

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy, high 38, chance of snow. Low tonight 22. Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Doing better: A man shot in his home Tuesday was upgraded from critical to serious condition Wednesday. Page C1

No arrests: Investigators are still looking into the death of a 1-month-old Burley infant. Page C1

MONEY

Take a break: How's your stress level at work? Page C10

OUTDOORS

Staze away: Young hunters from across the Magic Valley jearned valuable tips about waterfall hunting on Saturday. Page D1



Testing the waters: A confirmed pacifier tries her hand at hunting. Page D1

SPORTS

Better Bruins: The Twin Falls High School boys' basketball team hammered No. 3 Idaho Falls Wednesday in its home debut. Page B1

OPINION

The Big Ditch: The Panama Canal is important to a landlocked state like Idaho, today's editorial says. Page A10

Crapo pushes international trade

By Gregory Hahn Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The progress made at the Seattle talks of the World Trade Organization will encourage a better environment for Idaho agriculture, Sen. Mike Crapo said Wednesday.

The negotiations are expected to last the next three years, and Crapo said he knows farmers need answers before then. Congress needs to look at regulation and tax reform and corporate consolidation of markets as well.

"But bottom line, long term, we cannot ignore the impact of international trade," he said.



he said: Crapo spoke about the WTO to the Twin Falls Rotary Club and, earlier, to The Times-News' editorial board.

...bottom line, long term, we cannot ignore the impact of international trade!

-Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho

He said President Clinton's plan to enforce labor and environmental standards through the negotiations may have been misplaced, and said Idahoans shouldn't read that America failed at the talks because the WTO rejected Clinton's ideas.

The biggest goal was to eliminate trade-distorting subsidies in agriculture, he said, and the United States convinced all but the European Union, Japan and three other nations that this idea should be on the table. The nations have a long way to go before they agree what government

On salmon - A2
More on WTO - C10

attions should be restricted to some say food stamps and school lunch programs distort trade and prices, though Crapo disagrees.

Some of the toughest questions Crapo faced came from a Rotary club. Twin Falls High School senior Andrew Stone asked whether the 152-member WTO, which meets behind closed doors and keeps secret records, is truly democratic. Please see CRAP0, Page A2

Idaho housing industry booms

Building, population growth both set torrid pace in the 1990s

The Associated Press

BOISE - A new Census Bureau report issued on Wednesday confirmed the strength construction has been adding to Idaho's extended economic expansion.

The government reported that the state with the third fastest-growing population in the 1990s also built homes and apartments faster than all but two other states.

And that was after housing starts nearly doubled during the final two years of the 1980s as the expansion began to "pick up steam." The Census Bureau was one of the nation's strongest economies during that period and attracted thousands of newcomers into the state, a analysis said in the new assessment of the Idaho economy.

Nearly 150,000 people migrated to Idaho during the period to combine with natural growth to swell the population by 220,000, or 22 percent, between 1990 and mid-1998.

And, during the same period, the housing units increased by 21.8 percent, or 90,000, to exceed 500,000 last year, the Census Bureau reported. Only Nevada, which ranked first in both population and housing growth, and Utah, which ranked fourth in population but second in housing, saw higher growth rates.

Arizona, which had the second strongest population growth in the 1990s, was fourth in the increase in housing units at 21 percent.

Analysts said jump in housing starts, which doubled again between 1990 and 1993, was a response to the recession during the near-depression of the mid-1980s. Housing starts peaked at nearly 13,000 in 1994 and have hovered in the 9,000 to 10,000 range since.

"The construction industry found itself in a catch-up mode during most of the boom period," they said.

The boom also took the number of comparatively high-paying construction jobs from barely 16,000 in 1989 to more than 32,000 last year, and while growth is settling



Matt Montarbo attaches siding to a new home at the North Pointe Ranch subdivision off North College Road in Twin Falls. Idaho ranked third in the nation in new home construction in the 1990s, with a 21.8 percent growth rate.

found itself in a catch-up mode during most of the boom period," they said.

The boom also took the number

of comparatively high-paying construction jobs from barely 16,000 in 1989 to more than 32,000 last year, and while growth is settling

to more sustainable levels construction employment will still account for almost a third of all goods-producing jobs.

Report criticizes fatal gene therapy

Probe shines light on emerging medical treatment

The Associated Press

BETHESDA, Md. - An Arizona teenager who died in a gene therapy experiment should never have been part of the study and researchers who conducted it violated at least two rules of the testing, federal officials said Wednesday.

Food and Drug Administration officials said Jesse Gelsinger, 18, "did not meet the entry criterion" for participating in an experiment in which his liver was injected with a virus carrying a corrective gene.

Researchers at the University of Pennsylvania, where the experiment was part of a series of gene therapy trials, denied the accusation and said they would defend their work at a hearing Friday at the National Institutes of Health.

The allegations were announced Wednesday after a daylong hearing before an NIH advisory committee investigating the death and looking at safety issues in gene therapy experiments. The panel, called the Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee, or RAC, also is considering new guidelines that would sharpen federal control and force the public disclosure of problems in gene therapy experiments.

The RAC's hearing, before a packed auditorium, is to resume today and is expected to continue through Friday.

Gelsinger's death, the first directly blamed on a gene therapy experiment, prompted the review of the emerging medical treatment.

The Tucson teenager suffered from a genetic liver disorder and was enrolled in a University of Pennsylvania trial designed to correct his condition by inserting

the Tucson teenager suffered from a genetic liver disorder and was enrolled in a University of Pennsylvania trial designed to correct his condition by inserting

genes. Please see THERAPY, Page A2

Youth, fearing foster care, lived with mom's corpse

The Associated Press

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - A 9-year-old boy whose mother died at home lived with the corpse for a month, eating his own meals and attending school without fail, because he was afraid he'd be put in foster care if anyone found out. Today, he is with his maternal grandparents, who live in Carthage, Miss., and were awarded temporary custody.

When Crystal Walls died Nov. 3, her son, Travis Burley, covered her body with her coat and placed sheets of notebook paper over her face.

Also that day, Travis cut his hair, shaved and prepared meals - mainly frozen pizza, cereal and soup - and went to school every day until her body was discovered Monday by family friends Dorothy and Nathaniel Jeffries.

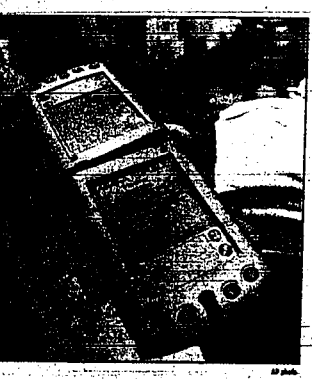
Mrs. Jeffries said Travis begged them not to call police. He told them he lived with the body on the living room floor because he was afraid of being placed in a foster home.

"When the ambulance came he ran to his mother because he didn't want her to be taken. I will never forget that night," she said.

Police have not released a cause of death for Ms. Walls, 30, but said foul play is not suspected.

Mrs. Jeffries and her husband went to Ms. Walls' apartment. When they arrived, Travis answered the door.

"At first he said his mother was at work and wouldn't let us inside," Mrs. Jeffries said. "When we kept asking he finally just broke down and said, 'Mama can't talk anymore because she got really sick and I think she is dead.'"



A Palm Pilot displays information ready for download to another device by using an infrared beam Wednesday at the Basing Republic store in New York.

'Geek handshake' offers the latest in techies talking

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Forget the pen and paper. It's all about beaming information.

When Steve Kan and his mother sat down one afternoon to swap family addresses and phone numbers, they lined up their handheld computing devices, pressed a button and instantly beamed complete lists to each other.

The phenomenon of swapping information via infrared beams is catching on for its novelty and convenience. Standing a few feet apart, people with portable devices like 3Com's Palm Computing series or Handstar's Visor can send memos, business cards, and even software with a touch of a button.

"It's kind of the geek handshake," said Kan, a management consultant in Los Angeles. When members of his family get together with their Palm computers, "we swap information all the time."

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THE REGION

Camas Prairie

High 31 Low: 9
Mostly cloudy today with chance of snow. Same tonight. Partly cloudy Friday, high 32.

Treasure Valley

High 31 Low: 28
Mostly cloudy today with chance of snow. Same tonight. Partly cloudy Friday, high 42.

Sawtooth Mountains/Wood River Valley

High 30 Low: 10
Mostly cloudy today with chance of snow. Same tonight. Partly cloudy Friday, high 33.

Eastern Idaho

High 33 Low: 20
Mostly cloudy today with chance of snow. Same tonight. Partly cloudy Friday, high 34.

Northern Idaho

High 36 Low: 29
Snow likely today and scattered tonight. Fog likely Saturday, then mostly cloudy, high 36.

Northern Utah

High 34 Low: 20
Mostly cloudy today with chance of snow. Same tonight. Partly cloudy Friday, high 33.

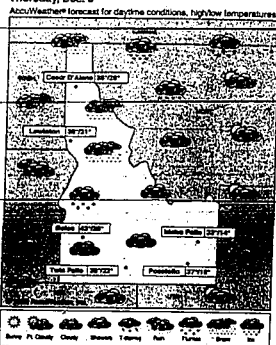
Northern Nevada

High 40 Low: 25
Mostly cloudy today with chance of snow. Same tonight. Partly cloudy Friday, high 42.

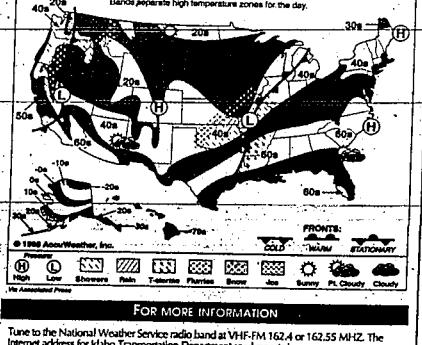
MAGIC VALLEY FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday
High: 38 Low: 22 Partly cloudy with chance of snow.	High: 40 Low: 23 Partly cloudy with chance of snow.	High: 30 Low: teens Mostly cloudy with chance of snow.	High: 30 Low: teens Mostly cloudy with chance of snow.	High: 30 Low: teens Mostly cloudy with chance of snow.

Idaho weather



National Weather



UV INDEX

Index: 3 (minimal)
Burn time: 60 minutes

FIRE DANGER

The BLM has ended its fire restrictions for the season. Officials ask public lands users to use caution.

SKYWATCH

Sunset today: 5:05 p.m.
Sunrise tomorrow: 7:57 a.m.
Lunar phases: First quarter, Dec. 16; full, Dec. 22; last quarter, Dec. 29; new, Jan. 6, 2000.

ACROSS THE NATION

Idaho: High pressure was building over the Intermountain region today with moderate northwesterly winds in the upper atmosphere. Only a few showers occurred overnight with very light amounts being reported in the Treasure Valley and around Lowell.

Elsewhere: A storm system dumped up to 10 inches of snow in parts of Rockies on Wednesday, while rainfalls along the East Coast enjoyed fair and mild conditions.

The potent low pressure system that moved across the Rockies concentrated its heaviest snowfall from Colorado south to New Mexico. Southerly winds developing ahead of the storm pulled moisture north from the Gulf of Mexico into the Northwest from the southern Plains. Skies were mostly cloudy from eastern Texas and Louisiana, north into Kansas and Missouri.

Showers spread into parts of the West Coast in advance of a storm system. Most of the rain was confined to areas of western Washington, western Oregon and northwestern California, with snow in the higher elevations.

—The Associated Press

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER

Twin Falls	Precipitation
Yesterday: 34-21	Yesterday in Twin Falls: 1.03
Last year: 31-23	Month to date: 1.93
Normal: 41-23	Normal mo. to date: 2.16
	Water year to date: 17.14
	Normal year to date: 22.91

Idaho

City	High	Low	Wind	Clouds
Boise	30	27	21	bc
Burley	36	29	29	bc
Coeur d'Alene	36	30	17	bc
Grangeville	m	m	m	bc
Hagerman	m	28	15	bc
Idaho Falls	23	7	tr.	bc
Lewiston	33	23	15	bc
Malad	34	16	bc	bc
Malta	m	25	bc	bc
McCall	26	11	bc	bc
Pocatello	28	19	tr.	bc
Salmon	28	14	bc	bc
Stanley	10	01	bc	bc
Sun Valley	m	m	bc	bc

The Nation

City	High	Low	Wind	Clouds
Albuquerque	48	24	bc	bc
Anchorage	6	3	bc	bc
Boston	51	35	bc	bc
Chicago	49	27	bc	bc
Denver	31	24	bc	bc
Detroit	48	29	bc	bc
Honolulu	81	72	bc	bc
Los Angeles	57	31	bc	bc
Madison	35	29	bc	bc
Minneapolis	53	29	bc	bc
Missoula	55	46	bc	bc
Los Angeles	67	54	bc	bc
Las Vegas	56	38	bc	bc
Miami Beach	77	69	bc	bc
Minneapolis	47	31	bc	bc
Phoenix	68	46	bc	bc
New Orleans	68	46	bc	bc
New York	55	36	bc	bc
Oklahoma City	63	41	bc	bc
Omaha	59	29	bc	bc
Portland, Me.	60	23	bc	bc
Pittsburgh	50	23	bc	bc
Portland, Ore.	45	41	bc	bc
Reno	48	17	bc	bc
San Francisco	58	38	bc	bc
Salt Lake City	32	23	bc	bc
Seattle	45	39	bc	bc
San Diego	59	35	bc	bc
Washington	36	25	bc	bc
Yuma	66	50	bc	bc

Canadian Cities

City	High	Low
Calgary	34	12
Montreal	39	28
Toronto	37	27
Vancouver	44	35

White House may take gun issue to court

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — With Congress dead set against enacting new gun-control laws and little prospect for change, the White House is turning to the courts to force changes in the way firearms manufacturers market and design their weapons.

Even as 24 cities and two state governments pursue lawsuits against gun-makers, President Clinton said Wednesday that the federal government would join the legal assault by charging that the industry's marketing and manufacturing methods spread violent crime at the nation's 3,000 public-housing authorities.

Clinton said that the White House would be willing to negotiate a settlement, but also was prepared to engage in a round of lawsuits that could financially cripple the industry if it fails to take steps to keep guns out of the hands of criminals.

It is not clear what impact a federal lawsuit might have on the pending suits by local governments.

Beam

Continued from A1

It is just one more way that technology is making it easier for people to exchange information quickly, without a lot of conversation or writing. Technology tools also make it easier for people to share very specific information, said Scott Chadwick, executive professor of organizational communication at Iowa State University.

"People intentionally select and edit what they are going to communicate," Chadwick said. Exchanging business cards is perhaps the most traditional use of this technology because the "beamed" information can automatically be stored in the computer's address book. But the ease of beaming and the growing sales of handheld computing devices are making it popular beyond the professional realm.

At retailer Banana Republic's flagship store in New York City, shoppers toting their handheld computers can get a map and directory of the store beamed to them by a concierge at the front desk.

"A new television ad for Palm Computing shows its romantic possibilities: A woman on one train locks eyes with a man on another train the next track over. The ad claims she is about to speed off in opposite directions, she pulls out her computer and beams her number to him.

Crapo says salmon solution lies in compromise

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Salmon might be tough to save, but the effort must be made, Sen. Mike Crapo said Wednesday.

Crapo, R-Idaho, touched on salmon recovery and wilderness water during his latest visit to Twin Falls Wednesday.

"Here are some highlights of his talk with The Times-News' editorial board:

• On salmon recovery: "I truly believe that salmon are an integral part of our cultural heritage," Crapo said, adding that

the deep arguments around how to save the fish shouldn't stop the Northwest from trying. "The answers aren't going to be easy, or we'd have found them already."

And the answer, he said, shouldn't lie in the complete elimination of any open economic and cultural cornerstone, be it coastal or Native American fishing, the Lewiston barging routes provided by the four lower Snake River dams, or the high desert agricultural land watered by the Snake River in southern Idaho.

No one in the Northwest should be asked to make one of these "ultimate sacrifices," Crapo said. That way, the discussions can move toward solutions, not further conflicts.

Irrigators have been willing to provide some water for flow augmentation, he said. The dams could be operated in ways to provide more water when the fish need it and the harvests can be reduced or altered to give surviving natural runs a chance to rebound.

• On the Supreme Court's wilderness water opinion: "I don't understand the decision," he said.

It seems Congress made it clear the wilderness designation would not imply or explicitly create a water right, he said. But the Idaho high court found otherwise, though it has agreed to rehear the case.

A lot of Idahoans are saying the court needs a way out, but if the justices change their minds, they need to "just say" they're tired and now feel differently about that. That's a situation everyone's been in, he added.

Therapy — Gore refuses to rule out tax increase

Continued from A1

normal genes into his liver.

Gelinger died within days of the experiment.

Kathryn Zoon, chief of the FDA's Center for Biologics Evaluation, said preliminary findings of an FDA investigation show Gelinger had elevated ammonia in his blood, an indication of a distressed liver, when he received the gene injection. "The entry levels for ammonia (readings) were not met," said Zoon.

She also said the Pennsylvania researchers failed to notify the FDA of two other patients in the therapy experiments who suffered liver damage severe enough to halt the trial.

"The investigators were supposed to have notified the FDA by call or fax immediately," said Zoon.

Dr. James Wilson, head of the University of Pennsylvania team, said Gelinger died of the unrelated pneumonia, but his ammonia levels were "slightly elevated" just prior to the gene therapy injection. "We remain fully comfortable with the clinical protocol and use alternate pathways to lower that level and proceed with the trial," Wilson said in a statement.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Al Gore, who spent the past week "hammering" Bill Bradley for refusing to rule out future tax increases, declined Wednesday to make his own now-or-never pledge. "Nobody has a crystal ball," Gore said.

"I'm willing to say that under current economic circumstances, I have no intention of proposing any tax increase," Gore told reporters during an unusual campaign stop.

At the cigarette-smoke-filled Cyberstop Cafe, Gore sent Bradley, an e-mail questioning Bradley's stand on strengthening Medicare.

Amid a blistering battle-by-press-release between Gore and

Bradley on the question of raising taxes, a reporter asked the vice president if he was willing now to swear off tax increases even if under a Gore presidency, federal budget surplus projections fall to zero.

Pressed to clarify that he was not ruling out tax increases under whatever future turn the economy may take, Gore replied by pulling them out under circumstances that approximate what we have today. "Nobody has a crystal ball." But what we do have is the biggest surplus in the history of the United States.

Crapo

Continued from A1

and whether America and other nations are looking beyond China's human rights and environmental record to the dollar signs promised by opening one-fourth of the world's population to free trade.

To the first question, Crapo said he's had trouble with past trade agreements for the very

same reason. The WTO is democratic in that every member must agree on a policy, but depending on the agreements the negotiators reach, the sovereignty of a country could be superseded. Good trade agreements, Crapo said, allow countries to decide whether to comply with them or not — and to pay the price either way.

As for China, Crapo repeated that he'd support the country's membership under certain conditions.

"It is my belief that if we really want to see change in China, the approach is to engage them, not isolate them," Crapo said.

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Daniel Waback, circulation director

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Press and 2

WEATHER FORECAST

The Information Line is Available 24 Hours a Day!

The Times-News The Times-News

LOTTERY UPDATE

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Match three dollar amounts, win the prize. Uncover the word "double", win double the amount up to \$5,000. Try it today at any Idaho Lottery Retailer near you!

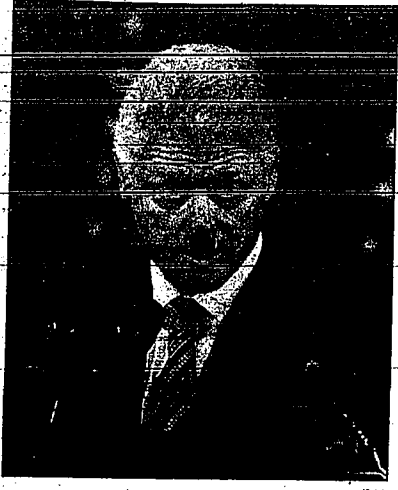
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 NUMBERS
POWERBALL
13 34 40 44 47
POWERBALL NUMBER 24

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 NUMBERS
WILD CARD
13 16 19 20 31
WILD CARD NUMBER KING OF HEARTS

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 8 NUMBERS
FAST
3 15 18 22 24

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Spaced out? NASA has an awful year



President Clinton said during a news conference Wednesday in Washington, D.C., that Israel and Syria will resume Mideast peace talks next week.

Clinton claims year was 'very productive'

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton summarized his year of impeachment and legislative battles as "very productive" on Wednesday while, on foreign problems, he refused to take sides in a child custody dispute with Cuba and rejected halting aid to Russia for its bombing in Chechnya.

"At an hour-long news conference, the president also said he and his wife Hillary will "have to be apart more than I wish we were" as the pursues a Senate seat in New York and he lives at the White House. "It's not the best arrangement in the world but it's something that we can live with for a year."

Asked to name the "man of the century," Clinton chose Franklin D. Roosevelt because he led the nation through the perils of the Depression and World War II and was the father of Social Security and unemployment insurance.

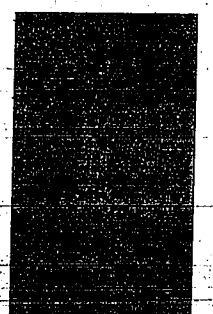
The president met with reporters at the State Department's Dean Acheson auditorium. He opened by announcing that Syria and Israel would resume land-for-peace talks after 3.5 years, beginning again at the point where negotiations broke off. Clinton said it was a significant breakthrough but warned that the negotiations — opening in Washington next week — would be difficult.

On a contentious issue with Cuba, the president said he would not intervene in a struggle over the custody of a 6-year-old boy, Elian Gonzalez, who was rescued at sea after his mother and stepfather drowned in an illegal attempt to flee to the United States. The boy's father, Juan Miguel Gonzalez, has insisted on his return to Cuba; relatives in Miami want to keep him there.

"I think all fathers would be sympathetic" with the father's demand, Clinton said.

The president added, "I don't think that we should, any of us, should interfere with what is going to be a difficult enough decision as it is... Even here, sometimes it's very hard to say, you know, would children be better off with their parents in America? Almost always, but not always."

Turning to another world prob-



lem, Clinton it would be a mistake to cut off U.S. aid to Russia because of its military campaign in Chechnya. He said two-thirds of U.S. assistance is used to safeguard nuclear materials or destroy warheads, while the remainder finances democracy-building programs such as student exchanges and an independent media.

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A grounded space shuttle fleet. An international space station on hold. A crippled Hubble Space Telescope. Two failed Mars probes. One launch delay after another.

For NASA, this has been the worst year since the Challenger disaster in 1986.

The space agency has a chance to redeem itself with the shuttle. Discovery's mission to save the Hubble, which is out of service until astronauts arrive with replacement parts. But Saturday's launch is off while NASA decides what to do about a dented fuel line, and the delay could last for days or weeks.

