated Nov. 30-Dec. 3 in Seattle to deliver the message that agriculture must be at the forefront of the world trade negotiations.

"This is a great start for us," says Rosann Wowchuck, Manitoba minister of agriculture and food. "As we get into the WTO talks...we should have a unified front."

"Trade is steadily increasing across the border," Wowchuck says. "Trade is more than goods and services. There's a need for better communication."

She notes that the United States and Canada are each other's biggest trading partners, with \$1.5 billion worth of goods and services — agricultural and nonagricultural — crossing the border each day. Bilateral exports between the two countries have been increasing steadily since 1994.

A document produced for the conference notes that the United States was the destination of 63 percent of Canada's ag/food exports, while Canada was the destination of 21 percent of U.S. ag/food exports in 1998.

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on trade issues. While Schafer acknowledges that the agreement brought some positive results, he says more progress needs to be done.

Virtually all of the eight focus groups, which were arranged by commodity interests, listed harmonization of regulations in farm chemicals, livestock feed and food safety as among the highest priorities.

One key differences in regulations between Canada and the United States as being a roadblock to cooperative cross-border economic development efforts, such as the building of value-added agricultural processing plants.

"I think there's been considerable understanding gained in this day-and-a-half about how our system works and how their system works," says Robert Carlson, Jamestown, Minn., president of the North Dakota Farmers Union.

Saskatchewan Deputy Premier and Minister of Agriculture and Food, Dwain Lingenfelter, says governments and commodity groups could take a lesson from the North American Bison Cooperative, the New Rockford, N.D.-based organization that recently announced plans to build a new meat processing plant in North Battleford, Saskatchewan. The cooperative already operates a processing plant in New Rockford.

"They're looking at this as a region," he says. "We're going to give it every ounce of support we can."

The regional focus cannot be understated, according to Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner G.D. Hugoson.

"There was a call to think of ourselves as a region, and begin some joint marketing ventures," he says.

Conference leaders also vowed to establish a strategic plan for dealing with the issues, to establish responsibility for each item, to share the plan with other regional groups, and to schedule another conference in the near future to measure progress and to re-evaluate the strategy.

Hugoson warns that people should not expect too much, too soon.

"We weren't coming here to solve all of these problems in two days because it took longer than that to create these problems," he says.

It's a good start, says Ken Lepley, Winnipeg, representing Manitoba Milk Producers. "I think we'll look back and realize the Northern Plains Produce and Conference was an historic event," he says.

SATURDAY SPECIALS



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Merger of farmland cooperatives fails

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Members of the Cenex Harvest States farm cooperative on Tuesday rejected what would have been the nation's largest merger of agricultural co-ops ever.

Members of the other company, Farmland Industries Inc., agreed to the deal with 89 percent voting in favor. But the proposal fell just shy of the required two-thirds margin needed at Cenex, where 64 percent backed the merger.

The two co-ops have nearly 1 million farmer-members, and each company had revenues of more than \$8 billion last year. They own extensive crop supply, grain handling and processing, petroleum refining and meatpacking operations.

The companies' leaders had said the merger would save \$500 million and was necessary to compete with agriculture's bigger investor-owned corporations, such as Cargill Inc. and Archer-Daniels-Midland Co.

Opponents said that the merger was designed to rescue the industry from a precarious financial situation and that farmers would be hurt by the deal. Members of both cooperatives also have objected to multimillion-dollar merger payments to officers of the two co-ops.

Indian farmers sue over loan discrimination

WASHINGTON — Indian farmers and ranchers filed a \$19 billion class-action lawsuit Wednesday against the Agriculture Department, alleging a 20-year history of discrimination in the granting of loans.

The lawsuit parallels a separate civil rights case brought by black farmers charging they were subject to discrimination in receiving loans and other assistance from the USDA. The case was settled in April at an estimated cost of \$2 billion to taxpayers.

The 213 Indians who filed the suit with the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia contend they were told USDA loans were not available when they were, that loans were delayed until it was too late to raise their crops or that the approved loans would be less than requested, causing financial and property losses.

The plaintiffs also said that in some instances they had to put up more collateral than their white counterparts, limiting their ability to obtain

Ag in brief

future loans.

Deere operating profit falls on weak farm sales

MOLINE, Ill. — Deere & Co., the world's largest maker of farm equipment, said its operating profit fell by more than 90 percent in its fiscal fourth quarter as weakness in prices for commodities such as corn and soybeans continued to sap demand for agricultural machinery such as tractors and combines.

Deere, based in Moline, Illinois, said its profit from operations fell to \$10.5 million, or 4 cents per share, in the three months ended Oct. 31, from net income of \$162.1 million, or 71 cents per share a year earlier.

Sales fell 13 percent to \$2.79 billion.

The operating results topped the average estimate for a 6-cent-per-share loss among analysts surveyed by First Call Corp., and Deere shares rose 68.75 cents or 1.76 percent to \$39.6875 in morning trading on the New York Stock Exchange.

Deere said the fourth-quarter operating results exclude an after-tax charge of \$40 million for an early retirement program. Including the charge, Deere said it lost \$29.5 million, or 13 cents per share, in the quarter.

France submits draft agreement on British beef

PARIS — France's agriculture ministry said Wednesday it had submitted a report on British beef to the national food safety agency, and expected a recommendation within ten days on whether to lift an

import ban that has strained ties with Britain.

The report, offered to the agency Tuesday night, gives Britain's assurance that its beef exports are no longer tainted with mad cow disease, a ministry spokeswoman said.

Outlining information requested from Britain, the report clarifies the issues of traceability, controls, tests, derived products and labeling. The European Union imposed a worldwide ban on British beef in 1996, when bovine spongiform encephalopathy, known as mad cow disease, was linked to a similar fatal, brain-wasting disease in humans.

In August, the EU lifted the ban, saying the beef was safe for consumption. But France said there was no evidence showing the meat was unsafe and imposed its own ban on Oct. 1, prompting legal action from the European Commission, the EU's executive arm.

If France's food agency approves the draft agreement, the country's Socialist-led government is expected to lift the ban swiftly.

EU announces trade agreement with Mexico

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The European Union and Mexico wrapped up 16 months of negotiations with an accord Wednesday on establishing a free-trade pact, the EU's trade commissioner said.

The agreement is the most comprehensive free trade deal ever negotiated by the EU and the first with a Latin American partner, Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy said after talks with Mexican Commerce Minister Herminio Blanco.

The accord covers industrial tariffs, agricultural goods,

preferential agreements in services, public procurement, investment, competition rules, intellectual property, and a dispute-settlement system, Lamy said.

"Our trading relationship will improve markedly," he said. Some minor aspects of the accord are still under discussion, but Lamy said these were merely "clean-up" details.

The EU trade chief declined to give further details of the accord at this stage.

EU exports to Mexico totaled \$11.7 billion last year, while Mexican exports to the EU total \$3.9 billion. It was the third year in a row that Mexico's deficit widened, according to the Mexican Commerce Ministry.

A final agreement needs acceptance by the 15 EU member states and ratification by the Mexican Senate before it can be implemented.

If the agreement is approved, it will likely take effect July 1.

— Compiled from wire reports

Lawmakers vow to push for food safety

Knights Ridder News Service

DETROIT — Concerned about gaps in the U.S. food safety system revealed by the Bill Mar Foods listeria outbreak, two members of Congress say they will push for reforms.

U.S. Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa, the ranking Democrat on the Senate Agriculture Committee, said he plans to push for mandatory bacteria testing in all plants that make ready-to-eat meat products. And U.S. Rep. Lynn Rivers, D. Ann Arbor, is tackling the secrecy that surrounds food recalls.

Both said they are taking these actions as a result of the findings of a Free Press investigation into food recalls by major food companies.

"People rely on the fact that when they find something in a package and it's a meat product, they believe it's perfectly safe to eat. They don't want to have the highest assurance of safety. We can't give them that assurance right now," Harkin said.

Futures trading

Saturday, November 24, 1999

Mon	Commodity	High	Low	Close	Change
Nov	Sugar 6.15	6.03	6.09	+ .06	
Nov	BFP Milk	10.12	10.10	+ .02	+0.2
Dec	BFP Milk	10.40	10.35	+ .04	+0.3
Jan	BFP Milk	10.78	10.51	+ .08	+0.3
Feb	BFP Milk	10.85	10.76	+ .08	+0.9
Mar	BFP Milk	11.18	11.15	+ .02	+0.2
Apr	BFP Milk	11.48	11.45	+ .03	+0.1
Dec	Live cattle	70.30	69.85	70.05	-.02
Feb	Live cattle	71.05	70.72	70.80	+ .03
Apr	Live cattle	72.20	71.85	71.87	+ .18
Jun	Live cattle	70.10	69.80	69.87	- .10
Aug	Live cattle	70.07	69.65	69.67	-.23
Jan	Feeder cattle	85.85	85.25	85.47	+ .10
Mar	Feeder cattle	85.52	84.80	85.17	+ .22
Apr	Feeder cattle	85.40	84.85	85.15	+ .35
May	Feeder cattle	85.60	84.60	85.00	+ .20
Dec	Live hogs	53.45	52.45	52.97	+ .35
Feb	Live hogs	57.27	56.15	56.72	+ .47
Apr	Live hogs	55.95	55.65	56.62	+ .57
Jun	Live hogs	63.30	62.60	63.27	+ .30
Feb	Pork belly	80.40	79.10	79.64	+1.65
Mar	Pork belly	79.25	77.65	78.55	+1.78
May	Pork belly	79.02	77.55	77.55	+1.53
Jul	Pork belly	78.90	77.70	78.30	+1.07
Dec	Wheat	2.42 1/2	2.39	2.40	+0.14
Mar	Wheat	2.59 1/2	2.55	2.55	+0.14
May	Wheat	2.70	2.65 3/4	2.65 3/4	+0.14
Jan	Soybean	4.07 1/2	4.04	4.04 3/4	-.04
Mar	Soybean	4.07 1/4	4.03 3/4	4.03 3/4	-.04
Dec	Corn	1.94 1/2	1.93	1.94	-.01
Mar	Corn	2.06 1/4	2.04 3/4	2.05	-.00 3/4

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Credit policies and farm economics

It can easily be assumed that lenders, since they have risk in the repayment of their operating loans, do in-depth studies of the markets and market outlooks. Lending institutions certainly have an interest in markets and market outlooks. There are, however, significant variances among institutions and how informed their lenders are about commodity prices and trends.

In a recent conversation with one agricultural loan officer, working for a large corporate lender, he explained that he had no subscriptions to agricultural publications. When inquiring as to why, he explained that his company would not authorize the expense at his level. Opposite this austerity of information, there are loan officers whose credenzas and coffee tables



Credit Talk
Benjamin
Gisin

are full of current agricultural publications.

Most lending institutions, making agricultural loans, go to some level of effort to understand the markets. These efforts may be in the form of subscribing to agricultural newspapers and magazines or having a staff economist prepare reports on agricultural economics and forecasts. Some lending institutions will contract with a university to provide reports on agricultural prices and price outlooks. In many cases, borrowers may obtain a copy of these reports just for the

The obvious question is whether or not economic forecasts affect lending policies and to what extent.

asking.

The obvious question is whether or not economic forecasts affect lending policies and to what extent. Generally, lending policies evolve slowly and are well entrenched in an institution's loan manuals and operating procedures. It is a major event to change policies systemwide. This does not mean that pessimistic or optimistic price outlooks don't affect lending practices. Often what happens is that weak commodity prices and price outlooks have lenders following their underwriting policies more closely. On the contrary, strong commodity prices and price

outlooks may result in lenders considering more exceptions.

To retain and attract new business, lenders most often make loan decisions on a case-by-case basis. They will take into consideration the capitalization, efficiencies and marketing expertise of each operation. Do lenders make loan decisions primarily based upon price outlooks? Generally not, though we are aware of a few cases in 1999 where a loan was declined and the reason provided was materially based upon an interpretation of price outlooks for a specific commodity.

For management purposes, most lending institutions will review their agricultural loans and assess loan concentrations by specific commodities. This entails identifying dollars loaned whose repayment is predicated upon the price success of a specific commodity. With this information, a bank management can assess the lending institution's risk exposure as specific commodity prices improve or decline.

For example, if a lending

institution has heavy loan concentrations to sugar beet growers and the current price and outlook are down, there could be concern and the related lending conservatism that flows out of that concern. On the contrary, if an institution has heavy loan concentrations to potato growers with the current price and outlook being up, there could be a softening of concern.

Economic forecasts may cast favorable or unfavorable shadows on lending practices. The shortcoming of broad economic forecasts is that they do not address individual circumstances. This makes it important for the individual producer/borrower to inform and educate his lender as to why certain pessimism or optimism may or may not apply.

The information and recommendations presented herein are based upon what we believe is reliable information. Neither this publication, Benjamin Gisin, nor AgriCents, Limited Company, assume any liability for use of Credit Talk materials.

Gisin is a principal of AgriCents, which specializes in assisting agricultural producers with financing.

He welcomes questions and can be reached at (208) 523-2717.

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Livestock Association turns in petition, calls for checkoff vote

BOISE (AP) — In a state where cattle is king, the Idaho Rural Council is taking a staunch stand in support of a referendum on the mandatory beef checkoff.

The Livestock Market Association has submitted about 146,000 signatures to the U.S. Department of Agriculture calling for a vote of the mandatory beef checkoff.

"This fulfills the promise LMA and its members made to producers 18 months ago that we work to let them decide whether they want to keep funding this program," said Livestock Association President Jim Schaben, Jr.

Mabel Dobbs, a Rural Council member from Weiser, said, "This is a victory for the grassroots producer. The checkoff has been used against us for too long."

The Agriculture Department said approximately 108,000 signatures are needed to call for a referendum. This "threshold for a vote has been exceeded," said Schaben. "And given this enormous outpouring of support for a referendum, it should not be delayed for a period of years after producers have signed their petitions."

Three Creek rancher George

'This is a victory for the grassroots producer. The checkoff has been used against us for too long.'

— Mabel Dodds, Rural Council member

Swan, president of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association said NCBA was instrumental in getting a referendum provision into the Beef Promotion and Research Act when it was passed by Congress in 1985.

"We respect the right of cattlemen to ask for a referendum," he said. "We expect USDA to verify the names of people who may or may not be cattle producers who have signed petitions and who may or may not have known what they were signing. USDA must do this to protect the integrity of the process and the overwhelming majority of cattlemen who support the checkoff."

Swan said that during the petition gathering process, USDA three times directed the

LMA to stop using deceptive and misleading tactics to get people to sign petitions. For example, LMA was asked to discontinue the practice of giving away prizes such as new cowboy boots as an incentive to get people to sign the petitions.

NCBA and the Beef Board are focused on stabilizing and building demand. Reports by independent economists indicate that beef demand stabilized in the first half of 1999. We continue to focus checkoff funded programs on developing new and convenient beef products, convincing consumers and youth that beef is a nutritious product, expanding and developing foreign markets for beef, improving the quality and consistency of beef and assuring consumers that beef is safe.

