



Twin Falls Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/94th year, No. 350

Thursday, December 16, 1999

50 cents

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Cloudy with chance of rain, breezy, high 44. Partly cloudy tonight, low 28.
Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Water law: Some may profit from breaking state water law.
Page C1

Being prepared: A recent statewide disaster drill brought local emergency agencies together to better serve the community.
Page C1

OUTDOORS

Bird in black: If Johnny Cash was a bird, he'd probably be a raven, today's feature story says.
Page D1

SPORTS

Regional skirmishes: A pair of Region III girls' high school basketball contests played out in the Magic Valley Wednesday night.
Page B1

Panther caught: A nationwide search for murder suspect and Chocoma-wide receiver Rylee Patterson ended with his capture.
Page B1

OPINION

Do the times: Just because they're teens doesn't mean they should avoid punishment for crimes, today's editorial argues.
Page A6

NATION

Skyward: NASA, in need of redemption after another failed Mars mission, plans a shuttle launch as early as today.
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Idaho gas panel ends probe

The Associated Press

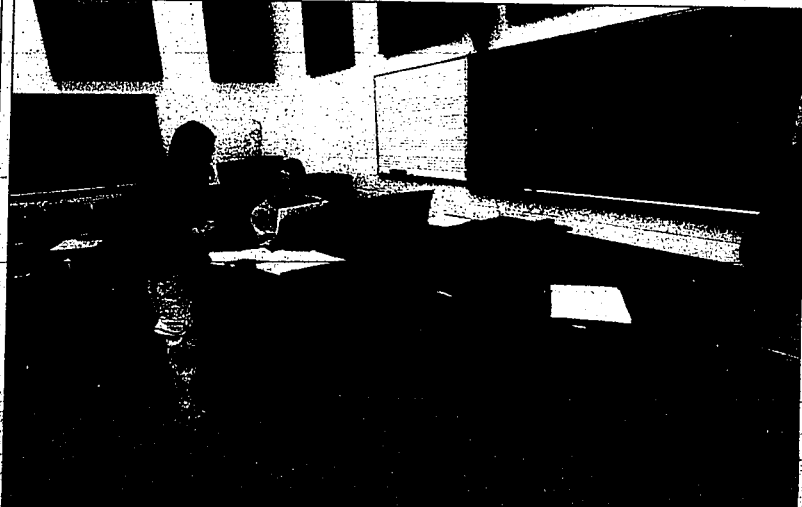
BOISE - The attorney general's special task force on gasoline prices wrapped up work on its report Wednesday, and chairman Jim Jones predicted at least some impact at the pump. "We have some good recommendations, and I think they'll have a salutary effect," the former attorney general said after the final 90-minute closed-door work session of the nine-member panel.

Chairman expects some price drop at the pump

As he has in the past, Jones declined to discuss specifics of the 12-page report and its 24 pages of exhibits before it is released next week by Attorney General Al Lance. But he reaffirmed his statement of three weeks ago that while the task force could not confirm collusion in the industry, the report contains material that others might use to press ahead legally against the oil companies. The report, Jones said, "will call some attention to things that need to be addressed by both government and the industry." Idaho retail prices for regular unleaded gasoline jumped from less than a dollar a gallon in January to a record average of \$1.49 in September to become the highest in the nation. Since then, prices have moderated only slightly, falling to \$1.43 a gallon a week ago to remain third highest nationally behind Nevada and Connecticut. The national average price was \$1.31. Dave Carlson of Idaho's Automobile Association of America pointed out that the state is feeling some localized effect of opening wholesale prices and increasing regional competition among some of the higher volume retail-

ers so that fuel can be found at or even slightly below the national average last week. The industry has blamed Idaho prices on geography, local economies and competitive circumstances. Jones said on Wednesday that the oil giants do not seem to respond as much today to public dissatisfaction as they did in the 1980s when he was their legal attorney general to threaten and law-bone the industry into dramatically reducing prices.

EDUCATIONAL TUNE-UP



Zack Peterson, left, takes a music test from instructor George Haisel at the College of Southern Idaho. CSI President Jerry Meyerhoffer and the CSI board gave a Christmas party for legislators Wednesday evening to thank them for their support and to ask for continued assistance to expand the college's Fine Arts Center.

CSI pushes arts expansion

By Michael Journe

Times-News writer

A bit of business

TWIN FALLS - On the cusp of the next legislative session, which begins Jan. 10, College of Southern Idaho officials did what they could Wednesday night to ensure the school's priorities for the session are not left out in the cold after the holiday season. During CSI's annual holiday "thank you" party for the Magic Valley legislative delegation at the school's Herrett Center, CSI President Jerry Meyerhoffer told the group that the school greatly appreciates the state's financial assistance that has helped CSI

draw up plans for the expansion of its Fine Arts Center. He said he hopes the support will continue. The college plans to expand the center, adding a state-of-the-art 250-seat auditorium for theater production. The addition is estimated to cost about \$6 million. "It really is going to be nice and will allow us to do some things we can't do now," Meyerhoffer told the group just before a holiday show in Herrett Center's planetarium. Just before last year's legislative session, the state's Permanent Building Fund

draw up plans for the expansion of its Fine Arts Center. He said he hopes the support will continue. The college plans to expand the center, adding a state-of-the-art 250-seat auditorium for theater production. The addition is estimated to cost about \$6 million. "It really is going to be nice and will allow us to do some things we can't do now," Meyerhoffer told the group just before a holiday show in Herrett Center's planetarium. Just before last year's legislative session, the state's Permanent Building Fund

Israel, Syria open new round of Mideast peace talks

Newsday

WASHINGTON - With President Clinton urging them to "write a new chapter in the history of our time," Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Syria's foreign minister began formal peace negotiations in the White House Wednesday, declaring their determination to

and a half century of hostility and open a new era of peace.

There was pointedly no hand-shaking, and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Shara complained at some length about the Israeli occupation of the Golan Heights. But both men spoke movingly about the historic opportunity before them.

The two men conferred with Clinton immediately afterwards in a three-way meeting lasting a half hour, and then had separate talks with Clinton lasting about an hour each. U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright then met the two officials at Blair House, the official presidential guest residence, for three-way talks that lasted until nearly 5 p.m.

Russians press final assault on capital; defenders fight back

The Associated Press



A Russian soldier takes a sniper's break Tuesday near Grozny, Chechnya.

GROZNY, Russia - Russian tanks and armored personnel carriers stormed into the Chechen capital of Grozny on Wednesday but were beaten back in bitter street fighting by Chechen defenders firing rocket-propelled grenades. The bodies of several dead Russian soldiers were seen sprawled around the burning wrecks of their vehicles in Minutka Square after the attack was stopped Wednesday evening. It was the first time Russian armored forces had tried to move into Grozny since federal troops recaptured the city last month - an

indication that Russian commanders were stepping up their efforts to capture it. Seven Russian tanks and eight armored personnel carriers managed to get into the square, about two miles from the center of Grozny. The Russian troops apparently became confused and were later trapped, making it easier for the rebel fighters to attack the convoy. Earlier in the day, a top military official in Moscow predicted that Grozny would be taken in "a matter of days" and that the Russians would completely defeat the militants by February. Russian forces now control 60 percent of Chechnya.

Access worries mount

Forest Service says it won't close roads, but may restrict some

By N.S. Nold

Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Just how roadless is roadless? Local residents, at a public hearing in Twin Falls this week, raised concerns that the Forest Service was planning to close roads and restrict public access on roadless areas in the national forests. At issue is the fate of "non-system" roads that provide recreation access to the backcountry for hunters and other public lands users. Roadless means areas 5,000 acres or greater that have no motorized vehicles on them. Still time to comment - A2

But the president's roadless initiative announced in October directed the Forest Service to prepare a set of rules and an environmental impact statement on how to manage the last unopened roadless areas in the 191-million-acre national forest system. Idaho has more roadless lands - 8 million to 10 million acres - than any other state outside Alaska. The 2.1-million-acre Sawtooth National Forest has about 1 million acres of roadless lands. The rulemaking process at hand will decide how those areas will be managed, LeVere said. But there are no plans to close those roads or to limit motorized access.

But the Forest Service wants to accommodate a range of recreation including motorized and non-motorized, LeVere said. But because some types of recreation produce odors, some areas may exclude one group of users.

It's not a lockout as some have said, but a choice, LeVere said. People want to hike part in motorized recreation may be restricted from areas set aside for

See ROADLESS, Page A2



POOR COPY

THE REGION

Camas Prairie High: 35 Low: 21 Cloudy today with good chance of snow...

Treasure Valley High: 47 Low: 32 Mostly cloudy today with chance of rain...

Sawtooth Mountains/Wood River Valley High: 33 Low: 18 Cloudy today with good chance of snow...

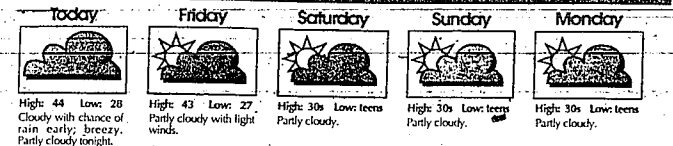
Eastern Idaho High: 35 Low: 21 Cloudy today, breezy with chance of rain...

Northern Idaho High: 45 Low: 35 Mostly cloudy today and tonight and breezy...

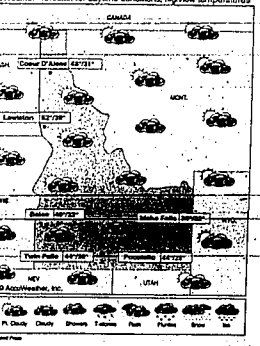
Northern Utah High: 37 Low: 31 Cloudy today with chance of snow...

Northern Nevada High: 44 Low: 26 With flurries out of chance of rain...

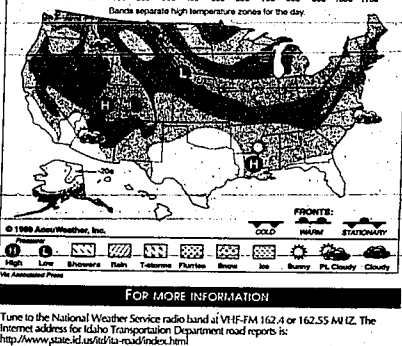
MAGIC VALLEY FIVE-DAY FORECAST



Idaho weather



National weather



YESTERDAY'S WEATHER

Table showing weather data for Twin Falls and Idaho, including precipitation, high/low temperatures, and wind speeds.

UV INDEX FIRE DANGER

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

SKYWATCH

Sunset today 5:06 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow 6:02 a.m. Lunar phase: First quarter, Dec. 16, full, Dec. 22...

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Tune to the National Weather Service radio band at VHF-FM 162.4 or 162.55 MHz. The Internet address for Idaho Transportation Department road reports is: http://www.itad.idaho.gov/road/index.html

ACROSS THE NATION

High pressure helped keep the southern Plains and Southwest mostly clear and dry. Rain dampened parts of Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana...

Shuttle readies for launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — For the first time in decades, NASA plans to fly a spacecraft during Christmas, giving up the holiday in order to revive the Hubble Space Telescope.

Discovery — today, Friday or Saturday — before giving up for the year to avoid any potential ZKZ problems. Liftoff is set for 9:18 p.m. today (7:18 p.m. MST). Good weather is forecast.

On Wednesday, as the countdown proceeded, engineers pored over documents and X-rays to make sure Discovery's external main tank is sound.

Julie Andrews sues, saying surgery destroyed her voice. NEW YORK — A voice that once brought the hills alive with music and taught children that "a spoonful of sugar makes the medicine go down" was destroyed by a doctor's scalpel, Julie Andrews says in a lawsuit.

RAIN, RAIN, GO AWAY



Rain this week has swollen the rivers and creeks of the Pacific Northwest. Here, Alex Olsan makes his way Wednesday along Highway 101 in Tillamook, Ore. The forecast for today and Friday: rain.

"Singing has been a cherished gift, and my inability to sing has been a devastating blow," the 64-year-old star of "Mary Poppins," "The Sound of Music" and "My Fair Lady" said in a statement.

Her comments coincided with the filing of a lawsuit in U.S. District Court in Manhattan on Tuesday accusing Mount Sinai Hospital and two doctors of malpractice for destroying her singing voice in a botched operation.

Restaurateur, who won an Oscar for her role in "Mary Poppins," is demanding "substantial damages to compensate for loss of past and future earnings."

Mount Sinai spokesman Mel Granick said hospital officials had not seen the lawsuit and could not comment. Neither of the doctors returned phone calls.

Jordan foiled attack

WASHINGTON — Jordanian officials foiled a planned attack on American tourists by arresting 13 alleged members of Osama bin Laden's terrorist network, U.S. officials said Wednesday.

A U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said a number of other suspected Laden operatives have been detained in other Middle Eastern countries and in Pakistan in recent weeks, but declined to give further details.

CSI

Advisory Council decided money was too tight to fund the project and advised the administration not to ask for the money. CSI requested \$3.1 million — half of the estimated cost for expansion — from the state.

"We really appreciate the help we've gotten over the past two years for planning the addition," Meyerhoffer told the legislators. "I hope we can get more support to complete the project."

In November, the council overseeing state building needs scaled back its maintenance budget proposal to divert just a little more money for new construction, but still fell hundreds of millions of dollars short of meeting requests.