The flight is already two months late because of never-ending wiring problems.

Alex Roland, a former NASA historian who teaches at Duke University, said the string of launch delays and other problems have eroded public confidence in NASA and given the impression of an agency in disarray. At the same time, he said he found it worrisome to see NASA going into a shuttle countdown amid such turmoil.

"You don't ever want external public or political pressure shaping your decisions about a mission," he said. "Unfortunately, that's the position that NASA now finds itself in," Roland said Wednesday. "No matter how detached they attempt to be about the technical readiness to launch, they are sure to have all these other things in the back of their minds."

Back in the glory days of Apollo during the 1960s, NASA was the can-do agency. In only eight

NASA's troubled year

Plagued with project fiascos and mechanical failures, NASA is having its worst year since the Challenger disaster in 1986. Here is a look at some of the troubles NASA has faced during 1999.

May 1999	July 23:	Sept. 23:	Nov. 3:	Dec. 3:
May 27: The year's first shuttle is launched after a six-month launch gap caused by Russia's inability to complete a crucial space station part.	July 23: A short circuit in the Mars and Mars Observer is launched after a six-month launch gap caused by Russia's inability to complete a crucial space station part.	Sept. 23: The Mars and Mars Observer is launched after a six-month launch gap caused by Russia's inability to complete a crucial space station part.	Nov. 3: A fuel tank for the X-33, a prototype of a space plane that will replace the aging shuttles, is damaged during testing.	Dec. 3: Scientists wait in vain to hear from the Mars Polar Lander. Guys later, it is assumed lost. At about the same time, more wiring problems are found on shuttle observations cases.

Source: Compiled from AP wire reports

years, it put men on the moon. Despite all odds, it saved three astronauts from the cursed Apollo 13 in 1970.

Fast-forward to 1999: Money isn't nearly as forthcoming from Washington and NASA can't seem to do anything right.

"It's been a tough year," said Ed Weiler, head of NASA's space science program. "If our job were to be producing carburetors for Toyotas and we had this kind of year, I'd say it wasn't bad luck, it was we were screwing up doing something here."

"We're exploring the universe. It's not just a cliché. We are, we really are, I'm not just saying that for effect, and you're going to have bumps along the road."

In July, a short circuit caused by an exposed wire and fuel

leak caused by a loose engine pin marred the launch of the first shuttle commanded by a woman and led to the grounding of the fleet. Each problem was "potentially disastrous," in the words of

one aerospace safety official. In September, the Mars Climate Orbiter apparently burned up in the Red Planet's atmosphere because of a metric mix-up. In November, the Hubble's system for pointing at stars shut down and all astronomical observations ceased, and the A-33 program to develop a new generation of space shuttles suffered a major setback when a fuel tank was damaged in testing. In December, the Mars Polar Lander failed to call home when it tried to land on the Red Planet. And then there were problems outside NASA's control. Russia, strapped for cash, has not yet completed a crucial part for the international space station. As a result, the use of the space station is on hold and no one can move into it yet.

If Discovery manages to blast off in December, it will be only the third shuttle flight this year. NASA hasn't had such a slow year since shuttle flights resumed in September 1988, more than 2.5 years after the Challenger accident left seven astronauts dead.

Planets may have wandered

The Associated Press

Scientists say they may have solved a far-out mystery: how Uranus and Neptune came to exist at the very edges of the solar system.

A study says the two icy planets may have been born much closer to the sun than previously thought and ended up in their current orbits after gravitational forces from Jupiter violently hurled them away. That would explain why the two planetary giants could exist at the far edge of the solar system, where there was not enough gas and dust to

make a planet coe ago.

The study is based on computer simulations conducted by Martin Duncan of Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, and colleagues.

All the planets in the solar system are believed to have evolved through the accumulation of a large number of small bodies that circulated in a huge disk around the sun. The researchers theorize that Uranus and Neptune formed their cores near the orbits of Jupiter and Saturn, within a ring of about five to 10 astronomical units from the sun. One astronomical unit equals the distance from the sun to the Earth.

Soldier found guilty of killing

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP) — An Army private was found guilty of premeditated murder Wednesday for bludgeoning to death a fellow soldier in a beating prosecutors said was motivated by his hatred of homosexuals.

Pvt. Calvin N. Glover, 18, was convicted of using a baseball bat to crush Pfc. Barry Winchell's skull as he slept on a cot at the Fort Campbell barracks on July 5. The military jury deliberated for little more than an hour.

A sentencing hearing was set for today.

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NATION



Presidential candidate Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., speaks Wednesday to people gathered in the courtyard of Stillman College at Yale University in New Haven, Conn.

McCain says donations did not influence his stand on mergers

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) - Republican presidential candidate John McCain denied Wednesday that donations from telecommunications executives influenced legislation he introduced that would strip the Federal Communications Commission of its power to approve telecom mergers.

McCain was responding to a citizen watchdog study Tuesday that questioned his ties to AT&T. The Center for Public Integrity noted that former Rep. Vin Weber, a McCain campaign adviser who lobbies for AT&T, was co-host for a \$120,000 fundraising event for the senator two months before he introduced the legislation. Two days after that event, McCain hinted he would

try to strip the FCC of its role in approving mergers. He introduced the legislation on May 26 and within two weeks, 10 AT&T executives had made maximum \$1,000 contributions each to McCain's presidential campaign. Employees of two Baby Bells, US West and BellSouth, are among McCain's top five contributors, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, which studies political giving. The biggest contributors are the employees of Viacom, which is waiting for government permission to merge with CBS. AT&T employees rank eighth.

Martin Luther King Jr. was victim of deadly conspiracy, jury decides

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - A jury hearing a wrongful death lawsuit filed by the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s family found Wednesday that the civil rights leader was the victim of a vast murder conspiracy, not a lone assassin. The family had sued Loyd Jowers, a retired Memphis business man who claimed six years ago that he paid someone other than James Earl Ray to kill King. The family's lawyer claimed that the government, the Mafia and the military were involved.

part of a study helped some of the children greatly. "There seems to be a significant placebo effect, but no difference between secretin and placebo," said Dr. Adrian D. Sandler, lead author of a study published in today's New England Journal of Medicine. The findings "strongly suggest that secretin should not be recommended to treat autism until the results of our other ongoing studies are known," said Dr. Daune Alexander, director of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, which sponsored the study.

Cancer are five times more likely to survive if they undergo castration - either chemically or surgically - immediately after the prostate is removed, a study found. That is a desperate measure, but spreading prostate cancer is a killer, and some men become impotent anyway from prostate removal surgery.

The family had asked for a token amount because what they wanted most was for the jury to find evidence of a conspiracy and lend support to their call for a new investigation into the killing. "I'm just so happy to see that the people have spoken," King's son Dexter said. "This is what we've always asked for."

"Thousands of parents have lured doctors willing to give their autistic children intravenous doses of secretin - an digestive enzyme that costs \$180 per vial - since a New Hampshire woman said in 1997 that one dose given during a diagnostic test had brought her son out of autistic isolation. There were reports of a black market and exorbitant prices.

Study: Stunted brain protein might promote Alzheimer's
Scientists have found another potential clue to understanding what goes wrong in the brain to cause Alzheimer's disease. The work, while preliminary, suggests a possible new approach to treatment.

Ray confessed to killing King and was sentenced to 99 years in prison. He spent the rest of his life claiming to be innocent and trying to get a trial. He died from liver disease last year.

That prompted a series of studies to test secretin against a placebo, since it has long been known that simply being treated can help many people, whether or not the treatment has any medical effect. Only two of the studies are complete.

Researchers focused on a critical enzyme in brain cells and a protein that controls its activity. Their findings suggest that if brain cells produce an abnormal, stunted version of this protein, the enzyme can run amok, leading to death of brain cells. That could play a role in causing Alzheimer's. Scientists found the stunted protein in the autopsied brains of Alzheimer patients. In test-tube studies, the stunted version made the enzyme overactive, killing far brain cells.

Studies: 'Miracle cure' holds no benefit for autistic people
Some autistic hailed by parents of some autistic children as a possible miracle cure worked no better than a placebo in its first two rigorous studies. But just being

Study: Castration can save some with prostate cancer
Men with spreading prostate

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HUD: Homeless programs work

WASHINGTON (AP) - Most homeless people have suffered severe hardships such as abuse, disability or disease, but are able to escape homelessness when they get help, according to a government report. The report released Wednesday by Andrew Cuomo, secretary of housing and urban development, found that the top priority of homeless people surveyed was to get a job and that 44 percent of them had worked at least part time during the previous month.

Homeless people are locked out of America's prosperity, but we have the key that can let them in," Cuomo said in a statement accompanying the report. "Assistance programs can replace the nightmare of homelessness with the American dream of a better future."

The study, financed by 12 federal agencies, was described by Cuomo as the most comprehensive ever of homelessness in America. It was based on interviews completed in 1996 with 4,207 people, most of them homeless. The others were clients of assistance programs such as soup kitchens. The data, which also included information from representa-

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Board: 'American Beauty' is best film out this year

LOS ANGELES (AP) - "American Beauty," a dark satire on suburban family life, was named best film of the year Wednesday by the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures.

Russell Crowe won the best actor award for his portrayal of a tobacco industry whistleblower in "The Insider," and Janet McTeer was named best actress for her role as a flighty mom in the mother-daughter road movie "Tumbleweeds."

Runners-up for best film included "The Talented Mr. Ripley," "Magnolia," "The Insider" and "The Straight Story." "All About My Mother," by Spanish director Pedro Almodovar, won the award for best foreign film.

The award for best director went to Anthony Minghella for "The Talented Mr. Ripley," starring Matt Damon and Gwyneth Paltrow and due in theaters late this month. John Irving won for best screenplay for the adaptation of his novel "The Cider House Rules," which opens in New York and Los Angeles this weekend.

The award for best director went to Anthony Minghella for "The Talented Mr. Ripley," starring Matt Damon and Gwyneth Paltrow and due in theaters late this month. John Irving won for best screenplay for the adaptation of his novel "The Cider House Rules," which opens in New York and Los Angeles this weekend.

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Report: Antibiotics fed to chickens may have harmed humans

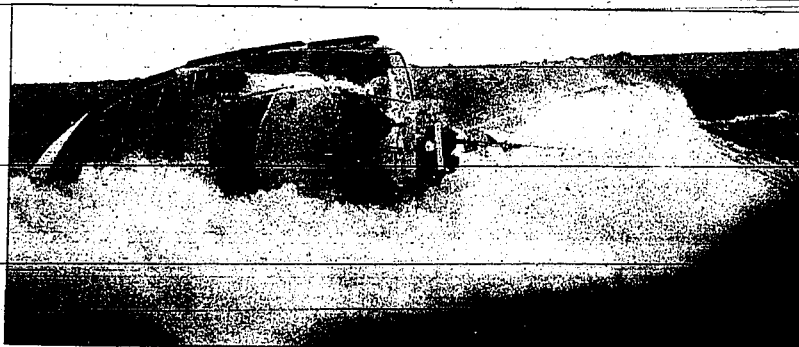
JUST ROLL WITH IT

WASHINGTON — A new government report suggests up to 5,000 Americans might have suffered long-lasting food poisoning last year because they caught an antibiotic-resistant strain from eating chicken. The finding raises questions about on-the-farm use of human antibiotics.

The Food and Drug Administration cautioned that the nation lacks firm statistics on food-borne infections so it's impossible to know how precise the new estimate, based on a complex mathematical model, is.

But the report, to be debated at a FDA meeting with food safety and veterinary experts today, is the first attempt to predict human health risk if antibiotic use in animals lets drug-resistant germs wind up in the meat people eat.

The issue is bitterly controversial. Many public health experts say on-the-farm drugs worsen the already serious problem of antibiotic resistance by giving germs losing their power to fight infections. But the animal drug industry insists there is no serious risk to consumers.



A 47-foot U.S. Coast Guard motor lifeboat, stationed at the Charleston, Ore., Lifeboat Station, rolls at the mouth of Coos Bay, Ore., during surging tides and heavy weather training Tuesday. Though the roll was unintentional, the boat righted itself just as it was designed to do.

Inmate treated for overdose of drugs still faces execution

HUNTSVILLE, Texas — A condemned murderer hoarded his anti-depressants and tried to kill himself with an overdose this week but was executed anyway — if he recovers in time.

Court rulings have determined that an inmate must be aware of his surroundings and know why he is being punished before he can be executed.

David Long, 46, was still scheduled to die for killing three women with a hatchet in 1986. He consumed at least two other slayings.

Long was found Monday "unresponsive in his cell" on death row at Huntsville, corrections spokesman Larry Fitzgerald said Tuesday. After treatment at the unit infirmary and Huntsville Memorial Hospital, Long was transferred to the prison system's hospital in Galveston, where he remained in intensive care today.

"Apparently he overdosed himself," Fitzgerald said.

Colonies of coral take up residence in oil drilling rigs

Oil drilling rigs in Northern Europe's waters may have an unintended environmental benefit. They have become home to colonies of coral.

The white or pink coral, called *Lophelia pertusa*, was found in July in the North Sea for the first time on two platforms that have been producing oil since the late 1970s, according to a study in today's issue of the journal *Nature*. The coral was also discovered on an oil-storage buoy in a Norwegian fjord.

The *Lophelia* colonies were 22 inches long on the platforms and up to 8 inches long on the buoy.

The colonies are a long way from forming coral reefs, which are prized as habitat for all sorts of marine life.

The study suggests that any dismantling of oil installations may need to take into account the *Lophelia*.

Levitown until 1961

On Tuesday night, Bristol Township Mayor Sam Fonton, who was born two years after the harassment of the Myers family, apologized to Mrs. Myers to the cheers and applause of more than 300 residents. "She endured the worst kind of humiliation — racism. For that we are truly sorry," Fonton said.

Mrs. Myers, 74, and her daughter, Lynda, lit the Christmas tree in Bristol Township, which is part of Levittown. The 16-foot blue spruce has been named "Miss Daisy" in her honor.

Police charge blind man with Memphis bank robbery

MEMPHIS, Tenn. — A blind man tried to rob a bank as a security guard who helped him to the

Hospital releases Dingell after fainting at gala dinner

WASHINGTON — Rep. John Dingell of Michigan, the longest-serving member of the House, was released from the hospital on Wednesday "feeling in top form" after fainting at a dinner gala the night before.

The Democrat had exercised in the House gym and donated a pint of blood before Tuesday's dinner, then failed to drink enough fluids. Instead, he drank a martini at dinner, said his wife, Debbie Dingell.

"The next time I'm told to drink my orange juice and take it easy after giving blood, I will," Dingell said in a statement. "This was simply a matter of doing too much, and my body telling me to take a rest."

— Compiled from wire reports

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Pennsylvania town offers apology to family for racism

LEVITTOWN, Pa. — It took 42

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NATION

Transients plead innocent in firefighter deaths

Comrades engage in tedious search



Julio S. Barnes, 19, left, and Thomas S. Lavesque, 37, right, are arraigned Tuesday in Worcester, Mass., on manslaughter charges in connection with the warehouse fire that killed six firefighters.

WORCESTER, Mass. (AP) — Firefighters sifted ash and soot through a screen Wednesday in hopes of finding anything — a button, a badge, a body part — that could lead them to the bodies of their comrades, still missing in the smoldering ruins of an abandoned warehouse.

For days, around the clock, they have been engaged in the dirty, grim and tedious task in the shadow of the five-story building, where six firefighters perished Friday. Only two bodies have been recovered.

Behind the men Wednesday was a 10-foot pile of soot still needing to be sifted. "We still have four of our brothers in there," fire Lt. Don Courtney said. "We want them back."

Two of the firefighters were killed in Friday night's blaze after going inside to rescue any homeless people who might have been inside. After the firefighters became engulfed in black smoke, they radioed "Mayday." The four other firefighters died coming to their aid.

Authorities believe a homeless couple who lived in the warehouse started the fire when they knocked over a candle during an argument. The two pleaded innocent Tuesday to involuntary manslaughter and were ordered held on \$1 million bail.

The area around the charred warehouse has sprung to life, with a tent city in a parking lot to support the search by hundreds of firefighters.

The crisp blue and white tents give the area the look of a summer festival. But the mood is somber.

The workers wear black ribbons. A sign posted on one tent reads "Search Dogs." And a red Fire Department bus parked nearby has a hand-written placard in the window, "Families."

Volunteers from the Salvation Army and the Red Cross provide hot meals and snacks for the hundreds of firefighters who have been at the scene around the clock. Other tents offer counsel.

ing and messages. There are cars for napping, but rest does not come easy.

"This huge city has developed," said District Fire Chief James Callery. "It's a miracle. I've never seen anything like it."

Looking in the background are the gutted remains of the red brick warehouse. Smoke still poured from the mostly demolished building Wednesday, and

flames could still be seen through a few windows.

Near the base of the building, six men stood in a deep mud, painstakingly probing the wet soil for any sign of the missing man. One firefighter used a rake to poke through a small pile of ash, while five firefighters with trowels worked with a screen.

A memorial has grown each day as passers-by put more and

more flowers onto a parked fire truck at the tent city under Interstate 290.

A firebrand from a American flag was raised to half-staff Wednesday on the parking lot in Nagpole. The previous flag was blackened by nearly a week of smoke.

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Russia gives world mixed signals on Grozny deadline

ACHKOLMARTAN, Russia — Russian planes and artillery recently bombarded the Chechen capital Wednesday, despite the military's claims it was allowing civilians to leave Grozny unimpeded to avoid a massive attack on Thursday.

Trying to deflect international criticism, Russian officials said an ultimatum to Grozny residents to leave by Saturday or face death was aimed at militants — not civilians — but they gave no sign of backing off from the deadline.

The Russian military said it was allowing civilians to leave Grozny. But Russian troops were firing on cars that try to break past Russian lines, assuming they carry militants, said Maj. Gen. Vladimir Shamanov, chief of the Russian army in western Chechnya.

Tension rises when Yugoslav army gains control of airport

PODGORICA, Yugoslavia — Armed Yugoslav troops Wednesday seized control of the main airport in Montenegro, raising tensions between federal authorities under President Slobodan Milosevic and the independence-minded republic.

The move took place one day before Montenegro planned to take over the strategic facility, which serves as both the republic's main commercial airport and a Yugoslav air force base.

Heavy military trucks were rolled out on the main runway at about 8 a.m. Tuesday, and Montenegrin deputy Information Minister Abaz Džadžić said soldiers loyal to Milosevic had taken over the control tower, banning all flights.

Federal troops were seen along roads leading to the airport, located about 14 miles from the Montenegrin capital Podgorica. Paramilitary police loyal to Montenegrin President Milo Djukanovic remained inside the main airport building.

The federal Yugoslav government in Belgrade made no statement about the move. Late Wednesday, however, independent Belgrade television station Slobida reported that the "misunderstanding" between the Montenegrins and the army had been resolved and the airport was reopened today.

A Montenegrin source at the airport, reached by telephone from Belgrade, said the standoff was "settling" and "denied" knowledge of any agreement.

GRECIAN PROTEST



Some of thousands of students march through the streets of Athens, Greece, Wednesday to protest a government decision to use police to force open schools closed by students opposed to education reforms.

The source spoke on condition he not be identified.

Turkish Y2K committee calls for closing Bosphorus Strait

ANKARA, Turkey — Turkey's chief Y2K committee is calling on maritime authorities to close the Bosphorus strait to large ships on New Year's Eve to guard against possible accidents due to the millennium bug.

The committee is asking for Turkey to bar ships over 3,000 tons from crossing the narrow waterway, committee official Hasan Coban said Wednesday. The strait divides the city of Istanbul and controls access to the Black Sea and Russia's southern ports.

Modern ocean-going ships rely on scores of computers for the most basic of tasks. Automated systems control steering, navigation, propulsion, communications and even fire alarms.

Croatia reports trains ready for manual operation for Y2K

ZAGREB, Croatia — With aging computers that may be vulnerable to Y2K glitches and no money to upgrade them, Croatia's state railway is counting on traditional

methods like engineers' skill and common sense to make sure nothing goes tragically wrong come Jan. 1.

This country's old-fashioned railway signal system may help too. The cash-strapped state-run railway company never managed to computerize it.

"In that sense, our backwardness is to our advantage," said Vlatka Skoric, a spokeswoman for the railway company.

Government officials have pledged that no major problems will occur here at midnight Dec. 31, when some computers may confuse the year 2000 with 1900 and fail. Croat authorities insist that the assessment by a London technology consulting group — that this country is one of Europe's least Y2K-ready — is unjustified.

World in brief

methods like engineers' skill and common sense to make sure nothing goes tragically wrong come Jan. 1.

This country's old-fashioned railway signal system may help too. The cash-strapped state-run railway company never managed to computerize it.

"In that sense, our backwardness is to our advantage," said Vlatka Skoric, a spokeswoman for the railway company.

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Family feud led to first Dutch school shooting, police told

VEGHEL, Netherlands — A feud between rival Turkish families inspired a 17-year-old student to open fire in the Netherlands' first school shooting, a brother of one of the five victims told investigators Wednesday.

The brother told reporters in this southern town that his family had fought an attack for months and sought police protection from the suspect, first in August and again on the eve of the shooting. Police confirmed that the family

had requested protection and that the request was denied.

Four students and a teacher were wounded in Tuesday's attack, two of them critically.

Authorities were questioning the suspect and his father Wednesday. The father allegedly drove his son to school, waited outside in the family's Mercedes sedan while the shooting took place, then brought his son to the police station, where the suspect surrendered.

City saves Doyle home from becoming new fast food site

LONDON — An 18th-century Scottish mansion where Sir Arthur Conan Doyle once lived was saved from a Big Mac attack Wednesday when the city of Edinburgh slapped a preservation order on it.

Fans of the Sherlock Holmes creator, alarmed to discover that McDonald's planned to build a burger restaurant on the site, appealed to city hall and won.

"This is wonderful news," said Richard Lancelyn Green, a Conan Doyle expert and former chairman of the London-based Sherlock Holmes Society. "Sherlock Holmes still has his magic, it seems."

Fans of the fictional detective and his creator had asked the Edinburgh City Council to refuse McDonald's application for planning permission. But the city fathers went one better and issued a preservation order, which prevents development of the site.