Group looks toward delisting

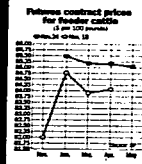
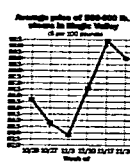
BOISE (AP) — Amid concern from both ends of the spectrum, a special panel has tentatively approved a plan for state management of transplanted wolves in anticipation that the federal government will remove the predators from the endangered species list earlier than expected.

But while optimism has been rising that federal recovery managers will ease the criteria for delisting, any quick management transfer to the

state is doubtful. What seemed to be a surge in wolf populations in central Idaho and Yellowstone National Park this spring has slipped back.

A harsh winter combined with a high-level of conflict with livestock has significantly lowered the population in northern Montana.

Advocates of accelerated delisting expect such an attempt would be challenged in court by environmentalists.



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Federal milk market orders

	Great Basin	Southwest Idaho-Eastern Oregon
Class I (Oct.)	\$17.69 = 36.54%	\$17.29 = 4.34%
Class II (Oct.)	\$5.22 = 16.09%	\$16.09 = 2.06%
Class III (Oct.)	\$11.49 = 58.24%	\$11.49 = 93.6%
Uniform Price (Oct.)	\$14.06	\$11.81

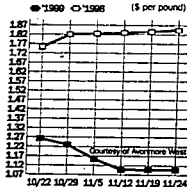
Percentages reflect utilization within marketing order.

Other prices

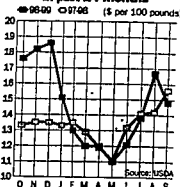
National Cheese Exchange, Green Bay, Wisc., Wednesday close

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Price for barrels of cheese Chicago Mercantile Exchange in past six weeks



Prices to Idaho dairies for manufacturing grade milk in past 24 months




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Dairy conference slated

Ag Weekly

Agricultural labor trends and the influence of culture on dairy farm employees will be key topics at an upcoming four-state dairy conference in LaCrosse, Wis. The Four-state Dairy Personnel Management Conference will be Dec. 1-2 at the Radisson Hotel in LaCrosse.

The conference is designed for dairy producers who have employees or plan to employ family or non-family workers.

Conference sponsors are the Extension services of the University of Illinois, Iowa State University, the University of Minnesota and the University of Wisconsin.

The conference registration fee is \$150 per person, and includes meals. For further information or to obtain a conference brochure, call (612)624-4995. For hotel room reservations, call (608)784-6680 and ask for the Dairy Personnel Conference block of rooms.

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DFA, Dairyworld look closely at joint venture opportunity

Ag Weekly

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Two national dairy cooperatives - one U.S., the other Canadian - signed an agreement this month marking the first ever collaborative business effort between dairy farmer-owned organizations

across the Canada-U.S. border. This agreement, between Vancouver, British Columbia based Dairyworld Foods and Kansas City, Missouri-based Dairy Farmers of America (DFA), will lead to the joint market of specialty dairy ingredients.

"This agreement brings together two major co-ops on both sides of the border and is the first step toward a longer-term joint venture relationship," said David Coe, president and chief executive officer of Dairyworld Foods. "It provides the opportunity for both organizations to combine strengths and bring a wider range of complementary specialty dairy products to U.S. and Canadian markets where demand is building rapidly for those types of dairy ingredients."

The proposed transaction involves the joint marketing of selected products of DFA's limited liability company, Main Street Ingredients (MSI) in LaCrosse, Wisconsin and Dairyworld's joint venture partner, Pascolec Inc. of

Langueville, Quebec. Pascolec and MSI intend to use the marketing structures and technologies of both companies to produce and market selected ingredients. The long range intent of this arrangement is to form a more permanent joint venture company.

'This agreement brings together two major co-ops on both sides of the border ...'

— David Coe
Dairyworld Foods

Hannan said that the two cooperatives have been discussing ways to work together throughout the year. "Like other businesses, we must reach beyond our borders to the global marketplace," he said. "This is a great step towards developing a long-term relationship that can benefit dairy farmers and their customers on both sides of the border."

Both co-ops handle a similar percentage of the milk produced in their respective countries. Dairyworld Foods is a Canadian dairy-processing cooperative representing 1,750 dairy farmers. The cooperative processes fluid milk and manufactures cheese and other dairy products.

Dairy Farmers of America is a dairy marketing cooperative with 25,000 dairy farm family members in 45 states. DFA manufactures and markets a complete line of dairy products and supplies milk to fluid milk processors across the nation.

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Trade pact could quadruple U.S. exports

Ag Weekly

WASHINGTON — The recently completed trade deal between

the United States and China could quadruple U.S. dairy exports to China, according to the U.S. Dairy Export Council. The

Arlington, VA-based trade organization estimates the agreement, which will make imported dairy products less

expensive for Chinese consumers, could lead to increased U.S. dairy exports of as much as \$135 million annually.

"We're delighted that the U.S. Trade Representative's office was able to bring the agreement to closure," said Thomas M. Suber, USDBE executive director. "We've been anticipating the finalization of the deal because of the significant impact it will have in bringing American dairy products to the important market."

The agreement gives the United States access to one-fifth of the world's consumers; some analysts believe China could account for as much as 35 percent of future growth in terms of U.S. agricultural exports.

Suber pointed to China's commitment to cut tariffs for key dairy products as much as fivefold. The applied tariff for cheese, currently at 50 percent, will be reduced to 10 percent over five years, once China gains entry into the WTO. Upon accession, tariffs will be cut over five years in equal increments.

"The fast-food industry in China is poised for tremendous growth," Suber said. "Pizza has been the driving force behind global cheese sales, and these new lower tariffs will make pizza more affordable to Chinese consumers. This will open the door for U.S. exporters to supply cheese to the world's most populous market."

"Once China joins the WTO, these lower tariffs should help U.S. dairy exporters increase shipments of cheese, lactose and ice cream, in particular, to this large and growing market," he said.

Under the agreement, China will reduce import tariffs from 22 percent to an average of about 17 percent. Tariffs on lactose, yogurt and food preparations with dairy products, currently at 35 percent, 45 percent, and 25 percent, respectively, will be trimmed to 10 percent. The tariff on ice cream, currently 45 percent, will drop to 15 percent. The tariff on whey remains at 6 percent. In addition to the reduction of

import tariffs, Suber noted, China has agreed to eliminate its export subsidies on agricultural products and to permit private trade in agriculture.

"The U.S. dairy industry is pleased and eager to enter this huge market and China's concession removing the government as a middleman in trade negotiations will give dairy farmers access to unprecedented America's high quality dairy products to the Chinese consumer," Suber said.

In 1997 U.S. exports of lactose to China exceeded half a million U.S. dollars; exports of dairy-based infant formula preparations reached almost U.S. \$1.5 million and total ice cream exports to China and Hong Kong, which re-ships product to the mainland, exceeded \$6.5 million.

The pact included China's agreement to eliminate sanitary and phytosanitary barriers that are not based on scientific evidence, a stance that mirrors one of USDBE's negotiating priorities for the upcoming WTO trade.

China must still negotiate bilateral trade pacts with the EU and 23 other nations. No date has been set for the next round of discussions with the EU — which is considered the key remaining roadblock to accession to the global trading organization — but EU officials said earlier they welcomed the U.S. pact and agreed with about 80 percent of the package.

The U.S.-China deal now goes to Congress, which must grant China the status of Normal Trade Relations (NTR), a step necessary to China's accession to the WTO. Assuming congressional approval and the conclusion of pacts with other trading partners, China could join the WTO as early as the first half of 2000. In the meantime, the country will be able to take part in the Seattle talks beginning Nov. 30 as an applicant nation, as long as China obtains full WTO membership by the end of the three-year Seattle round.

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Cassia officials deny hog farm request

Ag Weekly

BURLEY - Cassia County commissioners have denied a request for an exemption to the county's six-month moratorium on large-scale livestock operations.

And exhausted of reasons why Ron Achs of Big Sky Farms should not be granted an exemption to the interim moratorium, commissioners imposed a 120-day emergency moratorium.

Until the Legislature officially adopts the Division of Environmental Quality's

proposed rules on swine and poultry facilities. "The imminent peril to the public health, safety and general welfare requires the adoption of an emergency moratorium," said the ordinance approved Monday by commissioners.

But Achs said the setback could be damaging financially. "If we push this project off, it will jeopardize the viability of the project," he said.

Earlier, Achs had tabled his exemption request choosing to wait until state rules guiding swine and poultry operations were in place. Temporary rules

were adopted last week, and Achs is ready to move ahead.

Commissioner Paul Christensen said he understood Achs' situation.

"I can appreciate that time is money, but by the same token, we represent the populace of Cassia County," he said.

County Attorney Stephen Bywater had drawn up an ordinance for an emergency moratorium last week. It provided the county an argument against Achs' contention that the interim moratorium had served the purpose for which it was

imposed. "We feel as if there is no regulatory reason to delay," Achs said.

The moratorium has allowed the commission more than seven months to conduct research into large livestock operations and to visit a similar facility in Colorado, Achs' petition said.

As for the temporary legislation, provided by last week's adoption of the Division of Environmental Quality's temporary rules, those regulations are enforceable, Achs said.

"Ultimately, the rules they

adopted are good rules, enforceable rules," Achs said.

Achs has submitted his application to the Division of Environmental Quality, which would issue environmental permits based on those regulations, Achs said. And the agency cannot issue its permit without an agreement between Big Sky and the county, Achs said.

Though Achs would be bound to comply with the temporary rules, the county would prefer to wait until legislative sanctions were in place, Bywater said, to know whether the proposed rules are enforceable.

Producer named head of board

COUNCIL BLUFFS, Iowa - An Illinois pork producer is the new president of the National Pork Board. John Kellogg of Yorkville, Ill., was elected president of the 15-member meeting during its summer meeting in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Marlin Pankratz of Mountain Lake, Minn., was elected vice president.

Kellogg is a commercial producer with 1,200 sows. He chairs the National Pork Board's Administrative Committee, serves on the National Pork Producer Council's Environmental and Science Committees and chairs the Odor Solutions Initiative Committee. He

previously served on the Illinois Pork Producers Association's board of directors from 1986 to 1991.

Pankratz and his brother have a contract finishing operation that markets 17,000 hogs annually.

The farm includes grain production. He chairs the National Pork Board's Audit Committee and serves on the National Pork Producers Council's Environmental Committee. Pankratz was president of the Minnesota Pork Producers Association in 1995.

He served on the MPPA Executive Board from 1990 to 1995.

Mohair prices rise

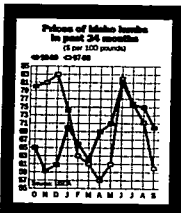
Ag Weekly

U.S. mohair producers are enjoying a substantial rise in mohair prices, with kid mohair averaging \$7 per pound compared to last year's average price of \$4 per pound, and yearling mohair averaging \$4 per pound compared to last year's average of \$2-\$3 per pound. Why the jump?

"Increased demand from Europe ... Italy in particular," said Ronald Pope, executive director of the Producers Marketing Cooperative, Inc. (PMCI), a wool and mohair broker based in San Angelo, Texas. "Some of the price is also

attributable to a growing shortage of kid mohair, which in turn is prompting buyers to buy more yearling and adult mohair."

However, the jump from \$4 to \$7 for kid mohair in one year's time still isn't enough to make the mohair business a profitable one for most growers. A typical operation is comprised of 65 to 70 percent adults, with 30 percent being the yearling and kid types, says Pope.



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Glickman announces relief payments

Ag Weekly

U.S. Department of Agriculture Secretary Dan Glickman announced on Thursday that eligible farmers and ranchers can sign up to receive compensation payments for losses that occurred in 1999 due to natural disasters that destroyed their livestock, grazing resources for their

livestock, or both.

"We know farmers need assistance as soon as they can get it, so we'll be working hard to disburse this money quickly," Glickman added.

The assistance will be made under USDA's Livestock Losses and Assistance Program and Livestock Assistance Program. The funding, \$200 million, was

authorized by the recently signed agriculture appropriations act for FY2000, according to a press release from the American Sheep Industry Association.

The sign-up period for LAMP will vary by county. Producers will be notified of the sign-up period by USDA's Service Center or Farm Service Agency county office.

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- Spring Cove True Value, SAF Fane, Kuugerand of Donners, TC Shockman 365, Lury's Boy, SAF Mustang, TC Shockman 365, Schoone's Flat II, VDAR Ambush 1465, Shurturf Supreme, PAPA Durabull 9625, California Traveler, VDAR New Trend 315, and Spring Cove Tradition 871A



Lot 70: Spring Cove Idaho Fame 9243
Sire: SAF Fane MESS: RR Traveler 5204

BW: 28 WW: 711
BEPD +5 MESP +41 MEFD +14 YEPD +65
CMT: +10 MWS +23 RB +05 SC +.83



Lot 66: Spring Cove Qualified 6038
Sire: Kuugerand MESS: GAR Sleep Easy 1009

BW: 65 WW: 688
BEPD +2.3 MESP +35 MEFD +21 YEPD +72
CMT: +11 MWS +20 RB +.11 % RP +.4



Lot 28: Sawtooth Prime Plus 80H
Sire: VDAR Lury's Boy MESS: GAR Sleep Easy 1009

BEPD +27 MESP +33 MEFD +26 YEPD +63
CMT: +4 MWS +.38 RB +.04 %



Lot 28: Sawtooth Surebet 62H
Sire: RR Scotch Cap 9440 MESS: TC Dividend

BEPD +17 MESP +37 MEFD +18 YEPD +69
CMT: +7 MWS +.83 RB +.04

Saleyard report



Jerome		590 lb.	\$89	600 lb.	\$80
Holstein steers		620 lb.	\$88	643 lb.	\$78.50
326 lb.	\$78.50	810 lb.	\$85	600 lb.	\$78
385 lb.	\$75.50	822 lb.	\$78	602 lb.	\$72.50
390 lb.	\$70	880 lb.	\$74.50	883 lb.	\$70.25
385 lb.	\$78.50	960 lb.	\$71	868 lb.	\$65
470 lb.	\$73	950 lb.	\$71		
415 lb.	\$78.50				
563 lb.	\$67.50				
675 lb.	\$58	362 lb.	\$90		
620 lb.	\$65	330 lb.	\$90		
860 lb.	\$82	335 lb.	\$86.50		
884 lb.	\$98	318 lb.	\$86.50		
		431 lb.	\$103		
		410 lb.	\$92		
321 lb.	\$115	435 lb.	\$89.50		
318 lb.	\$111	430 lb.	\$89.50		
376 lb.	\$110	434 lb.	\$88.50		
370 lb.	\$107	434 lb.	\$84.50		
390 lb.	\$105.50	510 lb.	\$84.50		
431 lb.	\$103	500 lb.	\$82		
419 lb.	\$102	575 lb.	\$79		
494 lb.	\$97	595 lb.	\$78.25		
515 lb.	\$92				

The Twin Falls report is a sampling of prices from actual sales at the Twin Falls Livestock Connection Co. Auction. Final steer and heifer prices represent unimproved animals sold together, with two weights reported from the livestock.

The Jerome results are from the Producers Livestock Marketing Association Tuesday sale.

Ranchers gain optimism at rise in beef consumption

Knight Ridder News Service

More steaks, pot roasts and hamburgers are gracing dinner tables across the United States than in previous years, and Kern County cattle ranchers hope it's a long-term trend.