The council recommended spending \$1 million in any leftover money for the CSI building project.

The council had just \$22.5 million to deal with \$35 million in building repair and alteration needs and over \$260 million in new construction requests.

Decisions on how the money will be spent will be made by legislators and Gov. Dirk Kempthorne.

Times-News political reporter Michael Journe can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 231, or by email at mj@journal.magicvalley.com.

Roadless

Continued from A1. non-motorized recreation. That's not a lock-out, he said. Some people, including U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo, have criticized the Forest Service for not allowing enough time for public comment. But the public process is not over, LeVeré said.

There will be additional public comment when the draft environmental impact statement is released. The final decision also would be subject to challenge, he said.

But Crapo says public comment is meaningless because the decision already has been made, said spokesman Lindsay Nothorn.

"If anything is a done deal, this is," Nothorn said. And that decision is to place restrictions on motorized recreation, logging and mining on 40 million acres listed as roadless, he said.

The administration is proposing "to lock up from public access and use more than 40 million acres across the country," Crapo said in a prepared statement.

In Idaho, nearly 9.5 million acres would be affected by the president's proposal, "forest lands that Idahoans rely on for recreation and more importantly, local economies and school funding," Crapo said.

Counties get a portion of Forest Service receipts from timber cutting, but no timber is cut on most roadless lands.

The Forest Service has been managing these roadless areas for almost a century, and they still have not been developed, LeVeré said. They may not be suitable for any development — mining or logging — or the resource there may not be worth the cost to retrieve them.

Clark Collings, of the Blue Ribbon Coalition, a Focetello-based coalition, and recreation group, noted that more than 4 million acres already have been set aside as wilderness where motorized and mechanized recreation is not allowed.

But the president responded to pressure from wilderness advocates who want all roadless areas

Time to comment

...the roadless plan... The number of people who attended the recent meetings across Idaho and the strong opinions they expressed, showed that people care about the public lands, LeVeré said.

But LeVeré noted that the lands in question — the Cassia, Blaine River and Sawtooth forest reserves — were set aside in 1905 and 1906 by the action of then-President Theodore Roosevelt.

Times-News writer N.S. Nokerkanen can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 237, or by e-mail nnie@magicvalley.com

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Group urges counseling as benefit

WASHINGTON (AP) — Medicare should pay for nutrition counseling to help senior citizens change their diets when a doctor recommends it, the Institute of Medicine said Wednesday.

The suggested new benefit, which would cost an estimated \$1.4 billion over five years, would expand Medicare's disease-prevention efforts.

A report from the institute said 86 percent of the 34 million Americans over age 65 covered by Medicare suffer from high blood pressure, high cholesterol or diabetes — just a few of the medical problems that can be helped by dietary improvements. Medicare also covers 5 million disabled Americans who could benefit, too.

"For several conditions that are very prevalent in the elderly, initial therapy should be (changes in) diet, but it's not a covered benefit," said Dr. Lawrence Appel, an associate professor of medicine at Johns Hopkins University who served on the institute committee making the report. "Our recommendation is that it should be a covered benefit."

When Congress last expanded Medicare's preventive coverage in 1997, it also asked the institute to evaluate the need for specified future expansions. Adding prescription drug coverage, now the most widely proposed change, was not included. Congressional leaders have promised to consider updating Medicare's benefits package again, perhaps as early as next year.

BOMBS AWAY?



The point of impact of a 25-pound practice bomb is shown Wednesday at the Pueblo El Mirage RV Resort and Country Club golf course in El Mirage, Ariz. The bomb was accidentally dropped from an F-16 fighter jet from nearby Luke Air Force Base. No one was injured.

Huang denies Clinton, Gore were involved in new money scandal

WASHINGTON (AP) — John Huang, who admitted raising illegal contributions for the Democratic Party, testified Wednesday that he was not aware of any wrongdoing by President Clinton or Vice President Al Gore in the fundraising scandal.

In his first public testimony on the scandal, Huang rebutted millions raised against him by Republicans. He denied ever spying for China, working as an agent of an Indonesian conglomerate while a Commerce Department official, or laundering money while a fundraising official of the Democratic

National Committee.

Once Clinton's chief money raiser in the Asian-American community, Huang appeared before the House Government Reform Committee under a grant of limited immunity but faced the threat of prosecution for perjury in his testimony.

The committee's Republican chairman, Rep. Dan Burton of Indiana, honed in quickly on a 1992 liposuction ride during which Huang's boss at the time promised Clinton he would raise \$1 million for Clinton's presidential campaign.

The promise came from James Riedy, then deputy chairman of the Indonesian conglomerate, the

Lippo Group. Huang said Riedy described the offer after the 10-minute ride.

Asked by Burton whether it occurred to him that contributions from an Indonesian businessman would be illegal, Huang said that Riedy — who formerly lived in Arkansas — "still had green card status. He maintained a home in the U.S." and was eligible to make contributions.

Huang admitted, however, that the promise was kept through contributions from an Lippo employee and others illegally reimbursed by Lippo. Federal law prohibits contributions in which the real donor's identity is hidden.

Tripp's friends help prosecution's case

ELLSWORTH CITY, Md. (AP) — Linda Tripp's bridge club partners and a lawyer for Paula Jones gave testimony Wednesday that was helpful to Maryland prosecutors who want to try Mrs. Tripp on wiretapping charges.

The witnesses admitted at a pretrial hearing that they'd learned some things about Monica Lewinsky's relationship with President Clinton from newspapers or Independent Counsel Kenneth Starr's impeachment report.

But they said the information they gave a state grand jury in the wiretapping probe was based solely on their conversations with Mrs. Tripp long before she started cooperating with Starr under a grant of limited immunity from prosecution.

Maryland prosecutor Stephen

Mantionarelli is trying to show that his wiretapping case against Mrs. Tripp is untainted by any statements she made to Starr's office under the grant of immunity.

Mrs. Tripp's card-playing partners — Cathy Sarkis, Cynthia Haus and Kathleen Manweiler — said Mrs. Tripp told them in 1997 that she was taping her phone

calls with Ms. Lewinsky.

T. Wesley Holmes, a former attorney for Mrs. Jones, who accused Clinton of sexual harassment, said he'd read Starr's impeachment report. But he said he had a detailed memory of his conversations with Mrs. Tripp in 1997 in which she discussed Ms. Lewinsky's affair with the president.

Senator says borrowers get trapped by 'payday loans'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stewart Winder, a Navy paymaster, was in the middle of a messy divorce, needed money and had a poor credit record. He turned to storefront businesses near his base for small, short-term "payday loans" against his paycheck and got into a cycle of borrowing that ended up costing him, with fees, \$5,640.

"I was trapped in a financial spiral," Winder, 38, of Jacksonville, Fla., said at a forum Wednesday on Capitol Hill. It started in August 1996 with a \$250 cash advance against his biweekly take-home pay of around \$750.

Sen. Joseph Lieberman, D-Conn., convened the public discussion on payday loans, which he called "one of the most expensive consumer credit products in existence." A consumer advocacy group, Consumer Federation of America, used his earlier terms: "Legal loan sharking."

"Interest rates on payday loans average about 500 percent annually, with some loans going well over 1,000 percent," said Lieberman, the senior Democrat on the Senate Governmental Affairs Committee. "Because of the easy terms and ready availability of these loans, combined with high interest rates, borrowers often become trapped in an ongoing cycle of debt."

The loans are legal in 31 states, and the volume of payday loans, provided at some 10,000 locations nationwide, increases 15 percent to 25 percent during the holiday season, according to the industry. The industry earned an estimated \$1.4 billion this year, Lieberman said.

"Financially strapped military personnel, college students and seniors on fixed incomes are among the groups most likely to use the loans," the senator noted.

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IOC president survives critical line of inquiry

WASHINGTON (AP) — No one called Juan Antonio Samaranch "Your Excellency," and one congressman called for the International Olympic Committee president to resign. A few questions were tough, and one or two were sarcastic, but Samaranch came away largely unblemished from his historic visit to Capitol Hill on Wednesday.

Called before a House subcommittee investigating the yearlong bribery and corruption scandal that has rocked the Olympic image, Samaranch told 50 reform measures the IOC adopted Sunday would make the organization more accountable, open and responsive.

"I think we've cleaned the house and a fundamental reform package has been adopted," Samaranch told the House Commerce Committee's oversight and investigations subcommittee in the first appearance by an IOC president before a congressional panel.

MALL HOURS THIS WEEK

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec. 18	Dec. 19	Dec. 20	Dec. 21	Dec. 22	Dec. 23	Dec. 24
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NATION

Standoff drags into third day

ST. MARTINVILLE, La. (AP) — Negotiations entered a third day Wednesday as authorities tried to calm a group of Cubans holding a warden and two guards hostage at knifepoint in an increasingly tense bid to be released.

As many as four inmates have joined the original group of five, Sheriff's Capt. Audrey Thibodaux said late Tuesday. The additions apparently came from a group of about 50 Cubans in control of a jail section near the hostage area.

The larger group is not under the control of guards but unable to get out of the building, Ms. Thibodaux said. The facility is surrounded.

The Cubans have said they go out of patience with detention proceedings and want out of the St. Martin Parish Jail. Authorities said they believe the hostages are being treated well and no injuries have been reported.

However, Baton Rouge radio station WCAZ-FM broadcast an interview with three of the



Unidentified inmates are led from the St. Martin Parish Jail in St. Martinville, La., Wednesday. At the time, at least five Cuban inmates continued to hold three corrections officers hostage. It is unclear if the inmates released are connected with those hostages.

Cubans who said they were imposing a 72-hour deadline on their demand to be freed or they would kill the hostages. It was unclear when the deadline would be reached.

Ms. Thibodaux said she could not confirm that such a threat had been made. She also said she was unaware of any significance related to a white flag hung in a window of the jail late Tuesday.

Warden Todd Louviere and deputies Jolie Sanner and Brandon Boudreaux have been held since Monday, when they were grabbed as five inmates left an exercise area. A fourth hostage was released after six hours of negotiations.

Officials have refused to say why the Cubans, who fled their own country, are being held or for how long.

Doctors give Gore glowing report



Al Gore

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice President Al Gore is in outstanding health, judged by daily weightlifting, regular jogging and workouts like running the Marine Corps Marathon and climbing Mount Rainier, doctors said Wednesday.

The Gore campaign released the three-page medical summary less than a week after former New Jersey Sen. Bill Bradley, the other contender for the Democratic presidential nomination, disclosed a non-life-threatening irregular heartbeat.

Gore's report said he had had a common form of skin cancer removed from his right shoulder in 1997, and a possible precursor to skin cancer was removed from his forehead in May. But there has been no recurrence of the earlier problem.

About the worst thing that could

be said about his current physical condition is that his cholesterol is mildly elevated. "He is in superb health," said Dr. Tony Casalaro, who is team doctor for the Washington Redskins and

reviewed Gore's records at the request of his doctor. "From a cardiovascular standpoint, he is in the top 1 percent of all ages."

Bradley went to a hospital for his heart condition, called atrial fibrillation, but his heart resumed normal rhythm without treatment. He has been on medication to maintain his heart rate,

but said he forgot to take it before last week's episode.

Two Republican candidates, Texas Gov. George W. Bush and Arizona Sen. John McCain, have also recently released their medical records or summaries of examinations.

Gore's summary was based on a May 7 examination at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. The findings were reviewed by a dozen specialists ranging from a cardiologist to a personal trainer and nutritionist.

The results for the 51-year-old Gore showed that he weighed 195 pounds and had a resting blood pressure of 110/68, which contributed to the finding that he had "excellent aerobic capacity and cardiovascular fitness."

Board clears Clintons to build big fence

CHAPPAQUA, N.Y. (AP) — The Clintons' new home, now plainly visible from the street, apparently won't stay that way.

A zoning appeals board Tuesday gave approval for an 8-foot, white-stained cedar fence around the house that President and Hillary

Rodham Clinton recently bought. Zoning rules normally prohibit fences over 6 feet tall.

The board also gave approval for a guardhouse at the gate. Mrs. Clinton and her husband will have to apply for an extension in five years if they want to keep

the fence and guardhouse.

The board's vote was unanimous and chairman Gubij Rosenfeld said no neighbors had expressed opposition. There were no residents at the meeting, though four Secret Service agents were on hand.

Mayor of San Francisco easily wins second term

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Mayor Willie Brown won a 60 percent vote in an election some saw as a referendum on the way San Francisco is being transformed by the dot-com economy.

Brown, an unabashed liberal, turned back a challenge Tuesday from the even more liberal Tom Amundson, trading support from corporations, developers, unions and middle-class homeowners alarmed by Amundson's stand against the way that are reeling from the

Brown got 126,673 votes to 85,103 for Amundson, who pushed his way into the runoff with a last-minute write-in campaign in November.

"You have no idea how relieved I am," Brown told hundreds of supporters.

Amundson's candidacy tapped into fears that the city's bohemian



Willie Brown

character is threatened by the booming Internet economy, which has brought traffic, rising rents and an influx of chain stores like Starbucks.

Amundson, an openly gay president of the city Board of Supervisors, talked of undoing corporate tax breaks, imposing campaign reforms and declaring "immediate war" on gentrification to preserve affordable housing.

Brown's supporters argued that the city would be even more expensive to live in if Amundson and his tax-and-spend coalition of renters, homeless advocates, campaign reformers and gays and lesbians took over City Hall.