— Compiled from wire reports

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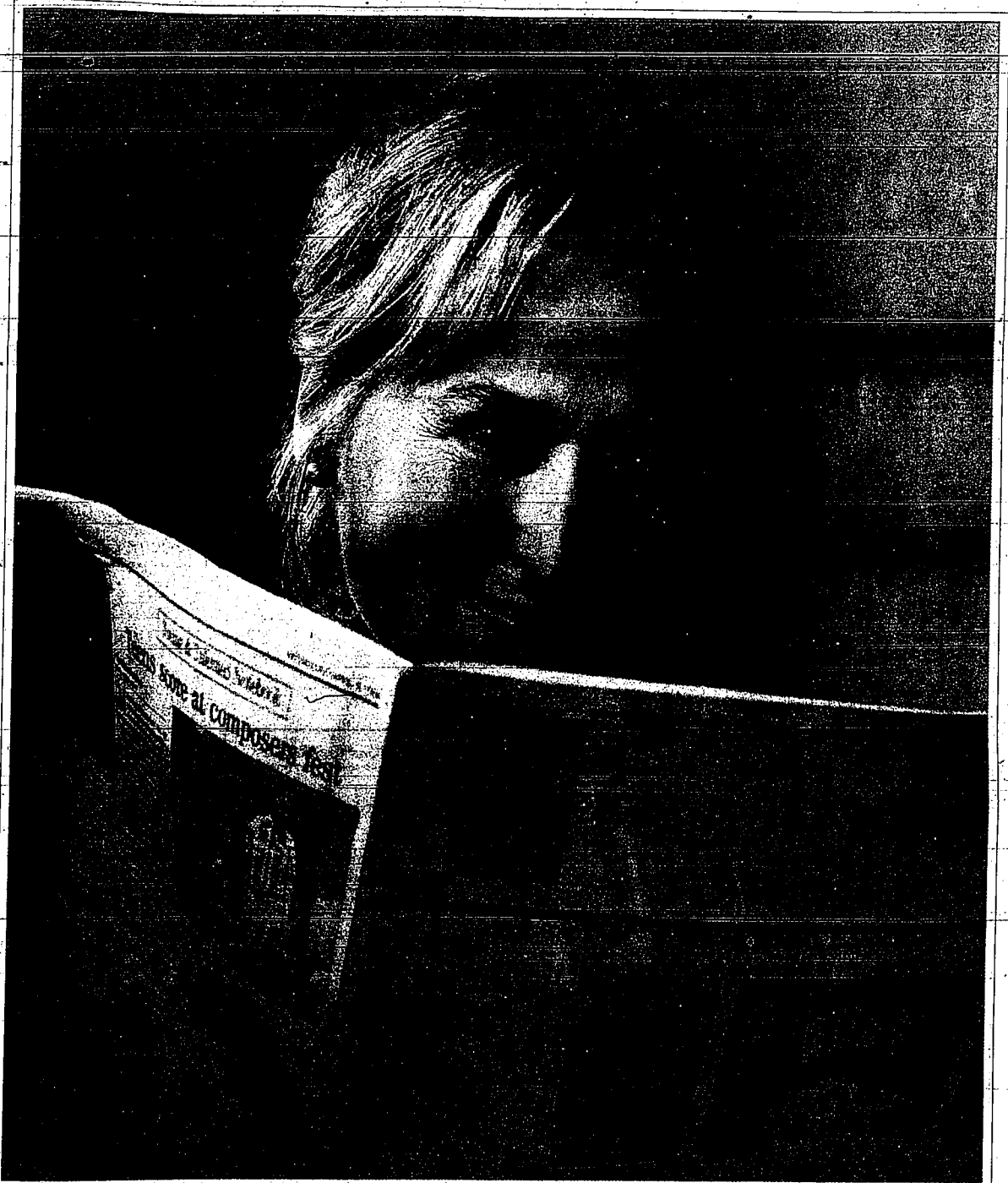
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EDITORIAL

Panama Canal is important to little, ol' landlocked Idaho

Who says he didn't inhale? President Bill Clinton must have been smoking something when he recently proclaimed the United States had no second thoughts about handing over the Panama Canal to Panama.

"I think it's the right thing to do," Clinton said.

Maybe so, or maybe Clinton has succumbed to the sheer inevitability of the action. Handing over the Panama Canal is a process

that got rolling more than 20 years ago, under then-President Jimmy Carter.

By the end of this month, all U.S. military will be gone from the canal zone and Panama will assume control.

But when Clinton says there are no second thoughts, he underestimates the passion and pride that many Americans feel for the Big Ditch. Frank Church, then chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, made the same mistake in 1980, and he paid with his Senate seat. Steve Symms exploited voter resentment over the canal issue, painting Church as out of touch with rank-and-file Americans. On the canal issue, he was right.

More than any other issue, Church's defeat hinged on the Panama Canal. It was a blow from which the Idaho Democratic Party has never fully recovered.

There's a reason that happened. The Panama Canal is hugely symbolic of America's international status. It should be, because it is an engineering marvel that literally cleaved two continents apart. When it opened in August 1914, it changed the face of the globe by providing a soft alternative to the rigors of sailing around Cape Horn at the tip of South America.

The history of the canal is an affair of America's ascendancy in the world order.

The French tried and failed, twice, to dig a sea-level canal across the isthmus of Central America. Tens of thousands of "mexican" died, mostly of malaria and yellow fever. Companies were bankrupted, and the project's leaders were put on trial.

Where Gallie pride flourished, Yankee ingenuity flourished.

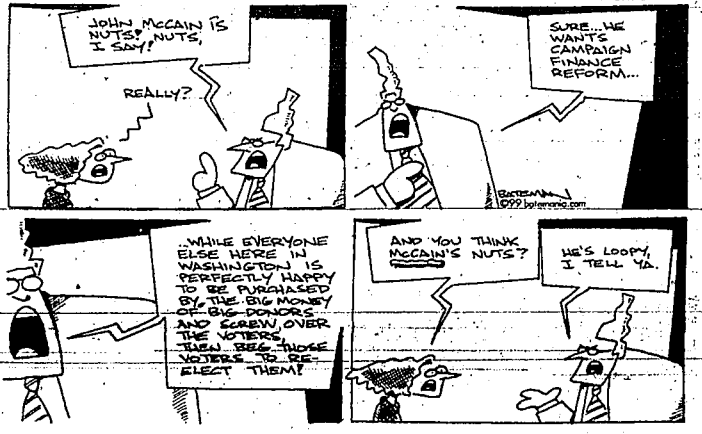
The United States wrested control of the area away from Colombia and effectively created a puppet nation — Panama — to establish a sea-to-sea route. As California's former U.S. senator, S.I. Hayakawa, put it, "We stole it fair and square."

American engineers had originally envisioned a canal across Nicaragua, but that idea died when President McKinley was assassinated in 1901. The Nicaraguan plan was scuppered in the U.S. Senate, and President Teddy Roosevelt ultimately signed legislation authorizing the Panama Canal.

The canal's history is steeped in international intrigue. That's likely to continue when Panama hands control of ports at both ends to a Hong Kong firm, Hutchison Whampoa, Ltd. Almost predictably, some alarmists claim we're ceding the Panama Canal to the Chinese government.

China, currently desperate to win admission to the World Trade Organization, is unlikely to pull any stunts with the Panama Canal. It wants to prove that it can be a responsible actor on the world stage.

If it can, there won't be any problems. If it can't, America is well-positioned to regain control of a key asset that's in its backyard. All it would take is a long weekend, as Manuel Noriega will attest.



Liberalism remains alive and well

The most revealing thing about political scientist Jeffrey Berry's recent book ("The New Liberalism: The Rising Power of Citizen Groups") is that hardly anyone noticed it, even though its conclusion starkly contradicts conventional wisdom. After much research, Berry rejects the common view that liberalism died in the 1980s. Precisely the opposite is true. Liberalism in Washington has flourished. They rival business lobbies in power and crush conservative groups, such as the now defunct Moral Majority.



ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

Since the 1960s, Berry says, liberalism's focus has changed from economic issues — redistributing income — to what he calls "postmaterial" lifestyle concerns: environmentalism, "rights" of all sorts, consumer protection and "clean" government.

This liberalism mainly expresses itself through "citizen" lobbies, such as the Environmental Defense Fund, Ralph Nader's Public Citizen and the National Organization for Women.

Based on his 30 years in Washington, this analysis instantly struck me as accurate. But with some exceptions, the study has been ignored. Why? The answer is not that Berry is a right-wing zealot bent on exposing stealth liberalism. He's a Democrat ("I was raised as a Hubert Humphrey liberal") who aims simply to plot interest-group power.

To do this, he investigated major congressional proposals in 1963, 1979 and 1991. What changed? Berry's answer is not that Berry is a right-wing zealot bent on exposing stealth liberalism. He's a Democrat ("I was raised as a Hubert Humphrey liberal") who aims simply to plot interest-group power.

By the late 1980s and 1990s, Congress agreed to move to "postmaterial" issues. In 1963 about two thirds of proposals were economic, typified by manpower training or farm-price supports. By 1991 roughly 70 percent involved "postmaterial" issues, such as a wetlands conservation bill and the Family and Medical Leave Act.

Liberal lobbies now receive highly favorable press coverage. In the printed press (Berry used The New York Times, The Wall Street Journal and the Congressional Quarterly Weekly Report), liberal groups represented almost half the quotes from lobbyists. Industry trade associations were about 30 percent, corporations 1 percent.

Network TV news programs have a similar pattern.

Liberal lobbies increasingly win. In 1963 business lobbies won three victories for every defeat to liberal lobbies. In 1991 business won three victories for every two defeats. Even this overstates business power, because often industry was simply repelling hostile legislation. Conservative groups, such as the Christian Coalition, had little effect on legislation.

Berry's study rebuts the notion that muted interests or conservative ideologies dominate Washington. The popular perception is different in part because the Republican capture of Congress in 1994 created a false impression of conservative triumph. To examine that idea, Berry looked at 12 environmental issues in the 104th Congress (1995-96). He judged that environmentalists won 11 times.

Conservatives' power is also exaggerated because some of their ideas have prevailed. On economic policy, balanced budgets — in times of plenty — and low inflation now command wide support.

But the central cause of misinformation — why Berry's study went unnoticed — is that people are simply not aware of liberal lobbies do. They relish their image

of impoverished groups fighting long odds against rich business lobbies. In fact, Berry finds that liberal lobbies are often well-financed and highly professional.

The point of course, though, is to present a true picture — but doesn't it follow that it would have to admit that it often aids liberal lobbies. This is less the result of a conscious effort to advance an agenda than of shared beliefs. Journalists see "the story" in the same way as liberal lobbyists. Business is regarded as greedy and undemocratic. Conservative groups are "out of touch" or socially dangerous. By contrast, liberal lobbies are public-spirited "watchdogs."

The convergence of values is easily inferred from opinion surveys. Consider a 1995 poll of Washington reporters. Only 2 percent rated themselves "conservative," 19 percent 80 percent had voted for Clinton in 1992 (against 43 percent of the popular vote). Only 4 percent were Republicans (50 percent were Democrats, 37 percent independents). People with these values instinctively minimize the power of the "good guys" and make the "bad guys" look threatening.

In a democracy, the vigor of liberal lobbies is healthy, or at least successful, because they purport to speak for public opinion. Four-fifths of Americans, for example, see themselves as environmentalists, reports a Pew Research poll. What's unhealthy are the false stereotypes that distort who has influence. These distortions against some views and popularize the idea that the political system — captured by "undemocratic forces" — is corrupt and unresponsive. In truth, politics often stagnates because public opinion stagnates. In that sense few poll, almost half of Americans think that government regulation does "more harm than good." Our present stereotypes wrongly convert legitimate disagreement into a cynical conspiracy against the public.

Robert J. Samuelson is a Newsweek columnist.

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LETTERS

Give your opinion on hotel issue

Citizens of Twin Falls County, I urge you to attend the remaining City Council meeting regarding the hotel-convention project and express your views. Get involved. This is your city. How can you expect your elected city officials to make a complete decision without hearing from a majority of the public? I sat in on the first City Council meeting and enjoyed listening to all the different views.

I have taken a stance on this issue, and I am in favor of both the convention center and hotel. Yes, the canyon is very beautiful, all 1,109 miles of it, for everyone to enjoy.

If we continue to build single-story buildings and sprawl them out, aren't we covering more open space and destroying more farm ground? As you enter Twin Falls, would you rather see a dozen or so large cement buildings along the canyon or a professionally landscaped, quality-built convention center and hotel? The choice is yours, so express your views.

As a kid, I remember when coming across the Ferrine Bridge, seeing farm ground and pasture and a beautiful row of massive (Breckinridge) poplars at the entrance to Twin Falls. Those days are gone, and none of us can bring them back.

Be informed and get involved in the military draft

ROCK REINSTEIN
Kimberly

Draft would beef up military

Gen. Henry Shelton, Army chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, recently stated: "All-volunteer military is the right kind of force for America." I disagree. A recent report states the military is unable to recruit needed personnel with the volunteer method.

I believe the military draft should be reinstated. All able-bodied young men should be required to register for military service when they become 18 years of age and serve at least one year in the military service.

This is a small enough price to pay to protect the freedom we enjoy. Hundreds of thousands of Americans have given their lives in past wars to defend the freedom we now take so casually for granted.

Military service would instill badly needed self-discipline and, hopefully, more patriotism in our younger generation.

Also, the mutual respect between the military and civilians would be strengthened and our country would become stronger.

VAUGHN PETERSON
Bunley

Comments on War in the West

I watched the first so-called "debate" of the Republicans running for president last night (Dec. 2). They all seemed agreed that, except in office, to do away with the federal government. All wanted to chop Washington, D.C., out of the land mass and dump it off the continental shelf into the Atlantic, eliminating the IRS, build up the military, then cut taxes after street-level all the tax code. Only Orrin Hatch (as usual, sick and tired) wanted a million Americans to send in 36 bucks (in 50-cent denominations) to fund the Demo plan could be for 6 months.

Americans to send in a dollar each to campaign coffers. Wow! Things could get controversial.

This morning's (Dec. 3) Times-News "Jone-man" editorial reports "War in the West at Jarbridge." The Bureau of Land Management and forest workers are killing, bombing and bulldozing and refusing food service to innocent law-abiding Republicans, or is it the other way around? Who knows? The real mystery and suspense center is the Elk County commissioners want to tone up their mus-

cles and general fitness come next spring, by road building in the woods near Jarbridge. Hey, why not start at Salmon Dam and work south the way.

Let's volunteer the Twin Falls commissioners, along with the losers from the city election, to join in and lend a hand. "Jarbridgians" could be real proud if all the good effort transforms Jarbridge into what Twin Falls "used to look like," complete with poplar trees.

The Republicans seem to have a clear-cut Larry Craig plan. Level Washington, D.C., and duplicate Blue Lakes Boulevard at Jarbridge.

Will McClure and Symms want to make the move along with the pay cut?

EARL D. OLSON
Twin Falls

It's the people who kill

To Mr. Lloyd Walker, in reply to your letter published Dec. 7:

First, guns do not kill and shoot people. Guns are simply a piece of cold metal. It is people who kill and shoot people, not the guns.

I agree there should be no reason for anyone to carry a gun to or in the schools, other than officers of the law.

Before you start bashing the National Rifle Association, stop and think. According to your letter, you own guns yourself. If it weren't for the NRA, your guns would already have been confiscated by the government.

If you take the time to check, you will find that the states that issue concealed weapons permits have the lowest crime rates. The reason is simple: If you think his victim may shoot back, he will think twice about his actions.

The Second Amendment is the one that protects all the others in the Bill of Rights. To enslave a nation, you first have to take the weapons from the common people.

The NRA was formed to protect the Second Amendment from our own government. Be happy that we have the NRA, because right now we have a president who would like to be our first dictator.

DUANE HANKINS
Twin Falls

Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau

Mallard Filmore



By Bruce Tinsley

OPINION

College applications take a bizarre turn

As the holidays weren't stressful enough for the average American family, winter break has become prime time in many households for high-school seniors to spend time filling out those dreaded college application forms.

It used to be a fairly simple matter. Colleges wanted to know what courses the applicant took in high school, and how well he or she did in them. Most schools wanted some information about the student's interests, what clubs he or she belonged to, and whether or not he or she volunteered in the community. And many colleges asked the senior to write a brief essay describing some significant event in his or her life, or why he or she had chosen to apply to College XYZ.

But times have changed, and for the next few weeks, millions of 17-year-olds will spend hours at the computer concocting elaborate responses to what have become bizarre inquiries by college admissions' offices into the imagination, intellect and character of prospective college students.

Take the University of Chicago, which a few years ago asked applicants to write an essay explaining "EPR's sightings" as part of "a wider conspiracy involving five of the following: the metric system, the Mill of America, the crash of the Hindenberg, Heisenberg's uncertainty principle, lint, J.D. Salinger and wax fruit." Now, it might be useful for the admissions office to know whether an applicant possessed broad enough general knowledge to have some familiarity with not only quantum physics and American literature, but aviation history and scientific measurement as well. But asking the applicant to relate his knowledge to recent "sightings" of a dead rock-star, a Minnesota shopping mall, and the fax off a piece of cloth would be more appropriate for admission to the nearest mental institution than one of the country's most prestigious universities.

According to a recent article in the Washington Post, the trend in weird essay questions began about 10 years ago. The University of Pennsylvania may have been the first offender in the late 1980s when it instructed applicants: "You have just completed your 300-page autobiography. Please submit page 247." One of the oddest entries in the strange essay category, however, may be New York's Hamilton



LINDA CHAVEZ

College: "If you were reduced to living on a flat plane, what would be your greatest problems? Or procrustes?"

And the fad may be increasing as more and more colleges try new ways to tease out personal information about students and sift it from among many similarly qualified applicants. The University of Virginia, for example, offers students a choice from among several topics. A student can choose to write on as many topics as he or she favors, or, as his or her favorite word, or as specific a subject as what single event or experience has led her to believe that discrimination still exists.

The University admits that it included the latter essay topic to signal the "right" messages to minority students in wake of a recent decision to overrule the university's affirmative-action policies.

Of course, by their very nature, many of the new essay questions have more to do with signaling the universities' values than with eliciting useful information about the applicant. Colleges want to be hip, cool, trendy, especially those schools that can be choosy in whom they admit or reject. The University of Chicago would rather be known as "dis bomb" than the birthplace of the Great

Books program.

Pity the poor aspiring Ivy Leaguer who has spent his evenings poring over his physics textbook rather than watching the latest episode of "Buffy the Vampire Slayer," "Real World," or some other pop-cultural reference point for his college-application essay question. It isn't enough anymore to study hard and master the facts, now a 17-

year-old who wants to get into a top school must be creative, innovative, emotive, chic, not to mention politically correct. So, the next time your teenager tells you he's preparing for college when he heads to the mall or sits glued to the tube, he may just be telling the truth.

Linda Chavez is a columnist with Creators Syndicate.

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A watch without a time zone. A watch with a time zone. A watch with a time zone. A watch with a time zone. A watch with a time zone.

sale 99⁹⁹ each
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29⁸⁸ Exceptional Value cultured freshwater pearl and sterling silver pendant

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Proud to be of service to our great customers and to our Magic Valley all year long.

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Thanks for helping to make our year shine.

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Look for our new menu & Lager License coming soon.
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- Pro basketball
- Pro football
- Pro baseball
- Pro golf
- Idaho college sports
- Idaho high school sports

- Local sports B2
- Scores and stats B3
- Community B4

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“God doesn't make mistakes. He ended it right where it started.”

—Jimmie Mickens, Charles Barkley's grandmother, after the NBA star's 16-year career ended with a ruptured knee in London Wednesday in the same city it began — Philadelphia

Tormey era ends at U of I

The Associated Press

MOSCOW — University of Idaho head football coach Chris Tormey resigned Wednesday and accepted the head coaching job at the University of Nevada, Reno.

“He was offered the job and accepted,” said Zen Morzaris, a spokesman for UNR's sports information office in Reno.

Tormey was not immediately available and the school planned no further comment until a news conference scheduled in Reno this afternoon, Morzaris said.

All the questions will be answered there, he said.



Chris Tormey

KIVI-TV in Nampa reported that Tormey had accepted a three-year contract with the Reno school that would pay him \$225,000 during the first year.

Tormey signed a five-year contract in June that pays him about \$155,000 this year at Idaho. He could have earned about \$204,000 in the fifth year of that

contract.

“We wish Chris the best and would like to thank him for his accomplishments at Idaho,” university President Bob Hoover said. “We also recognize the need to move quickly to find a coach who will continue to take University of Idaho football forward as a competitive Division I-A program.”

Tormey, 44, compiled a 33-23 record in five seasons at Idaho—his alma mater—including the 1998 Big West Conference and Humanitarian Bowl champi-

onships. He met with Nevada athletic director Chris Ault last week in Spokane, Wash., and was interviewed by a six-member search committee on Tuesday for the job that opened when Jeff Tisdell resigned after the season.

Other candidates reportedly included New York Giants special teams coach Larry MacDuff, Hawaii defensive coordinator Greg McMackin and Arizona offensive coordinator Dino Babers.

Idaho athletic director Mike Bohn said a search had already started for Tormey's replacement.

“We are committed to hiring a coach who not only will carry on the on-field successes of our football team but who will stress the importance of achievement in the classroom as well. He will be an active member of our community and in our institution,” Bohn said. “While we want to name a coach as soon as possible, we also want to be thorough in our search.”

Nevada is jumping from the Big West Conference to the six-team Pacific Conference next season. Idaho recently accepted an invitation to join the Sun Belt Conference for football only starting in 2001.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- Men's college basketball
- Men's college basketball ISU at Southern Utah
- Girls' basketball
- Bliss at Camas County JV
- Century at Burley
- Declo at Aberdeen
- Mountain at Hagerman
- Dorch at Carey
- Spokane at Kimberly
- ISDB at Ketchikan JV
- Jermore at Twin Falls
- Gooding at Wendell
- MVCS at Oakley
- Minico at Hillsrest
- Rafti River at Rockland
- Boys' basketball
- Oleary Fony at Buhl
- ISDB at Ketchikan JV

IN BRIEF

Boy Scouts get in free to CSI games

TWIN FALLS — Boy Scouts in uniform will be admitted to this Saturday's College of Southern Idaho men's and women's basketball games free of charge.

Provided they are in uniform, scouts can attend either the women's 6 p.m. game or men's 8 p.m. game against visiting Dixie College at no cost.

Kimberly basketball sign-ups set for youths

KIMBERLY — Sign-ups for Kimberly Youth Association boys' and girls' basketball will take place Saturday at Person's Center in Kimberly.

Third-sixth graders are encouraged to sign up from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more information, call 423-5444 or 423-6131.

Illness forces Jerome hoop coach's departure

JEROME — First-year Jerome High School boys' basketball coach Chris Torfin has left the Tigers' team due to undisclosed medical reasons.

Torfin, hired this year to coach and teach social studies, has returned to his native Boise area, where he will seek medical attention. Larry Walter, an assistant at Jerome the last two seasons, has assumed head coaching duties. Dennis Capps is his assistant.

Davis out, TF's Perkins in at World Cup event

BRECKENRIDGE, Colo. — Sun Valley mono-skier Muffy Davis injured a shoulder in training this week and will miss nearly a month of district World Cup competition, but a Twin Falls competitor has forced wild in his division.