"This is the first time in 20 years that (beef consumption) stopped declining," said Jim Pennington, incoming president of the Kern County Cattleman's Association.

In 1985, the average American ate 79 pounds of beef yearly. By 1993, consumers had cut 14 pounds of beef out of their diets, with pork and poultry picking up much of the slack. But 1999 numbers are showing a strong rebound as beef bites back with an estimated 69 pounds per person.

Cattle, valued at \$80.7 million, was the No. 9 crop in Kern County in 1998, according to the Kern County Crop Report, while California ranked in the top 10 in the nation in cattle, Pennington said. The rise in beef consumption was inspiring to many cattle ranchers. "Anytime there's an increase, you're optimistic it will hold," said rancher Steve Smoot, who grazes about a head in the Poso Creek area. Smoot is among the local

ranchers who watched beef drop over the last 20 years but managed to survive while others were forced out of the business. "It hasn't been good," he said. "We've been able to survive and make ends meet."

Smoot blamed the decline in consumption on special-interest groups promoting beef as unhealthy and the beef industry's failure to tell its side of the story.

"The other meat products did a better job marketing," he said. Pennington, who owns Western Stockman's Market cattle auction east of Wasco, has also witnessed the effect on ranchers.

"We've seen a lot of consolidation. They've had to keep cutting expenses and overhead to the point where you can't cut them anymore," he said. "A lot of them have just sold out along the way."

But Pennington said ranchers and farmers are eternal optimists and their time has come. Steakhouses are sprouting to meet the demand across the country, including several in Bakersfield - Outback Steakhouse and Roadhouse Grill. Tahoe Joes in under construction and Claim Jumpers is looking for a location.

Feed barley prices

Grain Buyers, Curry	\$4
Pitchfork Products, Wendell	\$4
Rangon, Buhl (48-lb. base)	\$4.15
Simplex Agri-Source, Burley	\$3.80
Wendell Elevator	\$4.30

Prices elsewhere

Ogden	\$3.75
Pocatello	\$3.80
Portland	\$4.40
Dollars per 100 pounds barley	

Quoted Wednesday afternoon - Prices subject to change at any time.

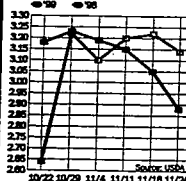
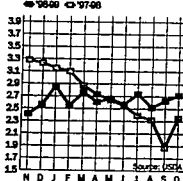
Wheat prices

Pitchfork Products, Wendell	\$2.23
Rangon	\$1.91
Reed Grain	\$1.98
Simplex Agri-Source, Burley	\$2.12
Wendell Elevator	n/a

Prices elsewhere

Ogden	\$2.60
Pocatello	\$2.25
Portland	\$2.68
Dollars per bushel soft white	

Quoted Wednesday afternoon - Prices subject to change at any time.

Portland soft white wheat prices in past six weeks (1 per bush)**Prices received by Idaho wheat farmers in past 24 months (1 per bush)**

Producers have new process to 'lock in' price

By Cindy Snyder
Ag Weekly correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Grain producers with nine-month federal commodity loans can use a new tool this year to capture more profit.

In a change just announced last week, grain producers can lock-in a posted county price on grain under a nine-month commodity loan.

The locked-in price is good for 60 days and it expires at least 14 days before the loan's maturity.

Jim McLaughlin, head of the Farm Services Agency in Twin Falls and Jerome counties, said if he had wheat under loan he'd been looking at using this new

tool. But with only 12 commodity loans in Twin Falls County, he doesn't expect to see many producers take advantage of it. Counties like Cassia and Blaine, where more wheat is under loan, will see it used more.

Essentially the new program works like this: As harvest a grain producer decided to put his grain under loan rather than taking the LDP (loan deficiency payment). As he looks at prices, he decides that the posted county price is as low as it's going to be and he'd like to lock in that rate but doesn't want to sell the grain right now. Exercising his option to lock in the rate, gives the producer 60 days to market

their grain and pay back the loan.

"It's a major change," McLaughlin said. "Before they couldn't lock in a price until they were ready to move the grain."

On Nov. 22, the LDP was 23 cents in Twin Falls County, the second highest it had been all year, McLaughlin said. The loan rate was \$2.46.


Timing is important for producers who want to use this new tool. Bill York, who runs the agency's price support programs at the state level, said producers can only lock in one price for a given quantity of grain.

A producer who has 10,000 bushels of wheat under loan

and decides to lock in a 60-day price for 5,000 bushels on Dec. 1 can decide later to lock in a rate for the remaining 5,000 bushels of wheat. But the producer can never lock in a second price on the initial 5,000 bushels, even if the first

price expires before the grain is marketed.

For more information on how this change might help individual growers, growers can contact their local Farm Services Agency office for more details.



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Potato prices

Prices received by Idaho farmers
Fresh pack quality **French fry quality**
 no sales reported \$5.25

Prices were reported Tuesday for 100 pounds of unwashed potatoes. Prices may not reflect deductions for dirt, rot, or green damage. Prices also may not reflect bonuses for bruise-free potatoes or french fry quality.

Prices received by Idaho farmers

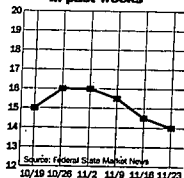
70-80 count cartons 10-pound mesh bag non-ize A Dehydration grad \$3
 513-15 \$9

Prices elsewhere

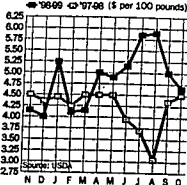
Place	Grade	Price per 100 pounds
Colorado	Russells, 50 lb. carton	\$11-12
Oregon	Russells, 50 lb. carton	\$9-6.50
Washington	Russells, 50 lb. carton	\$6-6.50
Wisconsin	Russells, 50 lb. carton	\$11-12

Prices were reported Thursday afternoon by USDA.

Prices to Idaho farmers for 70-80 count cartons in past weeks



Prices received by Idaho potato farmers in past 24 months



Scientists examine chlorine dioxide use in storages

University of Idaho

TWIN FALLS - They've proved that it kills four potato diseases in laboratory petri dishes. They've confirmed that it works in a handful of spuds. They'll find out this year if it's effective in 50-pound lots.

But it will be several more years before the nation's potato scientists know whether chlorine dioxide is the rightful successor to thiabendazole, or TBZ, in storages.

Nora Olsen, University of Idaho extension potato specialist in Twin Falls, says the difference between a chemical's effectiveness in the laboratory and in a 20-million-pound potato pile can be a mighty one.

"How does it move through the pile, how much of a difference do debris and soil

make, how will air flow and humidity affect it - these are all things we don't know," she said.

Still, Olsen has heard "plenty of testimonials from people who think it really saved their storages." Like colleague Gale Kleinkopf, a UI potato physiologist at Kimberly, she has also heard the opposite about chlorine dioxide.

"There are people who are hesitating to use it because they paid for it in the past and it hasn't worked for them," Kleinkopf said.

Olsen, Kleinkopf and North Dakota State University plant pathologist Gary Secor are developing a publication that outlines the use of chlorine dioxide in potato storages.

"If this really is a good tool for our storage managers to use, then let's make sure people use

it properly and legally and that we keep it around," Olsen said. The publication should be available at the Jan. 19-20 University of Idaho Potato Conference in Postlell.

Used correctly, chlorine dioxide kills late blight fungi on tuber surfaces and thwarts tuber decay from opportunistic soft-rot organisms. That's the purpose for which it received its ongoing emergency Section 18 permit. Scientists have also shown that it can destroy the spores that cause Fusarium dry rot and silver scurf.

Because chlorine dioxide is a very unstable, water-soluble gas, it doesn't persist in the environment. Consequently, it's an environmentally friendlier chemical than TBZ, whose effectiveness is being eroded by resistance. But that same

instability requires that chlorine dioxide be produced on-site. Indeed, until it's been activated by an acid, the product that producers buy isn't really chlorine dioxide: it's a buffered solution of sodium chlorite.

In a recent study of Fusarium dry rot, Kleinkopf found that activated chlorine dioxide killed 100 percent of disease spores, while the unactivated chemical destroyed only 10 to 20 percent.

Improper activation also increases chlorine dioxide's potential for corroding metal surfaces and the risk of leaving behind market-compromising residues on the crop.

Even at optimal activation, chlorine dioxide appears to be only partially effective against late blight. In North Dakota, Secor found that 200 parts per million of activated chlorine dioxide held the number of late blight-infected potatoes to 38 percent, while 73 percent of untreated spuds were diseased. That same concentration of chlorine dioxide entirely eliminated what would have been a 30 percent incidence of soft rot without treatment.

During the current storage season, Olsen and Kleinkopf will analyze the key components of the label for Purogene Professional 5 percent, one of the

three chlorine dioxide products currently registered to use against late blight in Idaho storage facilities. They will inoculate 50-pound quantities of potatoes with the organisms that produce late blight, silver scurf,

Fusarium dry rot and soft rot, then simulate storage and evaluate the results.

They will also examine the effects of chlorine dioxide in different

concentrations and at different activation levels on aluminum, brass and copper. And, in addition, they will evaluate the suspected role soft-rot bacteria may play in enhancing chlorine dioxide activation.

In the meantime, Kleinkopf estimates that only 20 percent of this season's stored potatoes were treated with chlorine dioxide. Because outbreaks of late blight were both little and late this year, most growers simply chosen not to protect their spuds against the disease's spread in storage.

"There's no question in my mind that chlorine dioxide can be effective enough to warrant its cost," says Kleinkopf. "But until we can work out some of the application concerns, we may not see it used in a high percentage of stored potatoes."

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Bean prices

Prices received by farmers	
Idaho	Pintos Great Northern Reds Pinka Small whites
\$17	\$17 \$16-17 \$15-16 \$16-19

Prices received by dealers

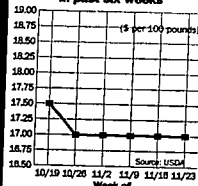
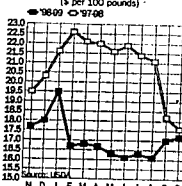
Idaho	Pintos Great Northern Reds Pinka Small whites
\$22-22.50	\$26-27 \$23-24 \$23-24 lid. \$28.50

Prices elsewhere

Northwest Colorado, most \$18; Western Colorado, \$17-18; Kansas, \$15. Nebraska Wyoming, \$15-16; North Dakota, Minnesota, \$12-13.

Other Beans:
Small reds, Washington, most \$16-17
Great Northern, Nebraska, Wyoming, \$16-17

Prices per 100 pounds quoted by USDA Bean Market News Tuesday after survey of warehouses. Local dealers have more recent information.

Prices received by Idaho pinto-bean farmers in past six weeks**Prices received by Idaho bean farmers in past 24 months**

Demand slow for most bean varieties

Pinto prices remain steady

Ag Weekly

Trading of dry edible beans was fairly slow this past week, according to the USDA's Bean Market News. Demand was light on most variety and light to moderate on black bean and cranberry beans. Most end users operated on a wait-and-see attitude.

Pintos remained mostly steady. Prices at the dealer level in Colorado and Nebraska were from \$20 to \$21.50, mostly \$20 to \$21 and in Montana were at \$22. Prices at the growers level in those areas were from \$15 to \$15.75, mostly \$15.00 to \$15.75, and \$16, respectively. Trading on great northern beans was mostly steady at both the dealer and grower levels. Small white, in a thin test, were mostly steady at both the dealer and grower levels.

Light red kidneys at the dealer level were mostly

steady, with few canner sales in Wisconsin at \$27.50. Grower level was steady in Minnesota and Wisconsin at \$21, few canner beans \$22. Dark red kidneys, in limited trading in Wisconsin were mostly steady with a few canner sales at the dealer level were at \$28.

Pinks were mostly steady in a thin test, with dealer level in Colorado and Nebraska at \$23.50; in North Dakota and Minnesota from \$18.50 to \$19. At the grower level, prices in Colorado and Nebraska were \$13.50 to \$14; in Washington \$14.

Pea beans, in limited trading, were mostly steady. At the dealer level in Colorado and Nebraska, prices were at

\$23.50. At the grower level, they were \$15 to \$16. Cranberry beans, at the dealer level, were mostly \$1 higher, with grower level \$1.50 to \$2 higher. Garbanzo were steady to firm at both the dealer and grower levels.

Trading of dry peas and lentils was slow to moderate. Demand was light on peas and light to moderate on lentils. Whole green peas remained fairly steady and in limited trading.

At the dealer levels, prices were from \$9.50 to \$10. No. 1's with 3 percent bleached were at \$9; No. 1's with 5 percent bleached were from \$8.25 to \$8.75. Split peas sold from \$11.50

to \$12.50; No. 1's with 3 percent bleached at \$10; grower level was from \$5.75 to \$6.50, mostly \$5.75-\$6.25. Whole yellow peas, in a thin test, were mostly steady. Prices at the dealer level were from \$9.50 to \$10; splits were from \$11.50 to \$12; grower level from \$6 to \$6.50. The price of Austrian winter

peas was not established at the dealer level; limited grower activity was steady at \$6 to \$6.50. Lentils remained mostly steady with last week. Dealer level on brewers were from \$16 to \$17; pardinas were from \$14.50 to \$15.25. At the grower level prices on brewers were from \$13 to \$13.25 and \$11 on pardinas.

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NH 426 trailer model 16x18	4,500		
BIG BALERS			
CASE IH 8580 Luber	29,900		
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HESSTON 4900 Luber	31,900		
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NH 642 4-Bottom Flow	700		
JD 168 loader	1,700		
KREZEL 530 defoliator	8,875		
RALKE, ALLEN 827 Twin	900		
MF 43 Grain Drill	700		
MF 620 20' Tandem Disc	3,500		
NH 1024 Tandem Axle Spreader	4,500		
NH 258, NH 260 Hyd Drive	5,500		
NH 216 Baler	2,500		
WANTS 3x18 Hyd Retest Flow	2,900		

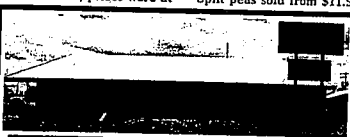
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Active versus passive organic farming

Organic is organic is organic. Right? Not even close!

While the label "certified organic" implies an active, organic cooperation with nature on each farm, current certification rules still allow plenty of passive, counterproductive variations to earn approval. It's these passive variants that cause so many problems for organic farming systems and organic foods.

Active organic farming versus passive organic farming - both are currently certifiable. But they are worlds apart in terms of sustainability and product quality.

Passive organic farming is simply an avoidance of those inputs and practices prohibited by organic certification codes. It is neither management-intensive, nor knowledge-intensive. In the short run, it can help the producer capitalize on certain market premiums. In the long run, it will wear out the land and sour both the farmer and his customers on organic farming.

This is the type of organic farming that earns the misinformed accusations that organic farming results in diminished yields, inferior



Organic Frontiers
Jeff Rast

product quality, declining condition of the land, and reduced farm income. It's the kind of organic farming that critics have in mind when they claim that if we all adopted organic farming the world would starve within one generation.

On the other hand, active organic farming is a knowledge-intensive, management-intensive cooperation with the natural forces, limits and potentials of your farm. It involves a recognition that every square inch of your farm has been designed to collect solar energy and convert it into biological energy (foods, feeds, fibers and the like).