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Report details drug war in United States

WASHINGTON (AP) — A surge in methamphetamine trafficking and use, particularly in the Midwest and Northwest, shows how America's national drug problem has evolved into local epidemics, according to a government report released Wednesday.

The report by Barry McCaffrey describes the war on drugs in 31 battlegrounds known as high intensity drug trafficking areas.

From the Mexican border to the streets of New York, these areas have serious drug problems that also affect other parts of the country.

"We do not just have a national drug problem. What we really have is a series of local drug epidemics," McCaffrey said.

In the Midwest, for instance, authorities this year seized hundreds of secret drug labs. In the first half of 1999, local and federal law enforcement seized 238 meth or "speed" labs in Kansas, 242 in Iowa and 223 in Missouri, according to the report.

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Y2K extremist groups prove difficult to track

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Law enforcement and watchdog organizations monitoring groups that say the year 2000 is a justification for violence say their task-is-made-difficult by legal constraints and the groups' elusive nature.

Fringe militias and other groups that subscribe to apocalyptic predictions and hope to capitalize on any millennium mayhem are among the toughest organizations to track, according to the FBI.

"The overwhelming majority of extremist groups in the United States have adopted a fragmented, leaderless structure where individuals or small groups act with autonomy," the agency said in a recent report on Y2K-related violence.

"The approach of 2000 has made law enforcement watchful about the possible illegal activities of hate groups and militia organizations, said Nick Rossi, a special agent in the FBI's Sacramento office.

Many religious groups believe that the apocalypse is approaching, and point to the Y2K computer bug as one of many signs that it is near.

Some white supremacist organizations believe the computer glitch will cause widespread technological failures, providing the perfect opportunity to instigate a race war.

Some members of the militia movement believe the United Nations has a secret plan to conquer the world and institute a "new world order" beginning in 2000, according to the FBI.

And the paranoid realizations of these militia groups, this atmosphere of confusion can only be a prelude to the dreaded NWO/One World Government," according to the FBI report.

With the new year about two weeks away, there is fresh evidence that their warnings may be more than hype.

Earlier this month, two men suspected of plotting to blow up two massive propane tanks near Sacramento were arrested on federal weapons charges.

One of the suspects, Kevin R. Patterson of Camino, speculated that "Y2K" could bring infrastructure problems such as gas shortages. As he allegedly considered a date for the bombing, "He was waiting to see what happened in California at the end of the millennium," according to federal court documents.

The papers do not explicitly say that Patterson and his alleged accomplice, Charles D. Kiles of Sacramento, planned to tie the bombing to the arrival of 2000.

Even so, the alleged plot mirrors FBI warnings about violence and extremists' beliefs on the new millennium.



Charles Kiles



Kevin Patterson

belonged to the San Joaquin County Militia, which predicted that violent crimes would cause the government to declare martial law.

That would spur an uprising that would result in the overthrow of the federal government, the group contended.

"The FBI is limited in its ability to collect information about militia groups or hate groups unless it has specific information about criminal activities, Rossi said."

"People often have the mistaken impression that we have some kind of master list of militia organizations and leaders," he said.

Rossi said that while many militias engage in anti-government rhetoric, the vast majority are non-violent.

State and local law enforcement agencies, including the California attorney general's office, monitor the activities of potentially violent groups.

Policing them is difficult because they often cross jurisdictional lines, said Sharon Teiles, a spokeswoman for the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department.

Also keeping tabs is the Simon Wiesenthal Center, a Los Angeles-based civil rights organization.

"The problem you have with extremist groups is that they promote ideas, but their leaders are not the people that are actually going to get out and do something," said Rick Eaton, the center's senior researcher, on Tuesday. "They've got the short-wave broadcasts and the Web sites, and they know that their followers will make the connection and realize it's time for them to do something."

In addition to tracking groups with the potential for violence, the center urges members of the public to watch their neighbors for signs of unusual things going on.

"Usually people who believe in these philosophies will tell other people. They like to talk about it," Eaton said. "People in these movements are exceptionally committed."

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Many households fail to prepare for Y2K

The Washington Post

A year ago, experts warned that Y2K could bring disaster, doom and gloom, computer meltdown. ATMs would fail. Water taps would run dry. The lights would go out across America.

But that apocalyptic vision now seems overblown, because so many fixes have been made. With less than three weeks to go before the new year, the experts wish people were a little more jazzed up about Y2K preparations. Reasonable precautions are urged, but few households have made them yet.

Hardware stores, camping-gear suppliers and supermarkets are seeing a slight uptick in business this month, as customers hunt and gather canned food, lanterns and other supplies in case of a Y2K computer glitch. But many others appear to be ignoring the standard advice to prepare for Y2K as for a winter snowstorm,

Idaho story - C4

with a few extra touches. "In a way, this is good. It means people are not acting irrationally," said Cathy Hotka, vice president of the National Retail Federation. "But it does raise the question of whether people will do prudent preparations in advance."

Hotka and others worry that people suddenly will realize Y2K is coming on, say, Dec. 28 and overwhelm the stores, just as they do when a snowstorm is forecast. Or that everyone will pick up the phone at midnight on Dec. 31 to see whether it still works, and clog the system. The Y2K glitch will be called the villain, even if it's not justified.

"Everything that happens during this, Y2K is going to be

blamed," James Lee Witt, director of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, said this week. "Truck turns over on the interstate, and Y2K gets blamed... People panicking could cause more of a problem than Y2K itself."

Witt says his agency and others have worked hard to make sure there are no major disasters stemming from older computers' confusing the date "2000" with the date "1900" because they were programmed to recognize only two-digit years. Even the most confident officials, though, say there will be scattered problems, so they urge some basic, just-in-case preparations.

Here are some supplies that Witt and other federal-Y2K experts think it's reasonable to have on hand: bottled water, canned food, a manual can opener, flashlights, spare batteries, copies of medical and financial records.

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EDITORIAL

When teens do the crime, they must serve the time

Four years ago, a trio of eastern Idaho teens robbed a convenience store. They departed with about \$200, 25 gallons of gas and some cigarettes — and left behind a dead store clerk, shot in the back of the head.

These are not your typical teens with issues. They are criminals, whose brutal acts shocked a community. And they deserve a long spell in prison.

Each of the three teens has been sentenced to life in prison — and each has years before becoming eligible for parole. For instance,

Christopher Shanahan, who was 15 when he pulled the trigger and murdered Fidelia Tomchak, will not be eligible for parole until he's served a minimum of 35 years.

That sentence is right in line with what Idahoans wanted when they clamored to change the state's soft juvenile correction system. They wanted accountability and they wanted to send a strong message to juvenile offenders. They also wanted harsh sentences for violent young offenders to protect their communities from violence.

Unfortunately, some things never change. These fledgling jailbirds are now trying to work the legal system with

chutzpah beyond their tender years. Shanahan has argued his sentence shouldn't take his age, immaturity and troubled childhood into account. A second culprit, Benjamin Jenkins, has said the court should consider his remorse ("I'm so sorry") and the fact that he did not participate in the robbery — while overlooking the fact that he supplied the murder weapon.

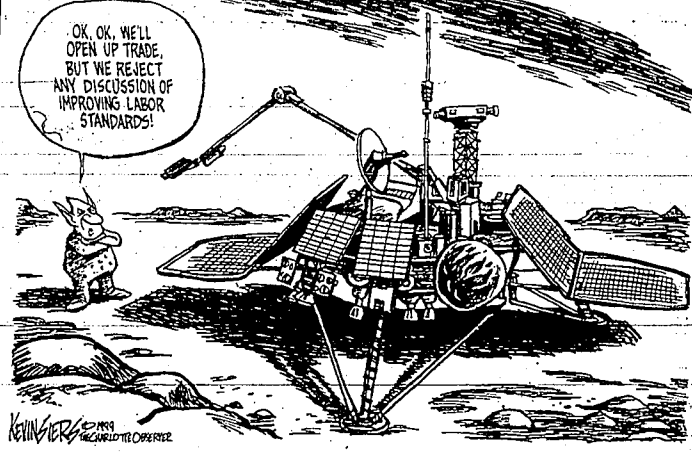
These boys are trying to sell themselves as victims, but Idaho's Court of Appeals isn't buying it. Earlier this month, the court rejected the teens' arguments, and

upheld the long prison terms handed down by 7th District Judge Brent Moss.

Time was when an appeals court might have been swayed by the arguments of a Christopher Shanahan. But times are changing — for the better.

The courts, like the citizens they serve, recognize that there are cases where the criminal's age is of secondary importance to the crime committed. And this is one of those instances.

Christopher Shanahan will be in his late 40s before he is eligible for parole. He's still got it better than Fidelia Tomchak, who was murdered at the age of 41.



It's this simple: If you don't want to go to prison, don't kill anybody.

The Times-News

Stephen Hargren, Publisher; Alan Wilson, General manager; Clark Walworth, Managing editor; Mike Smith, Advertising director

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hargren, William Brock, Clark Walworth, Steve Crump, Kevin Fichtel and Michael Journeaux.

Idaho has come a long way

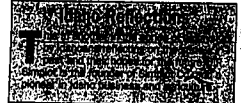
Idaho has been my home and the place where I've earned a livelihood for most of my 90 years. I love it here — always have and always will.

Of course, things were kind of tough back when I was a kid living at home in Declo. We didn't have electricity or a phone or indoor plumbing. I used to milk the cows with light from a kerosene lantern early in the morning. The boys around that area owned a shirt and overalls and that was it. A lot of the girls wore dresses made out of sugar socks.

Most of us farmed with horses in those days, and let me tell you, it was hard work.

Well, we've come a long way. When I started in the farming business, 100 sacks of potatoes to the acre was a good crop. Now, you can get about 600 of those 100-pound bags, and I think you'll see a lot better yield in the coming years.

Of course, the future's not ours to see, but I think Idaho has awesome things ahead. We've got a great climate, we've got room to grow, and we've got water — important things if a state is going to do well.



I'm proud of Idaho and I'm proud of what my company has done in this state. I've convinced farmers to use certified seed and fertilizer way back when, and that led to a better potato. In fact, I think we've got the best potatoes anywhere. Some might argue with me, but I think that's one of the greatest things about Idaho.

Right now, commodity prices are down and growers are having a tough time, but I think demand will increase and markets will improve so that farm people can make a decent living again. I'll tell you this: I think we're headed for a new era of prosperity in Idaho.

I'm glad to have lived here in these years and played some small part in what Idaho has become.

LETTERS

Commentary was right on
Referring to The Times-News Nov. 19 opinion page, "Pendulum swings back toward responsibility" by Kathleen Parker:

A cheer of flowers goes out to Kathleen Parker, and bravo! Kathy hit the proverbial nail on the head! Now let us see if it gets driven in to the point of bringing home hope for our children who are being drugged — drugged into submission.

I Talk about child abuse: drugging children instead of taking actual responsibility to bring them up natural and normal. Granted, there are some children that need medication, but certainly not the thousands that are being drugged as a disciplinary tactic. Remember, parents and people, your kids are the people who

will be taking care of you in your old age — maybe. You're the example your kids grow up on.

JEANNIE ADAMSON
King Hill

Thank you for the Christmas spirit

To Wendell: The city and surrounding area should be proud of the Christmas spirit that many folks have shown in the time and effort that has been put into the Christmas decorations that have been put up. Even out in the country where only a few cars go by each night, people have put up many decorations. I would like to thank you all for the joy you have given us.

JOHN ARANO
Wendell

Remember the value of wild places

Once again, Idaho's sportsmen find themselves at an important wildlife conservation crossroads. I'm referring to President Clinton's roadless lands initiative and the opportunity it offers to come.

As a big-game hunter and angler, I feel that Idaho sportsmen need to stand behind this historic proposal. This policy is not an end-around wilderness proposal to preclude existing vehicle use, as some have suggested. Instead, it is an attempt to recognize and preserve the last, best wildlife habitat remaining in Idaho.

Of the original 67 million acres of roadless areas in Idaho, only 8 million remain unroaded and unprotected. Many sportsmen recognize the fact that much of our best wildlife habitat is typically within roadless or lightly roaded areas.

Consider the following: One elk study conducted between 1988 and 1990 in the Coeur d'Alene River watershed noted that a densely roaded area held fewer than 10 bulls per 100 cows, of which only 1.3 were mature bulls. Conversely, an adjacent roadless study area maintained a level of 34.5 bulls per 100 cows.

Biologists also concluded that within the densely roaded areas and bull elk lived over 5.5 years, with only 5 percent living to maturity. The adjacent roadless area had more than 30 percent of its bulls reaching maturity, some living more than 10 years!

READER COMMENT

Jeff Barney

In a similar Montana study, researchers found that hunter success actually increased in restricted motorized travel areas due to the fact that elk were not displaced by vehicle traffic, so hunters were more successful because they spent more time in the field on foot or horseback.

These and other studies strongly suggest that restricted vehicle access may reduce total elk harvest but increase the number of mature bulls. The implications of these studies are that longer big-game seasons with less-restrictive regulations are possible within roadless areas. A 1997 economic survey found that Idaho big-game hunting, including the economic multiplier effects, contributed \$636 million to our state economy in that single year. With decreasing revenues from mining and logging, rural towns desperately need this economic support that only outdoor recreation can currently provide.