U.S. head coach Ewald Zinsberger said Davis won three unofficial World Cup Super G events last season — hurt his shoulder Monday and will miss at least three weeks.

A one-time Olympic hopeful who trained with Olympic gold medalist Picabo Street in the 1980s, Davis was paralyzed in February 1989 during a training session for slalom races.

In other news, Twin Falls stand-up skier Matt Perkins was clocked at a time of 1:54.21 this week, good enough for 25th place in his division Wednesday.

Compiled from staff and wire reports.

Twin Falls dumps No. 3 Bruins lead all night, win home opener

By Kevin Hall Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Defense paid its dues for the Twin Falls boys' basketball team.

Hosting third-ranked Idaho Falls in their home opener on Wednesday, the Bruins' sticky man-to-man defense stifled the Tigers into 39-percent shooting on 16-of-41 attempts while forcing seven Tiger turnovers. Twin Falls ruled the defensive glass down low and won the non-conference battle, 64-42.

“To me, (defense) is what wins games,” said Bruins coach Dan Vogt. “They scored 83 points on Saturday, but Ryan Thomas, Ben Thompson and Leigh Castillo were key tonight.”

Castillo led 2-1 Twin Falls with 14 points and nine rebounds, while teammate Brandon Nielsen added seven points, six rebounds and steady leadership.

“All around, the guys—all did a good job,” Vogt said.

Doug Bowen led the Tigers (2-1) with 11 points.

Tied at 2-2 in a frantic opening period, Twin Falls took control of the game on an 1:20 run as six different Bruins got involved in the onslaught.

That burst, as well as the Bruins' in-your-face defense, ultimately decided the outcome.

“Twin Falls played very well. They took everything away. They took away our transition, they played excellent defense and they controlled the boards,” said Idaho Falls head coach Garry Buell.

After the run, the teams played straight up through the half with the Bruins heading into the locker room ahead by 10, at 34-24.

Whatever baskets the Tigers threw at Twin Falls, the Bruins responded with drives of their own. Bowen hit a tough 4-footer — one of only two baskets the Tigers could muster in the third quarter — drawing Idaho Falls within 12 at 41-29, but the home team proceeded to rattle off 10 unanswered points.

The Bruins outscored their opponent 17-5 in the quarter and ended the period up 51-29.

Point guard Nielsen was the spark dribble-driving the lane. Finding his teammates open, he wasted little time whistling bounce passes.



Jeremy Suddis gets tangled up with Idaho Falls' Reggie Baldwin during Twin Falls' non-conference game Wednesday night. The Bruins led the entire game and won 64-42.

De Abreu nabs NJCAA Player of Year honors

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Christened came early for the College of Southern Idaho's Fabiana de Abreu on Wednesday.

For the second year in a row, the Golden Eagles' sophomore outside hitter has topped the American Volleyball Coaches Association's junior-college Player of the Year.

The AVCA selection committee has cited some of CSI's best volleyball players in school history out in style. It also serves as some measure of redemption following the team's disappointing third-



Fabiana de Abreu

place finish at last month's NJCAA National Tournament.

De Abreu was named to the All-Tournament team, but a semifinal loss to Salt Lake Community College cost the Golden Eagles a highly anticipated matchup against eventual champion Miami-Dade Community College in the finals.

“I'm so happy,” de Abreu

said. “I didn't think about it. I thought they were going to choose somebody from Miami-Dade or Salt Lake because we got third place. I'm just so surprised.”

De Abreu, who with teammates Anna Popenko and Roberta Robert was named an NCAA All-American on Tuesday, said she had planned to return to her native Brazil today. But with Wednesday's announcement, she will instead travel with CSI head coach Ben Stroud to Honolulu Dec. 14-18 for the AVCA's national volleyball convention.

At the convention, which is

held annually in conjunction with the NCAA Division I Final Four Volleyball Tournament, de Abreu will be honored at a special awards banquet.

As for next season, de Abreu has yet to decide where she will play — although schools from at least 10 different states have called about her.

De Abreu's back-to-back Player of the Year awards — she also merited the honor in 1998 — bring to five the number of times a Golden Eagle has won Player of the Year. Other Golden Eagles to capture the honor were Katianna Simerenti

Please see HONOR, Page B2

Mailman's double-double helps Jazz beat Mavericks

Malone's 29 points hold off Dallas rally

SALT LAKE CITY — Karl Malone had 29 points and 10 rebounds, and the Utah Jazz survived a fourth-quarter rally to beat the Dallas Mavericks 85-79 Wednesday night.

Bryon Russell added 13 points, and John Stockton and Jeff Hornacek each had 11 as Utah



Karl Malone

won its third in a row for the first time this season.

The Jazz led, 62-51 after three quarters but Cedric Ceballos opened the fourth with three straight baskets for Dallas, including a 3-pointer. Ceballos had 13 of his 19 points in the fourth period after going scoreless in the third.

More NBA coverage — B3

Dirk Nowitzki scored 15 points, Shawn Bradley had 12 and Michael Finley scored 11 for the Mavericks.

Dallas shot 20 percent (4-of-20) in the third quarter, but didn't matter after Nowitzki's 3-pointer with 9:22 to play pulled the Mavericks within 66-63 and put some action into a slow-paced

halfcourt showdown.

Ceballos tipped in a basket with 4:15 remaining and Dallas trailed 75-73.

Malone answered with an 18-footer and Stockton found Russell for an open 21-foot jumper as the Jazz stretched the lead to 79-73 and got the Delta Center crowd involved for the first time all night.

Nowitzki made two free throws and scored on a fast break as the Mavericks closed to

79-77, but Stockton threw a backdoor bounce pass to Howard Eskin with 1:28 remaining and then hit a running jumper from the top of the key with 54.8 seconds left as Utah held on down the stretch.

The Jazz had 45 percent of the game, while the Mavericks shot 35 percent. Utah had a 49-36 rebounding advantage, the 20th time the Mavericks have been out-rebounded in their last 21 games.

Please see BURELY, Page B2

SPORTS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Burley-Minico game to be played in Rupert

RIFTERS - Friday's boys basketball game between Burley and Minico will be played at Minico High School.

The junior varsity game begins at 6:15 p.m., and the varsity contest follows.

Ewing fined \$10,000 for shunning media

NEW YORK - Patrick Ewing was fined \$10,000 Wednesday by the NBA for failing to make himself available to reporters over the past few weeks at his new residence in a reputedly exclusive Manhattan penthouse.

In addition, the Knicks were fined \$25,000 for failing to comply with league media rules.

Tyson will fight British champ in England

NEW YORK - Mike Tyson apparently will fight Julius Francis, the British Commonwealth champion, on Jan. 29 at Manchester, England.

The fight is all but signed, a boxing source told The Associated Press on Wednesday, speaking on condition of anonymity. It would be Tyson's first fight since his one-round no-contest with Orlin Norris on Oct. 23 at Las Vegas.

Boy charged with battery for hockey slam

CHICAGO - Prosecutors have taken the extraordinary step of charging a 15-year-old hockey player with aggravated battery for slamming another boy into the boards and leaving him paralyzed.

Prosecutors said the charges are warranted because the hit came seconds after the final buzzer, indicating intent to harm. High school sports officials normally are strict and said they could think of no similar case involving a youngster.

"It is the kind of precedent that could be the death knell for contact sports - at least youth contact sports," said Jeffrey Steinback, the lawyer for the boy charged.

Vincent to Rose: Admit you bet on game

NEW YORK - Former commissioner Fay Vincent wants Pete Rose to admit he bet on baseball and says the sport's rules against gambling will be damaged if the banished career his leader is reinstated.

Although he has admitted he had a problem with gambling generally and said that he sought help, he continues to attack the sport and others who dealt with his case in 1989," Vincent wrote in an article published Wednesday on the op-ed page of The New York Times.

Yankees break baseball's \$3 million barrier

NEW YORK - New York became the first baseball team to average \$3 million this season, just four years after it became the first to top \$2 million.

The Yankees had an average salary of \$3,217,914, \$400,000 more than any other team and a 44 percent jump from their \$2.23 million average when they won the first of their consecutive World Series titles in 1998.

Nine teams, nearly a third of the major leagues, had averages of \$2 million or more, the Major League Baseball Players Association said Wednesday in its annual salary study.

NFL sues Web sites over gambling, revenues

NEW YORK - The NFL is suing several World Wide Web sites it says promote gambling and unfairly capitalize on the league's trademarks and copyrighted material.

The lawsuit against Ken Miller and his "NFL Today" sites was filed Tuesday in U.S. District Court in Manhattan. It alleges that the sites promote gambling, project favorites for each week's games and provide direct links to gambling sites.

Top-ranked Cincinnati holds off Tarheels

CHICAGO - With Kenyon Martin again coming up big in the middle, top-ranked Cincinnati beat No. 7 North Carolina 77-58 Wednesday night in the "Great Eight," the Bearcats' first victory over the Tar Heels.

Martin, at 6-foot-9 and 230 pounds, gave away three inches and 35 pounds to North Carolina center Brendan Haywood, but he was the one who dominated inside, especially on the defensive end, blocking four shots and altering countless others. He finished with 16 points and nine rebounds.

The Bearcats (9-0) had lost all seven previous meetings with North Carolina (6-2), three in the 1990s, including an overtime game in the 1993 regional finals.

No. 1 Connecticut women sink Seton Hall

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. - Sue Bird stepped up for No. 1 Connecticut (7-0) against Seton Hall (3-3) on Wednesday night in the Big East Conference opener for both schools.

Bird hit 3-pointers to start and end a 13-point run late in the first half as the Huskies posted a 88-45 victory, their 12th straight over the Pirates.

Compiled from local and wire reports

Hawkins wins third-straight go-round

LAS VEGAS (AP) - Pete Hawkins had a 30-point ride on Icicle on Wednesday night to tie the arena record and win his third straight bareback go-round in the National Finals Rodeo.

"The record gets me a little emotional," said Hawkins, who tied the Thomas & Mack Center mark set by Billy Lane in 1995.

"It means the world to me. To hold that record is something I'll hold very dear to me."

Hawkins, of Weatherford, Texas, tied to place in a previous ride on Icicle.

"He didn't have twice the hops he had tonight," said Hawkins, who leads the world standings with \$13,330. "I guess he must have had some good oats or grain."

Lan Lajuneuse of Morgan, Utah, and Rocky Stegall of Clavis, Calif., tied for second with \$3,330.

Despite his strong three-night performance, Hawkins has to keep up the pace to leave the NFR with the champions buckle. He was bucked off in the first round, had a 60 in the third, and is only 11th in the six-round average.

Spartans nip Skyline on road

The Times-News

DAED FALLS - Minico senior guard Garrett Gellene hit a bank shot from just inside the three-point line with one second left in regulation as Minico edged Spartan 61-56.

"The game was back and forth all the way," said Minico coach Steve Chambers. "This was a great comeback win."

Minico (11-1) hosts Burley Friday.

DAED FALLS - The Spartans led 15-1 at the end of the first quarter, as the No. 1-ranked Hornets crushed Gooding with 18 points.

"Jeff has been playing really consistent lately," said Declo assistant coach Al Christensen. "We played great team defense and came away with a great win."

The undefeated Hornets (3-0) host the wireless Filer Wildcats (0-2) Friday.

SHOSHONE - After a slow start, Shoshone picked it up in the second half to beat the Elmorean Eagles by two.

"They had a very early start in the first leading 12-5 but we fought back," said Shoshone coach Larry Messick. "Jackson (Carter), Matt Taber led the way in the second half and got us over the hump."

Ching made a running lay-in with six seconds remaining in regulation for the final point, and the Shoshone defense tightened to ensure the win.

Coaches announce All-Mini-Cassia team

The Times-News

BURLEY - High school football coaches in the Mini-Cassia area released their All-Mini-Cassia team Wednesday.

Eighteen players on offense included: QB - Jake Thomas, Bryce and Nolan Harper, Raft River; RB - Kasey Aldrich, Bryce and Nolan Harper, Bryce; WR - Jason Meyer, Declo, Bryce; TE - Matt Taber, Declo, Bryce; OL - Matt Taber, Declo, Bryce; DL - Matt Taber, Declo, Bryce; DE - Matt Taber, Declo, Bryce; LB - Matt Beck and Derek Hines, Burley; K - Kyle Heward, Chad Kidd and Hector Rios, Declo; P - Jason Meyer, Declo; K.C. Usola, Minico; Bryce Cranney and Ammon McBride, Oakley and T.J. Wight Raft River; DB - Richie Evans, Bryce; Brent Darrington, Declo; Aaron Hepworth, Minico; Trevor Cranney, Oakley and Tony Erickson, Raft River.

Player of the Year honors went to Declo running back Jason Webb. The 170-pound senior rushed for 1,916 yards and 26 touchdowns this season on 193 carries and led his team to the A-3 state semifinals. In

Local sports

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The Vikings were 9-0 on four shots during the crucial late stretch.

"They put us away in crunch time," said Buhl coach Kevin Coats. "Every time we hit a big shot they had an answer."

Buhl (0-3) hosts Glens Ferry tonight.

VALLEY 66, BUHL 53

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Hot hands

Leading area high school girls' basketball players - scoring, rebounds, assists, steals, 3-pointers - through games of Dec. 6. Girls' state will appear each Thursday throughout the season; state for boys' basketball will appear every Friday starting Dec. 10.

Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, Points

Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, Rebounds

Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, Steals

Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, 3-pointers

Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, Points

Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, Rebounds

Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, Steals

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Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, Points

Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, Rebounds

Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, Steals

Table with 3 columns: Player, Games, 3-pointers

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COMMUNITY

Community Editor: Pat Marzantonio - 733-0931, Ext. 288

Serving the Magic Valley

UP THE FLAG



Ryan Bailey, presents Laurell Adams, principal of Dworshak School in Burley with a flag as part of the school's Veterans Day program. The flag previously flew over the nation's capitol. Bailey built the flagpole base and obtained the flag as his Eagle Scout Project. He is the son of Doug and Lauri Bailey of Burley.

THANK YOU LETTERS

Businesses help donate labor, materials for home in South Park
Charity Anywhere Foundation would like to thank the following companies for their help on the Ray house in South Park.

Snake River Metal Co., Triple C Concrete, Monroe Concrete, Snake River Glass Co., Professional Glass Co., Northwest Specialists Co., The Work Setter, Sawtooth Door Co.

We would like to thank them for their time, effort and materials donated to help our job.

GORDON CARTER
Charity Anywhere Foundation
Twin Falls

Law enforcement officers should be thanked for work

I would just like to say thank you to all the officers that thanked us for a job well done on Dec. 4 at the Jerome Fairgrounds.

But in our mind's eye, we believe that you are the ones that should be thanked. Day in and day out, how many times have you heard a person tell a police officer thank you or praise them for a job well done? They are the ones who get paid very little for a dangerous job. Mark Tavel and Jennifer Schiller from the Idaho State Police should be recommended for the professionalism they used while performing their duties in a manner that could have been in chaos. Also to Sgt. Earl Knutson and all the other officers and emergency personnel that helped that

night and help us every night and every day.

A salute to all of you and all law enforcement officers who wear the badge locally and across the nation.

DAVE WALDEN
PAT WALDEN
MIKE WALDSTONE
Sawtooth Security
Twin Falls

Family donates picture to Friends of Stricker Ranch

Clifton Haynes, grandson of Herman and Laura Stricker, passed away May 28, 1999. Memorial donations of \$295 have been received in his behalf. We have fond memories of Clifton. He was a good friend and will be missed by all who knew him. Clifton's wife, Bertha, has donated a picture of Lucy Stricker to the Friends of Stricker Ranch. It is a very nice print of Lucy, and the Friends wish to thank Bertha for her donation. Glen Young, who is a member of the Friends, has volunteered to frame the print, which will then be placed in the Stricker home.

JEANETTE MEYERS
Treasurer
Friends of Stricker Ranch
Twin Falls

Community should be proud of emergency service personnel

On Nov. 16 while visiting our family south of Filer, we had to call the 911 emergency service.

We want to express our appreciation and thanks to the emergency medical

service dispatcher and emergency medical technicians and Magic Valley Regional Medical Center emergency personnel for their prompt, efficient and courteous treatment.

Your community should be proud of these organizations.

KEN AND MARY FLINT
Clemson, S.C.

Community support splices up annual Christmas chili feed

The community support of the annual Christmas Chili Feed was outstanding, so outstanding that we were short on chili and cinnamon on the day. It's hard to estimate the crowd when weather is an unknown factor.

Our thanks to the many volunteers who helped make this event possible, the community for their support in making this annual tradition a success and always the crews of the city of Rupert making the city a fairland.

ROBERTA CHRISTIANSEN
Chairman
Christmas Lighting Committee
Rupert

The Letters of Thanks column will publish letters of appreciation from:

- Organizations thanking contributors or supporters.
- Individuals thanking public agencies and businesses for extraordinary service.
- If you would like to purchase a classified ad to express gratitude of a personal rather than public nature, call The Times-News Customer Service department at 733-0931, Ext. 270.

YOUNG PERFORMERS



Nine College of Southern Idaho honors students will present a recital at the CSI Fine Arts Auditorium at 2 p.m. Saturday. Seated from left to right, are vocalist Kendall Lewton of Wendell, Heather Angel of Sandpoint, and Laura Kerr of Columbian, Col. Standing, are Will McChesne of Gooding, vocalist and pianist Erin Tutty of Twin Falls, vocalist Melissa Semon of Twin Falls, and pianist Karolea Gregory of Jerome. Not pictured are trumpet player Jim McMahon and pianist Sarah Barabko, both of Twin Falls. The students study with CSI instructors Carson Wong, Sue Miller, George Halseil and Brent Jensen. Admission is free.

Choral rehearsal set for Hallelujah Chorus

BURLEY - A choral rehearsal for the "Hallelujah Chorus" from Handel's "Messiah" begins at 9 a.m. on Sunday at the First Baptist Church, 2282 E. 14th Ave.

The Magic Philharmonic Orchestra invites everyone interested in singing in the choir to attend the rehearsal.

For more information, call 678-3883 days or 678-1558 evenings.

School's Christmas concert is Friday

BURLEY - The American Heritage School's Christmas concert begins at 8 p.m. on Friday at the school, 1226 Park Ave.

The concert will feature students in the dance group, choir, orchestra and musical ensemble.

The public is invited to enjoy the free concert.

Organic Gardeners hold Christmas potluck

BUHL - The Organic Gardeners will meet at 7 p.m. today at the Episcopal Church, 545 N. 1st Ave.

There will be a small gift exchange.

Buttons 'N Bows gather for dinner and dancing

EDEN - The Buttons 'N Bows square dance club will have a dinner and dance starting at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at Anderson Camp near Eden.

The club will provide meat and rolls and participants are asked to bring a covered dish. The dance will continue until 10 p.m.

Catholic Community schedules celebration

TWIN FALLS - The Catholic Community of Twin Falls will have a celebration of Our Lady of Goodhope from 7 p.m. to midnight Friday at St. Edward's Catholic Church in Twin Falls.

Events begin with songs for Our Lady of Goodhope at 7 p.m., followed by a benediction hour from 8-9 p.m., coffee at St. Edward's parish hall from 9-10 p.m., Lori Jurek's testimonial at the parish hall from 10-11 p.m., a rosary at the Twin Falls City Park from 11 p.m. to midnight, and man-

anitas at St. Edward's Catholic Church at midnight.

UI students can still reserve a holiday ride

MOSCOW - University of Idaho students still can reserve seats for bus-trans-

portation to southern and southeastern Idaho during winter break.

A round-trip ticket to Boise will cost students \$20. Students along include New Meadows, Payette and Weiser. Travel destinations beyond Boise, such as Twin Falls, Pocatello and Idaho Falls will cost \$90 round trip.

During the winter holiday, a pair of 46-seat buses will depart from Moscow at 5 p.m. on Dec. 17, and return to Moscow on Jan. 9.

About a dozen seats still are available. Reservations will be taken as long as space is available. All refunds will be given after Friday.

Students and parents can reserve a space with a check, credit card or by using their student account.

During the fall break, 46 students used the bus service to travel to southern and southeastern Idaho.

For more information or to reserve a space, call the office of the Dean of Students at 885-6757.

Legion Auxiliary holds holiday gathering

TWIN FALLS - The American Legion Auxiliary of Twin Falls will meet at 6 p.m. Monday at the Post Home fol-

lowed by a Christmas potluck dinner and gift exchange.

Members are asked to bring a potluck dish and their own table service and items for the Christmas party to be distributed to members and veterans who are shut-ins.

Hand lotion, shaving cream, writing paper and pens, masks and women's socks and hand-made cookies are also needed.

Century Club will hold a Christmas meeting and program at noon, Sunday at the Turf Club, 8734 Falls Ave., in Twin Falls.

The program will include Mary Ann Belkman from The Gemstead, who will demonstrate making Christmas decorations. A special Christmas guest will also provide music.

For more information, or to make late reservations or a cancellation, call the office at 734-1487 by 10 a.m. Monday.

Rendezvous Lounge holds charity benefit

BURLEY - The Rendezvous Lounge is holding a charity benefit for Don Thueson, who was seriously injured in a motorcycle accident on Dec. 4.

The benefit will start at 3 p.m. on Sunday at the lounge at 109 E. Main St. in Burley.

Events include a potluck dinner, pool tournament, dance contest and karaoke contest. All proceeds from the benefit will benefit the Thueson family.

For more information, call Brent or Laurie at 678-9915.

Hagerman Chamber schedules tree lighting

HAGERMAN - The Hagerman Valley Chamber of Commerce will hold a tree lighting ceremony at 7 p.m. Friday at the Chamber office in Hagerman.

Events will include caroling and live entertainment from the Hagerman Effect. Refreshments will be provided. The public is invited to attend.

For more information, call the Hagerman Chamber of Commerce at 837-9131.

West Magic Club holds annual Christmas Party

WEST MAGIC VALLEY LAKE - The West Magic Valley Recreation Club is having its annual Christmas party following a meeting at noon, Sunday at Burren West Lodge.

Members are asked to bring a gift valued at \$15 for the gift exchange. Men should bring male-oriented gifts and female members should bring gifts to trade with another woman. Club members are also asked to bring finger foods and the public is invited to attend.

For more information, call 487-1202.

For more information, contact Al King at P.O. Box 130327, Sunrise, Fla 33313.

Intermountain Health Care offers hot line

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah - The Deseret News and Intermountain Health Care Health Care Hotline focus on stress and health from 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday.

Calls to the hot line will be fielded by stress management experts from Cottonwood Hospital in Murray, Utah. The Health Care Hotline is a free community service provided by the Deseret News and Intermountain Health Care. All calls are confidential.

For more information or to seek advice call 1-800-925-8177.

High school sponsors Christmas celebration

WENDELL - Wendell High School will host the Gift of Christmas celebration at 7 p.m. Sunday at the Wendell High School Auditorium, at 750 E. Main St., in Wendell.