With respect to the soil, active organic farming recognizes that the soil is to be a vibrant, thriving

biological community. As such, the nutrients needed to sustain plant production can be derived from the air, water and mineral fractions both above and within the soil. Biological and mineral inputs are needed on the farm only to the degree that minerals are exported via crops, livestock and erosion.

With respect to the soil, organic farming recognizes that the soil is to be a vibrant, thriving biological community.

possible. This involves the use of green manure crops, organic mulches, habitat areas, livestock, and the rotation of soil-depleting crops such as potatoes, carrots and beets, with soil-building crops such as pastures.

With respect to pest management, active organic farmers recognize that to the degree that you disrupt the natural balances on the farm, you inherit the responsibility for pest control. The operating principle here is that as species diversity increases, so too does balance among the species.

And as balance among species is enhanced, then both the incidence and intensity of pest damage is minimized.

Consequently, active organic farmers utilize habitat areas and diverse crop rotations to make their farms "friendlier" areas for beneficial organisms.

In summary, active organic farming requires plenty of studious diligence on the part of the steward. But the payoff eventually comes in the forms of healthier soils, healthier crops, reduced pest damage and a more resilient farm economically and ecologically. Passive organic farming, though currently certifiable, is simply too passive to endure.

In next month's article, I'll introduce you to some of the many wonderful information resources to help you farm organically, in the truest sense of the word.

Jeff Rast serves as Sustainable Agriculture Program associate for the Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides. He and his wife, Carol, also raise certified organic food on their small-scale farm near Fairfield. You can write to him at P.O. Box 216, Fairfield, ID 83327 or

Nominations sought for annual award

Ag Weekly

BOISE - As part of the yearly Idaho Ag Summit, the governor of Idaho recognizes individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the Idaho agricultural industry. The Governor's Awards for Excellence in Agriculture will be presented Feb. 24 in Boise.

The awards are given in four categories:

- Education/Advocacy recognizes those individuals who work to enhance society's knowledge and support of agriculture and its issues.

- Environmental Stewardship award is earned by an individual or organization that is using innovative solutions to enhance the environment in which they work, while sustaining an economically viable agricultural enterprise.

- Technical/Marketing Innovation recognizes those who have developed new technology or found unique marketing systems for an agricultural product or service.

- The Prestigious Lifetime Achievement award honors those who have exhibited a lifetime of commitment to the advancement of the agricultural industry.

Nominations should include information about the nominee and a description of his/her achievements in the specific category and must be received at 212 S. Cole Rd., Boise, ID 83709 no later than Dec. 15.

For more information about the Governor's Award for Excellence in Agriculture, contact Leah Clark at the Idaho Beef Council, (208) 376-6004 or Peggy Fletcher at (208) 364-0332.



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58 Acres - 600 South 100 West, MID Water, Valley Pivot and Wheelies. Farm #111

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65 Acres - 600 S. 100 W, MID Water, 2 Valley Mini-Pivots and older home. Farm #113

RUPERT

113 Acres - 100 West 300 North, MID Water, Handlines. Farm #102

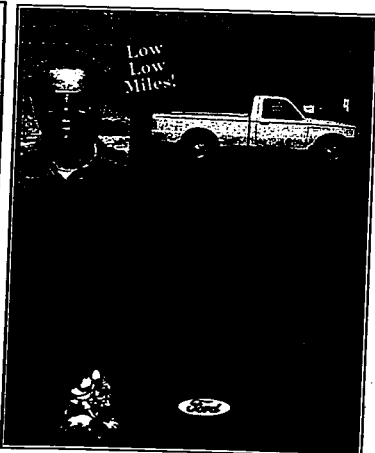
200 Acres - 200 North 800 East, MID Water, 2 Pivots and Wheelies. Farm #103

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Alfalfa hay prices

Prices were reported Wednesday by USDA, Moses Lake, Wash., on a per-ton basis, FOB shed or stack with top off. Add \$5 for tarp or shed, add \$2.50 for straw covered.

2-3 tie bales, domestic use

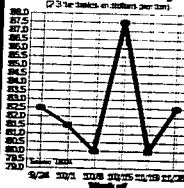
	Supreme	Premium	Good	Fair
Idaho	\$95	\$80-85	\$70-80	\$70-75
Wash-Oregon	n/a	\$95	n/a	\$70

One ton/mid-sized bales, square

	Supreme	Premium	Good	Fair
Idaho	\$95-100	\$85	\$70-75	\$60-75
Wash-Oregon		\$95-100	n/a	\$70

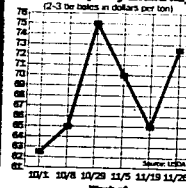
Prices to Idaho growers for premium alfalfa hay

(2-3 tie bales on stream per ton)



Prices to Idaho growers for feeder quality alfalfa hay

(2-3 tie bales on stream per ton)



Idaho Hay Association receives grant

Ag Weekly

BOISE — A \$24,989 grant has been awarded to the Idaho State Department of Agriculture to identify alternative market opportunities for forages, in particular alfalfa hay. It also includes investigating the possibility of establishing hay marketing associations or cooperatives, and the development of a directory of

buyers and available transportation methods.

Idaho was one of just 15 states to receive an award from United States Department of Agriculture under the Federal State Marketing Improvement Program.

"The forage industry is the 3rd largest cash receipt crop produced in Idaho," said Kim Murphy, ISDA marketing specialist. "Although dairy

quality hay sells well, farmers need assistance to find consistent markets for hay that doesn't meet those requirements."

This grant will fund research that will look for niche markets and alternative uses for forage; study the feasibility of and steps for starting and managing a forage marketing association; and increase the awareness of existing channels for sales.

ISDA has teamed with the University of Idaho and the Idaho Hay Association to fulfill the grant's funding requirements.

"The Idaho Hay Association has been instrumental in the successful pursuit of this grant. The partnership with the university and the hay producers has provided us the opportunity to further expand our foraging opportunities for Idaho hay

growers," Murphy said.

On Sept. 28, U.S. Ag Secretary Dan Glickman awarded grants totaling \$700,000 under the Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program. The money will be used by state departments of agriculture to support market research and demonstration projects to improve marketing systems for food and agricultural products or to identify new markets.

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Farmers' opposition doesn't stop merger OK

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — Nearly unanimous opposition from farmers and large industry could not stop Idaho regulators from approving a merger of ScottishPower and PacifiCorp, leaving some residents feeling ever more

powerless against market forces in the West. Even the Idaho Public Utilities Commission which made the decision last week to allow the merger was severely constrained by state law. The panel voted 24 to grant

the merger. PacifiCorp has 53,700 customers in eastern Idaho who, if Utah approves the merger, will be among the first U.S. citizens to be customers of a power utility that is chiefly foreign-owned.

The owners of Glasgow-based ScottishPower promise the merger will mean better service and cheaper rates. But phosphorus producer Solvista, southeastern Idaho's biggest user of electricity, said ScottishPower could not provide any assurances of rate stability. Agriculture, which used to get nearly all it wanted in Idaho, is finding its influence weakened. It is not the first bout of deregulation to hit Idaho farmers.

"We've been through this before," grain grower Boyd Schneider said. "There's a lot of mergers going on in agriculture, and deregulation with the railroads really drove up the cost of transportation." Some eastern Idaho legislators are looking at

tightening the current law that regulates the sale of electrical property.

Even those who wanted the commission to deny ScottishPower's merger admit that given the current law — which requires a power provider prove only that customers will not be adversely affected — the PUC had little wiggle room to justify a denial.

"I'm a little disappointed in our law," said Sen. Robert Geddes, R-Soda Springs, one of the most vocal merger opponents.

Rep. Golden Linford and Sen. Bob Lee, both Rexburg Republicans, say they may try to amend the law to require that power purchasers prove that customers will positively benefit from the change.

"If there's no evidence that rates costs will increase, that public interest isn't harmed and the utility has a bonafide attempt to serve, that's the end of it, they really

have no other choice," said Conley Ward, a former PUC member who represented the Idaho Consumer Owned Utilities in the ScottishPower case.

Indeed, there already is talk about ScottishPower eyeing Idaho Power Co.

Does that mean deregulation at a retail level in Idaho is on its way, which would allow residents to choose their own power providers?

Likely not, Geddes said. Though some in PacifiCorp territory may be tempted to want to choose Idaho Power Co. as a power provider, the sentiment statewide is still against deregulation in a state with some of the cheapest electrical costs in the nation.

A bright side to the merger ruling, he said, is a customer base more aware of power issues.

"Anytime there's just a glitch in power I'll hear about it, or the PUC will hear about it," he said.


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Irrigation water demand stays steady

BOISE (AP) — Idaho farmers are using about the same amount of irrigation water as in 1994, but are sifting more and more with efficient sprinkler systems, the Idaho Agriculture Statistics Service reports. Idaho producers used 6.03 million acre-feet of water to irrigate 3.2 million acres last year, virtually unchanged from 1994, according to the 1998 Farm and Ranch Irrigation Survey. An acre-feet is 43,500 cubic feet or 325,850 gallons. Idaho ranked third in the total acre-feet of water used and fifth on total acres irrigated. The results show Idaho produced an average of 1.9 acre-feet of water per acre in both 1998 and 1994, slightly

higher than the national norm. Of the 3.2 million acres irrigated in Idaho, the most common method was sprinkler systems, accounting for 2.2 million acres, an increase of 6 percent from 1994. Gravity flow systems were used to irrigate about 1 million acres, a decrease of 15 percent from 1994. Of the acreage irrigated using sprinklers, 1 million acres had center pivots, an increase of 29 percent from 1994. Acres irrigated using ditches declined 17 percent from 1994, totaling just under 800,000 acres last year. Fifty-eight percent of the irrigation water used in Idaho in 1998 was from off the farm,

compared with 55 percent in 1994. Cost of the off-farm water used in 1998 averaged \$21.24 per acre, a rise from \$22.10 four years earlier. Off-farm sources included the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, irrigation districts, community water systems and other organizations. In 1998, Idaho producers spent \$37 million on irrigation equipment, facilities and land improvements, compared with \$45 million in 1994. They spent an additional \$23 million on maintenance and repair of their equipment, down from \$25 million in 1994. Energy costs ran \$73 million last year, also down from \$81 million in 1994.

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High school ag dance Pork keeps getting bigger

I watched a mother gathering corn stalks for dance decorations. It reminded me of the Home Ec and Ag dance for my senior year in high school. I don't remember a dad or mom gathering decorations.

Don't get me wrong. I don't mean to say the parents didn't help—they did, and in a big way. Mothers and the Home Ec teacher helped the girls make pies. The adults helped with attractive punch bowls. My memory may be failing, but I remember real punch and none of this mixed stuff. Dad furnished the truck to haul decorations. Mostly, when an idea would arise, the adults would say, "You know where it is, go get it."

The word filtered from the principal's office that there would be no live band. The sophomores had only taken in \$100 that was a long way from the \$75 a live band would cost. The Ag dance was the biggest dance of the year—except for the junior prom—and a favorite fund-raiser, but with the firm stand on the band, we just had to make the best of the situation.

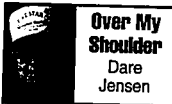
Nonetheless, there would be no pity from the principal on certain requirements, especially the one about keeping all the lights on. Wires across the ceiling below the lights and wires of potato sacks (refunded on their return) placed in a checkerboard pattern, however, dimmed the lighting enough to add a little "ambiance." That done, a few bales of hay and straw were scattered around the floor to allow for extra seating, and the other thing missing was a throne for the king and queen. Hay and straw bales wouldn't do. Anyone could have them. They just weren't regal enough.

In the middle of our think session, one of the guys mentioned having a buggy stored out in his family's barn. It was a single seat four-wheeled job with a fold-down top. I've learned since it was a doctor's buggy. The upholstery was good but the chickens had been running in the barn.

"It will clean!" I shouted. There was no doubt the buggy would be the royal throne.

Evening was not all those chickens had been doing in the barn. If an adult would have suggested any one or even two of us clean that buggy, the protest would have made a small, thin shaped cloud look like a minor wind disturbance. Garden hoses, SOS pads, buckets, (whoever heard of rubber gloves?) and elbow grease flew to the task. Soon that buggy shone like new.

When the buggy arrived at the school, the student's



Over My Shoulder
Dare Jensen

comments proved our choice was right at the top. We had plenty of help getting the buggy from the truck to the school doors. There we were stopped cold. In those moments we had forgotten to measure either the buggy or the doors. There was either too much buggy or too little door. All that work down the drain and now no "throne."

I don't know who remembered this one. Ag girls and we had had tons. It didn't take long for the buggy to appear inside the gym, a piece at a time. Just as quick, it was back together and we had our throne.

The king and queen reigned over the program and floor show. The highlight was the no-hands, pie-eating contest. The pies were placed on straw bales, and the contestants knelt with their hands behind their backs, to eat the pies with their mouths only. Some pies were fruit filled instead of cream pies. The contestants getting those pies were at a disadvantage, but that was OK. Suddenly a hand from one contestant reached over and pushed a face into a pie. The contestants wore as much pie as they ate.

After cleaning the buggy, a pie-covered floor was a cinch. I don't remember if we broke even or went in the hole. But it didn't matter, we were ways holding fund-raisers anyway.

The latest news is that the biggest hog producer in the United States, Smithfield Foods, announced it will acquire Tyson's pork business as well as No. 2, Murray Family Farms. If both deals are approved Smithfield's production will be 19 million hogs annually totaling 13 percent of the U.S. hog slaughter.

Where will all this end? Update: Nov. 24, 2001. The state of Virginia has announced plans to purchase all the hogs in the eastern time zone. If they complete the transaction, only the Iowa-Nebraska Family Hog Farm Corporation will be bigger.

Sept. 12, 2020. TTLWDCo (TCI-TIME-LIFE-WARNER-DISNEY-SMITH ROPES COMPANY) has signed an agreement with Hogs-to-Plenty, formerly East-Central States Hog Combine, formerly Virginia-Iowa-Nebraska.

Affiliated Pork Producers that will give them 88 percent of the U.S. hog slaughter. July 2, 2031. China and Canada are in a bidding war to purchase controlling interest in TTLWDCo Microsoft Hog

Ag Weekly wishes you a wonderful holiday season

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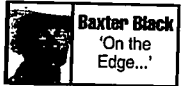
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Consortium, which is now responsible for 56 percent of the hog production in the Western Hemisphere. China is putting up Taiwan as a down payment while Canada is offering Quebec in trade.

Feb. 14, 2049. In a surprise move, Japan has purchased United Pigs - which produces 84 percent of Earth's hogs - and is moving them all to their new protectorate, Australia. The previous state of South Australia will become the waste water lagoon.

March 3, 2049. A maverick scientist in South Australia today patented a new process. From a thimbleful of porcine tissue he has been able to grow pork muscle in a test tube. He

predicts it will revolutionize the hog industry.

Jan. 31, 2055. Carolina Pork Company has licensed Pigin-a-Jar to market their test tube pork product. Pigin-a-Jar will be offering the basic home pig starter. Like sourdough starter, it's kept in a refrigerated container. To prepare, the home economist must place the hormone catalyst and flavor-chose (bacon, ham, ribs, chops) into the proper mold and bake it at room temperature. It grows about 2 ounces per hour.