Our native fish populations also are affected by road building. Salmon, steelhead and all our trout species depend upon unspilt, clean, spawning gravels to successfully propagate. We must realize that even the most carefully planned roads often contribute major amounts of sand and silt that demonstrably reduce successful spawning. Subsequently, our

fish populations decline along with the associated fishing opportunities we enjoy.

The Idaho Wildlife Federation does not oppose logging. Our members, some of whom are loggers, recognize that responsible logging can actually benefit certain wildlife populations. We do take issue, however, with the current policy that fragments habitat and compromises our wildlife populations through a network of destructive and expensive roads. We are strong proponents of preserving our public lands and managing these lands for sustainable wildlife for all Idahoans.

Given our current biologic and economic information, supporting the preservation of our remaining roadless areas makes the best sense. Based on existing research, healthier elk herds and greater fish numbers, combined with increased economic returns, are typical results of protecting our roadless areas from further degradation.

We are asking sportsmen and concerned Idahoans to contact the U.S. Forest Service office at its Salt Lake City office by Monday and tell them you support the proposed Roadless Areas Notice of Intent for Idaho's Wildlife. The address is: USDA Forest Service-CAET, Attention: Roadless Areas NOI, P.O. Box 221090, Salt Lake City, UT 84122, or by e-mail — roadlesswo_caet@slc01.fs.fed.us.

Jeff Barney is a field representative for the Idaho Wildlife Federation.

Hatred inspired recent editorial

I believe that your hatred and disrespect for our president truly overshadow your editorial perspective.

Your editorial on the fire/don't Tuesday's paper is a true embarrassment for all Idahoans. That you would use a tragic event like this to flout your hatred is sick. This state and this country does not need more hate mongers. I would hope that in the future you could be more responsible in your editorials.

Respect starts at home, and I would hope that a newspaper that is read every day at home could be respectful to all and less of a leader of hate and disrespect and intolerance. Please review yourself.

KINGSLEY H. MURPHY
Ketchum

Explore the Issue, advertisers

As I was watching a Christmas program recently, I found one particular advertisement especially interesting. Since I typically mute the volume during commercials, I only was able to observe the scur of many young and older couples who obviously were attracted to one another and were having a good time together. I wondered what product the advertisement was promoting, but when the words "erectile dysfunction" appeared on the screen, I knew that the

ad was one describing the wonders of the new drug, Viagra.

As I watched the commercial, I wondered how the Magic Valley community, Idaho and even the general population of the country would regard a second and third of following the commercial for Viagra. I think that there ought to be a series of three ads in sequence.

First, let's have the ad discussing the difficulties of male erectile dysfunction. Then, the second advertisement should address the difficulties of female dysfunction. Thirdly, I believe by far most important, let's have a minute commercial discussing birth control options, including contraceptive pills, Norplant, intra-uterine devices, condoms, vasectomies, tubal ligation and abstinence as well — for those folks who don't like to think about the fact that sexual relations really do happen and that they cause pregnancies, sometimes ones which are desired and some which are not desired.

If our society is going to be liberated enough to talk about sexual issues for males on television during Christmas programs during prime time viewing hours, believe that we ought to be liberated enough to discuss the sexual issues of females and the consequences of sexual interaction. Comments?
TRISH RANDOLPH
Filer

Protect that head of yours

'Tis the season for the reason to protect our most precious piece of equipment, our brain!

Consider the following information as you get ready to buy that loved one a bicycle, one-two- or three-wheeled recreational vehicle, snow skis, roller blades, skates, and the No. 1 purchase here in Idaho — horses or that vehicle (car, truck, van, motorcycle, etc.). Update from 1993, a nationally surveyed students-adults — 85 percent did not wear seat belts the last time they rode in a vehicle. Seventy-five percent had ridden with a driver who had used alcohol or street drugs "before" driving. More than 90 percent did not wear any form of proper head gear or helmets on bikes, motorcycles, skis, horses, roller blades, roller skates. The lifetime effects, even if it's only a minor brain injury, can leave you with long-term problems with memory and learning, let alone personality changes and loss of friendships.

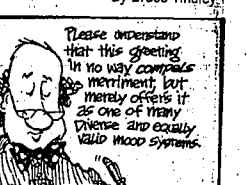
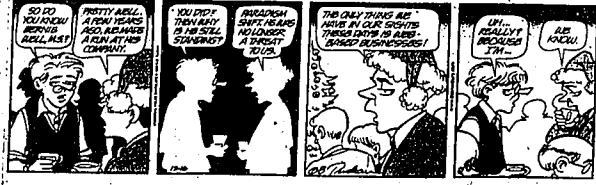
I leave you with this parting message: "Please remember to buckle up and helmet up for your life and the lives that love you."
CANDRA BLAKLEY, RN
Founder-Coordinator
Magic Valley Brain Injury Support and Referral Service of Idaho
Filer

Doonesbury

By Garry Trudeau

Mallard Fillmore

By Bruce Tinsley



Forget space aliens - NASA must beware of the real galactic ghoul

STEVEN A. STOLPER

I studied the faces of the flight team, anxious and intent, as they waited for signal lock. Their spacecraft, the Mars Polar Lander, had plunged into the Martian atmosphere 23 minutes earlier, and the Deep Space Network antennas were straining to pick up the spacecraft's signal. I could empathize with the controllers because, two years earlier, I was in their position as a flight software engineer for the Mars Pathfinder spacecraft. So, when the Mars Polar Lander failed to respond, they were living my nightmares.

With the loss of the Mars Polar Lander and its sister craft, the Mars Climate Orbiter, it appears that NASA has spent its entire 1999 Mars budget to an extent. This has led to ill-informed speculation and calls for the end of the "better, faster, cheaper" approach to space exploration. As a former insider, I'd like to pro-

vide insight into what happened, and urge our leaders to maintain the "better, faster, cheaper" approach now under fire.

Despite publicity to the contrary, the 1999 Mars missions violated the primary tenets of the better, faster, cheaper missions and paid the price. The essence of this approach is: Handpick a small, talented team that works on the project from cradle to grave and locate that team at one site for face-to-face communication. Encourage an innovative culture and regard everyone as a systems engineer.

The Jet Propulsion Laboratory, which built Pathfinder, did not construct these two spacecraft. Both spacecraft were outsourced to a large aerospace contractor in

Denver. With one team in Denver and another in Pasadena, Calif., there was little chance for the face-to-face contact required to successfully engineer a complex interspacecraft.

The problem was further compounded by the fact that JPL, although stellar at building spacecraft, is poor at pushing paper (managing contractors). NASA's Climate Orbiter-failure report stated that in both projects, there "is evidence of inadequate communications between the project elements, including the development and operations teams, the operations navigation and operations teams, the project management and technical teams, and the project and technical line management." Translation: Nobody was communicating.

The people who flew the spacecraft did not build it. A new group was brought in to operate the spacecraft after construction was completed. The new team

was unfamiliar with the spacecraft's design, and in the case of the Climate Orbiter, this led directly to catastrophic failure. Had the operations team understood the spacecraft, it might have uncovered the problem that ultimately led to the spacecraft's loss. On Pathfinder, the team who built the spacecraft tested and flew it. They had an intimate knowledge of their child and understood all of its possible misbehaviors.

Not only did the 1999 operations team have to learn about the spacecraft, it had to learn about three spacecraft. The operations organization was simultaneously flying the Mars Global Surveyor, Mars Climate Orbiter (destroyed), and the Mars Polar Lander (destroyed). Controlling one spacecraft is a dangerous and unforgiving task, controlling three is an impending disaster. Besides diluting the focus on any one mission, overworking the

operations team prevents them from planning the analysis, tests and procedures required for a safe journey to Mars.

Finally, there are questions about the management of the undertaking. Anyone who works on a complex project knows that success requires more than just technical prowess. An innovative environment is vital and at the same time better, faster, cheaper approach. A remotely located defense contractor is hardly the place to foster such an environment. The Climate Orbiter failure report cited a lack of systematic analyses of what could go wrong for both missions. This is surprising since moderate paranoia is the spacecraft designer's friend. It raises questions about how much proprietorialism the engineers felt toward their spacecraft.

The 1999 Mars missions were simply examples of poor execution. Pathfinder proved that "better, faster, cheaper" is not a

pipe dream. Space exploration is far too dangerous for the Pathfinder project to simply have been outsourced to Mars.

Pathfinder spacecraft, the team would joke about the Galactic Ghoul - a fierce creature who lurks within the orbit of Mars devouring Mars spacecraft. But with these two missions, the real culprit is an old mid-set, which will have to be transcended if we expect our descendants to ever walk on Mars.

Steven A. Stolper was a flight software engineer for the 1997 Mars Pathfinder spacecraft mission. He wrote this commentary for the Los Angeles Times.



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Put roads where they belong

The past 30 years, we've been building highways in California, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico. One thing we must begin doing, build them where they belong. Many of the first ones we built are long gone. Why do they not last a single life span? Answer simple, communities dictate where they go. Sounds like a heck of a deal, don't it? Well, it's not.

Highway costs have went up 500 percent in past 20 years. Where I started in (millions) a mile four-lane freeway, 12 miles of 84 out of the old hike is \$2 billion. The old hunk isn't 20 years old.

The gas tax has gone up some percent, but don't improve longevity at all. No. 1, a new road shouldn't go where it don't belong, and be for a hundred years if possible. Taking of land needs to be the No. 1 concern for a highway. Agriculture land opposing the highway, the highway should be No. 1. The idea that we people can just keep paying for roads that got to be redone every other day is (bull).

you know, there is 10 times the agricultural land up north to every fence on every farm, than is used by all the highways in the U.S. of A.

There is a bridge on Highway 1 in California. It is 50-plus years old. The bottleneck danger of it is unreal. Caltrans has tried to replace it 20 years. In the '60s, about a million dollars, they put \$35 million. But even now the people have not agreed to let it happen, even after Caltrans bought a (\$8 million) vacant acreage with ocean view, to replace the view of this modern bridge.

Highways 93 and 84 should go straight as an arrow to 84 from 93, period. To make a single curve is stupid and dangerous. I have found that no matter how far you go straight, there is an end, a curve, and wrecks are there. Drivers only kill themselves we can't figure a way to stop this ever. Safety is accidents are that here. I don't like to talk about California. Makes folks mad. However, where I lived 40 years is an example of how not to do it. What have you, for example do we in Idaho need?

LETTERS

We paid for it (free).
Pat attention.
R.J. "BARNEY" ROWLAND
Hagerman

What happened to honesty?

I would like to personally thank the person who hit my car (1999 white Pontiac Firebird) Sunday in the Hastings parking lot at about 6:30 p.m. I guess honesty and good faith is completely out of the question these days.

In case you might be wondering, you did \$1,000 damage, but that is not your problem. I really feel badly that you did not stick

around or leave a letter. But 'tis the season.

In closing, I would like to wish you the very Merry Christmas and hope that on Christmas day, you are truly blessed.

PAMELA DETAMORE
Twin Falls

Bravo to music director

I want to comment on the Christmas concert that Twin Falls High School presented Monday night.

Mr. Snack, the former music director, did a wonderful production when he was involved. Now that we have Mr. Casperson as music director, there is only one

word to describe his production: Bravo!

CHRISTINE HERNANDEZ
Twin Falls

Write to us

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NATION

Astronomers see planet's reflected light

The Associated Press

Astronomers say they might have seen the first reflected light from a planet outside our solar system.

More than two dozen planets have been discovered in orbit around stars in recent years. But astronomers have never actually seen these planets; they have inferred their existence by looking for a wobble in the star. The wobble is thought to be caused by the gravity of an orbiting planet.

In the latest research, astronomers still haven't actually seen a planet; they have detected starlight that they believe is being reflected by a planet. The

star's brightness is too overpowering to see the planet.

If the researchers are right, their findings could be used to determine the exact size and mass of the planet, and possibly the makeup of its atmosphere.

But other researchers were skeptical of the findings.

If the researchers are right, their findings could be used to determine the exact size and mass of the planet, and possibly the makeup of its atmosphere.

The study was conducted by researchers at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland and published in today's issue of the journal Nature.

The research involves a previously detected planet that's several times more massive than Jupiter and 50 light-years from Earth. A light-year is nearly 6 trillion miles. The planet is orbiting a star called Tau Bootis.

Andrew Collier-Cameron and colleagues at St. Andrews took advantage of the Doppler effect, a phenomenon familiar to anyone who has heard a car horn blow as the vehicle speeds by. The pitch of

the horn drops because the frequency of the sound waves decreases.

The same principle applies to light. But instead of a car, researchers were dealing with a planet that alternates its timing toward Earth and away from it while orbiting the star every 3.3 days.

The researchers examined the mix of light frequencies that appeared to come from the star. They subtracted the portion they could attribute directly to the star. From what remained, they searched for telltale shifts in frequencies caused by the planet's rapid movement.

Researchers unravel mysteries of chromosomes

Scientists have decoded the DNA of a complete plant chromosome for the first time, a milestone in understanding the deepest secrets of the plant kingdom and a step toward developing improved crops.

Researchers unraveled the genetic structure of two chromosomes from Arabidopsis thaliana, a member of the mustard family.

That means identifying millions of building blocks that make up the chromosomes.

Two research teams, one in the United States and the other in Europe, published the results of their work in today's issue of the journal Nature.