The public is invited to attend.

Elks announce student scholarship contest

CHICAGO, Ill. - The Elks National Foundation of the BPO Elks of the USA will award nearly \$2.1 million in college scholarships to a total of 500 high school seniors nationwide through its Most Valuable Student scholarship contest.

The contest is open to students in the graduating class of a high school or its equivalent in any of the 48 United States. The filing deadline is Jan. 14.

Applicants will be judged on financial need, leadership and scholarship. The Elks National Foundation, this charitable arm of the BPO Elks of the USA, will award scholarships to 500 national finalists. The top male and female student will receive scholarships of \$7,500 each for four years. In addition, the foundation will award 494 scholarships of \$1,000 a year for four years. The winners will be announced in May.

Some local lodges, districts and states will also award scholarships to applicants.

For more information, contact the Elks National Foundation at 2750 N. Lakeview Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60614-1889 or call (773) 755-4732.

UI fall semester graduation set

MOSCOW - The University of Idaho announced graduate candidates at its 1999 December commencement ceremonies in the Kibbie/ASUI Activity Center.

Several Magic Valley residents are among a total of 675 students who are candidates for fall graduation.

They will be receiving 142 baccalaureate degrees, 175 master degrees, 46 doctoral degrees, 16 law degrees, and 11 specialist degrees.

South central Idaho graduates include: Ellis - College of Agriculture; Cynthia A. Hooper, master's of science.

Buhl - College of Agriculture: Nina Pauline Watt, bachelor's of science in family and consumer sciences.

College of Forestry: Willillee and Range Sciences: Jeffrey Paul Thompson, bachelor's of science in forest resources.

College of Law: Randall Curtis Probasco, juris doctor.

College of Letters and Science: Pete Parker, bachelor's of science in environmental science; Nina Pauline Watt, bachelor's of science.

College of Education: Tara Leigh Bagley, master of education; James P. Norton, education specialist in educational administration.

College of Business and Economics: Kathleen Marie Teply, bachelor's of science-business.

College of Education: John Michael Blackman, master of education.

College of Agriculture: Craig Michael Munn, bachelor's of science in plant science.

College of Business and Economics: Kathleen Marie Teply, bachelor's of science-business.

College of Education: John Michael Blackman, master of education.

College of Agriculture: Craig Michael Munn, bachelor's of science in plant science.

College of Letters and Science: Christopher Carson Wong, bachelor's of science.

Ketchum - College of Education: Jamie Renee Bullock, bachelor's of science in education.

College of Letters and Science: Matthew Jeffrey Crumrine, bachelor's of arts.

Murtough - College of Agriculture: Jake C. Bell, bachelor's of science in agricultural science and technology.

College of Business and Economics: Paul David Myers, bachelor's of science in business.

College of Agriculture: David William Carter, bachelor's of science in agricultural education.

College of Education: Mary Christina Williams, master of education.

Rupert - College of Agriculture: Trent Bull, bachelor's of science in food science.

College of Education: Tamara G. Carrington, master of education; LaVonne Wanda Peterson, master of education.

Shoshone - College of Engineering: Damian Thomas Hamilton, bachelor's of science in computer engineering.

Twin Falls - College of Education: Jodi Linn Roland, bachelor's of science in education.

College of Letters and Science: Michele D. Capps, master's of education.

College of Business and Economics: Michael O. Gibson, education specialist in education administration.

College of Engineering: Bethany LaRayne Coggburn, bachelor's of science in computer engineering.

College of Agriculture: Joshua Wade Larsen, bachelor's of science in mechanical engineering.

General Studies Program: Aaron Dean Johnson, bachelor's in general studies.

College of Arts and Earth Resources: Brenda Kaye Gilliland, master's of science.

Teaser. The Burley Festival of Trees sees a decrease in holiday donations.

MAGIC VALLEY

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Morning break C9

City Editor: Kevin Ridder - 733-0931, Ext. 234

The Times-News

Thursday, December 9, 1999

Section C

AROUND THE VALLEY

CSI board to discuss personnel matter

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho's board will hold an executive session at 4:45 p.m. today in the President's Board Room.

The board will discuss a personnel issue during the closing meeting.

Census Bureau offers jobs for Census 2000

TWIN FALLS - More than 600 temporary jobs are available to workers in southeastern Idaho as part of Census 2000, said U.S. Census Bureau Regional Director Moses Carrasco.

Most of the openings are for census takers who will be needed to work evenings and weekends and many census takers will be able to work in their own neighborhoods. Pay scales are competitive and expenses such as authorized travel will be reimbursed, Carrasco said. Much of the work will take place in the spring of 2000 and employees will be required to work a minimum 20 hours a week for several weeks.

Applicants should possess a Social Security card and will need to make a basic skills test. Training will be provided.

For more information, call (208) 542-1967.

Sun Valley to open more lifts on Baldy today, Friday

SUN VALLEY - Sun Valley will open Baldy from top to bottom today.

The resort will open Challenger Lift-No. 10 on the Warm Springs side of Baldy to provide access to Upper College, Flying Squirrel and Mid- and Lower-Warm Springs.

Lookout Restaurant at the top of the 9,100-foot mountain will open for the winter season today as well.

On Friday the resort will open Lookout Express Lift No. 5 on the River Run side of Baldy. This will enable guests to ski or board Upper College, Roundhouse Lane and Mid- and Lower-River Run.

The decision to open additional terrain was made before Sun Valley got a booster shot of snow Monday. The resort got four inches of new snow Monday with a couple of more inches promised on Tuesday.

Snowmaking enabled the resort to open Lower Warm Springs and Lookout River Run despite scanty natural snowfall.

Lincoln County appoints new Shoshone assessor

SHOSHONE - Lincoln County appointed a new county assessor Dec. 1, Wendell Johnson, 63, of Richfield, will serve the two years remaining of the late Edward's second term. Edwards said he retired for personal reasons.

Johnson brings experience to his new job. He served four terms on the Blaine County Commission and was also once a farm and land appraiser for Blaine County.

"I'm looking forward to doing a good job in a fair, equitable and timely way," Johnson said.

Lincoln County is experiencing a subdivision building spurt and Johnson said subdivisions require a lot more regulatory work.

Rivers group to present slide show on salmon

KETCHUM - Idaho Rivers United will present a slide show, "Salmon at the Crossroads," at 7:30 p.m. today at the Clarion Inn in Ketchum.

The show will examine the fight to partially remove four dams to save Snake River salmon and steelhead.

The show, sponsored by the Environmental Resource Center, costs \$5 for ERC members and \$10 for non-members. For more information, call 726-4333.

City Council may decide on purchase of theater

RUPERT - The City Council will hold a special meeting at 5 p.m. today at City Hall.

The council is expected to make a decision on whether or not to purchase the old Wilson Theater. The agenda also includes a discussion about employee health insurance and changes in the plan. Interim financing for a local improvement district in Rupert is also scheduled to be discussed.

The meeting is open to the public.

Compiled from staff reports

Hospital upgrades man's condition

By Brian Haynes
Times-News writer

BOISE - A man shot in his home Tuesday was upgraded from critical to serious condition Wednesday.

Zachery Klundt, 20, suffered face, neck and left shoulder injuries when he was shot early Tuesday morning after answering his door at 2327 Adair Ave. E.

He remained at Saint Alphonsus Regional

Medical in Boise, where he was airlifted following the shooting.

Authorities did not release new details about the shooting but did say they were confident it was not a random shooting, a Twin Falls County Sheriff's Office news release said.

Investigators continued following up leads Wednesday as they try to piece together what happened.

Deputies responded to the shooting at 5:36 a.m. and found Klundt in critical condition.

He remained in critical condition until he was upgraded Wednesday morning.

Investigators believe Klundt was shot while answering his door, the release said.

Anyone with information about the shooting can call investigator Kelly Wilson at 736-4035 or 735-1911.

Times-News writer Brian Haynes can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 238, or by e-mail at bhaynes@magicvalley.com.

Police search for answers in baby's death

The Times-News

BURLEY - Investigators looking into the Monday death of a 1-month-old Burley infant have made a critical error in trying to piece together how the baby suffered the head injuries that likely killed him, said Cassia County Sheriff Billy Crystal.

"We're trying to find out what happened," Crystal said. "But we are convinced the child died as a result of injuries caused by someone."

An infant that size could not move far enough or quick enough to cause that kind of injury on its own, Crystal argued.

Quinton Van Holland was taken to the Cassia Regional Medical Center emergency room at about 4 a.m. Monday by his mother Cara Crystal Van Holland of Burley. He had suffered a severe head injury and was dead by the time his mother reached the hospital.

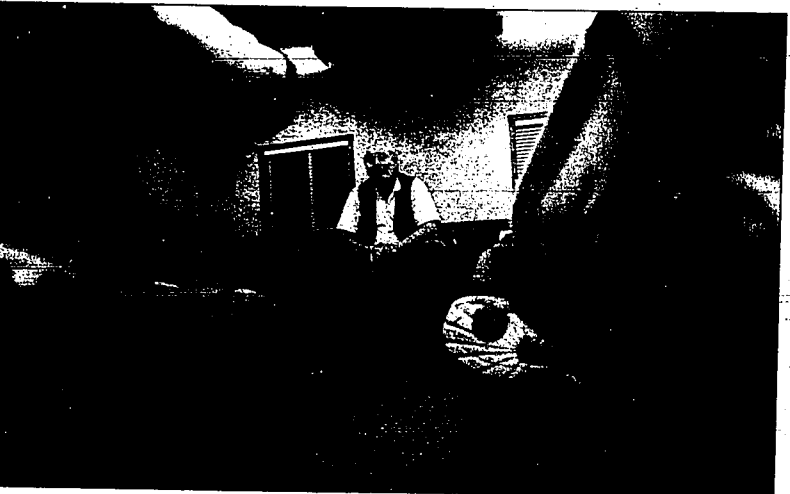
Four other adults lived with the mother and infant at the home and none have been ruled out as suspects, Crystal said.

Autopsy results also revealed the infant had a 10- to 14-day-old broken leg "that was consistent with someone holding him by it and shaking him," said Crystal. No medical treatment had been administered for the broken leg.

The pathologist who performed the infant's autopsy said he could not determine if the injuries were intentional or accidental. If the baby's death was accidental, it would not be considered a criminal matter if it resulted from endangerment of the child's safety, said Crystal.

A 1-year-old boy also lived in the home and has been placed in the custody of the Department of Health and Welfare while the investigation into the infant's death continues. A child endangerment hearing for the 1-year-old will be held behind closed doors in district court today, Crystal said.

Department of Health and Welfare conducted an examination of the 1-year-old to find out if he had suffered any injuries, but the case's judge has ordered no information related to the boy's child endangerment hearing be released because of his status as a juvenile.



Brent Cunningham leads a group therapy session in the new wing of the Snake River Youth Center. With the addition of a new wing, the center now has an in-house drug and alcohol treatment program.

New wing allows expansion

Center adds program to treat addiction

By Brian Haynes
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - With the addition of a new wing, the Snake River Youth Center now has an in-house drug and alcohol treatment program.

The addition, which includes 12 beds, storage and conference rooms, cost around \$600,000.

"We've recognized the need to lock up kids, and we also realize the need to treat kids while they are in lock-up," said Paul Frick, who directs the youth center and the neighboring detention center. "We've got a captive audience."

The youth center is a staff-care building where children stay for days or even weeks. During that time, children can go to classes and do jobs around the center.

The old wing, which includes the room where children used to stay, will be converted to offices for the juvenile prosecutor, public defender and others.

The county will accept children from other counties to help pay the cost of the building.

The new wing would not have been possible without the cooperation of the private business world, Frick said.

Builder Jack Miller agreed to build the wing and sell it to the county on a rent-to-own basis, he said.

"The bank's taking a risk," (Builder) Jack Miller is taking a risk. And the kids are benefiting from that," Frick said.

That cooperation is unique, as is the number of agencies working together within the center. County Commissioner Carla Reed said.

The youth center houses addi-

tion treatment, court services, schooling and other programs, making it one of the few - if not the only - facility like it in Idaho, she said.

"Once again Twin Falls County has pioneered a unique approach that ... I think will make a difference in our lives," Reed said while dedicating a plaque for the new wing.

The center's addition and the many county programs to help troubled children are examples of a commitment to helping the youth of the community, Reed said.

"Rather than focusing on dollars and numbers and warehousing kids, I want to help them improve their future," she said.

Residents say bond issue was too big

By Karen Bosack
Times-News correspondent

HAILEY - Too little communication and too big a wish list doomed the Blaine County Recreation Bond, residents of the Wood River Valley told bond organizers Wednesday.

"It was so big the people had trouble getting their arms around it. They had trouble understanding all that it encompassed," said Claudia Goodrich, of Hailey.

"There was a lack of real understanding about the whole process," agreed Jed Gray, who

worked on the bond issue. "And most people seemed to think that the scope of the thing was too large."

The ambitious bond proposal fell a couple hundred votes shy of the two-thirds majority needed in November. The \$118,500,000 bond would have included a Community Recreation Center with a teen center, state-of-the-art fitness center, gymnasium and covered pool in Hailey, a hot springs and leisure pool with slides in Ketchum, soccer fields between Ketchum and Hailey and a park in Garnett.

Naysayers polled by members of the Recreation District board prior to the meeting generally supported the youth center, playing fields and covered pool in Hailey, Gray said. But some favored a covered Olympic-style pool in Ketchum, rather than what they called a "tourist-style pool."

Keith Perry, Recreation District Board president, said he fought for a lap pool in Ketchum but was told that lap pools are big money losers. Even if a group volunteered to build the pool, it would still lose money in the

long run, added board member Tim Hamilton.

"Basically, the Forest Service is asking that we explore these capacity concerns," said Cathy Baer of the Blaine County Recreation District.

Though buoyed by the chance to improve biking, hiking and skiing trails, a couple members of the Advisory Committee were a little disturbed by the Forest Service's request to explore capacity concerns.

"What do they want more park work?" asked Jenny Busdan.

"We could be going around in this for years," added Ted Anglev.

"We've been making improvements to the lodge for its longevity. We don't want to develop a mega-hotel."

Galena Lodge, Forest Service work on plan

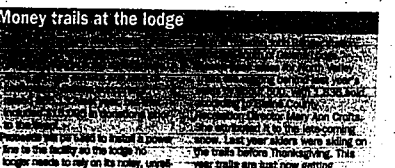
By Karen Bosack
Times-News correspondent

KETCHUM - Galena Lodge and the U.S. Forest Service are working on a "Master Plan" and Environmental Assessment for the Nordic center north of Ketchum.

Both are necessary for the Nordic center to secure its special use permit to continue operating.

Among the items the Galena Advisory Committee and Forest Service is looking at:

- How to balance increased use with demands on the sanitation system, parking, lodge capacity and employee housing.
- Galena's effect on threatened, endangered and sensitive species, such as the lynx and gray wolf.
- The opportunity to reroute



Money trails at the lodge

to restore some trail areas. A new trail could, for instance, be established in the Senate Meadows area near the intersection of the Galena Trail and the Boulder Mountain Trail. Managers could then obliterate Forest Service Road 186, which

is not scenic during summer months because of logging stumps and produces sediment during wet weather use.

• Possible health and safety issues with increased use of the lodge.

• How to expand parking or

toilet facilities without unacceptable visual effects.

"Basically, the Forest Service is asking that we explore these capacity concerns," said Cathy Baer of the Blaine County Recreation District.

Though buoyed by the chance to improve biking, hiking and skiing trails, a couple members of the Advisory Committee were a little disturbed by the Forest Service's request to explore capacity concerns.

"What do they want more park work?" asked Jenny Busdan.

"We could be going around in this for years," added Ted Anglev.

"We've been making improvements to the lodge for its longevity. We don't want to develop a mega-hotel."

Heyburn puts end to boycott Council reconsiders its membership in M-C commission

By Michael Jounes
Times-News writer

HEYBURN - The City Council put an end to Heyburn's membership boycott of the Mining and Development Commission and heard good news about the city's readiness for the "millennium bug" at Wednesday's council meeting.

Without any discussion, the council unanimously voted to pay the \$4,500 annual membership dues to the Economic Development Commission. Hearing the council refused to do three months ago when two council members questioned what benefits the city received from participating.

But after meetings with commission members and at the prompting of council member Flossie Jay, Heyburn's representative on the commission, the council reconsidered its position.

"We are being well-represented," it says, "I recommend we pay it."

Made up of members from three city councils, the commis-

Please see HEYBURN, Page C3

Festival of Trees sees decrease in donations this year

By Loraine Cawter
Times-News Writer

BURLEY — Last week's Festival of Trees at the Burley Inn Convention Center didn't raise as much as it has in previous years, taking in about \$38,000.

But the festival is giving in other ways, as leftover trees from the local homes found their way into the festival.

Money raised by the event, an

annual fund-raiser for the Cassia Health Care Foundation, will go to buy a portable x-ray monitor, said Diane Wheeler, Festival of Trees' treasurer.

In addition, a scholarship fund for students going into the medical field has been established, she said. Wheeler, Festival of Trees' publicity chairman, says some money will also go towards equipment for the Search and Rescue Cadet Response Team.

The festival did not raise as

much money as it has in other years, but still generated a great response from the community, Phillips said. About 230 people attended an opening-night gala last week.

"We sold about half the trees that night," he said. "We are optimistic that these organizations and events will continue to support the festival."

Three trees were left over after the festival ended, Wheeler said. With cash donations gathered at

the festival, the Cassia Health Care Foundation purchased those trees and donated them to area families.

"In the wake of sadness to some, we hope the trees donated to them added some comfort and joy to them," Wheeler said.

Many other people bought trees and donated them to other people, Wheeler said.

One tree purchased for \$350 and donated to a family was de-

corated by a Declo Elementary School fifth-grade class.

The teacher, Pery Hess, talked to her class about giving and the students decided they wanted to make stars for the tree and donate it to a family. Hess giggled at her memory of the zoo-like atmosphere while the children made every kind of star imaginable.

"There were all kinds of stars — foil stars, glitter stars and lace woven onto star shapes," she

said. "They had fun."

What the children learned about the money spent to buy the tree was another valuable experience, Hess said.

"They knew it would buy something for the hospital," she said. "They thought that was neat."

Times-News staff writer Loraine Cawter can be reached at the Mini-Cassia Bureau in Burley at 677-0402 or by e-mail at lcawter@magicvalley.com

Government engages in tense reconciliation talks with Hawaii

HONOLULU (AP) — Six years ago, some federal lawmakers warned that a resolution apologizing for America's role in the 1893 overthrow of Hawaii's monarchy could be the first step toward Hawaii declaring independence.

Sen. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, countered, "All we want to say is that we are sorry."

But saying sorry has proven more complicated than imagined.

The 1993 apology resolution said the federal government should hold unprecedented reconciliation talks with Native Hawaiians.

The island-wide discussions, which conclude Saturday in Honolulu, have been as prickly as some predicted, with many speakers demanding restoration of the Hawaiian monarchy and secession from the United States.

"All we want to hear from the federal government is, 'You are restored to what you are, what you were — a Hawaiian nation,'" Henry Smith said in a radio address.

Elected Hawaiian leaders say Smith's viewpoint does not represent most Hawaiians but it must be heard if federal officials hope to quell lingering bitterness over treatment of the islands' indigenous people.

"This is only the very first step and it's an exciting step,"

said Rowena Akana, lead trustee of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, a quasi-state agency that runs a \$300 million trust benefiting 200,000 descendants of Hawaii's original inhabitants.

"No matter how absurd certain things are, you throw it out there and what you end up with," she said.

The talks are being led by John Berry, assistant secretary for the Interior Department, and Mark Van Norman, director of the Justice Department's Office of Tribal Justice.

In January 1893, a group of American businessmen, backed by U.S. soldiers and diplomats, deposed Queen Lili'uokalani, imprisoned her at Iolani Palace and established an American-ruled provisional government.

President Grover Cleveland labeled the overthrow an unjust "act of war" and urged lawmakers to restore Lili'uokalani.

But the Spanish-American War underscored Hawaii's strategic importance, so President William McKinley signed an 1898 joint resolution annexing Hawaii.

"I do not feel that the American public is educated enough to understand what we're talking about here," Akana said. "We had, clearly, a functioning government, a constitutional

monarchy similar to the English government."

Before the hearings, Berry acknowledged the pain caused by the U.S. government.

"Our role in supporting the overthrow of Hawaii's government at gunpoint, and in pursuing our own national interest in denying an opportunity to vote for the majority of residents of these islands was an injustice, and its guilt continues to stain our existence today," he said.

Berry and Van Norman now face hostile audiences, with many participants saying reconciliation will only come when the federal government recognizes that Hawaii's annexation was illegal.

"Reconciliation" cannot be just unless there is redress," said Kekuni Blaisdell, spokesman for an independence coalition. "Full redress for U.S. wrongs against our kama'aina (native) people and nation requires kama'aina and the United States negotiate as equal powers with mutual consent."

Akana said a minority viewpoint is receiving a disproportionate amount of attention. In a recent OHA poll, nearly half of Native Hawaiians responding supported sovereignty, but only one-third supported complete independence.

Police shoot, kill man threatening woman

WHITE HAVEN, Pa. (AP) — A man who abducted his former girlfriend in Las Vegas and forced her on a cross-country bus trip was shot and killed by state troopers Wednesday after a six-hour standoff at an Interstate 80 rest stop, authorities said.

Troopers Matthews, 29, abducted Hall at gunpoint Monday from a Las Vegas beauty supply store where she worked. The couple have two children together.

When the two were on the bus Wednesday morning, the trooper was passed a note that one of the passengers might be dangerous, said Kristen Parsley, a spokeswoman for Greyhound Lines. She said the driver, Milton Leverte, pulled into the rest stop and told passengers the bus was overheating.

Hall, 25, was not injured.

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Twenty-six of the 47 passengers had gotten off the bus when Matthews pulled out the gun, troopers said.

"When Matthews started moving back toward the bus, troopers shouted several warnings, and then shot him once in the head."

"We couldn't let them back on the bus," said state police Capt. Richard Zenk. "He may have had another weapon in his bag."

Interstate traffic was diverted away from the rest stop during the standoff.

Moyie Springs couple receives sentence

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — A Moyie Springs man was sentenced to 15 months in federal prison for failing to file income tax returns, using fictitious financial instruments, failing to appear in court, resisting arrest and assaulting two deputy U.S. marshals.

Veral R. Smith also was ordered to serve five years on supervised release at his sentencing before U.S. District Judge Edward Lodge, who cited Smith's contention that he had "disclaimed citizenship in an effort to revolt against this country for your own personal benefit."

Smith was convicted Oct. 7 after a six-day jury trial in Moscow. His wife, Judy Ann Smith, pleaded guilty on Sept. 27

to one count of willfully failing to file an income tax return and was sentenced to four months in prison, including time already served. She will serve the rest of her sentence in home confinement.