Oct. 28, 2069. Cultivated Pork Products, previously Pigin-a-Jar, now controls 13 percent of the U.S. consumer pork market. Dec. 1, 2099. A hostile take-over of Cultivated Pork Products International occurred last week in Des Moines. The company provides 88 percent of the world's pork.

The new company is calling itself Iowa Bottled Pork or IBP, for short.

Attention Horse Breeders

A Special Stallion Section will be included our January 8th, Horse Quarterly Edition. This section is designed for horse owners to effectively market their stallions by breed to other horse owners.

Other Horse Quarterly Editions will be published on April 1, July 1, and October 7.

For advertising information please contact Teri at 208-733-0931 Ext. 268 or 1-800-658-3883 Ext. 268

AG WEEKLY

Brunson earns heeling saddle from ICA

By Terrell Williams
Ag Weekly correspondent

WENDELL - Casey Brunson is riding a new hand-tooled trophy saddle these days.

Along with \$7,814, it is his award for being the top heeler in team roping in the Idaho Cowboy Association.

Brunson edged out his closest competitor in the last rodeo of the year, the ICA Finals in Boise at the end of August.

"It was a tight race that came down to the finals, right down to the last steer," said Brunson, praising his horse and his partner for his success.

Since the ICA money year began last fall, Brunson was on the road steadily with his traveling and roping partner, Mike Pendergrass, who was the top header for 1999.

"We went to three or four rodeos a weekend," Brunson said. "That's part-time. Some of those other guys, they live out there. I have to stay home and take care of business."

And that business, he said, is paying the bills by training horses.

"At one time this summer there was 30 head here including ours," he said. "They cut up a lot of 'em."

When he isn't competing, Brunson stays busy at home training horses and practicing daily to keep his skills sharp, even through the winter.

"If you want to get good at it, you've got to work hard at it," he said. "You can't get disgusted and quit. You've got to work through the hard times and the good times will come. It's darn sure work, for me anyway."

LEARNING THE ROPES

Brunson, 28, grew up with horses, cattle and a rope in his hand.

"I remember vaguely I was 5 or 6 and I was helping my dad do or (cattle) out in the pasture," he recalled. "And he let me rope one by myself. I remember it was hard to do, but I had an awful good horse ... We always roped. It was just a way of life, Bud."

Since his father, Bud Brunson, was a horse trainer, there were always plenty of horses around for young Casey to ride.



Casey Brunson said the keys to his success are having a great horse that loves its job, and having a great partner to make fast catches and pull just right as the steer's hind legs hop together right into the heeler's loop.



Casey Brunson practices daily and competes in every rodeo he can. Last week he was practicing in Gooding with Walt Parks.

"He would always sell them just as I got to liking them," Casey said, "but I guess that made me a better rider. I'd just go get another one. People would come and see us (Casey and his younger brother Billy) roping and riding, and it was a lot easier to sell the horses that way," he said. "I think my dad had a plan."

Through his teenage years, Brunson spent summers at a cow camp north of King Hill, helping his father work for the Pitchfork Ranch.

"We got to rope a lot out

there," he said. "It wasn't like we could go out and rope in an arena. We had to do some riding. I think it made us better hands that way."

As his family moved around, Brunson attended high school in Hagerman his freshman year, in Carey his sophomore year, in Jerome his junior year, and in Gooding his senior year. During that time, he competed in high school rodeo but never thought he was living up to his potential as a roper.

After graduation in 1990, Brunson headed for Colorado

where he rode horses near Delta for Bob Poplin.

"He was a really good trainer," Brunson said. "I learned a lot from him."

Poplin's specialty was reining horses. He showed Brunson how to get more control of a horse, which Brunson has applied to his roping horses.

"I like to get them as broke as I can (before roping)," he said. "It takes a lot of the work out of it. If you start with a broke horse, it eliminates a lot of the problems because you have control of them."

In training horses, Brunson said he goes slower than most people do.

"I try to be pretty patient with them," he said. "I take a lot of time. The foundation work is the most important part."

Another mentor in Colorado was Bret Tomozzi, a heeler who has been to the National Finals Rodeo more than a dozen times.

"He helped me with my roping a lot," Brunson said. "It was little things people don't think about, but it's common sense."

Tomozzi also encouraged his

Idaho friend to believe in himself more and not be timid when throwing a loop.

"He said to be confident," Brunson said. "I've had trouble with that. Without confidence, you tend to second-guess yourself. If you're sure of what you're doing, it helps you to relax, too. A guy doesn't need to be nervous about it."

Brunson said when he relaxed, it helped his horse because then she relaxed and they both had better focus.

RODEO HORSEMAN

Returning to Idaho in 1994, Brunson, who lives near Wendell, joined the ICA to team rope. That year he won the finals rodeo in heading. In 1997 he won the finals in heeling, and last year he was ranked third in heeling at the end of the year.

To be a champion, he said, a heeler must have a great partner, but he also must have a great horse.

"There's an awful lot of nice horses but there's not that many great ones," Brunson said. "The great ones love to rope. They love to try. I've seen horses that were 20 years old that were still great. It's the love of the game. That's why they're so good."

In selecting his own horses, Brunson first of all looks for an athlete.

"A lot of people think a heeling horse has to be smaller," he said. "I don't necessarily think that. If they're athletic enough and carry enough, size doesn't matter."

Brunson also likes a rodeo horse to be at least 7 years old. An older horse, he explained, has the maturity to endure road travel as well as high-pressure arena competition.

Another requirement is a big heart, or "lots of try."

"My horse, she's a gutsy son of a buster," he said of his 12-year-old black mare named Whitney.

"She tries hard. It's going to be hard to replace her."

In training and in practice, Brunson tries to make each day enjoyable. He is careful not to sour a horse by overworking it.

"I try to mix in a few games when the horse gets to thinking it's hard work," he said. "Like people, they get tired of it. It gets old."

To give pressure relief and keep life interesting, Brunson changes the pace by taking his horses on fun rides out in the country. This takes their minds off roping and lets them relax, he said. He does not rope the same horses every day. Instead, he has several good practice horses so he can work on his roping every day without wearing out his good competition horse.

"I try to let her relax as much as I can until it's time to go to the rodeo," he said.



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Going Grey in Glenns Ferry

Idaho woman shows dedication to cattle breed

By Sarah Sklar
Ag Weekly correspondent

GLENN'S FERRY — Driving down a gravel road, Linda Jensen, president of the Northwest Murray Grey Association, gestures to cattle ranging in pastures cross-fenced for rotation. Dotted the 120 acres are gray, black, and buff colored animals comprising what was, until last spring, one of the largest registered Murray Grey cattle herds in North America.

Explaining the herd reduction, Jensen said, "We were approached by a man wanting to get into the Murray Grey cattle. He liked our genetics and what they've been doing for commercial producers — where 95 percent of our bulls have gone. He bought all the cows over three years old. We kept 32 heifers."

Linda genetics trace to the first Murray Grey cattle imported to North America — by Dale Jensen's family of Canadian ranchers. Dale and his brothers recognized the Australian cross, synergizing Shorthorn and Angus, as a breed with a future. Dale and Linda brought stock from the Jensen's Square J Ranch foundation herd to Glenn's Ferry to establish their Linda export in 1981.

"There was no question it would be Murray Greys," Linda said. Two years later, she became active in the Northwest Murray Grey association, a breed promotion group established in the 1960s.

"My devotion and dedication to the breed has been unquestionable," she states. "I know what I'm representing, and I really believe in them. They'll do what we tell people they'll do. But," she adds, "I express to anyone wanting to be a successful, serious purebred operator — not just a hobby farmer — that it takes a lot more than having a registered bull and a registered cow."

New blood

First a director, and then president of the regional cattle association, Linda began proposing new ideas to promote the breed. Not all, she admits, were



Linda Jensen takes her pride in the Murray Grey breed worldwide.

immediately embraced, but over time the organization took aim on awareness, advertising campaigns, and in building a worldwide network of communication between breeders, commercial operators and the industry at large.

Linda served on the Northwest board of directors for a number of years, and was also elected to the national board in 1998.

"Before I took either one, I asked myself if I had something to offer this breed and this association," she said.

Growing up on a ranch in Texas, Linda was no stranger to cattle, the beef industry, or the business end of a pitchfork. In the 17 years the Jensen's have taken their herd, Dale's work has frequently taken him overseas for extended periods of time. Linda credits him with detailed, computer record keeping and genetic research wizardry, but in most cases, she was the first to handle the new stock — tagging, collecting weights, and taking care of the vaccinations and health-related care required for vigorous calves.

Day-to-day management has been in her capable hands, sometimes assisted during calving by good friend and partner, Luella Polette, former national association president, who ran her own Bridger Mountain herd with the Lindale stock for several years.

The Lindale operation reflects Linda's determination to identify and utilize all available resources for decision making.

The Jensen's were among the first U.S. breeders to become active in the international BreedPlan program, an Australian performance data

tracking system, soon to be adopted nationwide for the breed.

Lindale raised the first U.S.-bred bull to ever attain the international Junior Sir List, rated in the top 10 percent in the breed among his peers. Linda developed the Northwest Murray Grey web site, as well as her ranch site. The toll free Murray Grey hot line rings in her home. Based on extensive study, she's also becoming more involved in importing and exporting semen and embryos.

Tracking results

Believing the data to be critical for informed management, Lindale's ranch cattle have been tracked in feedlot performance tests for many years, particularly the 1000 pound carcass program. Linda proudly adds that her son's Reserve Champion show steers won Grand Champion carcass every year he participated in FFA, and the Murray Greys and crosses they're raising continue to shine in the show ring and on the rail.

"We have to know that consumer-related performance information," she emphasized. "For our purebred and for our commercial customers. Our motto here is that we raise top heifer bulls. But calving ease, and efficiency, and temperament, and growth aren't enough unless they also translate to a product for today's market and consumer."

"This year there were 358 steers in the A to Z carcass program. Of 10 Murray Grey, all 10 were choice carcasses. This information, and tracking performance from the herd since from our own program, is vitally important to us as breeders. We have carcass data



that supports our records and our claims."

Propelling the Elmore county rancher further into the purebred cattle spotlight was the highly successful 1998 World Murray Grey Congress — the first time the international meetings were held in the United States. The Northwest group was selected to host the event, and as president of the nation's largest regional association, Linda accepted the challenge. The group chose to hold it in conjunction with the

October Northern International Livestock Exposition (NILE) show in Billings, site of the breed's national show.

"We started work on it in 1995," Linda recalls. "I knew for it to be successful, we needed a program that would be interesting and educational for visitors from all over the world. It was a chance to spotlight our U.S. cattle and our ranches, and of course, the Northwest."

Investing their own money, Linda and Luella Polette, Congress president, began two years of traveling and finding information gathering during six weeks in Australia, they toured ranches, breeding farms, feedlots and research facilities. As well as making connections and gaining ideas for a mammoth World Congress, Linda was — and continues to be — the international delegate from the United States to international breed meetings in England and elsewhere.

The Congress enticed 300 Murray Grey enthusiasts to Billings, 170 delegates from foreign countries.

Both Linda and Luella received formal acclaim as the first foreign recipients of the Lifetime

Achievement Award from the Australian Murray Grey Society, joining an elite group of only 10.

Of her friend and colleague, Luella Polette comments, "Linda's promotional abilities are outstanding."

She believes in the quality and value of this breed and understands cattle. The national association has relied on her to represent us, and internationally she's known as a great resource. Everyone holds her opinion in high regard in organization, promotion, and showring cattle. Knowledge of cattle is the base of making progress in the industry, and she's got that in this breed and in the industry as a whole."

Dale retired last year and is taking over much of the physical work. The Jensen's son, D.J., is completing his studies at the University of Idaho and plans to return to the ranch. It's a transition time, and Linda sees her role changing and sees new opportunities to promote the cattle industry and the breed she loves.

"Those of us in Agriculture need to utilize every possible tool we have as breeders." "Production records, carcass data, research. Nothing will replace visual appraisal of cattle, but you need to be able to back up those observations with information. I know these cattle, and they can back up what I say. Setting goals and standards within our own herd allows me to be confident about what I'm representing."

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"And meadow rivulets overflow.
And drops on gate bars hang in a row.
And rooks in families homeward go,
And so do I."

- Thomas Hardy, 1840-1932

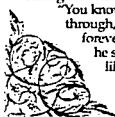
Heyburn

With colder weather and the calendar telling us holiday time is here, families gather. Pat says everyone is excited with the prospect of a little more snow. Pommeire will open really soon with the four feet of snow they've got already, she said. Geese fly low overhead, honking to one another before they settle in the cornfield. A sure sign of more snow.

Out and about

This weather cued the raptors, Bob said, and they've flown in for the winter. Out hiking last weekend, he thought he saw an odd-looking bush up a ways. Come closer, and it's an eagle sitting on a fencepost.

"You know, when a storm comes through, and passes, you can see forever from the South Hill," he said. The white stuff looks like it's here to stay. "Up around Sugarloaf there's an inch or so that hasn't melted off like I



thought it would," he said.

North of the Snake River

The critters are moving, settling into their winter homes, Bruce said.

"Already it's so cold up northeast of Hailey "there was no sitting down to take in the scenery. Better to keep moving," he said.

The elk have stayed at unusually high elevations over 10,000 feet "and that's pretty rare for them to be so high the last week in November," Bruce said. Probably because of the dry conditions this year.

Meanwhile, the blue grouse know exactly what they should be doing and where.

They start in the low elevations, in the drainages where there's lots of moisture, then they move up the mountains, to the ridgelines and peaks and feed on pine needles. "Usually the grouse are going up and the elk are coming down now, but this year they're both up," Bruce said.

Maybe home is where you are for the beasts,

too.

Filer

"This morning's had the first freeze, but not enough to keep us from working," Roger said. So he uses the time to get some more catch-up work done before next spring.

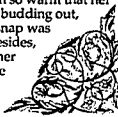
One chore sprouts from a gift from the canal. Roger's place is at the end of the water lines, and with that water he gets a lot sediment. Now, with the water gone for the year, is a good time to scoop up all that good sediment and put it on thin and rocky ground. "You'd be amazed what a few inches of good soil will do there," he said

Buhl

"Maybe there's a reason sage and Russian olive grow in the desert."

Maria said. Their dramatic black branches are a real show stopper in winter when we've had a little moisture.

Maria said the west side had a nice rain, but no snow to speak of. It had been so warm that her roses began budding out, so the cold snap was welcome. Besides, cold weather brings out the "crocheting season."



What have you seen outdoors? Call Dorothy House, 438-5847; Pat Free, 678-7102; Bob and Iva Johnson, 423-4029; Roger Vincent, 734-5491; Larry Berg, 324-8475; Maria Lick, 543-6530; Bruce Palmer, 324-4591; Bob Stoltz, 734-8069; Jeanne Quigley, 637-6648; Farmer's Corner, 678-5130; JoAnn Robbins, 788-5585; or editor Cathy Walworth, 733-5015.

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Put tradition in the stocking

Ag Weekly

"The American Family Food Journal" cookbook offers family-favorite recipes with a contemporary twist.