Earlier this month other scientists announced the first sequencing of a human chromosome.

Deciphering the genome of agricultural plants could lead to new genetically engineered strains with improved nutritional value and resistance to disease and pests. The issue of genetically altered food has sparked controversy in Europe and elsewhere.

Defibrillators outdo drugs, fend off cardiac arrest

Implantable defibrillators, which shock a quivering heart back into a regular rhythm, strongly outperformed drugs in fending off cardiac arrest in a study of more than 700 patients.

"I don't think today we can rely on drugs to reduce the risk of sudden death," said Dr. Alfred Buxton of Brown University, who led the study, published in today's New England Journal of Medicine.

Researchers said the study is bound to expand use of defibrillators, a 20-year-old device now implanted in roughly 100,000 patients.

About the size of a beeper, they are inserted under the skin in the shoulder and connected by leads to the heart, restoring its normal beat in episodes of potential cardiac arrest. A pacemaker, by contrast, delivers a regular impulse to promote normal contraction of the heart muscle.

Doctors mix more effective HIV drug cocktails

A newly approved medicine has enabled doctors to develop AIDS drug cocktails that are easier to take, cause fewer side effects and appear to work more effectively in children.

Over the past few years, drug combinations containing a breakthrough class of medicines called

Nation in brief

protease inhibitors have made AIDS a treatable disease. Yet some patients fail to benefit, largely because they cannot cope with taking 15 or 20 pills a day on a precise schedule.

Two new studies suggest that Sustiva, one of a new class of AIDS medicines, may actually work better than the standard treatment, perhaps because it requires fewer pills and has fewer side effects.

Two studies underscoring Sustiva's effectiveness were published in today's New England Journal of Medicine. One was conducted in children, the other in adults.

Research links violence to drug and alcohol abuse

Men who abuse alcohol and drugs tend to batter their wives and girlfriends more often than other men, two studies show.

Other factors tied to domestic violence include unemployment and a breakup of the couple, according to the researchers.

The studies were published today in the New England Journal of Medicine.

One domestic violence study at eight emergency departments around the country looked at 915 injured women, including 456 hurt by husbands or male partners. The women were asked about the habits and lives of the men.

Justice Department looks into music video industry

WASHINGTON - The Justice Department is investigating whether music video networks, an industry dominated by Viacom Inc.'s MTV Networks unit, have violated antitrust laws.

Viacom acknowledged that the department's antitrust division still is reviewing its acquisition earlier this year of a small competing video channel known as The Box, but the department-indicated Wednesday that a broader inquiry was under way.

She is looking at the possibility of potentially anticompetitive practices involving music video networks," Justice spokeswoman Jennifer Rose said.

She would not identify any companies or practices under scrutiny.

But one practice under review was whether networks were obtaining exclusive rights to

music videos which could limit competition from other networks, according to a government official who requested anonymity.

Tickets go away to tune of Jingle bells in courtroom

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - Jingle bells, jingle bells, the tickets go away.

Judge Mark Fishburn let some drivers off without a fine or safe-driving classes if they sang "Jingle Bells" in traffic court Monday and Tuesday.

"It was a spur-of-the-moment thing," he said. "Everybody seemed to be in a festive mood. I turned to the audience and

asked them if they were really in the Christmas spirit."

He convicted a few people, including some who were going 80 mph in a 45 mph zone.

Fishburn said dropping traffic charges is common this time of year because officers often don't want to prosecute people at Christmas. The judge didn't drop any charges unless the arresting officer agreed to it.

- Compiled from wire reports

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The Times-News

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THURSDAY

THURSDAY

THURSDAY

YOURSPO RTS

Your Sports Editor, Jgt. Rosen - 1.31.09.31, Ext. 229

GRIDIRON GREATS



East Minico Junior High School's 5th-grade football team earned a second-place trophy during the 1999 district football season. Members of the team include, from left to right, front row: Eddie Lopez, Vince Vila, Martin Vega, Bryce Walters, Saul Garcia, Joey Vali, Marcos Vega, Morgan Parker and John Peralto; second row: Alan Hanson, Joey DeFilippis, Larsen Barbusa, and Lon Hansen, Andy Tuma, Adam Heib, Kevin Janks, Jeremy Bradman, Derek Gomez, Felipe Mota, and coach Grant Killy; third row: Chris Legault, Kevin Bean and Devin Gerner; and back row: Caleb Trevino and Nick Norby. Players not pictured are Nathaniel Tracy and Brady Cook.

Wunderlich places third at Punt, Pass and Kick

SEATTLE - Twin Falls' Megan Wunderlich placed third in regional Punt, Pass and Kick competition at the Kingdome in Seattle last month. Some 40 contestants participated, each having qualified at various sectional competitions across the Northwest. Entrants had to first win their respective local competition, and then had to win at the sectional level.

Megan Wunderlich

Wunderlich placed first in both the local competition and later at the sectional level, which covered all of southern Idaho. The trip to Seattle included 3 passes to a Seahawk game, where Wunderlich got to sit directly behind the players' bench.

Sturtevant, Richards lead L-C State to nationals

LEWISTON - Wood River High School's Amy Sturtevant and Jerome Roderick recorded a time of 30:16, Tegan 33:24.

Richter High School's Naomi Richards has played major roles in the Lewis-Clark State women's volleyball team's four straight trips to the NAIA National Volleyball Tournament. Sturtevant, a 5-foot-7 defensive specialist from Halley, played in 113 games and recorded 115 digs while Richards, a 5-6 sophomore defensive specialist from Eller, recorded 38 digs in 53 games. The Warriors, who won the Frontier Conference title in their inaugural season in the league, also won the NAIA Region 1 Tournament and finished 32-6 overall.

Linfled beats Concordia

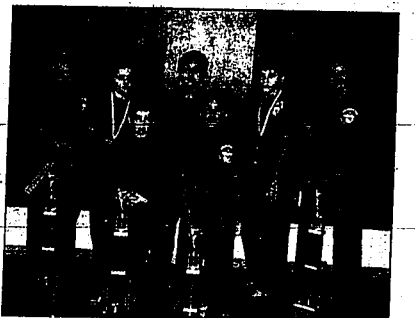
LINFIELD, Ore. - Buhl High School graduate Leah Moore hit three of six shots off the bench, finishing with eight points, as the Linfield Wildcats defeated Concordia in its first home loss of the women's basketball season last week.

Four games into the season, Linfield was off to one of its best starts in school history. Linfield led the Northwest Conference in blocked shots (3.25) and ranked second in steals (14.50) and third in free throw percentage (72.1).

RODEO STARS



The Idaho Junior Rodeo Association competed in five rodeos recently: one at Montpelier and Downey, and the Western Regional Finals in Farmington, Utah last Sunday; Flexwood from left to right are Dick Hatcher, 4th place in bulls; Tyson Huthelton, 2nd place in bulls; Brody Erickson, 2nd place steers 13-15; Zack Huthelton, 1st place in barback pooles; and Paden Baker, 1st place steers 13-15 and 2nd place barback pooles. In front is Jace Huthelton, 1st place calf-riding, Shantelle Baker, 10th place, in left picture.

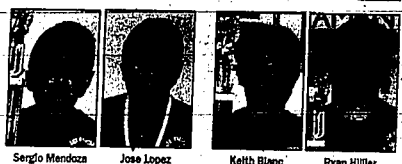


Pictured after their Form Competition are (back row): Michael Hiller, Mandi Burns, Andres Lopez, Wayne Thompson and Keith Blanc; and (front row) Grey Chadwick and Sergio Mendoza.

Jerome students compete

CALDWELL - Ten students from the Jerome Martial Art Academy competed at the 30th Annual Karate & Kung-Fu Tournament Nov. 6. The students placed in 11 of the 16 divisions entered. The team took six first-place trophies, two thirds and three fourth-place medals. Grey Chadwick took first place in the Forms Competition for the Mini 7-8 Colored & Up Division, while Sergio Mendoza took third. Mandi Burns won a fourth place medal in the Pee Wee 9-12 White & Yellow Forms Division. Keith Blanc earned first place in the Men's Colored Lt. Wt. Division.

TOURNAMENT HONORS



Competitors bring home awards Sergio Mendoza, left, displays his first-place trophy earned in the fighting/sparring competition for Mini 7-8 Colored and Up Division at a recent karate and Kung-Fu tournament. To the right is Jose Lopez and his fourth-place medal. Second from right is Keith Blanc and his first-place trophy for the Pee Wee 11-12 Colored and Up Division. At right, Ryan Hiller displays his first-place trophy for the Men's Colored Belt Lt. Wts. Division. All of the students train with instructor Dale Shippelst at Jerome Martial Art Academy.

Men try, come close, but can't match ladies

TWIN FALLS - The fellas didn't quite match the ladies in their doubles tournament, but they gave it a great go with 51 participants in the tournament for the boys' last weekend at the Bowldrome. The four-game format was handicap, and high scores were numerous. Skip Piercey and Art Smith went first with 1,883. Howie Hinson and Jerry Marcanonio were second at 1,860. Third went to Phil Scheil and Eddie Chappell with 1,850, and fourth was Dick DeRocha and Harry Buet at 1,821. Cory Lucero and Dave Brown took fifth with 1,812, sixth was Cary and Cos Moser at 1,802 and the father-son team of Bill and Doug Freeman was seventh at 1,783. The next event at the Bowldrome is an adult/junior tournament. Teams are made up of two adults and two juniors. Entrants may bowl any time lanes are available through Jan. 9, or bowl the on Christmas Squad this Saturday at 2 p.m. In other news...Bob Bywater rolled his way to first place for the second time this season on the Senior Intercontinental Scratch Bowling Association Tour at Strike Zone in Boise. The two-game roll-offs were exciting, as Blaine Ross of Twin Falls posted a score of 424, which was bested by Max Shellbarger of Roy, Utah, by just nine pins. Shellbarger advanced to the one-game roll-off to meet Gerry Branch of Boise. Their match ended in a 204 tie. Branch put three strikes together in their two-frame roll-off to advance to the stepladder finals. In the end, it was Bywater finishing off the stepladder finals with a convincing 275 game for top honors in the field. In awards earned at Rupert Bowl, Shannon Carter picked up

LET'S GO BOWLING

Theina Tucker

an 11-in-a-row. Dan Bywater earned 700 series; and Nancy Weech and Laurel Tracy each garnered 600 awards. Junior bowlers who qualified at the league level for the Coca Cola Tournament at Rupert Bowl and will be participating at the regional level are: Orin Lewis, Anthony Barinaga, Stephanie Hull, David Warr, Jordan Barber, Shane Koyler, Tiffany Bywater, Judy Banner, David Rose, Nathan McGregor, Kayla Morris, Jachelle Studer, Chasen Getser, Kiana Hieb, Lee Sellers, Brandon Gransbury, Justin Studer, Bobby Pecina, Philana Phillips, Bethany Banner and Kelle' Warr. ...Marilyn Fisher and Judy Vankomen at Cedar Lanes, Ellier, earned 500 awards, and Fisher also rolled her way to a 125 pins over average award. Juliet Ridgeway rolled a 641 series for a 600 award and a 125 pins over average award and Margaret Brown earned a tri-plate award with three games of 118. ...Every Sunday night at 7 p.m., Cedar Lanes hosts "Mystery Doubles." Cost is \$65 per person (\$4 for bowling and \$2 to the prize fund). The prize fund is paid on percent of pins entered. Highest average is matched with lowest average and second highest with second lowest and so on. ...With so many events going on. Let's Go Bowling! Theina Tucker writes a weekly bowling column for The Times-News. Contact her at 733-4257, by email at tucker@magicklink.com or by fax at (208) 733-3197.

May, Wallin, Roderick, Tegan lead 1999 Reindeer ramblers

TWIN FALLS - Nearly 150 people showed up to run the 1999 Reindeer Rumble at the CSI gym Dec. 4. Derrick May, Ketchum, and Chad Wallin, Twin Falls, placed first and second, respectively, in the 5-mile run for men. May's time was 23:41, while Wallin followed at 24:07. For the women, the top runner was Candice Roderick, Jiggs, Nev., and Wendy Togan, Roderick recorded a time of 30:16, Tegan 33:24.

- Following are the times for the runners (place, name, age, home town, time):
- 1. May, 23:41; 2. Wallin, 24:07; 3. ... 100. ...

WRESTLING

Boh, Goading win wrestling tournament

GOODYEN - The Goodyen School Conference Area High Wrestling Tournament and Goodyen Wrestling Invitational was held at the Goodyen School Conference Area High School on Dec. 9-10. Boh and Goading were the winners...

BASKETBALL

WRESTLING RESULTS

YOURScores AND STATS

Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling	Wrestling
Boh, Goading
Boh, Goading
Boh, Goading
Boh, Goading

Yellowstone blues: Access proposals, plans for bison have folks sparring over the park's future.

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MAGIC VALLEY

INSIDE

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Magic Valley West C4

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

The Times-News

Thursday, December 16, 1999

Section C

AROUND THE VALLEY

Castleford residents should boil water

CASTLEFORD - The city issued a boil order after two valves which chlorinate the city of Castleford water system were found to be malfunctioning on Monday.

Four samples showed a possible E-coli risk, said City Clerk Patsy Kinyon. She said the chlorinator was repaired by Tuesday afternoon and the system was functioning normally. However, the city is advising residents to continue to boil water.