U.S. Attorney Betty Richardson said evidence showed Smith's income from his Lead Builders Technology mail-order business totaled \$295,000 between 1992 and 1994, but he had not filed a federal or state income tax return since 1980.

Other charges used two fake "sight drafts," using the authority of the United States, to pay back taxes and fines and to buy two vehicles. One draft allegedly was made out to the Internal Revenue Service

for \$1.5 million and the other to a Spokane, Wash., automobile dealer for more than \$106,000.

During his trial, Smith introduced a videotape of a seminar run by Greg Williams of Kallispell, Mont., in which Williams urged his audience how to make and send the fake sight drafts.

The videotape also showed Williams teaching his audience how to file forms with the IRS in an attempt to trigger an investigation, falsely stating that a judge or prosecutor had paid them large amounts of cash. Smith admitted filing the forms called "currency transaction reports," federal Lodge and one of the federal prosecutors in his case.

State reports wheat stubble burning down

SPOKANE (AP) — The voluntary agreement between the state and wheat growers to cut field burning in half over seven years has begun paying off in the form of clearer skies, the state Department of Ecology said Wednesday.

The agency released figures showing a nearly 29 percent drop in the number of acres permitted to burn statewide during the late summer and fall this year, compared with the same period in 1998.

Burning permits were issued for 32,072 acres during that period this year, compared with 129,000 last year.

"We are gratified to see that wheat growers have taken very good steps to cut back," said Grant Pfeifer, the Ecology

Department's Eastern Washington air quality supervisor. "We need to continue the trend and make further reductions next spring."

Opponents of the field-burning pact the state reached with the Washington Association of Wheat Growers last January are skeptical that the new numbers represent progress.

When this year's unusually high spring burning totals are figured in, the number of acres permitted to burn over the entire year increased compared with last year, said Patricia Hoffman, president of the Spokane-based group Save Our Summers.

Some 225,000 acres were permitted to burn in 1998, com-

pared with 256,533 this year, according to Ecology Department records.

"This kind of misleading just to use the fall totals," said Hoffman, who contends the pact lets the industry off easy because it is voluntary. "It's hard to call this progress."

Jani Gilbert, an Ecology Department spokeswoman in Spokane, said the pact to reduce burning by half over seven years — or about 7 percent a year — didn't take effect until after this year's spring burning had concluded, marking the end of the agricultural year.

"We need to keep up this trend and see what happens by the end of next spring," she said.

Heyburn

Continued from C1

sons of Cassia and Minidoka counties, members of the business community, the commission promotes the Mini-Cassia area to businesses considering locating to the area.

"I've heard reports from three key city departments about the what might happen with essential city services when the year 2000 dawned in a few weeks."

Police department representative George Warrell said that someone will be at the department all evening, Jan. 1, to address any situations they may come up. Also, the Minidoka County Sheriff's Office, which Heyburn is dispatching duties for, will have a generator that allows the office to communicate with officers on their car radios even when the power fails.

"A new computer in the office should not be affected by Y2K problems, but if it is, most of the department's records are also on paper in filing cabinets and can be easily used in place of computer files, Warrell said.

"And if we have to have a manual typewriter, which I know is Y2K compliant, to do reports on," Warrell said.

Bob Despain briefed the council on the electrical department's readiness.

"Because the city buys its power from the Bonneville Power Authority, the only problem that could surface is with the relay stations we use when we try to sabotage the city's substations," Despain said. BPA had undergone three tests to ensure its equipment is ready and Despain said BPA foresees no serious problems.

Despain also reported that the city sewer and water situation should be fairly safe. Because the city well has a generator, he said the city will be able to disperse water from it should the system collapse, which is not likely. Also another generator could be used on one of the city's sewer lift stations to ensure adequate flow, he said.

In other action Wednesday, the council approved amending the subdivision plat for Block 50 to allow the city better access to sewer lines in the block and move an alley which is blocked by a home.

Because the lots on the block are being considered for sale by a new owner, the council decided to forego the usual inspection of the amendment by the city's

planning and zoning commission for fear of having to later deal with several property owners to redraw the plat. Currently only two owners are involved in the amendment.

Council member Nile Bohon voiced concern over the lack of input from the planning and zoning committee and voted against the amendment. Since his was the only dissenting vote, the measure was approved 2-1.

In other city business:

- The council authorized Treasurer Davis, the city clerk and treasurer, to throw out city accounting records that are more than six years old. Idaho code allows cities to discard such records.
- The council approved the renewal of beer and wine licenses for Tony Services, The Pub, Joe's River Bar and Hub 66.
- The council agreed to enter into a month-to-month extension of its franchise agreement with A & T Cable Television and will likely enter into a similar agreement with Project Mutual Telephone for cable services to the city.

Times-News Mini-Cassia Bureau Chief Michael Journee can be reached at 677-0402 or by e-mail at mjjourne@magicvalley.com.

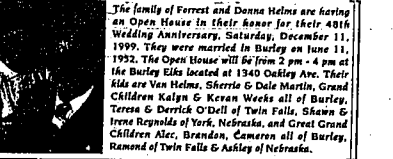
Santa Claus to visit Ketchum Friday

The Times-News

KETCHUM — Santa has checked his list twice and he's scheduled to arrive in Ketchum by firetruck Friday.

Santa will arrive at the Heritage and Ski Museum about 5:30 p.m., just in time to pull the switch to light the official Ketchum Christmas tree.

The festivities will also include refreshments and caroling.



The family of Terese and Donna Helms are having an Open House in their honor for their 48th Wedding Anniversary, Saturday, December 11, 1999. They were married in Burley on June 11, 1951. The Open House will be from 2 pm - 4 pm at the Burley located at 1240 Cadogan Ave. Their kids are Van Helms, Sherrie & Dele Marie. Grand Children Kalyn & Kevan Weeks all of Burley, Teresa & Derrick O'Dell of Twin Falls, Shawn & Traci Reynolds of York, Nebraska, and Great Grand Children Alec, Brennan, Cameron all of Burley, Ramond of Twin Falls & Ashley of Nebraska.

Blaine

Continued from C1

raisers. Most said they wished they'd been better informed and said they didn't get the sense that the recreation district had gathered enough public input.

There were also a lot of misconceptions, said Jenny Fleming of Halley. Among them: the idea that a proposed golf course in Blaine Canyon was part of the bond project.

"A few expressed fear that this is the big city coming to Halley, but the little community pool," said Christine Portner, of Ketchum.

The majority of those polled said they could support a new bond with a change here or there, and many said they would be willing to serve on focus groups and in other ways to see something happen.

Michelle Wickes, of Halley, said she would like to see a center that integrated all ages, rather than segregate teens. Tom Hanson said he'd like to see the Recreation District try to cut costs by including some of the projects in conjunction with Blaine County Schools.

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THOROUGH INVESTIGATION

Feds admit destroying more records in lawsuit

WASHINGTON (AP) — A day after a federal judge cited the Treasury Department for covering up the shredding of 162 boxes of records, government lawyers admitted the department had destroyed still more potential evidence in a lawsuit over American Indian trust funds.

Government lawyers disclosed the destruction of computerized check records Tuesday in a letter to a court-appointed investigator overseeing documents in the case.

On Monday, U.S. District Judge Joyce Lamberth accused Treasury Department lawyers of lying to him about trust fund records and released a report by the investigator, Alan Balaran, saying government lawyers kept quiet about the document shredding for more than three months.

"It's just weird that a few days after the report, there's another revelation they destroyed additional information," said Keith Harper, a lawyer for Indians suing the government claiming multi-billion-dollar mismanagement of their trust accounts.

Justice Department lawyer Brian Ferrell, in a letter to Balaran, said Treasury Department officials "recently discovered" the deletion of computer files. In June 1998, Treasury workers deleted information older than seven years from the department's check payment and reconciliation system, the letter said.

Information from that system could have helped track payments made to Indian trust account holders, Harper said.

Treasury Department lawyer Walter Eccard, in a letter

Tuesday to Ferrell, said the June 1998 data deletions were discovered after Nov. 23.

On that day, Eccard had said "preliminary information" indicated no such check information had been destroyed.

The Treasury Department has halted its routine purges of old information from that computer system, Eccard told Ferrell.

Ferrell did not return a telephone message seeking comment Wednesday evening.

In his report released Monday, Balaran said Treasury Department lawyers "in a minimum" violated their oaths as attorneys by waiting more than three months to tell Lamberth about the shredding of 162 boxes of files. Those files likely contained copies of checks to Indian account holders that were never cashed, Balaran's report said.

The shredding started in November 1998 on the same day Treasury Department officials were telling Lamberth about destroying microfilm. In February, Lamberth held then-Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin and Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt in contempt of court for their agencies' misdeeds in turning over documents.

The judge wrote Monday that he was "deeply disturbed" by the delay and accused government lawyers of making false assurances that the document problems had been solved.

The Indians' lawyers said last month they would seek another contempt citation after Balaran found trust fund documents dumped into a shed with used tires and other debris on a North Dakota reservation.

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Treasury Department lawyer Walter Eccard, in a letter

national look into the allegations in September and he was forced to resign about a month later. After a full criminal investigation, he was arraigned Dec. 2 in 2nd District Court.

"If we hear of allegations against and officers, we will investigate," said Sheriff Brad Stutzman. "If we find facts to substantiate the allegations, we will take action and quickly."

Charges of lewdness lead Weber police to suspend sheriff's deputy

OGDEN, Utah (AP) — A Weber County Sheriff's deputy has been charged with lewdness involving a child.

William S. Sanford, a seven-year veteran of the sheriff's office, is accused of making offensive remarks about underwear to a 14-year-old girl, according to court documents.

Sanford was suspended when the sheriff's office began an inter-

nal look into the allegations in September and he was forced to resign about a month later. After a full criminal investigation, he was arraigned Dec. 2 in 2nd District Court.

"If we hear of allegations against and officers, we will investigate," said Sheriff Brad Stutzman. "If we find facts to substantiate the allegations, we will take action and quickly."

Wyoming teachers oppose INEEL waste incinerator

CHEYENNE, Wyo. (AP) — The Wyoming Education Association has joined the growing opposition in that state to the proposed nuclear waste incinerator at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory.

Association President Jean Hayek asked Vice President Al Gore in a letter to block the project "for the sake of our children."

"There are just too many unanswered questions about this experimental and untried proposal for disposing of hazardous waste," Hayek wrote in a letter released this week.

Public comment is currently being taken on the environmental permits for the incinerator from Idaho and federal regulators. It is called for as part of Idaho's 1995 court-sanctioned agreement with the federal government that requires plutonium-contaminated waste tainted with other hazardous substances to be processed and then moved to permanent storage at an underground dump in New Mexico.

The \$1.2 billion facility will burn off toxic organic material in about 65,000 cubic meters of waste generated during the Cold War production of nuclear bombs. Under the agreement,

that waste must be treated and shipped out of Idaho by 2018.

Some Wyoming residents, especially in Jackson, are worried that the incinerator will release toxic substances that will blow eastward into their state. One group, Keep Yellowstone Nuclear Free led by prominent attorney Gerry Spence, has gone to federal court in an attempt to block the project.

In response to concerns, the Department of Energy recently opened a temporary office in Jackson to provide information about the incinerator to the public.

Federal officials have insisted that the incinerator will not release significant amounts of harmful particles. Leaving the waste untreated, they contend, poses a far greater threat because of potential future leaks from current storage containers, which are over the Snake River Plain Aquifer.

And even air quality officials in Wyoming have said a municipal waste incinerator operating south of Jackson poses a greater health threat than federal facilities would, although that conclusion has been hotly disputed.

Wearing heavy wool and fleece clothing, the boys took blankets, medical supplies, two sacks of food containing lentils, rice, oats, wheat flour, dried beans, bouillon cubes and dried chili and several quarts of water.

But they left in a hurry, leaving behind their rucksacks and sleeping bags and surviving nights as cold as 3 degrees.

Mitch Cole, an employee for RedCliff Ascent, said the program has had more than 30 runs, always this year, but RedCliff instructors catch most within 24 hours.

This was the first time an entire group turned on RedCliff staff or resorted to violence.

The juveniles came from Silverton, Ore.; Plainfield, Ill.; Austin, Texas; Wynnewood, Pa.; Killedeer, Ill.; and Greenwich, Conn., and two unspecified towns in California and New York, according to Utah officials.

RedCliff is one of six wilderness programs licensed to operate in Utah. It takes teen-agers from parents or courts, charging parents \$15,500 per child for a 60-day outing.

The eight boys had split up during their escape, making it harder for authorities to find them.

Earlier Tuesday, Benson said he believed the boys had left the Utah desert overlapping Iron and Beaver counties for Nevada. He based that in part on a phone call a deputy received Monday night from the purported girlfriend of one of the boys.

The girl told a deputy her boyfriend had called from Ely, Nev., asking her to wire money.

Officials now believe the report was an effort to throw them off the trail of the last two boys.

Livingston Police officer Tom Totland looks down a plumbing vent on the roof of an apartment building Tuesday in Livingston, Mont. Police were searching the building in connection with the murder of Mary Phyllis Mertz, whose body was found Tuesday in her apartment in the building.

Last two fugitive boys surrender

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — All eight boys who allegedly assaulted their counselors and fled a wilderness therapy program youth have been rounded up with their surrender Wednesday of the final two runaways.

Iron County Sheriff David Benson said one of the boys tried to flag down a Union-Pacific freight train at 1 a.m. Wednesday near Cedar City, about 220 miles south of Salt Lake City.

The boy was picked up by another, southbound train and delivered to deputies. He led authorities to his companion, who was suffering from hypothermia and dehydration and could not walk.

The two boys joined five others being held at a juvenile detention center in Cedar City. An eighth boy is being held 140 miles away in Ely, Nev., where he had hitched a ride with a trucker.

Benson said all eight boys, ages 14 to 16, will be charged with

felony aggravated assault, simple assault, and theft of a two-way radio.

Their counselors were jumped without warning while standing around a campfire after breakfast Saturday.

"They were just on top of me," said Kirk Stock, 23, who was beaten with sticks and bound with duct tape.

"At first I thought they were wrestling," said Sunshine Fuller, 22, who was tied to a tree.

Unable to talk the boys out of fleeing, the counselors suggested they take food and water. Stock and Fuller were able to cut themselves loose with his pocket knife. But they had to hike for two hours to reach another group of campers and radio for help.

The fugitive boys had a week to six weeks of survival training before bolting into the mile-high desert southwest Utah.

Steve Peterson, RedCliff executive program director, said the last two runaways were caught

about 25 miles southeast of where the counselors had been tied up, and less than 15 miles from the Circle Four hog farm where one youth surrendered Monday.

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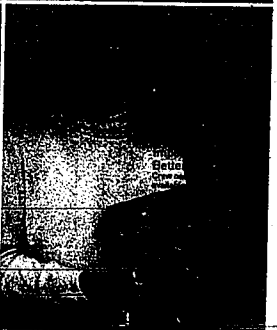
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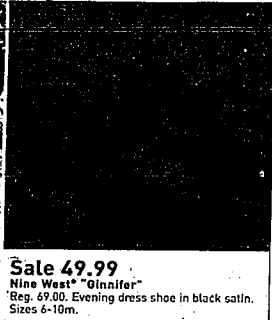
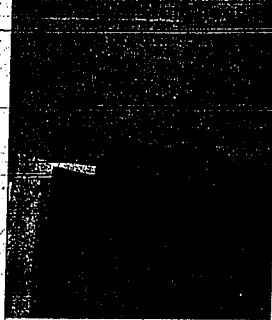


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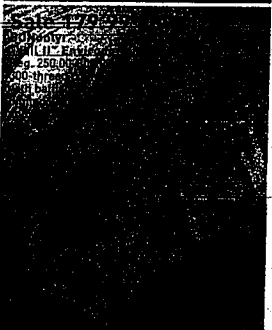
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Recall fails against school board trustees

KUNA (AP) - The attempted recall of two school board members has failed despite a heavier-than-normal turnout.

The election on Tuesday came in response to a public outcry over the Kuna School Board's purchase of 40 acres of land for a proposed high school. Not only did many feel the district paid too much for the land - twice the actual value by some estimates - but they also questioned how the deal was financed.

Both Jackie Beverage and Rogor Lowe fended off the recall with a majority. Voters favored Beverage, 291-143, and Lowe, 170-109.

Under an agreement with Zions Bank, the district owns the land, which it leases back to the bank for \$1 a year. The bank then leases the land to the district for 10 one-year periods, sidestepping a state ban on extended debt without voter approval.

"They may have overstepped their bounds in trying to plan for the future, but they were just trying to do what they thought was right," voter Russell Kiefer said.

In response to the community's concerns over the land deal, a board-appointed committee is considering other school sites in the district.

Trustees across the state in Pocatello faced a recall attempt on Wednesday. That attack on three board members was prompted by how the school board treated janitors, dealt with public concerns about safety and conducted meetings in

HAVE A COW ... FOR CHRISTMAS



Fern Albiston gift wraps a plush toy cow at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Moscow, Tuesday. About 45 members of the church's First Ward Relief Society wrapped gifts for the Christmas for Kids program.

Police aim to improve hate-crime investigation

BOISE (AP) - The city's police department has revamped its procedures for investigating hate crimes after the target of a weekend cross-burning complained that the police response was inadequate.

The change comes after firefighters and police responded to a report of a cross-burning Sunday.

Residents said they believe the incident may have been motivated by race. Police, meanwhile, acknowledged that they could have done more and said they will do more in the future.

Department officials drafted a special order that requires a patrol supervisor and a detective to respond to hate-crime scenes, police spokesman Lt. Jim Tibbs said Tuesday.

The enhanced hate-crime protocol is aimed at ensuring more

potential witnesses are interviewed sooner.

"If I was the victim of a hate crime, I would, and I think everyone would, expect the police to do all that they could," Tibbs said. "It's going to cost us more money, but it's worth it."

The victim of Sunday's incident, Ryan Mathews, complained to police ombudsman Pierce Murphy about what he called an inadequate police response.

Mathews, 26, told investigators he woke up when he heard a rock crash through a window on his second-story balcony. When he looked out the window moments later he saw a roughly 5-foot-tall wooden cross lying in the grass and burning.

"On the rock, someone had scrawled a racial epithet directed at blacks," Mathews is white.

Coeur d'Alene sets limits on parades

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - With little fanfare or discussion, the City Council has approved a change in its parade ordinance to limit downtown parades to one a day.

The council voted unanimously Tuesday to change the law that was drawn up in response to the Aryan Nations sect clashed in a city park after the Aryans were denied a permit to march.

The ordinance was the result of work by constitutional expert Steve Burman of Seattle, whose \$40,000 fee was paid by the city and resort owner Duane Hagadone.

Goodlander said the latest change allows for better coverage by police officers and firefighters.

Last year, members of the Jewish Defense League and the white supremacist Aryan Nations sect clashed in a city park after the Aryans were denied a permit to march.

The ordinance was the result of work by constitutional expert Steve Burman of Seattle, whose \$40,000 fee was paid by the city and resort owner Duane Hagadone.

Salt Lake City defends sale to LDS church

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Salt Lake City attorneys admit that when the LDS Church bought one block of Main Street for \$8.1 million, the price tag included some freedoms.

City attorneys Roger Cutler, Lynn Eace and Boyd Ferguson filed a response Tuesday to an American Civil Liberties Union lawsuit challenging free speech and assembly restrictions on the church's plans for a plaza at the former city site.

ACLU attorney Stephen Clark said the city is missing the point.

"Main Street either is a public forum or it isn't," Clark said. "And a city can't sell the public's constitutional rights on Main Street."

In negotiating the sale last spring, the city and church agreed to allow 24-hour public access to the block, but with restrictions.

Council allows street hoops

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - When city officials called time-out on more than 50 basketball nets on city rights-of-way last month, some residents called foul.

So the council has decided to let the game resume, providing residents remove any permanent hoops and pull the portables off the streets when not in use.

"At one time or another all of us on the council have played in the street," Councilman Ron Edinger said.

The 43 vote on Tuesday came over the objections of Councilwomen Dixie Reid and Nancy Sue Wallace, who tried to block the decision.

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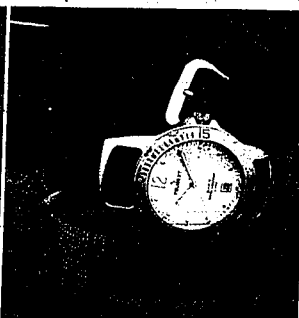
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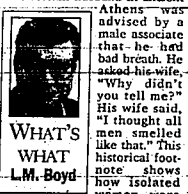
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Navy: Wear clothes or be punished

U.S. Navy regulations of 1848, prescribed as punishment 12 strokes of the whip for showing up on deck naked.



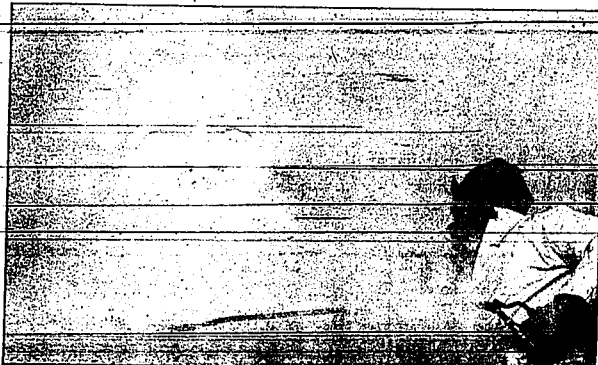
WHAT'S WHAT L.M. Boyd

then and there. The early Athens woman was rarely allowed to meet any man other than her husband and a relative or two.

In France, an inch is called a "pouce." It means thumb. No mystery here. The first joint of the usual human thumb projects just about an inch.

Bricks in pueblos of New Mexico measure 35 by 15 by 10 centimeters - almost exactly the proportions of the bricks put into Egypt's Temple of Hatshepsut in 1450 B.C.

BATHTIME FOR ABE



Abraham Lincoln peers through the mist at the statue of America's 16th president receives its semi-annual steam-cleaning from U.S. Park Service employee Joe Addison at the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C., Wednesday.

When in doubt, don't act, Cancer

IF DECEMBER 9 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You are passionate, creative, controversial, some people are enamored of you while others keep their distance. Aries, Libra persons play important roles in your life, could have these letters, initials in names: I and R.

Recent lineup of red tape is fungeous for the bride. You and your persons will play unusual roles in your life during the year 2000.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Attention revolves around protection of family, insurance, income potential, in matters of speculation, stick with number 6.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Look before you leap. Separate factual material from illusion. Define terms, especially where real estate is concerned.