DES MOINES, Iowa - Holiday tradition and family recipes go hand in hand. In fact, a recent survey shows that tradition is a top priority for American families at holiday time. To help celebrate family and holiday tradition, the National Pork Producers Council introduces "The American Family Food Journal," a down-home cookbook with a contemporary twist.

The American Family Food Journal" features 31 winning recipes from the recent Favorites From Our Family Recipe Contest.

For a look at "The American Family Food Journal" cookbook, visit www.porkforkef.com. Or, send \$6.95 and a self-addressed mailing label to: The American Family Food Journal, c/o National Pork Producers Council, P.O. Box 10383, Des Moines, IA 50306.

Sell your unneeded items by placing your ad in Ag Weekly.

The poinsettia reigns as king of Christmas plants

Just like Christmas shopping, Christmas decorating seems to come earlier and earlier each year. Poinsettias plants are already available in stores. Poinsettias plants, whether used alone or in combination with other decorations, make very attractive Christmas accessories. Because of the increasing variety of sizes, types and colors of poinsettias, many people use several poinsettia plants in their Christmas decorating.

Poinsettias have been improved immensely during the last few years. Varieties that are more tolerant of home conditions and last for a very long time have made them increasingly popular. You can now buy a poinsettia at Thanksgiving and expect it to last until New Year's or longer.

The red varieties are darker red with brighter green leaves. Poinsettias can be speckled, variegated and come in a much wider variety of colors, including several shades of pink, white and light yellow. Poinsettias are available as large trees, hanging baskets and miniature pot sizes. You will find the greatest variety of types and colors at full-service florists and nurseries.



Gardening
Allen Wilson

Good care can extend the quality and usefulness of poinsettia plants. They appreciate as much light as you can give them.

If placed in a dark area of the home or office away from windows, you may want to move them near a window for a while during the brighter part of the day. Although artificial lights are not as bright as sunlight, longer periods of artificial light will also help plants. Try leaving a poinsettia under a lighted table lamp all night to compensate for lower light conditions.

Extreme temperatures can also cause plants to drop flowers or leaves. When purchasing a plant, get it to a warm car as soon as possible. If temperatures are below freezing, make sure the plant has a sack (preferably paper) over the top while you carry it to the car. Do not place plants near drafty doors or on top of warm appliances such as TV's.

How often a poinsettia plant

needs water will depend upon its location. The warmer and brighter the location, the more often water will be needed. It is just as easy to over water as to under water. Both conditions will cause both leaves and flower bracts to drop. Under watering causes leaves to wilt. If they will very long, they will begin dropping from the stem. Watering too often will drive all the air out of the soil. If plant roots do not get sufficient air, roots will begin to die. With fewer roots, plants begin dropping leaves to compensate.

The best procedure is to check the soil with your finger and water when it feels dry on top. You may want to check every day until you find out how quickly each plant is drying out.

After you have had a plant for a couple of weeks, some liquid house plant fertilizer will help sustain it and keep it looking better.

Allen Wilson teaches horticulture at Ricks College. He has also written two books: Intermountain Flower Gardening and Intermountain Vegetable Gardening. You can write to him at P.O. Box 343, Redburg, ID 83440.

Many nimble fingers work to produce saffron

CAMUNAS, Spain (AP) — It's an agricultural task so delicate and finicky that machines can't do it.

Even if they could, the saffron flowers that need picking only sprout for two weeks in late autumn.

The combination of hand labor and the limited production window is why saffron is so expensive — up to \$168 an ounce.

Nimble fingers pluck the small, purple, late-blossoming crocuses grown on the flat plains of La Mancha in central Spain.

Picked flowers are laid out to dry during the afternoon, and in the evening neighborhood women gather to begin the most difficult task — plucking the red stigmas from the flower's interior.

This task takes hours — some 115,000 flowers must be plucked to produce just a pound of saffron.

After the stigmas have been removed, they are briefly dried by a gas fire before being weighed with precision scales and put into small plastic boxes or little glass bottles and shipped for sale all over the world.

Iran produces the most saffron, but Spaniards say they grow the best. Spanish saffron is the most

expensive. Only 10 tons a year are produced in Spain, by about 5,000 families who live mainly in the central part of the country.

The business is on the rise, and beginning with this year's crop the growers of La Mancha are being allowed to mark their saffron as originating in the region, much like wines are designated by their region of production.

The saffron producers of La Mancha get about 100,000 pesetas per pound, or about \$635, from distributors, who then sell it to retailers for twice that. Retailers often double that price, which means consumers pay the equivalent of \$2,800 a pound — although only 1-50th of an ounce is enough to flavor a traditional Spanish paella rice dish for 12 people.

The bulbs that produce saffron flowers can be planted on the same patch of ground for only four years running. After that the ground is contaminated by the plant and it must be planted elsewhere.

Although the planting can be done by machine, only the quick fingers of the local residents can pluck away the flowers — which then reappear the next morning — and separate the stigmas from the flower.



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There is a Wild Horse Adoption Coming to Twin Falls!

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Horse training clinics will be held at no charge to the public on Friday afternoon and Saturday morning.

WHEN: Saturday, December 4, 1999
WHERE: College of Southern Idaho Expo Center
Twin Falls, Idaho
TIME: 9:00 a.m.

For additional information, or
to request an application, contact:
Mike Courtney or Kathie Rhodes (208) 756-5400
or, Bob Mitchell (208) 373-3822

The not-so-wealthy didn't have a sweet life

We are officially in the holiday season! This is the time of year when cookies, pies, cakes and candies are eaten regularly. We sweets were always available for the holidays? Let's look at the development of sugar and other sweeteners used in cookery today and in the past.

A history of the sweetening is a history of civilization itself. Modern manufacturing methods have refined the crude original foods, but the characteristic flavor and sweetness of each is the same today as it was centuries ago. The art of sugar making originated in India in 600 A.D.

and even earlier references to sugar can have been traced to Buddhist literature. Early methods were crude and harsh—the juice was pressed from the cane and boiled until solids were formed in the shape of pebbles. At first these sweet pebbles were used as candy. Later they were ground into what we now know as granulated sugar. The leftover liquid after the sugar has been removed from the sugar cane is molasses.

The use of sugar as a sweetener was at first a luxury and its price so high only the very wealthy could afford to use it in cooking well

Grandma's Recipe Box Dixie Thomas Reale

into the 16th century.

When the working class discovered this new delicacy and started to use it they were condemned by the wealthy as "putting on airs." Shrewd traders soon realized the profits to be made from the working class and freighters began to sail the seas loaded with sugar. As the volume of sales increased the price of sugar dropped. By the middle of the 18th century sugar was a staple in the average American woman's kitchen.

Before sugar was widely available several other sweeteners were plentiful and widely used. The sap of the maple tree was known to early man, sugar cane was chewed directly from the stalk, and honey is mentioned in the Old Testament.

When the early settlers reached the new world they brought hives of honey bees with them. Historians theorize the bees escaped from these colonial hives and thus began the creation and consumption of wild honey in America.

Maple trees were indigenous to the Americas and early settlers took advantage of that happy find. Sap from the maple tree is boiled down to make maple syrup. As refined sugar was scarce and expensive, molasses soon became one of the prime ingredients in the housewife's

repertoire of foods. Early New Englanders found the manufacture of rum a highly profitable enterprise. Molasses was an essential ingredient in its manufacture, so molasses was cheap and plentiful.

Although sugar is the king of sweeteners, old time recipes that started to use it were maple syrup yield delicious homemade desserts and sauces. Here are a few for you to try this holiday season.

Molasses Cake (from the 19th century)
1 1/2 cup molasses
1/4 cup unsalted butter
1/2 cup buttermilk
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon each of soda, ginger and cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon cloves
1 egg, well beaten
2 cups flour

Combine molasses and butter. Simmer over low heat until it has just come to a boil. Remove from heat, cool and add milk. Stir dry spices, salt and soda together until blended. Add to mixture. Stir in the eggs, add the flour and beat quickly until well blended. Butter a 9 by 13 inch pan. Bake for 20 to 25 minutes in a 375 degree oven. Cool on a rack and serve warm.

Syllabub (an 18th century delight)
1 lump sugar rubbed with a ground lemon rind
1 cup of lemon
1 pint whipping cream
sugar to taste
red wine
Chill the wine. Let sugar and juice stand till sugar is dissolved. Add the wine and whisk the cream, lemon juice,

wine and sugar together till froth. Spoon off the froth and place in wine glasses. Continue whisking and scooping off the froth until all is used.

Chill. This is delicious as well as a spoonful of strawberry preserves adds a delightful flavor.

Baked custard with honey (modern day recipe)
4 eggs, slightly beaten
1/2 cup honey
2 1/2 cups milk
1/2 teaspoon salt
1/2 teaspoon vanilla
Mix ingredients and bake in oven at 350 degrees till a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean. About 1 hour.

Maple syrup pumpkin cheesecake (modern day adaptation)
1 1/2 cups graham cracker crumbs
1/4 cup melted butter
3 packages creamed cheese
14 ounces condensed milk
3 eggs
1 pound pumpkin
1/4 cup maple syrup
1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
1 teaspoon nutmeg
Combine graham cracker crumbs and butter and press into the bottom and sides of a 9 inch cake pan.

In a large mixing bowl beat the creamed cheese till fluffy. Gradually beat in the condensed milk until smooth. Add the eggs, pumpkin, maple syrup, cinnamon and spices. Pour into the prepared pan. Bake one hour and 15 minutes or until top springs back when lightly touched. Chill for 2 to 4 hours.

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Nilestone 30" Seed Cutter, older unit

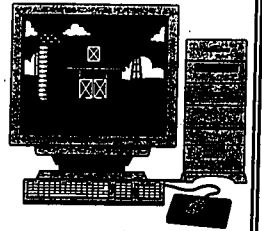
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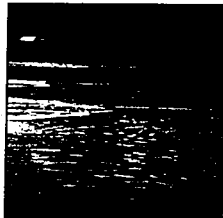
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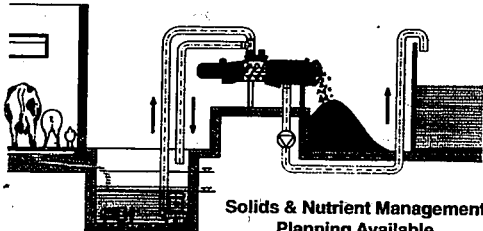
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NOVEMBER 29 - DECEMBER 5, 1999

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tough enough

GIRLS MUSCLE IN ON WRESTLING, FOOTBALL AND HOCKEY



"you want
fries with that?"
Korn's Jonathan Davis
and other celebrities talk
about their pre-fame jobs

SHOULD THERE
BE A V-CHIP FOR
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SHOOTING STAR.

I think I'm in love with this girl I've been e-mailing for the past four months. Is it possible to have true feelings for someone you've never seen face to face?

L.O., 16, New Hampshire

It's very possible to have feelings for someone you've never actually met in person. However, you should proceed with caution.

"It's hard enough to have a relationship face to face because most people put up a front in the first few months of dating," says Yonkers, N.Y., psychologist Jeff Gardere. "This type of deception is even easier to carry out over the Internet." It's OK to continue writing to your e-mail crush if you want to, but try to keep it casual and remember that the person you're e-mailing might not be who she claims to be. Keep these safety rules in mind: Do not provide any type of personal or contact information about yourself, and don't arrange to meet her without discussing it with your parents.

need advice?

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We need all questions but can't reply to them personally. We print the questions that have the widest appeal. Please include your name, address, age and phone number with your question. If you don't want your name printed, just say so.



My hair is so dry and frizzy, my favorite calls me "humboldt" I've tried rinse-out and leave-in conditioners, but nothing seems to work. Any ideas?

B.D., 17, California

Maybe you need to try a anti-frizz product instead of just a conditioner. You could try one containing silicone, but some of them can weigh down fine hair. Here are some tips from Bruce Conroy, owner of Flexish, a New York City salon: If you must blow-dry and your hair is naturally curly, use a diffuser attachment (it dries with a gentle air current). Or if your hair is straight, try a large, round brush with natural bristles for smoothness. Just be prepared: Even the best anti-frizz products and blow-drying techniques can be ruined on a humid or rainy day. He adds that you probably shouldn't wash your hair every day because your own natural oils are great at combating the frizzies. As for the "humboldt" comments, your best defense is a good sense of humor. People who pick on you are looking for a reaction—without one, they'll find someone else to bother.

ask anything...

by Dennie Hughes

Whenever my best friend and I fight, I'm always the first one to call to make up even if she was the one in the wrong! It really bugs me. How do I make her do the calling next time?

L.B., 15, Ohio

The next time you brawl and it's *not* your fault, wait at least three or four days longer than you normally would to call her. If your friend hasn't gotten curious enough to call you, send her a note that says, "I don't want to lose our friendship, but I'm tired of always being the peacemaker. Do you care whether you ever hear from me again?" She'll call if she cares about your friendship. If you don't hear from her, then you can safely assume she isn't a real friend.

Is attending a community college considered a "real education?"

L.J., 17, New York

If you're interested in a career in business, retail management or technical support, a community college degree can make you extremely employable. "If you didn't make great grades in high school, can't afford a state university or you're just unsure of what you want to do, a community college is a great place to mature and establish yourself," says Barry Miller, a career counseling expert at Pace University in New York. He adds that the credits you earn can be transferred to a four-year college. Another plus? A community college degree looks way more impressive on a resume than just a high school diploma.

Vote in this week's act poll. Phone: 800-58-REACT or visit react.com

Should varsity teams be coed?

this week @ react.com:

NEXT BIG THING: Get the scoop on Sarah Rice, the smart new star of *Popstar*.

COOL CHAT: Talk with Julia Boaz of *Bejeweled* at 9 p.m. EST Dec. 2.

QUIZ: What do your weekend plans say about you?

Plus, win free holiday CDs.

In the actress destined to be *Popstar*?



game blockers

Computer and video game makers may team up to rig their systems to reject violent video games.

First it was TV shows. Then the Web. Now, video games have become the latest software whose content can be blocked for violent or adult content.

The latest version of Microsoft's Windows operating system, due out next year, will include Game Manager, the equivalent of a v-chip for video games, which would allow users—specifically, parents—to decide which type of games can be played on their computer. Most leading game makers, who already apply ratings labels such as "Everyone" or "Adults Only" to product boxes, are expected to agree to encode ratings for violent and racy content into their programs. If they do, most of the nation's more than 60 million home computers could soon be able to keep characters like Duke Nukem, Turok and Kingpin off their screens.

Critics of violent games—who blame such content for desensitizing young people and inspiring them to violence—welcome the steps. But many teenage players say Game Manager is unnecessary—and may not work anyway.

"It's a step in the wrong direction," says **react** Review Team member Steven Goodman, 15, of Montpelier, Va., who plays violent games like *Aliens vs. Predator* on his home system. "If parents are concerned about their children playing violent games, then stop your child and pray for the rest. Don't look to the companies to protect your children."

Review Team member Josh Maggart, 15, agrees, up to a point. "It is a good idea for little kids, but not so much for teenagers." Josh, of Palm Harbor, Fla., says he favors games like *Starcraft*. "If a chip blocked violent games



from my computer, I would be very displeased."