"Any city water that is used for consumption should be boiled at least for the next 48 hours just to be on the safe side," Kinyon said.

Two water samples were taken on Wednesday and two additional samples will be taken today and sent in for processing. Processing takes 24 hours but the city is confident the water is safe.

"At this point we really feel that the problem has been taken care of," Kinyon said.

TF Planning Commission now has two open seats

TWIN FALLS - The city Planning and Zoning Commission will have two open seats after the first of the year.

The seats are now held by Glenda Thompson and Scott Stumley who will both step down at the end of the year, said Larkin Orton, city planning and zoning director. Thompson was recently elected to the City Council and Stumley's term is expiring, Orton said.

Those interested in Thompson's seat must live within city limits. Those interested in Stumley's seat must be county residents and reside in the area of impact.

Those interested may call Orton at 736-2267.

Filer City Council holds special meeting

FILER - The City Council will hold a special meeting tonight to discuss urban renewal.

The council will hear a presentation on rural urban renewal and financing from Joe Herring of Region IV Development.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall.

Sun Valley City Council to discuss Y2K bug

SUN VALLEY - The City Council will discuss Y2K at its meeting today.

The meeting will begin at 4 p.m. at City Hall.

Slides to feature Yukon adventure chronicles

KETCHUM - A long-time resident of the Yukon will tell tales and slides of his "Yukon Adventure" at 7 p.m. today at the Community Library.

Andy Basch, of Eagle, Alaska, will talk about his life as a homesteader, fisherman and river pilot during the free presentation.

"A private showing for those interested in learning about Basch's week-long custom dog mushing and sleighing adventure will be held Saturday in Ketchum. For more information, call Bob Jonas at 726-7475.

Compiled from staff reports

TN Interactive

We're interested in students' perspectives on the millennium.

Are you a south-central Idaho elementary school teacher whose class has recently completed stories and drawings about what the new millennium might be like? We might be interested in publishing some of your class' work.

On New Year's Day, we're planning to publish a page on what kids think about the new century. We're looking for stories and drawings from the second through fifth grades.

If you're interested, call Steve Crump at 733-0931, Ext. 223.

Crime pays? With water law, perhaps

By N.S. Nokkvented
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - A quirk in the state law may allow some people to profit from violating water rules with the approval of state officials.

The issue emerged recently when the Idaho Department of Water Resources issued a fine against and signed a settlement agreement with a Gooding County dairy owned by Steve Wybenga.

But the fines are not meant to be punitive, and they are not the only way Water Resources can force people to comply with the law, department spokesman Dick Larsen said.

Wybenga had been violating his water right since August and was fined by Water Resources at \$50 per day. Wybenga and the department signed a settlement agreement that allows Wybenga to continue operating while paying the fine until he could complete a water right transfer that would bring him into compliance.

Wybenga had at least 350 cows more than the number allowed under the domestic water right on which he was operating the dairy. He has applied for a water right transfer and is complying with the agreement, his attorney Pat Brown of Jerome has said. Brown did not have any economic information on his client's operation.

It may not be true for Wybenga's dairy, but during the past few years the average return per dairy cow has been \$1.50 to \$2 per cow per day, according to Dean Falk, University of Idaho extension dairy specialist.

That amount rises and falls with the price of milk and the cost of feed. And the long-term average may be as low as 55 cents per cow, Falk said.

But even at 55 cents per cow it may pay a dairy to float the law. A dairy that earns that rate per right might well earn \$192.50 per day on the extra cows - minus the \$50 per day fine, clearing \$142.50 per day. If the dairy earns \$1.50 per cow, it would clear \$475 per day while paying the fine. Fines are not the only incentive to get

compliance, Larsen said. The department can go to District Court and get a cease and desist order.

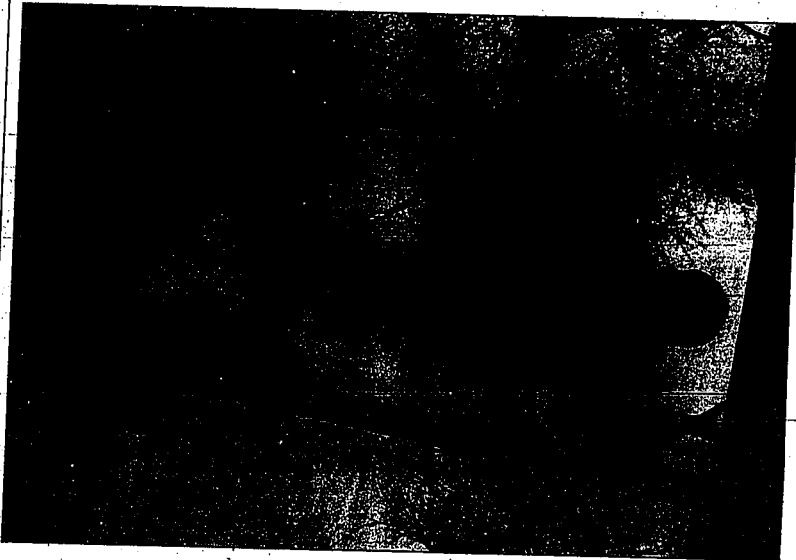
"The law specifies the penalty we can assess," Larsen said. The department recognizes that the \$50 per day fine is not punitive. It is not going to stop a scofflaw, but it gets people's attention, he said.

A dairyman or any other water user would be treated the same. If the operator is violating its water right, the department would sign an agreement if the operator can show he or she is making an effort to get a proper water right, Larsen said.

Times-News writer N.S. Nokkvented can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 237, or by email nid@magicvalley.com



COOL PLAYER



Beau Dunford, 4, enjoys the playground at dusk at Twin Falls City Park.

Keeping skills sharp

Disaster drill helps ferret out some problem spots

By Ruth Strotter
Times-News writer

BURLEY - Last month's Red Cross disaster drill brought emergency agencies together to help them better serve the community in the event of a real disaster.

Red Cross organizations in Mini-Cassia and Twin Falls joined other Red Cross organizations across the state to participate in the drill. The Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center and Radio Amateur Civic Emergency Services/Amateur Radio Emergency Services also provided short-range radio equipment and volunteers.

Twin Falls Red Cross Director Mike Young said another drill is being planned in June and volunteers will carry out dispensing orders such as getting food, feeding people, bringing in extra cots, and having "injured" people from the public come in for treatment.

In preparation for a simulated disaster being planned in conjunction with Twin Falls County and the airport, the Red Cross hopes to eventually conduct monthly drills with full dispensing orders and damage assessment, Young said.

See DRILL, Page C3

Rural council sues Bliss dairy owners

By N.S. Nokkvented
Times-News writer

BLISS - The Idaho Rural Council has filed a lawsuit against the owners of a local dairy, saying the owners have violated the federal Clean Water Act.

The suit names Jacob and Henry Bosma, who own and operate a dairy near Bliss, alleging that they discharged pollutants without a permit, discharged pollutants not authorized by a permit and failed to comply with national standards for feedlots.

The suit comes amid a flurry of legal activity involving the Bosmas and their neighbors. The Rural Council notice to sue was filed in early October. On Nov. 24, the Bosmas sued the neighboring Butler family.

On Dec. 1, the state Department of Agriculture fined the Bosmas \$21,000, saying the family dumped dairy waste in the

head of spring that runs onto another neighbor's property.

And the Bosmas already were in court in Washington. The Bliss dairy is owned by Bliss Acres LLC, a Washington company owned by Henry Bosma of Zillah, Wash., who is on trial in connection with 15 violations of the Clean Water Act in Washington for discharging waste in the Yaldema Valley.

The Rural Council lawsuit was filed in federal court in Boise Dec. 9.

"This is a perfect example of a large, unsustainable animal factory moving in from out of state and totally disrupting a family who has been farming and ranching their land for generations," Rural Council President Nathan Jones said.

Oregon attorney Charlie Tebbutt represents the Rural Council and also represents the Yaldema Valley residents who sued Henry Bosma. Tebbutt works for

the Western Environmental Law Center in Eugene, Ore.

The Bosmas' suit was filed on the day of the day before the second phase of Henry Bosma's trial began, said David Nevin, an attorney for Tebbutt. The first phase had determined that he had violated the Clean Water Act 15 times. The second phase is to determine the amount of damages. A decision is pending in January 2000, Nevin said.

"The Bosmas continue to commit egregious acts, which threaten human and animal health and the environment of area streams," Tebbutt said.

Bacteria in dairy manure can contain bacteria, which can cause serious intestinal problems in humans, he said.

Tom Arkoosh, attorney for Jacob Bosma, said he had not seen the lawsuit.

"I need to look at it before I comment," he said Wednesday. Henry Bosma declined to comment Tuesday.

In their suit, the Bosmas sued the Butlers and others for trespass, defamation, interference with business and breach of contract.

The Butler family - Doran and Helen, Dan and Diane and Art and Stacy - joined the Rural Council's lawsuit. Family members say water quality in the spring they have relied on for 80 years has deteriorated since the dairy began operating.

The Rural Council lawsuit says manure from the Bosmas' dairy ran into the Butlers' spring, and dead cows were buried in a former wildlife pond above the spring.

The Bosmas have 20 days to respond to the suit.

No hearing or trial dates have been set in either case.

Times-News writer N.S. Nokkvented can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 237, or by e-mail nid@magicvalley.com

Suit targets Minidoka

By Lorraine Caverer
Times-News writer

RUPERT - A Halley attorney wants the Minidoka County assets to get money owed to a Rupert attorney along with interest and attorney fees.

District Judge William Woodland ordered the county to pay Schlender's client, Raymond Pena, \$5,500 for work on the State vs. Hood case and two other 1997 murder cases, along with nearly \$10,000 for Pena's services defending Gara Newman, who was the prosecutor in three cases.

The county is also ordered to pay interest - which Penn claims is \$6,100 - on the \$15,000 and another \$15,000 for Schlender's attorney fees, who sued the county after

See SUIT, Page C3

Hailey planners give in-town snowmobile trail the go

By Karen Bosack
Times-News correspondent

HAILEY - Some neighbors dislike the speed and the noise, but Hailey snowmobilers have the OK to ride a trail in town.

The Hailey Planning and Zoning Commission gave snowmobilers the green light to continue using part of the Wood River Trail. But the conditional-use permit, approved Tuesday, came with two conditions: The Blaine County Recreation District must provide the name of a contact who can be called in the event of problems, and planners will examine the situation again at its February meeting.

The district asked the city to allow snowmobilers to use a portion of the Wood River Trail, or bikepath, within Hailey to give snowmobilers a way to get to places like Quigley Canyon, where it's not possible to take trailers and turn around. Theoretically, it gives snowmobilers who go through Quigley a way to get home, said District Director Mary Austin Cruts.

The request was a renewal of a permit approved for the past 10 years. It already carries several conditions, including a ban on recreational use of the trail be permitted, a ban on snowmobile use between 10 p.m. and 8 a.m., a 15 mph speed limit and "mufflers

in good working order.

In past years, renewing the permit has been a slam dunk, said commission member Tom Ward, who questioned the influx of negative comments.

Neighbor Bernie Johnson said he hears snowmobilers gunning past his home near the bikepath at 2 and 3 a.m. Snowmobilers leave behind a white cloud of smoke if homeowners are not breathing. And snowmobilers traveling at speeds of 75 and 85 mph pose a threat to his little boy, who is in the right-of-way.

Homeowner Jane DuLac agreed.

"I've awakened at 2 or 3 in the morning to the snowmobilers. I do

home health care so I go to bed at 9:30 and the noise is not conducive to my sleep," DuLac said.

"I'm screaming dirt bikes to be allowed to use that area next," resident Ginny Blankenslee said.

Owen Downard of Sawtooth Snowmobilers said he has chased down snowmobilers and explained the regulations to them.

"Snowmobilers come and go so there's always new ones you need to educate," he said. "And there's always a few who refuse to live by the rules. We're in no position to

enforce laws. The only thing we can do is apply peer pressure."

Snowmobiler Kim Nelson said law-abiding snowmobilers shouldn't be penalized for the crimes of a few.

"I've got bad knees so I can't ski or snowshoe. The only way I can recreate during the winter is by snowmobiling," Nelson said.

Ward said he'd like to see all the parties involved get together and come up with an answer that's suitable to all.

"We're not inventing the wheel," he said. "There's an answer out there somewhere. Probably many cities around the country have dealt with this problem."

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Blaine County schools prepare for Y2K with backup systems

By Barb Nelwert Times-News correspondent

HAILEY - Computers will be ready, custodians will man each school, and emergency cellular phones will be standing by when Dec. 31 ticks into Jan. 1, 2000, the Blaine County School Board members heard on Tuesday. The Blaine County School District declared it is ready for Y2K and everything should go smoothly when the time comes back to schools on Jan. 3 after the holiday break. "We're pretty ready all the way around," said Katie Henderson, a district employee. Henderson said the district has a generator backup on the cellular phone tower to ensure phone communication should the phone system go out. Custodians will be at all the schools from 6 p.m. Dec. 31 until 6 a.m. Jan. 1 and will promptly alert school officials if electrical service is interrupted.