SCORPIO (October 23-Nov. 21): Many comment on your newfound sense of humor. Accident diversity, versatility, intellectual curiosity. Wear pink, purple, you'll attract people who are lucky for you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Dig deep for information, check details, be willing to tear down in order to rebuild. Secret meeting takes place. Taurus involved.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Cycle high, judgment and intuition his bull's eye. You could be picked for leadership role. Read, write, teach. Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius persons are in picture.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Attention revolves around home, family, basic security. You overlook reluctance to be in spotlight. Taurus, Libra persons play roles.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Your kind of day. Define terms, outline boundaries, pay close attention to real estate transaction. Your psychic powers surface.

HOROSCOPE Sydney Omarr

Remember all that glitter is not gold. Capricorn and another Cancer native figure prominently. If you don't know what to do, do nothing. Family member confides problem.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Project closer to completion than might be anticipated. Emphasize universal appeal, deal gingerly with Libra, Aries individuals. Proceed to the top.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Try out new locks, emphasis on renovation, remodeling. Leo, Aquarius persons play astounding roles in your life today. Imprint style, stress independence, bright colors.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Focus on partnership, innovativeness, marital status. If anyone seems to please you, they better prepare some down-home food. Cancer, Capricorn persons play unusual roles.

Crossword puzzle grid with clues and answers. Clues include: Across: 1. Vaughn and ... 7. Do under the weather ... 14. Minutiae ... 15. Migration ... 16. African nation ... 17. Officially signed ... 18. Take apart ... 19. City in ... 20. Oklahoma ... 21. Fried from ... 22. Power of ... 23. Bankroll ... 24. Tower of ... 25. King's clubs ... 26. Shab ... 27. Ship back? ... 28. Talk star ... 29. WWV letters ... 30. Pole lun ... 31. ... who made a Mexican ...

Widow's escort might be cheat



DEAR ABBY

DEAR ABBY: I'm a widow in my 60s, and I'm beginning to think I'm the biggest fool in the world. After my dear husband died two years ago, I convinced myself I would never get involved with another man. I needed peace after nursing my mate through five traumatic years of cancer and a painful death.

Nothing our friendship, church members began to approach me and advise me to back off and not get hurt. I was told he had not been involved with another woman at the time of his death for a long time before he met me, and that they had broken up for unknown reasons. The reason for this occurred to me: that she didn't want to be caught in a dead-end relationship, either.

Abby, this man won't tell me straight, but I have this strong feeling that he cheated on his wife during their marriage, and she simply moved far away. He keeps my calendar full of dates and commitments extending far into the future, and I've always had a wonderful time with him; this is apparently the kind of life he wants, but it's not for me.

I am embarrassed and hurt. Do I just say to him, "I want marriage or nothing"? I am so emotionally entangled that an abrupt severing seems beyond my ability. Fragile as it is, I feel that we have something of great value together, but I only visualize an empty future together. Your thoughts, please.

DEAR SHARON: Thank you for a helpful suggestion. I hope it will help the woman who wrote to stop the drip next door!

Word search puzzle with clues and answers. Clues include: 0. Imitation, ethny ... 7. Scuba or snafu ... 14. Mongrol ... 15. Peace goddess ... 16. Bonanza ... 17. Dollar-bill artist ... 18. Memo Sabat ... 19. Downing ... 20. Whirling ... 21. City north of ... 12. Tiger's clubs ... 13. ...

Griffin risks life in liposuction surgery

NEW YORK (AP) - Kathy Griffin of "Suddenly Susan" says she has a star 4-bag with her risked her life in a liposuction surgery that went wrong in her quest to lose inches.

Griffin, 34, said she had a liposuction surgery that went wrong in her quest to lose inches. She said she had a liposuction surgery that went wrong in her quest to lose inches.

Griffin, 34, said she had a liposuction surgery that went wrong in her quest to lose inches. She said she had a liposuction surgery that went wrong in her quest to lose inches.

People in brief

Clindy joins morning show NEW YORK - Count Cindy Crawford, among television's brightest crowd.

Charles takes on cancer LONDON - Prince Charles spoke Wednesday of how cancer has touched his life and appealed for support for a new research center.

Charles's grandfather, King George VI, died of lung cancer in 1952. Eight years ago, the daughter of Prince Charles died of a kidney tumor. Other friends have also been stricken, he said.

His newspaper column coincided with the opening of a new breast cancer research center supported by one of his charities. He said more effort in laboratory research is needed to improve breast cancer treatment.

Advertisement for 'The Orpheum' featuring Arnold Schwarzenegger. Includes showtimes and prices.

Advertisement for 'Jerome Cinema 4' featuring 'Sleepy Hollow' and 'World is Not Enough'.

Advertisement for 'Twin Cinema 12' featuring 'Double Jeopardy' and 'The Bachelor'.

Advertisement for 'Oasis Stop 'N Go Movie Days' featuring 'Runaway Bride' and 'Bowfinger'.

Advertisement for 'Dogma' featuring Ben Affleck, Matt Damon, and Linda Fiorentino. Includes showtimes and prices.

Advertisement for 'The Green Mile' featuring Tom Hanks. Includes showtimes and prices.

Advertisement for 'Bowfinger' featuring Bruce Willis. Includes showtimes and prices.

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Direct Arizona flight to Boise is available

PHOENIX, Ariz. — American West Airlines this week announced new service to Boise, beginning March 6, 2000.

The new service will offer three daily nonstop round-trip flights between its Phoenix hub and Boise aboard Boeing 737-300 aircraft featuring eight first class and 126 coach seats.

"The year 2000 will bring a higher level of air service to Boise travelers as America West commences its strategic growth plan," said C.A. Howlett, senior vice president, public affairs.

The airline is offering introductory fares through Dec. 20 for travel March 6 through June 10, 2000.

Along with its partners, American West Airlines, the nation's ninth-largest carrier, serves more than 450 destinations in the U.S., Canada and Mexico.

Idaho Firm helps Gorilla Research project

McCALL, Idaho — An Idaho-based company's technology will be showcased Friday on the National Geographic Explorer show's new documentary "Gorillas on the Edge."

Earth Search Sciences of McCall used its remote sensing system to collect data in Rwanda. Scientists say it will help them monitor the habitat of the African mountain gorilla — made famous by the movie "Gorillas in the Mist."

Earth Sciences founder and chairman Larry Vance was at the United Nations this week for the documentary's premiere. It will air at 9 p.m. Friday on CNN.

"We are proud of our contribution to this important conservation mission to save the endangered mountain gorillas," Vance said.

The documentary's premiere at the U.N. also affords us the opportunity to demonstrate before world leaders the Probe's capabilities in addressing environmental issues and in enabling informed decision-making."

Economic forecast: Modest growth in Idaho

PORTLAND, Ore. — An economic forecast released Wednesday predicts continuing but modest growth in western states including Idaho.

The U.S. Bank released its forecast stating that a 17-year upswing in economic growth will continue into the year 2000. The report, "Territory 2000," analyzes employment, personal income, population and overall economic performance of six states.

The U.S. Bank's report of findings in Idaho include:

- Boise and Pocatello represented 70 percent of the state's 1998 increase in annual average wages and salaries.
- Agriculture struggled in 1999 but there is a hint of improvement with rising prices, an increase in government payments for some crops and prospects overseas.
- In 2000, Idaho's job growth of 2.3 percent will be stronger than 1999 with a healthier agricultural industry, a more robust manufacturing sector as high-tech growth picks up.

Compiled from staff reports

Peter McLaughlin's fitness profile quiz

1	2	3	4	5
I eat something healthy for breakfast daily	5	4	3	2
I eat 4 to 6 smaller meals a day	5	4	3	2
I eat fruit and vegetables daily	5	4	3	2
I eat less than 30% of my daily calorie intake in the form of fat	5	4	3	2
I take vitamin supplements daily	5	4	3	2
I eat fast food regularly	5	4	3	2
I eat red meat daily	5	4	3	2
I monitor my sugar intake	5	4	3	2
I exercise aerobically at least 3 times a week	5	4	3	2
I take breaks twice a day in addition to lunch	5	4	3	2
I actively cultivate relationships and interests outside work	5	4	3	2
I take adequate time off for vacations	5	4	3	2
My energy level is high	5	4	3	2

PHOTOGRAPHY: HALL/The Dallas Morning News, 1997

Fitness can turn stress to energy

By Cheryl Hall
The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — Two 47-year-old partners just hitting their career strides at a major accounting firm recently received nasty wake-up calls. According to four simple fitness tests fed into a computer, their bodies are actually 40 with one foot in the grave.

These guys are overweight, out of shape and stressed out. And, says Peter McLaughlin, they are by no means alone.

People buy into the idea that athletes have to be physically fit, eat smart, sleep enough and think straight to win. But they don't adopt that same strategy to achieve peak performance at their jobs.

McLaughlin, a popular business motivational speaker and author of CatchFire: A 7-Step Program to Ignite Energy, Defuse Stress and Power Boost Your Career, is on a personal mission to change that.

He's spent the last 15 years helping nearly a thousand companies, including Deloitte Consulting, Disney, IBM and Microsoft create workplace environments that unleash employee energy, creativity and enthusiasm.

"Most of us suffer from terminal illness," he says, during a recent swing through Dallas. "That's the illness you get sitting

at your terminal all day. The number of hours you sit there is directly proportional to the size of your butt. It's terminal because the 1996 Surgeon General's Report says sedentary lifestyle is creating more disease than smoking."

These days, McLaughlin wants to get companies and their employees psyched up about a program called FitnessAge, which generates a "real" physical age based on body-fat composition, flexibility, strength and cardiovascular data. It then helps folks "buy back" years lost to poor eating habits and lack of exercise by lifestyle changes.

Earlier this year, FitnessAge Inc. in La Jolla, Calif., bought out McLaughlin's consulting company in Denver and hooked up with Dallas-based Goodbody's to bring the computer-monitored wellness program to this area.

"I come in with a message people are waiting to hear," McLaughlin says. "If you really live a great life for yourself, the bottom line is you'll probably make more money in the process."

And companies that help employees improve mental and physical ability will be more profitable, too.

For example, the National Commission on Sleep Disorders Research estimates that American businesses lose about \$16 billion a year between the

hours of 2 and 4 p.m., when workers nod off at their desks.

Encouraging: high-protein lunches and a midafternoon snack of low-fat yogurt or a piece of fruit will power most workers through this natural energy hiatus, McLaughlin says.

Fruit has to be readily available, he contends. "Have you ever heard anyone say, 'Hey! I'm going on a banana run. Anyone else want one?'"

Simple changes, says McLaughlin, can bring extraordinary results.

A cable conglomerate in Denver restocked its vending machines so that 35 of them offered healthy choices for a dime each, while three were stocked with nutritional trans-fats priced at a buck.

An insurance company in Albuquerque, N.M., plastered cartoon relief from fiber to ceiling inside one of its elevators.

Before contentious meetings at a communications company in Spokane, Wash., attendees have to don Hawaiian shirts. "As they costume, they begin to relax," says McLaughlin. "You can't be angry wearing a Hawaiian shirt."

An international marketing group adopted mirth as a mind-set and filled a relaxation room with 3-foot inflated exercise balls, soft chairs and mood music to comfort employees who are stressed to the gills. The same

Please see STRESS, Page C12

WTO produces limited statement

The Seattle Times
Knight Ridder News Service

Dec. 8 has been the World Trade Organization's fabled day. Here, it was to have issued a declaration outlining the size and scope of future world trade talks. But because the talks here collapsed, there was no document.

Draft copies of what such a document might have looked like, leaked around the meeting. One of the most copycats showed the WTO was ready to begin a minimal round of trade talks on the basic issues before — agriculture, services and overall world tariffs.

Here is a look at various issues and what happened:

Agriculture

The issue: It's the most contentious of issues and in some way the deal here broke. The United States and a group of agricultural exporting nations known as the Cairns Group were close to a deal that would have called for gradual reductions in export subsidies leading toward their eventual elimination. The European Union, which heavily subsidizes its farmers, resisted the move. No agreement was reached.

What's ahead: Previously scheduled WTO talks on agriculture will begin in January, but it is now much less likely that the EU will agree to far-reaching concessions on farming.

Labor rights

The issue: The U.S. made labor rights one of its objectives. The U.S. had proposed a working group be set up in the WTO to look at the issue. Developing nations opposed the idea, seeing it as a form of rich-country protectionism. When President Clinton said the working group should develop labor standards enforceable by trade sanctions, developing nations were incensed.

What's ahead: Labor rights is off the table with no plans to bring it up again.

Electronic commerce

The issue: It's fairly simple — an extension of a moratorium on charging duties on Internet sales and software. There was little opposition to the idea and draft statements supported an extension.

What's ahead: The existing moratorium is in effect until February.

Reforming the WTO

The issue: This was known as transparency in the talks. The idea was to make the WTO more open, more accountable to the public, especially in its key dispute resolution process. This was another goal of the Clinton administration. Many countries opposed it, saying the WTO was a government-to-government organization, precluding outside issues.

What's ahead: An existing study group will continue to look at the issue. Draft declarations called on individual countries to do more about explaining the role of the WTO and bringing outside interests into the process.

Environment

The issue: Environmental groups pushed for the WTO to open up several agreements and specifically link trade with environmental concerns. Most WTO members said existing WTO protections were adequate.

What's ahead: More debate and more pressure from environmental groups are coming. New measures failed to make any draft declarations.

Tariffs

The issue: About six categories of industrial products, including timber, paper and other forest products, were to be in a group where existing tariffs, or taxes on imports, would be lowered. It was opposed by environmentalists.

What's ahead: No action is expected.

Business

The issue: The failure of the talks will disappoint many U.S. companies. Agricultural companies had counted on tariff reductions and subsidies to give a big lift to exports. Electronic-commerce companies had high hopes that the WTO would extend a moratorium on taxation of Internet transactions.

What's ahead: Either of those areas could be negotiated separately in the future, but the prospect of progress is uncertain.

Nation's economy is still 'moderate to strong,' feds say

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation is enjoying "continued moderate to strong" economic growth with consumer prices holding steady, the Federal Reserve said Wednesday in its latest survey of business conditions around the country.

The survey, compiled from reports from the 12 Fed regional banks, said the strong economy is keeping labor markets tight, mean-

ing employers are finding it difficult to hire scarce workers for job openings, something that economists fear could lead to wage and price inflation down the road.

The survey, known as a "beige book" for the color of its cover, will be used when Fed policymakers meet next on Dec. 21 to review the central bank's stance on interest rates.

"There were some reports of larger recent salary increases in some industries and regions," the

Fed said. But the overall rate of increase in wages and salaries does not appear to be accelerating and the scattered larger gains have not filtered into a significant increase in product prices.

Consumer spending, meanwhile, picked up over the Thanksgiving weekend, the Fed survey found, after having been depressed earlier in the month by unusually warm weather.

Many economists predict the Fed will leave interest rates

unchanged until next year, citing concerns about possible problems stemming from the Y2K computer changeover.

Still, many say the Fed will hike rates in February or March to slow the cooling economy.

The Fed has raised interest rates three times this year — in June, August and November — to slow the economy and keep inflation under control.

The beige book was based on information collected before Nov. 30.

Separately, a survey released Wednesday, predicted the economy will slow a bit next year but not enough to discourage a pick-up in inflation.

The National Association for Business Economics estimated that the economy will grow by 3.2 percent in 2000, down from the 3.5 percent it is forecasting for all of this year.

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D.L. EVANS	Interstate Amusements	LATHAM Chrysler • Plymouth • Dodge	Southern Idaho Waste Exchange	Terry's HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING	Twin Falls Area CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

BANKRUPTCIES

Technology takes a break, stocks drop

U.S. Bankruptcy Court

Recent activity in U.S. Bankruptcy Court included the following Magic Valley filings:

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000

Michael Darin Ashbro and Jessica M. Ashbro, 377 S. 200 E., #27, Rupert, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 99-4184.

Kimberly Garrity, also known as Kimberly Shirley, 632 Cypress Way, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 99-4185.

Margaret Olson, 749 Oriental Ave., Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 99-4186.

Justin T. Kolsen, 2203 E. 1850 S., Gooding, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 99-4187.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$50,000 to \$100,000

Dondie Royce Blacker and Julie Colleen Blacker, also known as Julie Colleen Cortez, 551 Locust Dr., Heyburn, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 1-15

creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 99-4189.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$100,000 to \$500,000

Josse Macias and Crystal L. Macias, also known as Crystal Sutherland and Crystal Laugren, 358 W. 500 S., Heyburn, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 99-4189.

Kirk A. Woolman and Rhonda E. Woolman, 1321 S. 1700 E., Gooding, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000, liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 99-4189S.

Five years into NAFTA, Mexico is better off, but trouble looms

Knight Ridder News Service

HOUSTON — Five years after the NAFTA agreement took effect, the deal to reduce trade barriers has had a positive impact on the Mexican economy, but long-standing labor problems could derail those benefits in the future if they're not solved.

Those observations were made by economists and politicians this week at the fourth annual executive conference and trade exhibition, Access to Mexico, in Hermosillo, Mexico.

The reduction in trade barriers by the North American Free Trade Agreement has fueled a surge in exports there, which has

been the main engine for growth in Mexico. Blanco said shipments to the United States have increased more than 170 percent in the past five years and helped create more than 1 million jobs, Blanco said.

Mexico is the second-largest trading partner and the third-largest exporter to the United States.

While Blanco pointed out that Mexican unemployment rate is the lowest since 1987, others dwell on problems with the workforce.

"Social instability makes it harder to grow. If the pie isn't growing, then it's harder to resolve the poverty problem,"

said Albert Berry, a professor of economics at the University of Toronto.

Raymond Robertson, assistant professor of economics at Macalester College in St. Paul, Minn., said Mexico must continue to increase the quality of its exports to the United States and that requires education programs to produce more skilled laborers.

"The question is: How do we compensate the losers — the unskilled workers? One solution that is extremely important is investing in education," Robertson said.

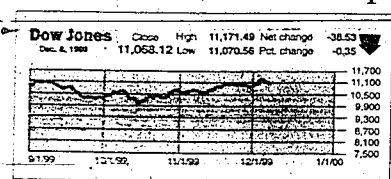
Blanco admits NAFTA has created problems. The huge inflow of imports from the United States has crippled many small and medium-sized Mexican businesses once insulated by trade barriers. It has been difficult for them to adopt

the new technologies needed to match these new competitors. However, the country is not backing down from its drive to open up to outside investment and competition. It has gone forward with the privatization of airports, railroads and the gas industry since NAFTA, foreign investments in Mexico have more than tripled.

And a free-trade deal Mexico negotiated with the European Union recently, which allows the EU to end all tariffs on industrial goods in 2003 and Mexico to do so in 2007, will further open Mexico to the world.

"This means much more investment. U.S. companies will look to Mexico to supply the EU market," predicted Blanco.

However, critics of the treaty say that while they support free trade, there needs to be more education and training opportu-



These indexes are pausing after last week's steep run-up, trying to muster strength for the next upward move, he said. The Nasdaq ended a string of four consecutive record closes.

The latest was Tuesday, when the technology-dominated index rose to its 20th new record close since Oct. 29, largely due to a 23 percent gain by Internet search company Yahoo!

Texas at Austin, said NAFTA has resulted in growth but not prosperity, especially for residents of the border towns of South Texas.

"NAFTA and the government need to address the problem of prosperity and sustainable development," said Megatelli.

"Social conditions are not improving. This could be a serious problem for both countries."

Fernando Solana, a Mexican senator of Mexico and former secretary of foreign affairs, said there is no need to modify NAFTA. However, moving beyond NAFTA, the three countries need to begin considering the gradual liberalization of labor force markets.

In addition, the three countries need to work together to make the interstates, roads, bridges and other facilities needed to catch up with growth.

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks on the New York Stock Exchange.

Table with columns: NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ. Lists market summary data for various exchanges.

Table with columns: High, Low, Name, Last, Chg. Lists indices data.

Table with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, YTD. Lists stocks of local interest.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Table with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, YTD. Lists stocks of local interest.

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists NASDAQ National Market data.

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists American Stock Exchange data.



Limited out: West Coast fishermen don't like new limits Page D2

OUTDOORS

INSIDE
Comics.....D4

Outdoors Editor: William Brock - 733-0931, Ext. 264

The Times-News

Thursday, December 9, 1999

Section D

One man, one canoe, lots of rivers

DULUTH, Minn. - Verlen Kruger returned to Duluth recently, but not in his usual way. He drove.

Kruger's most memorable passes through Duluth and Lake Superior have been in the way he customarily travels, by solo canoe. Now 77, Kruger passed this way here in 1983 on a 28,000-mile canoe trip criss-crossing North America. He was here again in 1986 on a little jaunt from the Arctic Ocean to the tip of South America, a 21,000-mile paddle.

The Lansing, Mich., paddler is a legend among canoeists and has probably paddled more miles than anyone alive. According to his journals, his paddling odometer is plying 50,000 miles now.

Kruger's paddling record is

BEND IN THE RIVER
Sam Cook

amazing: "A plumbing contractor, he had never been in a canoe until he was 41."

"Something about the freedom of it grabbed me," he said.

"He learned to paddle efficiently when he took up marathon canoe racing, doing multiday races, often paddling all night."

"I had a lot of barriers to thinking he could do it. I got into marathon canoe racing," Kruger said. "If you can race 24 hours, you don't have a mental barrier. You know if you get into an emergency, you can go."

"So, he went."

In 1971, he and Clint Waddell of Minneapolis made the only known single-season paddle of the fur trade route, from Montreal to the Bering Sea - 7,000 miles.

"Once I began doing that, (the desire) became stronger," he said. "It was a call I had to answer."

He and his now-wife, Steve Landick, made their 28,000-mile

Ultimate Canoe Challenge trip from 1980 to 1983, in which they paddled nearly every major waterway in North America. A thumbnail sketch of the trip: Down the Missouri in a record 33 days, out the Lawrence River, down the Atlantic Coast, up the Mississippi River in spring runoff stage, down Canada's Mackenzie River to the Arctic Ocean, down the Pacific Coast, around the Bering Sea, up the Colorado River, across the Boundary Waters, down Lake Superior to Lake Michigan and back to Lansing.

Neither Kruger's nor Landick's marriages survived that trip. Kruger and his wife, Jenny, who had met while climbing in the Rockies, Kruger later married Valerie Foss, with whom he set a record in paddling down the Mississippi River, and they made the 21,000-mile Two Continent Canoe Trip, from the Arctic Ocean to Cape Horn in South America from 1986 to 1989.

They were married four years. In 1997, Kruger remarried Jenny.

He regrets the toll his traveling took on his personal life.

"I believe in a person exercising his uniqueness and doing something he's dreamed of doing," Kruger said, "but everything must have a limit. A moderation has to come in at some place."

Doing his long-distance trips also changed the nature of Kruger's retirement, which is why he's still working at 77.