Players who oppose blocking programs point to the positive sides of their favorite—if bloody—passions. "Most of the games I play are violent, but they have taught me hand-eye coordination, quicker reaction time and teamwork." Steven says. "I don't believe violence-based games promote violence in children. I haven't killed, maimed or assaulted anyone."

—Gary Drevitch

whose game is it, anyway?

Are game blockers a good idea? Write: react@gameblockers.com, 711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017; or visit www.react.com/your2cents/offline.

react poll results

"Does your school have enough computers?"

We asked this in our May 24-30 issue. More than 4,000 of you responded via phone and react.com

55% said yes.

"I'd say we have enough computers, especially since our school supplied us with laptops for grades 10-12." —JHM, 16

"We have about 75 computers that we can use whenever. It's awesome!" —Max, 14

"My school has about 150 computers—and we have a small school!" —Amanda, 13

"If anything, I think we have too many. Our library alone has more than 30." —Sam, 16

45% said no.

"All we have is one computer in each class, and we don't have a computer lab. I'm worried I'm not learning enough for the future." —Eris, 14

"My school needs to get more computers, preferably ones that work! Right now, we are using ones from the '80s." —L.S., 15

"Instead of buying decorations to spruce up the place, my school should be buying computers because we hardly have any." —L.R. 17

"None of the classrooms in our school have computers that students can use. It's not fair." —JL, 14

"My school has only enough computers for the few students who are enrolled in the computer class." —Nate, 15

We also asked, "What do you use your school computer for most?"

41% said computer class.

41% said non-computer classes.

18% said library reference.

And we asked, "Does your school block controversial Web sites?"

56% said yes.

44% said no.

Should varsity teams be coed? Respond to this week's poll via phone or react.com. (See page 3.)

textbooks go virtual

Omar Morales, 16, Dallas

fashion philosophy: hip-prep. "I wear khakis and cords but like to add a modern look—shirts with some kind of design."

what his clothes say: "When people see me for the first time, I want to give the impression that I'm a cool, open-minded guy."

fashion influence: "If someone makes an intelligent remark, that would make me check out his style."

shopping likes and loathes: "What I like best is finding the clothes I want at low prices. What I like least is not being able to find them in my size."
rings and things: "I like silver jewelry not many other people wear."

new century, new look: "The club look will be the style of the new millennium—flashy materials, bright colors, things you can dance in." "do clothes make the person?" "Don't judge a book by its cover. That's how I was brought up."

react gives Style Council members \$100 for a shopping spree. Here's how Omar spent his: Corduroys (pictured), \$29 on sale, from Gap. Button-down shirt, \$33 on sale, by Tommy Jeans, from Foley's. Dockers shorts, \$12 on sale, from Foley's. Bracelet (pictured), \$8, and hematite stone necklace, \$8.50, both from Gadzooks.



style council

STYLE CHAT:

Come chat with one of our 1999 Style Council winners and get answers to your most pressing fashion questions at react.com.

Meet Omar Morales and Luci Proctor, our final style advisers of the millennium.

**Luci Proctor, 15, Bethany, Okla.**

fashion philosophy: grounded glam. "I like animal prints, fake fur and glittery stuff, but Converse are my favorite shoes."

style is persona: "I don't buy something just because someone else said it was cool."

shopping tip: Luci is big on thrift stores. To people who have "issues" with used clothes, she says, "Wash it, and it's all better!"

thrill scores: "I got this really cool black fake fur coat for five bucks." **rings and things:** Luci's favorite accessories include her crystal faerie necklace and an old-fashioned ring with a fake red stone. And, she says, "I'm never caught without my Tori Amos necklace—I bought it at her concert, and it has her name on it."

trend that must end: "Those short fitted button-downs, especially when they button them up to the top."

celebs with style: Luci gives the fashion thumbs-up to Drew Barrymore, Angelina Jolie, Bjork and the female musical duo Cibo Matto. **how to deal if you dress differently:** "If someone makes fun of you, just blow it off and walk away."

react gives Style Council members \$100 for a shopping spree. Here's how Luci spent her: Leopard-print top, \$25, by Aqua Blues, and capri-length trimmed pants, about \$20 on sale, by Lovely (both pictured), from Vanity. Three short-sleeved band t-shirts, \$18-20 each, from Hot Topic. Two "Queen Amida's" tops, about \$5 each, from Target.

Houston, we have a math problem...

What's the difference between a pound and a kilogram? For NASA, about \$125 million. The space agency learned that lesson the hard way when an expensive satellite approached Mars and vanished—because of a basic mistake with metrics.

One group of engineers had used pounds and feet to plot the spacecraft's course while a different group calculated with kilograms and meters. The mix-up caused the craft to fly too close to Mars, where it fell out of contact with Earth. Apparently, the metric system is beyond even rocket scientists.

money teachers

Soon, if you score well on a test, your teacher could earn extra bucks. Denver schools recently became the first in the country to approve a plan tying teacher salaries to student performance. Test scores will be used to decide whether teachers deserve extra pay, up to \$1,500 per year. Other states want to launch similar programs, but many teachers are skeptical, saying factors beyond their control influence how well students do. But if it works, the payoff could be big for teachers and students.

snoop dogs

Those drug-sniffing dogs you see at the airport may be coming to a house near you. A Michigan dog-training company this fall began recruiting out dogs for \$300 to parents who suspect their teens of drug use. Parents talk out their suspicions with the company first. Then, if the dogs smell like the best option, a team of canines puts its noses into the teen's business, sniffing all over the family house and car. Business has been so good that the company may take the idea nationwide.

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everyday heroes

alcohol WAKE-UP CALL

Ever since he was 13, Chris Schuckert drank hard and drank heavily.

"There were parties every weekend, and if you wanted alcohol, you could get it," says Chris, now 18. "When I first started drinking, I drank till I passed out."

But in the fall of 1998, something happened that changed the St. Paul, Minn., teen's life. During the Como Park High School homecoming game, a friend had downed an entire bottle of rum in 10 minutes, walked to the top of the bleachers—and his equilibrium completely shot—tumbled down eight rows of seats, fracturing his skull. Miraculously, Chris' friend survived—not only the fall, but alcohol poisoning (his blood alcohol level had reached .34, just shy of the lethal level of .4).

That's when Chris decided to quit boozing—and help other kids do the same. First, he formed FATAL (Fighting Against Teens Abusing Liquor), a support group for teens emotionally affected by their friend's devastating drinking experience. The support group then turned into a 10-member teen team that worked to prevent similar occurrences

at school and in their community. But FATAL soon went even further. Some of the members joined the national organization Youth In Action, which lobbies for the passage of bills to discourage underage drinking. Recently, the group helped to get Minnesota to enact a law making it a felony for adults to provide alcohol to minors when it results in harm or death (it formerly had been only a misdemeanor).

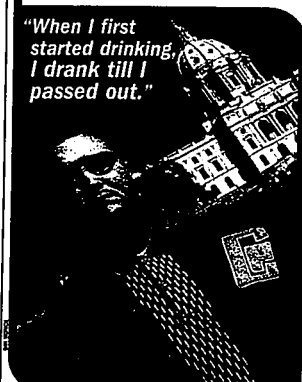
Now Chris hopes to apply pressure to Minnesota lawmakers to lower the legal blood alcohol content by .02 (from .10 to .08). "At .08, your judgment is impaired, but at

.10, you can kill someone if you're behind the wheel of a car," says Chris, currently a senior at an alternative high school.

Chris still goes to parties where plenty of kids drink a lot. They don't always listen when he urges them to cool it, so he has become his friends' designated driver. "If I can't get them to stop drinking," he says, "at least I can try to save their lives."

—Nancy Vittorini

"When I first started drinking, I drank till I passed out."



battle booze

December is National Drink and Drugged Driving Prevention Month. To get involved, visit www.30minth.org or the Youth In Action page at www.madd.org under 21/you.shtml.

Caron has a passion
for chocolate!

GREEN CANDY
looks like mold
but tastes good

Having a ball
with gumballs!

This is the
big DADDY
of cookies!
Haha

looks weird
but totally awesome!

Jellybeans
(Any flavor BUT licorice)

These
shimmer

These are our
favorite flavors.

This
reminds
me of
Ramone.
He's sooo
cute.

I found
these in my
purse.

I want
lip gloss
this color.

My part has
nothing on it and
I like it that way.

THIS Cookie is Sooo Big it thinks it's a cake!!
Hearts because they
remind us of our
feelings for:
David, Bobby
& Drew
♡♡

It's like something
I would dream of !!

↳ We
TOTALLY
love this
color.

I made 206
I put 206
in the 206

IT'S GIGANTIC

The Humongous Cookie
you bake and can put stuff on



You'll find this
in the Doughboy
refrigerated
case.

PUMP UP THE poetry

by Nina Malkin

fine-tuned poetry tips

From T-Boz:

- **DO IT YOUR WAY:** "Who's to say your art is incorrect? Nobody!"
- **BE HONEST:** "As long as you mean it, it comes from your heart and it makes you feel better, nobody can mess with that."
- **WRITE IT WHEN IT COMES TO YOU:** "There were poems in my head I wish I would have written down. I know they were good, but I can't remember them!"
- **RESPECT YOUR TOOLS:** "I have certain books my friends and family have given me that I like to write in—they're my special books."

From Kristin Hersh:

- **FOLLOW YOUR MUSE:** "If you trust your images, they'll take you on a ride that tells you as much about you as it does about them."
- **READING HELPS WRITING:** "I've rediscovered Walt Whitman since junior high. They taught us the *Rosey* stuff, but there's a lot of great, gutsy stuff. It wasn't as celebrated, but it was published and you can find it."
- **DON'T REIN YOURSELF IN:** "This 'following the rules' stuff isn't magic; having something slip in that you don't know where it came from can be."

From Speech:

- **CHART A NEW COURSE:** "Write about stuff people haven't really written about—issues or viewpoints that haven't really been addressed."
- **UNIQUENESS COUNTS:** "What's cool about poetry is you're just expressing yourself. It's different from a song because you're not trying to write a hit, you don't have to know how to sing. You're writing your feelings, your story, and everybody's life is unique."
- **ONE TIP NOT TO FOLLOW!** "Generally, when I'm driving, I get a lot of ideas—so you can imagine the potential for accidents. Seriously, if I get an idea while I'm driving, I just jot it down when I get back home and finish out the thought."

More and more musicians are moonlighting as poets. Here, three very different songwriters take on spoken word. Why not follow their lead and enter your best verse in react's poetry contest?

T-Boz: R&B meets poetry

Streetwise, slick-styled T-Boz of TLC may not look like a stereotypical poet. But one thing *Thoughts*, her collection of poems and essays, will teach you is not to judge a book—or an author—by its cover. "Some people will be surprised, because they see me as who they want," says T-Boz (real name: Tionne Watkins). "But this is reality, this is who I am."

She's not kidding. In *Thoughts*, T-Boz talks straight, baring her soul in no uncertain terms. "I've never been ashamed of anything, and I chose to tell a lot," she says. "My way is blunt. If I have something to say, if that's how I feel, I'm not gonna sugar coat it."

T-Boz has always known how to speak her mind—but she only recently started putting pencil to paper. Growing up, she grappled with problems (her father left home when she was very young, and she suffers from sickle cell anemia), yet she never used to write about them. "I didn't have myself together back in the day," she says. "I was rebellious, and I channeled my anger wrong."

Suddenly, though, poetry began pouring out—it started one night when she was holed up alone in a hotel room. Now that it's part of her life, T-Boz says. "It's a good release. I don't think anybody should keep bitterness and stress bottled up—it wears and tears you."

Still, nobody's more surprised than T-Boz herself to find *Thoughts* printed, published and poised to fly off the shelves. "If you would have told me two years ago that I'd write a poetry book, I would have said, 'Nah, quit playin'!'"



*i fly out your mouth
and deep from your soul
i'm your closest friend
so i am told*

—from "what's my name,"
T-Boz's poem about lies.
From *THOUGHTS* by
Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins,
HarperCollins,
Copyright © 1997
by Tionne "T-Boz" Watkins
for SWEET Entertainment.

Speech: hip-hop rhyme machine

Speech first burst onto the hip-hop scene with his group Arrested Development. The positively empowered, rootsy hip-hop of their first album, *3 Years, 5 Months and 2 Days in the Life of...* went triple platinum and earned the Best New Artist Grammy in 1993. Speech split from the band a few years later, and now, his second solo album, *Hoopla*, is earning raves. Yet his love affair with words began way before his musical career kicked off.

"I've loved creative writing since I was 13 or so," says Speech, whose real name is Todd Thomas. "My mom owns a newspaper, The Milwaukee Community Journal, so being raised in that environment, I was exposed to writing."

Much as he's into words, there's one word this rhyme machine isn't crazy about: "I don't like 'poet,' because it's so 'intellectual' as opposed to from the

heart," Speech says. "You know, some old guy going off about something, as opposed to people writing about what they're really concerned about."

Speech is a nontraditionalist in the way he expresses himself to poetry: He'd rather hit a slam (aka, a poetry reading) than pick up a book. But Speech believes it doesn't matter how you choose to bring poetry into your life as long as you do it: "It's therapeutic and helps expand your mind."

*Now of course it's great to feel great about your race
your nose your face your country even your state
yo spicey foods yo unique attitudes
what makes me me & you you*

—from "on conscious," Speech's poem that explores ethnic pride.
Printed by permission of the author.



Kristin Hersh: verse that rocks

Before she was 20, Kristin Hersh and her noise-making bandmates in Throwing Muses already had a major label record deal, an acclaimed album and a whole lot of touring under their collective belt. (And this was in the '80s, before teens ruled the music scene.) Since then, she has gone solo, and her music has become somewhat softer, more introspective (check out her latest, *Sky Motel*). One thing that hasn't changed, though, is her love of poetry. "Music and poetry came at exactly the same time, when I was 14," Hersh says. Yet to this day, she admits the

process of poetry remains a mystery to her. "It feels like I'm expressing something else—not myself," she says. "If I hear something beautiful [in my head], I assume it must be necessary."

Even if she has no clue as to how it works or where it comes from, Hersh is positive about what she gets from writing poetry: "I see more clearly and feel like I'm giving something," she says. She only wishes the poetry bug was as catchy as a cold. "My dream for planet Earth is to have everyone writing poems!"



*My ghost of seasons past asked
this bedroom what to say
It said "stay"
I have to sleep
Tangled in my family's hair*

—from "Walking in the Dark,"
Kristin Hersh's poem about "the
idea of home and escaping home."
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be a published poet and win \$500

Calling all poets ages 13-18! You can see your poem in print and get paid. Post an original poem, no longer than 20 lines, and send it along with your name, age, address and phone number to: **react/poetry**, 711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017, or enter at www.react.com/yourcents/featuring/poetry/contest.html. The first-place winner will have his or her poem published in **react** and pocket \$500. Second-place and third-place winners also will be published and get \$300 and \$100, respectively. The deadline is Jan. 8, 2000.