The Blaine County Incident Command Center will coordinate police and emergency personnel, utility companies and the Red Cross in the event of a Y2K disaster, Henderson said. Superintendent Jim Lewis cautioned employees to back up any personal and school business files in their computers "just in case," Henderson said. The district is prepared to do everything by hand, including payroll, for a couple of weeks if needed. Also Tuesday, ARTEC (Advanced Regional Technical Education Coalition) Coordinator Roger Quarles said Blaine County has been selected as one of four district learning sites and will be used as a model for the ARTEC program. He said the Blaine County School District received authorization to implement a travel and tourism academy next year, and may start up a visual and performing arts academy as well. He said there is a lot of interest in a visual and per-

forming arts academy, but the district would have to find some way to fund the program. He said the College of Southern Idaho has offered to pay an instructor's salary for the first year and the district plans to do some fund-raising to finance the program. Other School Board business: The Blaine County Education Foundation has awarded \$4,800 in grants to district schools. There are currently five positions open on the 21-member board and members are searching for volunteers with backgrounds in fund-raising. The foundation is currently conducting a Beanie Baby raffle with donations from Atkinson's Market. Curriculum Director, Mary Gervase and Director of Special Services Blake Walsh presented a preliminary review of the district's Comprehensive Assessment Plan. A final draft will be presented next year.

Kimberly approves zone change

By Margaret Jones Times-News correspondent

KIMBERLY - The Kimberly City Council approved a request for a zoning change during its Tuesday night meeting. Steve Keim, representing landowner Don Arrington, asked the council for a change from agricultural to agricultural/residential for 18 acres of the Arrington's 160-acre farm at 3850 N. 3400 E. This change would enable the Arringtons to ask for permission to subdivide the plot into 13 one-acre building sites. In other Kimberly business: Auditor Mike Burr reported on the annual audit. He said the audit was in order, but recom-

mended the city work toward building up a larger reserve, in case of an emergency. He said it looked like cities would be required to do extensive engineering and reporting on the condition of all city streets and equipment in the near future, to meet federal requirements. Permits for liquor licenses were approved for Eddy's bar, K-66, Persons JGA Foodliner, the Mavrick convenience store and Mazzi's restaurant. Police officer Erick Foster has completed the Peace Officers Standards and Training course. Mayor Jim Soransen appointed Julie Reeves to serve on the city zoning board. County Commissioner Bill

Brockman said the county would meet Dec. 23 with Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center officials. Fire chief Burl Duncan said the city department and the Rock Creek fire district had answered eight calls last month. He said the surveys and ratings for the area were complete and ready for the insurance companies. The new fire facility could give the city a better rating that would reduce area fire insurance premiums. Gem Community meetings will start in January. The council voted to cancel the Dec. 28 meeting. If a matter arises that it needs immediate attention, the council will call a special meeting.

Officials gear up for winter trail use

By Kristan Kennedy Times-News correspondent

KETCHUM - Sawtooth National Recreation Area officials are gearing up for the first winter use of the Hurman Trail, a non-motorized trail which runs from north of Ketchum to the top of Galant Summit. The trail was dedicated in the summer, the culmination of a three-year project. It was funded with seed money from the Harriman Foundation. A citizens committee raised the rest of the money for the trail.

The trail is 90 percent complete with the exception of fine-tuning of some visual aspects of the trail. SNRA trail specialist Tom Steffler said. The trail is about 22 miles long, and two more miles of trail are scheduled for completion by next summer. "I was the vision of the community," she said. The trail will be open for cycling, hiking, and equestrian use. A separate program is under way to provide amenities, such as benches. So far more than

\$140,000 has been raised for a long-term endowment. Organizers want to raise \$1 million over the next 10 years. Also, by next summer, two mountain goat viewing areas are set for completion. Steffler said. The mountain goat is the signature species of the SNRA, spokeswoman Edna Cunniff said. The viewing sites will be a chance to teach and entertain SNRA visitors.

SERVICES

Orville C. Lange, of Twin Falls, services at 11 a.m. today at White Mortuary in Twin Falls. William Jay "Bill" Patton, of Filer, funeral services at 11 a.m. Friday at the LDS Filer Stake Center. Graveside services at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at the Ashton Pine View Cemetery.

Rose M. Evans, of Twin Falls, formerly of Mountain Home, services at 11 a.m. Friday at the Heritage Alliance Memorial Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls. Graveside services will be held at 2:30 p.m. Friday at the Mountain View Cemetery in Mountain Home. Services to follow at the First Congregational Church in Mountain Home. Friends may call from 3-8 p.m. today at Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Sam M. Fowler, of Boise, formerly of Buhl and Twin Falls, services at 1 p.m. Saturday at Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls. Glenn W. McMurray, of Preston, memorial services at noon today at the Preston LDS North Stake Center, 310 N. State, in Preston. Friends may call from 10:30-11:30 a.m. today at the stake center (Webb Funeral Home in Preston).

DEATH NOTICES

Jane Wright - TWIN FALLS - Jane Wright, 76, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Dec. 15, 1999, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. Services are pending and will be announced by Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls. Beth Reynolds - TWIN FALLS - Beth Reynolds, 79, of Twin Falls, died Tuesday,

Dec. 14, 1999, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center following an extended illness. Services are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls. Frank C. Green - TWIN FALLS - Frank C. Green, 92, of Twin Falls, died Wednesday, Dec. 15, 1999, at his home in Twin Falls. Arrangements are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls.

Dec. 14, 1999, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center following an extended illness. Services are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls. Arrangements are under the direction of Reynolds Funeral Chapel in Twin Falls. A baby boy was born to Wiona Gurney, of Rupert.

Gooding teacher, program get honors

By Almee Wilson Times-News correspondent

GOODING - A Gooding High School program, and a high school teacher, have received state honors. Gooding High School was recognized by the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities as one of six schools in the state to receive outstanding inclusive education site award for 1999. The award recognizes the school for "providing excellent inclusive education to students with disabilities." Also, the state's students

teachers have named Gooding High School teacher Kyle Woods Idaho Drama Teacher of the Year for 1999-2000. In other business from Tuesday's Gooding School Board meeting: Teacher Gayle Yakovcic reported that all systems are OK after a Y2K review. The city of Gooding has an eight-day water supply if power should go out. Gooding High School Principal Dennis Osman said a stop sign is needed at the corner of Seventh Avenue West and 1820 West block, because drivers have trouble seeing traffic coming from the west.

Osman also reported that the senior trip may be canceled due to lack of participation. The board received an extensive review of special education programs from special programs director Rosanne Celaya. In all, 133 of the district's 1,332 students are enrolled in special education. The fifth grade and honor roll students were congratulated for their participation in the Festival of Trees. Times-News correspondent Almee Wilson can be reached in Gooding at 934-9174.

HOSPITALS

MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER. Some names are omitted at patients' request. Admitted: Marsha Arnold and Barbara Belverston, both of Twin Falls; Joyce Rogers-Stanger, of Jerome; Mary Schweindeman, of Rupert; Trudy Smith and Ingeborg, both of Buhl; and Bryson Leeman, of Kimberly. Dismissals: Logan Hollins of Burley; Bryson Lehman, of Kimberly; and Jesse Bauer and Steven Ross, both of Twin Falls.

MINDOKA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL. Some names are omitted at patients' request. Admitted: Betty Gibson, and Wiona Gurney and baby boy, all of Rupert. Dismissed: Teresa Langley, Luke Baker, and Jose Chavez, all of Heyburn; Betty Gibson, Melvin D. Madson, and Del Artega, all of Rupert; and Louis R. Frazee, Jr., of Burley. Births: A baby boy was born to Wiona Gurney, of Rupert.

Relatives say they can take man from his wife

SPOKANE (AP) - Marian Nice went to her husband home for the holidays. The 73-year-old Clifford Nice is suffering from dementia and has been taken to Oregon by relatives against Marian's wishes. Authorities are considering kidnapping charges against Cliff's relatives. Cliff and Marian Nice married March 18 at Coeur d'Alene's Hitching Post. Marian was a widow who raised six kids alone by cleaning Spokane houses. He was a recently divorced Oregon resident, wealthy from a career as a welder. They met two years ago at an elderly singles group in Spokane. They courted at a Christian getaway in Bozeman, Mont., strolling through trails holding hands like teenagers. They settled into her Spokane Valley home, making trips to his house in Astoria, Ore. His dementia quickly became apparent. He tried to step out of the car while speeding down a freeway and soon forgot Marian's name. By summer, Marian was looking after him around the clock in her home. It wasn't about money. She had signed a prenuptial agreement barring her from touching Cliff's estate - which she estimated at more than \$1 million - in the event of a divorce. While together, she had Social Security pensions, she said.

By early November, Cliff became abusive and state social workers were alerted. He was diagnosed with dementia - an irreversible deterioration of the brain - at Sacred Heart Medical Center. Mike Sumner, Marian's son-in-law from a previous marriage, noticed Cliff's advancing illness during a fall visit. "His eyes were blank," Sumner said. Social workers and her family recommended Marian seek Cliff to a nursing home. Marian said she told Cliff's family of his worsening condition. On the morning of Nov. 28, Marian and Cliff got an unexpected visit. Seven of Cliff's relatives, including his ex-wife, arrived from Arkansas, Missouri and Oregon, saying they wanted to take him to lunch. "There was a reason we came up there and got him, several good reasons, and that is all I'm

going to say," said Rick Nice, Cliff's son. He declined to talk further. Marian called 911, complaining of an attempted kidnapping, then jumped on Cliff's lap and hung on. "I wasn't going to let them take him," she said. She said his family pulled her off, tossing her to the floor. When she got up, Cliff's granddaughter shoved her down, Marian said. Cliff sat in his chair, crying and confused. County Deputy Ken Dodge arrived. "There were many family members at the scene, all claiming to what is in the best interests of Clifford," Dodge said. Dodge, after consulting with a supervisor, allowed the family to drive away with Cliff. Sgt. Bruce Matthews said Dodge acted appropriately because he had no proof that Cliff suffered from dementia.

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 733-9933, Ext. 278, between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4:30 p.m. for next-day publication. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 5 p.m. every day.

BUHL
Alene Marie (Hau) Dickson, both of Nevada; a sister, Dora Faux of Buhl; four grandchildren; six great-grandchildren, and two great-great-grandchildren. In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by three brothers and one sister. Funeral services will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, December 16, 1999, at the Buhl First Christian Church. Interment will be in West End Cemetery.

House following an extended illness. She was born March 28, 1917, on the Salmon Tract, the daughter of Alton L. and Maude Gummerson Henry, and was reared and educated at Hollister and Twin Falls. On January 9, 1939, she married Edward H. "Mooty" Young of Burley. They farmed around Jerome until retiring in 1979. Dutch was a member of the Presbyterian Church, Springing Hoboken Lodge #110, Highland Sewing Club, and a 50-year member of the Jerome Grange. Survivors include one daughter, Marilyn Young of Jerome; one son, Carlie Moeller of Twin Falls; one sister, Dolly Oneida of Shoshone; two grandchildren, Shelly (Tracy) Harris of Kimberly, and Scott (Wendy) of Carson City, Nev.; and three great-grandchildren, Devin and Hailey Harris of Kimberly, and Hannah Worris of Carson City. She was preceded in death by two brothers and one sister. Funeral services for Dutch Moeller will be conducted at 10 a.m. Friday, December 17, 1999, at the Jerome Presbyterian Church, with the Rev. Robert Stebb, and the Springing Hoboken Lodge #110 officiating. Burial will follow at the Jerome Cemetery. Friends may call at the Hove-Robertson Funeral Home, 110 E. Jerome, on Thursday from 6-8 p.m.; no other viewing will be held.

JEROME
Laura Mae Mallinson - Laura Mae Mallinson, 100, of Buhl, died Dec. 15, 1999, at the Twin Falls Care Center. She was born Nov. 20, 1899, in Hackberry, Arizona, the daughter of Peter and Nellie Roago Davis. She attended school in Thob Creek and Castleford. It was on Sept. 26, 1921, that she married William Mallinson. He preceded her in death in 1961. She resided in Arizona and Los Angeles, California, from 1924 until 1965, when she returned to Buhl. She was a member of the Buhl First Christian Church. Man celebrated her 100th birthday last year with family and friends. Survivors include two daughters, Billy Mae (Bert) Mendonhall, and

Glessner C. "Dutch" Moeller
Glessner C. "Dutch" Moeller, 82, of Jerome, died Tuesday, December 14, 1999, at Alpha

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Laura Mae Mallinson, 100, of Buhl, died Dec. 15, 1999, at the Twin Falls Care Center. She was born Nov. 20, 1899, in Hackberry, Arizona, the daughter of Peter and Nellie Roago Davis. She attended school in Thob Creek and Castleford. It was on Sept. 26, 1921, that she married William Mallinson. He preceded her in death in 1961. She resided in Arizona and Los Angeles, California, from 1924 until 1965, when she returned to Buhl. She was a member of the Buhl First Christian Church. Man celebrated her 100th birthday last year with family and friends. Survivors include two daughters, Billy Mae (Bert) Mendonhall, and

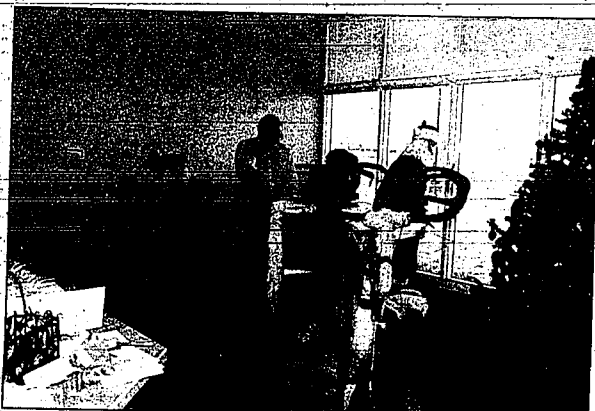
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Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home & Twin Falls Cemetery. Invite you to attend the Memorial Christmas Tree Lighting Service Saturday, December 18, 1999 at 7 PM at Parke's Funeral Home. 2551 Kimberly Road • Twin Falls. 208-735-0011. Come join us in remembering your loved ones this holiday season. Special tree ornaments will be provided with the name of your loved one.