"I spent every cent I had," he said. "Stocks, bonds, life insurance policies - everything. Now I have to go back to work."

He and Jenny, who is 72, paddled and camped for a week in Ontario this fall. They drove to Alaska this past summer, where Kruger waded in a 400-mile solo paddle up a couple of rivers to a daughter's homestead cabin.

The hardest traveling he ever did was when he and Landick paddled and portaged up 230 miles of the Colorado River, through the Grand Canyon, making 200 portages along the way. He was about 50 at the time.

"I never worked harder," he said. "We faced the impossible day after day. It went on and on. But if you've always come to 20-some-thousand miles, you've got this mind-tumbler under you. You just say, 'How am I going to do this one?'"

Sam Cook is a thoughtful old tracker who writes for the Duluth (Minn.) News-Tribune.



Clayton Nielson, of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, imparts shooting tips to a young waterfowl hunter during Saturday's waterfowl fair.

Some lessons in how not to fowl up

Magic Valley waterfowl enthusiasts get advice on duck and goose hunting from a panel of experts

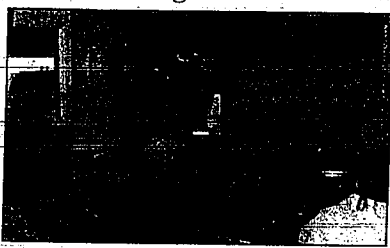
By Stu Murrell
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Forty waterfowl hunters from throughout Magic Valley attended a waterfowl fair Saturday at the Twin Falls Gun Club. Experts from a variety of fields presented programs on the venerable sport of waterfowling.

Dan Papp, an avid waterfowler from Boise, began the day with lessons in duck calling and decoy layouts. One of the best ways to imitate a duck's call is to listen to tapes, or better yet, go to a refuge such as the Hagerman Wildlife Management Area and practice with actual birds. Papp demonstrated typical calls for feeding, high ball (overhead flock) and landing flocks.

Waterfowl prefer to land into the wind, so decoys should be set to have them swing near the blind. Try to have the sun at your back, since ducks are hard to identify against the light. Hunters' movements are less likely to be seen if the birds are coming in toward the sun.

Decoys should be set to allow an open space for birds to land



Dan Papp discusses the finer points of duck calling.

near the blind: Watch for flight patterns and set some decoys so they can be seen from a distance, leaving the main layout in a protected area nearby.

Lessons on waterfowl identification, distance judging and effectiveness of steel shot also were taught Saturday.

Both sets of mallards, pintail and green-winged teal were displayed, and participants learned

yards and then estimated how far they were from silhouettes of teal, medium ducks like the pintail, and big mallards. On overcast days, birds generally appear farther away. On bright days, they appear closer because their markings are more pronounced.

Ultimately, hunters should learn to recognize the shapes of various ducks since their markings are not always visible.

Steel shot severely limits the effective range of a shotgun, so hunters should restrict their shooting to within 30 yards.

Instructor Dick Jardine suggested hunters lay out their farthest decoys at 40 yards, leaving a space between them and their closest decoys at 20 yards.

Participants were shown wooden boards that were shot with loads of No. 5 lead and steel shot at distances of 20, 30, 40 and 50 yards. Steel shot lost its effectiveness by 40 yards; by 50 yards, it was bouncing off the board.

Lead shot continued to penetrate, but the patterns left big gaps - which a duck could fly through - at 50 yards.

Food habits often determine the quality of a waterfowl's

mean. Most dabblers are primarily vegetarians, with aquatic plants and field crops their preferred diet. Divers, on the other hand, eat a more varied diet and often have a stronger flavor. Corn-fed mallards are some of the tastiest ducks taken by Magic Valley hunters.

Shotgun skills were taught by Clayton Nielson of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Scattergun proficiency is a learned skill that requires good eye-hand coordination. Having a shotgun that fits the shooter is essential to acquiring these skills.

Fish and Game conservation officer Don Stucker covered many of the laws governing waterfowl hunters. Sportsmen cannot use a shotgun that holds more than three shells, but they do need the appropriate state and federal waterfowl stamps, and shells loaded with non-toxic shot. Hunters in the field with waterfowl and lead shot in their possession are considered in violation.

A common violation involves shooting hours. They are one-half

Please see LESSONS, Page D3

Self-described pacifist decides to try hunting

The Associated Press

GREAT FALLS, Mont. - She doesn't plan to buy a gun and she thinks photographs of dead deer are repulsive, but Courtney Collier has become a hunter.

Collier, a self-described pacifist, killed a two-point mule deer in mid-November to find out why people hunt.

"It was pretty cool," Collier says. "I had a great time. It felt like a part of the whole circle."

Collier was featured in a Great Falls Tribune story on opening day. At the time, she said that she ate the meat, she should find out where it comes from.

As an independent living skills counselor, Collier teaches northern central Montanans how to overcome their disabilities and get by on their own. But she borrowed her father's 30.06 and melted on the two hunting mentors to guide her through her initial hunting season.

Collier's first opportunity to experience the killing part of hunting came Nov. 5, when hunting partner Karl Rudbach suggested they scout the area where she planned to hunt.

"When Karl said, 'Let's go look at it and why don't you just grab your gun, I wasn't ready yet,' she said.

"She enjoyed hiking around

and we snuck up on some deer and she really liked that part," Rudbach said. "It was the evening and we probably could have taken some shots, but sometimes it just doesn't seem like the right time."

"We spent the next whole day walking the breaks and we could have gotten a shot off then but I didn't," Collier said. "But it was fun tracking the deer."

"Then on Veterans Day, I actually did get the deer. The buck was just across the coulee from us and I was taking aim and we were on the side of the hill. There had been a couple of other opportunities where I didn't pull the trigger."

When she bagged her buck, Collier was hunting with graphic designer Ted Stuff, also of Great Falls.

"There were two does just around the hill from us. Ted said, 'Now don't freak out Courtney, but there is a doe watching you.' The two does began running and that made the buck look up and he started to run and that is when I got the shot off."

"It was a really good, clean shot - right on the shoulder. By the time we walked down and took up the coulee he was definitely dead and not moving and that was that."

"She did well," Stuff said. "The first two groups of deer she had a

hard time getting ready and set up and finding the buck out of the group and getting settled in. We found a little two-point all by itself and she took a few minutes and settled in and got her nerves down and squeaked. One shot, right in the front shoulder - it wasn't a bad experience."

"The animal was dead when we got to it. She helped gut it and clean it and it was a short drive to the pickup. She had a good time. We were done by 8 in the morning."

"It really was a good experience and just being outside and tracking an animal, that was a lot of the fun of it," Collier said.

Rudbach said, "I guess she saw that it wasn't as awful a thing as she thought it would be."

Stuff, a lifelong hunter, said Collier was the first person he had mentored into hunting.

"It just shows that hunting can be done right if it is not abusive to the animal. We followed all the rules and showed that it can be done without cruelty or anything like that," he said.

"I think she should get into bird hunting too. She would like pheasant hunting. She likes the outdoors and even those days when you don't see anything or get anything, it still is a great experience."

Collier says she plans to hunt again but she did not save the



Courtney Collier was guided on her first hunt by Ted Stuff, right, and Karl Rudbach.

horns or take photographs.

"It is still a dead animal on your wall," she said about trophies. "And I still do not understand hunting (TV) shows."

What would Collier say to non-hunters?

"A lot of the impressions that you get of hunting come from those sensational bad stories, like

perhaps the llama. (Collier was referring to an incident earlier this year when a hunter shot a llama that he mistook for a deer.)

"But hunting can be done with a lot of honor and I have gained a new respect for it. It felt good. It was not a psychologically scarring experience. I actually had a lot of fun."

OUTDOORS

Tribe gets approval for fish hatchery

LEWISTON (AP) — The Nez Perce Tribe has won approval from the Northwest Power Planning Council to proceed with an \$8 million plan to build a complex of fish hatcheries in north-central Idaho.

The approval ends nearly six months of controversy during which the tribe had to prove that the fish it wants to save would not be harmed by the project, known as supplementation. It is designed to recover threatened and endangered salmon and steelhead runs.

In June, the council's independent scientific review panel recommended against underwriting the \$30 million effort, saying it lacked scientific merit. The tribe

in turn accused the panel of conducting a sloppy review and asked the council to disregard the recommendation.

Through negotiation among the panel, council and tribe, the original proposal was streamlined. The tribe is now scheduled to receive \$8 million next year and another \$8 million over the following two years.

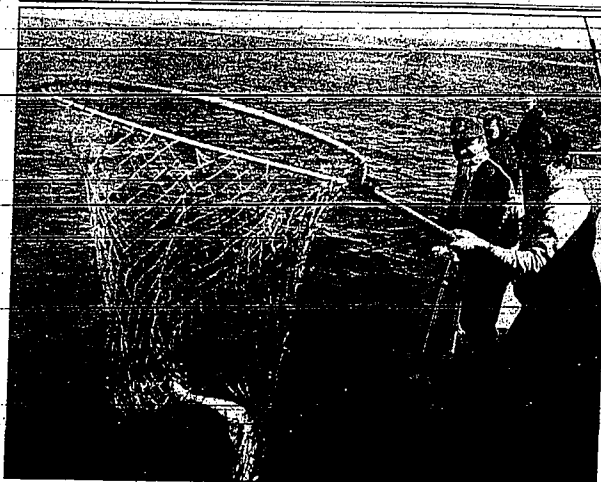
The supplementation program also will take a more experimental and less aggressive approach to salmon recovery than originally proposed.

The hatchery is a state-of-the-art facility designed to assist in rebuilding native spawning fish and will benefit both salmon

and the citizens of the Salmon area," Nez Perce Chairman Samuel Penney said.

Instead of building two incubation and rearing facilities, the tribe will build one on the lower Clearwater River. Satellite facilities are planned for north Lapwai Valley, Luke's Gulch near Sites, Lolo Creek on the Clearwater River, Newburg-Creede near the Crooked River and Cedar Flats on the Lower Selway River.

The hatchery and satellite facilities will concentrate on rebuilding wild, spring and fall chinook runs by producing fish that will return to Idaho and spawn in the wild rather than in hatcheries.



A lingcod is brought aboard a charter boat off Depot Bay, Ore., in this 1995 file photo. The daily limit on lingcod is being reduced to two per day.

New limits worry West Coast fishermen

The Associated Press

DEPOT BAY, Ore. — First, the bottom dropped out of the ocean salmon fishery. Now, fishing charter operators on the West Coast can only hope bag limits for lingcod and rockfish have hit bottom after the second round of cuts in three years.

"The cuts aren't too drastic," said Richard Allyn, the second-generation owner of Tradewinds Charters. "But we'd sure hate to see any additional decrease."

Allyn said the new bag limits, which take effect Jan. 1, still allow anglers to take home enough fish to make chartering a deep-sea fishing trip worthwhile.

But down the road at South Beach Marina Store in Newport, charter booking agent Chris Olson isn't so sure.

"I think it's a significant impact on the charter industry," Olson said. "This could mean the difference between being in busi-

ness and not being in business for some of the smaller charters."

Olson is concerned that the reduced limit for lingcod will make deep-sea fishing trips more difficult to book.

The reduction in bag limits on lingcod and rockfish were recommended last month by the Pacific Fishery Management Council, a federal agency that oversees ocean angling along the West Coast.

The changes must be approved by the state fish commissions of Oregon, Washington and California, but that is considered a formality.

As a result, everyone expects the daily bag limit on rockfish to be slashed by one-third, effective Jan. 1. Sport anglers will be allowed to keep 10 rockfish compared to the present limit of 15. Also, no more than three canary rockfish — which are similar to red snapper — may be included among the 10.

In addition, the daily limit on lingcod is being reduced from two fish to one. It's the second cut in the lingcod bag limit in three years; as recently as 1997, anglers could keep three.

The current 24-inch minimum size for lingcod will remain, but Oregon anglers now will be required to release all lingcod over 34 inches long. The adoption of a maximum size is intended to protect mature females, which tend to be much bigger than the males.

The so-called "slot limit" approach was part of the price Oregon fishery managers paid to keep a year-round season on lingcod. Recreational anglers in California and Washington will not have an upper size limit, but their waters will be closed to lingcod fishing during the winter.

The fishery management council's action was prompted by

Please see LIMITS, Page D3

Yellowstone road reopens in wake of slide

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. (AP) — Rock and other debris has finally been cleared from the road between Gardiner, Mont., and Yellowstone National Park headquarters at Mammoth Hot Springs and the road is open.

Superintendent Michael Finley said late Tuesday that travelers on the North Entrance Road can expect short delays for a few days as final cleanup operations continue.

The road was closed Saturday afternoon by a rock slide 40 feet

long and up to 7 feet deep. Explosives were used Monday to dislodge a large fractured slab of rock that was leaning away from a cliff near where the slide occurred.

Rangers offer reward in elk poaching case

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. (AP) — A reward of up to \$500 has been offered for information leading to the arrest of the poacher who shot and killed a cow elk in Yellowstone National Park.

Rangers discovered the carcass Nov. 27 along U.S. 191 in the western part of the park, the National Park Service announced Wednesday.

The animal had apparently been dead several days and was

likely shot from the highway during the night, according to the statement.

Hunting in the park is punishable by fines, the confiscation of equipment and incarceration.

The telephone number for park headquarters is 307-344-2120.

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Permanently lubricated bearings. 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OUTDOORS

Wildlife board nixes proposed bear hunt

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Utah Wildlife Board turned down a request to open an experimental bear hunt to curb a sharp rise in bears killing domestic sheep.

The board acted Tuesday after hearing from a black-bear discussion group, which is drafting a management plan for black bears. The group Tuesday recommended a spring bear hunt for three Utah areas starting in 2000.

The group said the experimental hunt would help lower the percentage of female bears

killed by Utah hunters. The number of female bears killed during hunts has doubled since 1992, when the state went to a fall-only hunting season.

During the spring, females are usually with their cubs, making it easier for hunters to differentiate between males and females, the group told the Utah Wildlife Board.

But the board rejected the plan, saying the overall management of bears needed to be determined before a hunt could be approved.

Lessons

Continued from D1

hour before sunrise to sunset. Sunset is early this time of year — it's 5:03 p.m. today — and many hunters overlook this fact.

There are restrictions on the number and species that hunters can shoot in a day. Sportsmen should be able to recognize restricted birds and know what the daily bag limit is.

Retriever dog care was discussed by veterinarian Rick Allen from Jerome. He emphasized proper diet with good quality food and warned dog owners to avoid overfeeding their pups. Conditioning is the key to avoiding problems in the field, and sportsmen should work with their animals well before the season begins. Vaccinations should be kept up to date, particularly where parvo is common.

Saturday's workshop was sponsored by Fish and Game and Ducks Unlimited.

Continued from D1

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Tim Manning checks out a snowgum recently at Alpine Meadow near Reno.

Boosters try to polish Reno's image

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Abandoning traditional competition with Las Vegas for gamblers, Reno tourism officials are launching an intensified effort to lure skiers, golfers and other outdoor enthusiasts to the Sierra Nevada.

The idea is to boost the image of the "Biggest Little City in the World" from a dusty, sepiest of Vegas to a four-season destination nestled up against the mountains within 40 minutes of Lake Tahoe.

It's the kind of place skiers in Utah and Colorado, and golfers in Arizona and Southern California, would visit if they only knew about it, so the theory goes. And they could gamble to boot.

"There's been a lot of discussion about how you can out-Las Vegas, Las Vegas," said Jim Lewis, the new senior vice president of marketing for the Reno Sparks Convention & Visitors Authority.

"Well, you don't. We cannot compete for the gaming component against Las Vegas," he said.

"But we do a lot more here. And you can't do what we do here in Utah, Palm Springs or Phoenix," the former Las Vegas said.

The new effort is driven by a recognition the area has fallen in the past to market itself outside

gambling circles combined with the fear that new gambling opportunities on Indian reservations in California soon will keep some Californians from making their traditional trips over the mountains to Reno.

Consumer research shows most people — even in neighboring California — don't know much about Reno. The few things they can tell pollsters are, miscellaneous, negative, stereotypes, local promoters say.

Surveys and focus groups return with lots of answers like "dust bowl," "divorce capital" and "suburb of Las Vegas," which is actually 45 miles to the south.

"My favorite is 'A good place to get your teeth knocked out in a bathroom brawl,'" said Lorena Shepherd, vice president of the RSCVA's public relations firm.

"In reality, this is a beautiful destination. It is not what people expect," she said.

Thus the new slogan that will adorn the advertising campaign: "Reno...like Tahoe. Not your dad's Reno."

Researchers decided the old slogan, "The Treasure of the Sierra Nevada" was too far of a stretch from the native perception prevalent in the minds of consumers.

With the new approach, "We acknowledge they don't know," said Shepard of the Rose/Glenn Group.

The color photo with the logo features a skyline of city with the mountains in the background.

The RSCVA's annual advertising budget of \$2.1 million will include \$300,000 in print ads targeted at California markets.

The Los Angeles area will see a skiing scene at Lake Tahoe, "Enjoy the Magic of Our Mountains... We're within an hour of the highest concentration of ski resorts in the country."

San Francisco will see the forested shores of Tahoe's Emerald Bay, "Visit Our Bay... Lake Tahoe has a bay so beautiful they named it after a jewel."

And Palm Springs will see golfers, "High Desert Golf Without Low Desert Heat... We have cool mountain breezes and 38 exceptional courses within an hour's drive."

Legal challenges blocked a ballot initiative California voters approved a year ago legalizing gambling on Indian reservations. But Gov. Gray Davis and state legislators negotiated a settlement that will allow for a similar proposition on the ballot in March.

"Indian gaming is still a year

and a half away, but it is going to come," Lewis said this week.

"We've got to go after the skiers and golfers and people who want to enjoy entertainment and gamble. We can't just go after the gamblers and hope they come here to golf," he said.

It's only been recently that large casinos have acknowledged their competition from the tribes will hurt, he said.

"Four or five years ago, there was a downturn economy, Indian gaming started and everybody said it was not going to hurt us. It's a farm team. They thought so in Las Vegas," Lewis said.

"The feeling was 'Let them go to the Indians. Let them go to the riverboats. They'll still come here.' Well, they didn't," he said.

"Build it and they will come isn't working anymore."

"We've been marketing to the same people all the time. We need new visitors now as well as the old ones. We don't want them to come for 2.9 nights and gamble and leave. We want them to see the region," he said.

Shepherd said future plans call for expansion to other domestic and foreign markets.

"If people in San Jose think we are a suburb of Las Vegas my guess is people in Munich think the same thing," she said.

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Limits

Continued from D1

studies that found populations of lingcod and some other bottom-fish species have fallen below 10 percent of their historic levels.

In such cases, the federal Magnuson Act requires fish managers to make steps to rebuild the population, even banning fishing if required.

The new bag limit is designed to reduce the number of lingcod harvested by about 20 percent. Fishery managers say that should allow depressed stocks to be rebuilt in about 10 years.

Not everyone agrees a reduction in sport-fishing is called for, however.

"It's a totally unwarranted rip-off of the sportsmen," said Bill Whitmore, captain of the charter boat Betty Kay out of Charleston. "These regulations are based on what I call non-scientific science."

The studies showing declining fish populations were all based on "what the offshore deep fleets catch" in very deep water, Whitmore said. "We see an abundance of all these fish on the

inside (near-shore waters). Nobody's studied the populations there."

Sports anglers catch only about 3 percent of the total rockfish harvest, he said, so the bag limit reductions will have little effect on overall rockfish populations.

Whitmore said the maximum size limit on lingcod will hurt business the most because it "takes away the prize fish... the big one that keeps drawing people back in hopes they'll catch it."

But Allyn of Tradewinds Charters said anglers shouldn't be put off by the new limits because they are not that different from what the average fisherman has been catching.

"The actual average on a five-hour fishing trip is about 10 rockfish," he said. "And the average for lingcod is a little less than one per person."

"People will still be able to get a good basket of fish. You're still allowed 10 rockfish of various types, plus one ling, plus cabezon, kelp greenling and various other types of fish."

Allyn said the maximum size on king lingcod shouldn't deter many people from fishing.

On that point, Olson disagreed. "We've targeted big lingcod for a long time," he said. "We have one boat, the Irish, that's known for taking people to the good ling spots."

Lingcod — a big-headed, spiny-backed fish found from Mexico to Alaska — can reach up to 4 feet in length and weigh 40 pounds. They are prized by anglers for their delicate white flesh and for their reputation as tough fighters.

An eight- or 10-hour trip to the best lingcod grounds cost \$85 or \$100, Olson said, "and a one-ling limit makes that a more difficult sale."

While he supports the new rule that will protect the largest brood females, Olson said it would have been better to close the season during the winter and keep the two-fish limit.

Off the coast of Washington, for example, lingcod seasons will be open only seven months under the new rules.

Oregon officials, however, felt it was important to keep its bottom-fishing season open on a year-round basis. The majority of charter and private boat anglers who responded to a survey "strongly favored the year-round fishery," said Don Bodenmiller of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife's Marine Region in Newport.

"Lingcod do well with catch and release — looking mortality is low," Bodenmiller said. A slot limit — which requires the release of a large percentage of fish hooked — would otherwise be impractical in March.

Canary rockfish, however, are another story. They dwell mostly in waters deeper than 20 fathoms and usually die due to the pressure change they undergo while being pulled rapidly to the surface.

"We did not support the three canny rockfish sub-limit," Bodenmiller said. "They're generally dead when you bring them to the surface, so catch and release doesn't really work. We were trying to avoid wastage."

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TWIN FALLS (6) *****

THE TIMES-NEWS CURRENTLY HAS THE FOLLOWING WALKING ROUTES ON THE WEST SIDE OF TWIN FALLS

ROUTE 81E 200-420 Birch Ave N. 200-300 5th Ave N.

ROUTE 80E 200-500 3rd Ave N. 200-500 5th Ave N.

ROUTE 82 200-500 5th Ave N. 200-500 7th Ave N.

ROUTE 83 200-500 7th Ave N. 200-500 9th Ave N.

ROUTE 84 200-500 9th Ave N. 200-500 11th Ave N.

ROUTE 85 200-500 11th Ave N. 200-500 13th Ave N.

ROUTE 86 200-500 13th Ave N. 200-500 15th Ave N.

REMEMBER That today or you placed some time ago in The Times-News is not responsible for any loss of mail.

TWIN FALLS (7) *****

THE TIMES-NEWS CURRENTLY HAS THE FOLLOWING WALKING ROUTES ON THE EAST SIDE OF TWIN FALLS

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ROUTE 782 200-600 3rd Ave S. 200-1000 5th Ave S.

ROUTE 783 200-600 5th Ave S. 200-1000 7th Ave S.

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West leads singleton club, and South takes East's queen with his ace. South runs his spade jack, holding the trick when West ducks. Next, South leads a heart, and West wins, suspecting a heart-club suit...

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