The purchase necessary. Entries must be 13 to 18 years old as of Jan. 8, 2000. The second year must be your own original work. All entries returned because the primary of react, and no member will be returned. One year only get primary of react. We are not responsible for lost, late, missing, damaged, misdirected or postmarked mail. Entries will be judged on their originality and creativity. The winner will be chosen by the editor. The contest winner will receive \$500, copies of react, a winning certificate by react for authors, advertising and promotion and a prize certificate covered by top name and thousands of dollars of value (subject to react's rules, advertising and promotion and liability/indemnity releases. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited by law). Winners may be required to sign an affidavit of eligibility and liability/indemnity releases. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited. Subject to all federal, state and local laws and regulations. Names and other items are the sole responsibility of the publisher. © 1999

get inspired

Visit the Poetry Cafe at react.com, where you can read last year's winning poems and get tips from teen poet Billy Lopez and other published poets.

wrestling to win

When **Jessica Heckman** walks out onto a wrestling mat, with her heart racing and her muscles tense, she couldn't care less whether her opponent is male or female. After all, it's a duel, not a date.

"You're not thinking, 'I'd better watch my hands,'" says Jessica, 16, a junior on the boys' varsity wrestling team at Manheim Township High School in Lancaster, Pa. "All you're thinking about is trying to win the match."

Girl wrestlers usually train and compete against only boys, but that may soon change. In Jessica's home state, for example, there are now enough girls in the sport that the first Pennsylvania Girls' State Wrestling Championships took place last February. Jessica, 5 feet 1 inch tall, captured the title in the 100-pound class and later earned All-America honors at the National High School Girls' Championships. Against the guys, her varsity record is 7-17 in the 103-pound class, though some boys still forfeit rather than wrestle against her.

girl high school wrestlers

10 years ago124

Today2,361

Jessica takes pride in the fact that she's a pioneer. She envies a day when girls who wrestle will have not just a tournament but teams of their own. "I imagine that in 10 years, girls' wrestling will be a high school sport," she says. Maybe even sooner.

These three athletes represent a female force in the rough-and-tumble 'boy sports' of wrestling, hockey and football.



Jessica Heckman practices with a teammate.

girl jocks rock

by Joe Layden

physical football

In the past, if a girl showed up on the football field, she typically was a cheerleader or maybe a placekicker drafted from the soccer team. But today, there's a new breed of player, a heavy hitter who mixes it up with the guys in the trenches.

Jessica Howard, 16, is that kind of player, an offensive guard at Turner High School in Kansas City, Kan. "I enjoy playing with the boys because it's more physical," she says. "That's what I like. Girls should have an opportunity to play, but you have to be able to take it. There shouldn't be any special treatment."



Jessica Howard's teammates appreciate her football skills.

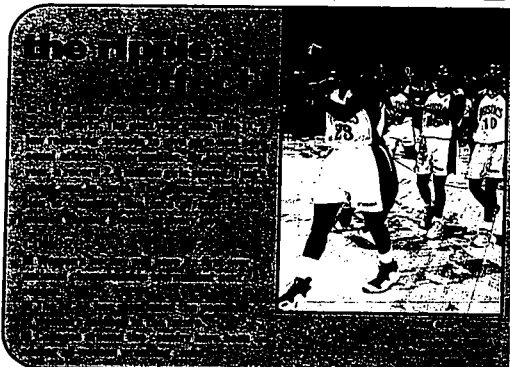
A 5-foot-3-inch, 170-pound junior, Jessica is a junior varsity starter and a varsity backup. Her coach says her skills measure up with her teammates. She has been playing football since sixth grade, and she's also on softball and basketball teams. If you want to get on Jessica's bad side, ask her if she would ever trade her shoulder pads for pom-poms. "No way!" she says. Her place is in the middle of the action, not on the sidelines.

girl high school football players

10 years ago109

Today708

High school stats source: National Federation of State High School Associations





Natalie Darwitz is a star in hockeyland Minnesota.

hockey heroine

Minnesota is ground zero for the girls' hockey boom. With more than 2,000 players on girls-only teams, it's the only state with an all-girls state tournament. At Eagan High School in suburban Minneapolis, the girls' team draws as many fans as the boys' team—thanks in large part to Natalie Darwitz, 16, the top teen star in the game.

A lightning-quick 5-foot-2-inch sophomore forward, Natalie has been called a female version of Paul Kariya, star of the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim. Natalie played on boys' teams until seventh grade, and she says the intense competition helped make her the player she is today. "It was fun playing with boys because they naturally push you," Natalie says. "That's how I improved. But I'm really glad there's girls' hockey. It's like you're best friends."

with your best friends."

She was Eagan's leading scorer since she was in eighth grade. Last year, she was the youngest player ever on the U.S. National Senior Women's Team and was the MVP at a tournament in Finland. She wants to play with the team again at the 2002 Winter Games in Salt Lake City. "One of my biggest goals," Natalie says, "is to go to the Olympics."

girl high school hockey players

10 years ago 80

Today 3,554

get in the game

Which is better, for girls to play on boys' teams or on girls-only teams? Do pro athletes get the same respect as boy athletes? Write *react/girl sports*, 711 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10017; phone 800 58-REACT, or surf www.react.com.your2cents.offline

Olympic

- Women's
- the 1998
- boobies
- Women's
- polo will
- Summer
- strong position

pros

- The WNBA
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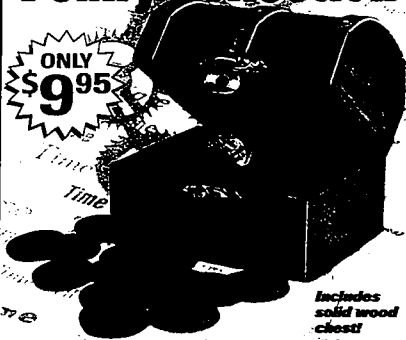


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WORKINGstiffs

BEFORE THEY WERE BIG SHOTS, SOME CELEBRITIES HAD TO SUFFER THROUGH THEIR SHARE OF ODD JOBS. HERE ARE THE HORRIFYING, HUMOROUS AND HUMBLE BEGINNINGS OF THE STARS.

Shirley Manson

"I worked in a clothing store called Miss Selfridges. One time, a woman came in [to the dressing room] with 40 articles of clothing. I had told her repeatedly that day that she could only bring in three items at a time, and finally she got frustrated and flung a bunch of clothes on top of me. I propelled myself out of my chair and went after her. My co-workers dragged me off her. I was never allowed to deal with the public again."



Jennifer Aniston

"I witnessed at Jackson Hole in New York City. I really loved it. The problem was that the customers didn't like me because I would try to memorize the orders instead of writing the entire thing down. Suddenly, hot dogs became hotwax."



Faith Hill

"I once worked at [country singer] Reba McEntire's company packaging Reba merchandise. During that time, I was struggling for a record deal. I would work there during the day, and sing at night. I packaged so much merchandise that I became a master using the tape gun. I must confess, I have not picked up a tape gun since."

Jim Carrey

"My dad lost his CPA (certified public accountant) job when I was in high school, and the entire family had to go to work. We all got jobs in a tire rim factory. It was so awful and monotonous. I wanted to scream."



Jonathan Davis

"Before I joined Koca, I had a job in the Kern County coroner's office in Bakersfield, Calif. I wrote the song 'Pretty' [from *Follow the Leader*] about a body that came into the coroner's office while I was working there. I still have nightmares about it. I was about 17 at the time. It was heavy, man. I went through all kinds of therapy. When you see someone dead, it traumatizes your brain. Because of this, I live every day like it's gonna be my last."



Cameron Diaz

"I worked at TCBY, the yogurt shop. It was really awful because the first two weeks I lived on the chocolate and vanilla swirl. Now, the mere sight of it leaves me queasy."



Chris Tucker

"I worked for my father's cleaning service. We used to clean Burger Kings. People would go to the bathroom on the floor and we would have to clean it up. Plus, there were all those burgers and fries to sweep up. It was so gross."

David Boreanaz

"I was a towel boy for a sports club. I used to sell gourmet food door-to-door, which was disastrous. I even cleaned out honeywagons [portable bathrooms used by film crews]. Now, every time I have to use the honeywagon when we're filming on location, I stay humble thinking about what I did then and what I do now."



—reported by
Kris Nicholson,
Cindy Pearlman
and Margie Barron

wage gauge quiz

How much do you make? For some celebrities, it pays to know your net worth and how much you really make.

tell us what you think
the react
reader survey

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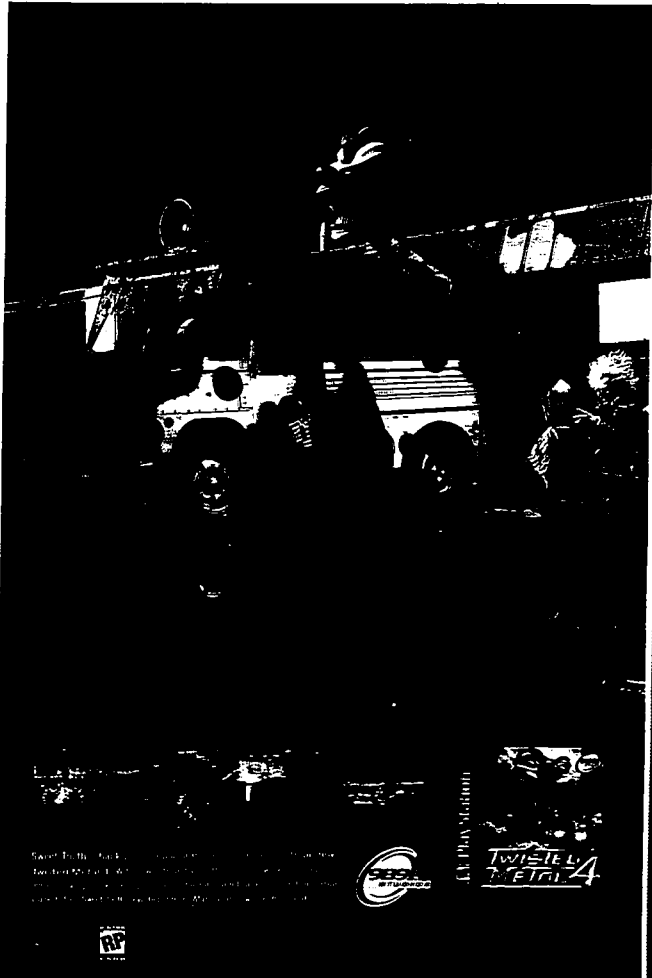
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la vida Latin

Being Latino, I appreciated the article "Latin Fever!" (Oct. 4-10 issue). I hope to make my own music one day. It must be great for the world to know your name as well as your music. I hope to be as big as the one and only Ricky Martin.

Peter, 19
New York City

it's not a small world

I am short (5 feet 1 inch, to be exact) and I'm OK with it. My problem is, the world is made for tall people. When I buy jeans, my mom has to hem a few inches—so my bell bottoms are about as flared as Gandhi's temper (as in not very)! Also, when I practice driving, it's a struggle to reach the pedals even with the seat pulled all the way up. What's with this mentality that makes people think taller is better? Good things come in small packages!

Louise Filippo, 26
Zimmerman, Minn.

why isn't nice news?

Why is it that whenever a teenager does something good, you never hear about it? All you read in the paper is the bad things (some) kids do. Most teenagers are really nice—we help out and go that extra mile to make someone else happy. It would be great if adults gave us a chance instead of the look of death when we walk down the street.

Ambor Rutten, 17
West Fargo, N.D.

embarrassing moment

I was walking with my posse across this huge field where everyone was hanging out. We were all giggling and swooning about this hot guy about 20 feet away. I was so wrapped up in giving him flirtatious glances, I didn't notice my shoelaces were untied. Just as we made eye contact, I tripped and fell face down into the wet grass. I was humiliated, but my friends just couldn't keep from laughing.

Molly, 14
Loveland, Ohio

a sobering thought

Our story about the "safe rides" program and teen driving prompted many letters. Here are two:

I couldn't believe that teen designated drivers can be punished for staying sober and making sure their friends get home safely. I don't condone drinking (no matter what your age), but people are going to drink. Designated drivers save lives—they shouldn't be punished.

Mike Edinger, 15
Baldwinsville, N.Y.

I think we should do whatever it takes to get kids to stop drinking. What's the hurry, anyway? You have the rest of your life to drink—why take the chance of shortening your life and anyone else's by drinking and driving?

R.C., 17
Trenton, Mo.

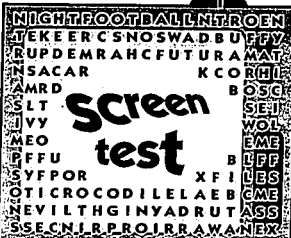
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fun zone

From the list of shows, right, take the words in bold and try to find them in the TV SET



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A contest is hidden in the leftover letters. Read the letters left to right and top to bottom and follow the directions to win a TV-related prize. Send your answer along with your name, age, address and phone number. We'll pick one winner from entries with the correct answer. Send it to: react/puzzle, 711 Third Ave., New York, NY 10017. No purchase necessary. Odds of winning depend on the number of entries received. Void in Puerto Rico and where prohibited. Subject to all federal, state and local taxes and regulations. Income and other taxes are the sole responsibility of the winner. Approximate value of prize: \$12.

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CHARMED
THE CROCODILE Hunter
DAWSON'S CREEK
FELICITY
FRIENDS
FUTURAMA
MAD TV
MOESHA
Monday NIGHT FOOTBALL
PARTY OF FIVE
SABRINA the Teenage Witch
SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE
THE SIMPSONS
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3rd ROCK from the Sun
XENA: WARRIOR PRINCESS
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(6) Winner's Winner will be determined by random drawing from all eligible entries received, to be conducted by Sponsor at its office on or about 11 business days from the end of the Sweepstakes. All decisions by Sponsor in regard to the Sweepstakes are final & binding. Sponsor reserves the right to substitute prize of comparable or greater value should hardware or software become unavailable. Odds of winning depend on total number of entries received. To enter prize, each Winner (or winner's parent/guardian on winner's behalf) may be required to complete an affidavit or declaration of eligibility for a publicity release, which must be signed & returned so that it is received within 14 days of date printed on notification of alternate winner will be ineligible at random. Sponsor is not responsible for a shall not be liable for late, lost, undelivered, or unacknowledged entries by winners. 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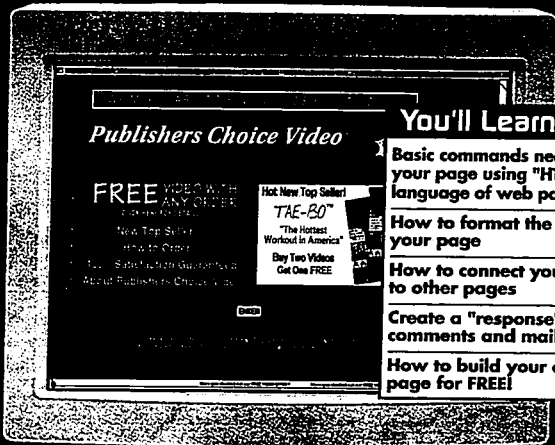
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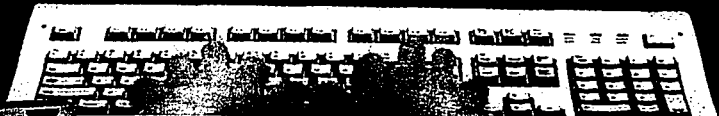
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