Thanks to the loving acts of kindness shown to us during the last six weeks since the death of our beloved Ermin. Verda Gold, Carolee & Al Hall, Gary & Susie Gold, Connie & Craig Evans, Shanna & Dennis Koyle, Julie & Garth Koyle, Kent & Kennie Mae Gold

CHRISTMAS GADGETS

EPA proposes method to cool river



Dean Baker, an electronics teacher at Cassia Regional Technical Center, shows an electronic Christmas display in the lobby of the center. Baker and an electronics class made the display about three years ago. Complete with moving parts and flashing lights, the display needs a home. Baker is hoping for interest from a business willing to take the display.

Suit

Continued from C1

Minidoka County commissioners refused to pay Pena for work in 1997. Pena also defended Newman when commissioners attempted to have the three murder cases turned over to the Idaho Attorney General's Office. Pena defended Newman's right to run the prosecutor's office as he saw fit. "He defended a woman prosecutor they did not like and he won," Schlender said. Schlender plans to file a writ of execution to seize county assets as soon as the final paperwork - a judgment against the county - is filed. The writ of execution would force the county to pay the money, he said. Pena did not get paid because of stubbornness and denial on the part of the commissioners, Schlender said. "If I were the residents of Minidoka County I would recall all three of them," said Schlender of the commissioners. "There's no excuse for it. There is no explanation. It is pathetic." In addition to the money the county has been ordered to pay Schlender and Pena, Minidoka County records show commissioners spent more than \$18,000 fighting Pena over a payment of

\$12,000, which is the amount Pena claimed he would settle for. William Parsons, the attorney for the county at the time who was paid the \$18,000, said Pena had not offered to settle the matter. However, Commissioner John Rensberg said Schlender had told the commission that Pena would end the lawsuit for a \$40,000 settlement. The dispute arose because commissioners said Newman did not have the authority to hire help without their approval. Pena argued Newman had that power, and that the commissioners knew he was working for her and paid another attorney she had hired. Findings by Woodland in Pena's case showed that two other attorneys brought on to assist in prosecuting the three murder cases were paid a total of nearly \$40,000 for their services. When Pena sued the county, Woodland decided the commissioners' refusal to pay Pena was illegal because the county prosecutor has the right to hire help, and attorney's fees, bringing the county's bill to \$61,000. But in July damages were trimmed to \$15,000 by an Idaho Supreme Court ruling. The Supreme Court remanded the case back to Woodland, who

ordered the county to pay Pena and Schlender. In its latest brief to the court, the county implicitly acknowledges it will pay the full amount owed for Pena's work for the prosecuting attorney, court records said. But Pena said he has not yet seen any of that money. "Pena is clearly the prevailing party," Woodland said. "He rendered services to the Minidoka County prosecutor and brought suit to recover payment for those services." But during the second round of briefing the Supreme Court had determined Pena was not the prevailing party, said Rick Bollar, Minidoka County attorney. Bollar will discuss with county commissioners whether or not they want to appeal paying the interest on the case and appeal whether attorney fees are due. "It is said this case has gotten to the point that commissioners were never willing to negotiate this; that my \$12,000 offer was rejected," Pena said. "The court has ruled again and they have to pay." Times-News staff writer Lorraine Cavener can be reached in Burley at 677-4042 or by e-mail at lcavener@magicvalley.com.

BOISE (AP) - Federal regulators have released a proposed water pollution permit for the Potlatch Corp. pulp and paper mill in Lewiston after environmental groups filed suit over the warm waste water pouring into the Snake River. The Lands Council, Idaho Conservation League and Idaho Rivers United filed suit in August, claiming the water released into the Clearwater River near the confluence with the Snake is dangerous to imperiled fish migrating upstream into Idaho. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency draft permit announced Wednesday would require Potlatch to cool its 40 million gallons per day of wastewater from the currently allowed 92 degrees to 68 degrees during the summer. It also reduces by 64 percent its allowable discharges of toxic chemicals produced by the chlorine bleaching process. "If your bathtub is too hot, you don't cool it off by putting more hot water in it," said Mark Solomon of the Lands Council. Final issuance of the permit depends on review by the National Marine Fisheries Service and Fish and Wildlife Service for possible harm to anadromous salmon and steelhead, as well as threatened bull trout. The environmentalists say the lower Snake River's temperature

already violates Washington state's water quality standards. With the absence of pollution controls on the Snake upstream from Lewiston, the river is too warm for cold-water fish even before Potlatch's addition. The conservation groups contend they were forced back into the court after Potlatch's pressure on government officials threatened to delay issuance of the permit. The current permit allows 92-degree water while the state's standard is 68 degrees. Potlatch in August said it has spent \$500 million in recent years to upgrade its pollution control technology, and the effect of the warm water on the river cannot be measured.

Commerce's legislative committee Tuesday. John Curran, senior property manager for Potlatch Corp., said the state's formula values forest lands as if the lands generate income each year, rather than every 60, 70 or 80 years. The industry wants the state to adopt a cash-flow method for valuing forest lands, he said, or factor in when costs and income come in. It also wants to phase in the reduction in its property tax bills over a seven-year period. "It is quite a change and certainly needs some looking over," said Democratic Rep. Chuck Cuddy of Grapewin, who serves on the House Revenue and Taxation Committee and is an ally of the timber industry. "Counties like Clearwater, Benewah and others could be hit pretty hard." Cuddy also said he is waiting to hear from county officials and get more information from the Idaho State Tax Commission before making up his mind. "I have heard the timber industry's side and I haven't heard anybody else's."

Business lobby supports land value change

LEWISTON (AP) - Idaho's largest business lobby is supporting a timber industry plan to overhaul the state's method for valuing forest lands and cut its property tax bills. Property taxes on private forest lands jumped about 200 percent during the past seven years, while the valuation of the lands skyrocketed about 300 percent, said Brent Olmstead, vice president of the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry. "It is quite unfair," he told the Lewiston Chamber of

Commerce's legislative committee Tuesday. John Curran, senior property manager for Potlatch Corp., said the state's formula values forest lands as if the lands generate income each year, rather than every 60, 70 or 80 years. The industry wants the state to adopt a cash-flow method for valuing forest lands, he said, or factor in when costs and income come in. It also wants to phase in the reduction in its property tax bills over a seven-year period. "It is quite a change and certainly needs some looking over," said Democratic Rep. Chuck Cuddy of Grapewin, who serves on the House Revenue and Taxation Committee and is an ally of the timber industry. "Counties like Clearwater, Benewah and others could be hit pretty hard." Cuddy also said he is waiting to hear from county officials and get more information from the Idaho State Tax Commission before making up his mind. "I have heard the timber industry's side and I haven't heard anybody else's."

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Hazelton council gives contractor final payment

HAZELTON - The City Council decided Tuesday to take the advice of City Engineer Brian Smith and make the final payment of \$9,300 to contractor Bob Durham for the Downtown Project, which included new sidewalks, curbs, city office parking lot and new light poles. Smith said he checked all the work and there were only two minor problems that can be easily fixed. There is a 1-year warranty on Durham's work.

Valley in brief
Mexican eatery for office and dining space. They also will be allowed to enclose the front or west side of the building for additional dining space. Owners were granted their requests, provided they build an enclosure around the restaurant's dumpster that matches the restaurant. They were also asked to add a gutter to prevent rain from dripping onto the entryway and to put utilities underground. The restaurant is currently closed for remodeling.

will open more runs beginning today. The resort will open Upper Warm Springs and Lower College today. On Friday, Sun Valley will open Gun Tower Lane and Broadway, as well as Seattle Ridge Day Lodge. Dollar Mountain will open for the season on Friday, along with Dollar Cabin and Quartet Dollar and Half Dollar lifts.

Halley planners approve restaurant expansion

HAILEY - The city Planning and Zoning Commission on Tuesday approved an expansion for Chapala restaurant located at 502 N. Main St. Owners will be allowed to expand the south side of the

Sun Valley to open more ski runs today
SUN VALLEY - Sun Valley

Blaine commissioners to discuss zoning request
HAILEY - Blaine County commissioners today will hear a request from Northstar Ranches to subdivide 97 acres south of Bellevue into 18 lots. The meeting will begin at 6:30 p.m. at the courthouse. -Compiled from staff reports

Drill

Continued from C1

unters see where there are problem areas. For instance, Young intended to provide "mobile communication" by taking one of the few volunteers equipped with radios on the road with him. He didn't realize until later that removing that volunteer from the Red Cross office cut off communication between headquarters and the shelter at the National Guard Armory. Red Cross volunteers also learned they needed to find an alternative method of heating the Minidoka Senior Center, one

of Mini-Cassia's Red Cross shelters, said Jared Gillespie, disaster services coordinator at the Rupert Red Cross. A propane tank at the center was tested the day of the drill and emitted too many fumes to be used in an emergency, Gillespie said. Rupert Red Cross Director George Falkner said he noticed problems with radio communication which was soon worked out. He said the only breakdown in communication occurred when another agency involved in the drill did not return his phone call until two days later. About 10 people participated in the Mini-Cassia drill and

Gillespie said he would like to see more people participate in future drills. "A lot of time it's nice to have those people come off the street and help," he said. He said he was pleased to see how well new volunteers performed in the drill and how they pulled together as a team. And he's not worried by the low turnout. He said a storm last April brought out 20 volunteers to man a single shelter. Times-News staff writer Ruth Stractor can be reached in Burley at 677-4042 or by e-mail at rstractor@magicvalley.com.

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93 DODGE STRATUS Dodge Low Miles, Stk #100000	\$11,260
93 TOYOTA HILUX Winter Fun, Stk #100000	\$13,495
99 DODGE 3/4 TON QUAD CAB Turbo Diesel, Cummins, Stk #100000	\$31,995
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State Y2K council is confident

BOISE (AP) - The state council charged with assuring Idaho is technologically ready for the New Year was confident on Wednesday that computers will not disrupt daily life, but they will be prepared for the unexpected.

"It is our intent and has been our intent to make this a non-event," said Pam Ahrens, director of the state Department of Administration and chairman of the Information Technology Resource Management Council.

But even after 3.5 years of preparation and testing and tens of millions of dollars in expense,

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Looking back 2000 Looking ahead

...the fact is that no one can predict exactly what is going to happen when the New Year arrives."

In a series of progress reports to the council on Wednesday, officials said all

financial, utility, transportation, law enforcement and disaster management computer systems have been tested and retested and ready for the rollover from 1999 to 2000.

"We think it will be a seamless turnover to the millennium," state Law Enforcement Director Ed Strickland said.

Still, Disaster Services Chief John Cline urged the public to take the same kind of precautions they would as a hedge against a severe winter storm - a three-day supply of food and water, sufficient clothes. He said the bureau will operate its Emergency Management System from Dec. 28 through the evening of Jan. 4 to monitor state, county and city operations.

Ahrens said state and local governments and major industries are prepared, and she urged the public to be equally prepared but not to overreact.

Detective says man admitted to fatal slashing

BOISE (AP) - A man accused of fatally slashing a woman's throat in October confessed to the crime under questioning, a detective testified during a hearing.

He said he picked up a black-handled knife that was nearby and, in his words, "took the life" of Detective Lance Anderson said under oath during a preliminary hearing in 4th District Court Tuesday.

At the close of the hearing, Ada County Magistrate Richard Schmidt ruled that Jody "Allan" Johnson, 26, should face a first-degree murder charge in the death of Norreassa Huck, 39.

Her body was found Oct. 23 in a culvert about 150 yards behind her trailer. Police reports said her body was wrapped in a comforter, cinched with electrical cord and stuffed into a shopping cart.

THE FINALS COUNTDOWN



Eric King, a senior in molecular biology from Coeur d'Alene, studies for a Spanish test at the University of Idaho in Moscow Tuesday. Students at the university are taking final exams this week before leaving for Christmas break.

Letters to governor request state-led cleanup, local voice

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - The city and commissioners in Kootenai and Shoshone counties want Gov. Dirk Kempthorne to help keep federal regulators from listing a 50-mile stretch of the Coeur d'Alene River as a Superfund cleanup site.

Officials are nervous about potential rumors and a meeting earlier this week between the governor and Chuck Clark, the Environmental Protection Agency's Northwest regional administrator.

The EPA confirmed last month that the agency is close to a proposed listing along the river from Harrison to Mullan that would create the nation's largest Superfund site. To start the process, the agency first must give the state a letter stating its intent to create the cleanup area.

Kempthorne weighs in against unpopular park access proposal

BOISE (AP) - Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has joined a growing chorus of opposition to the National Park Service's draft winter use plan and environmental impact statement for Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks.

Citing economic, environmental and safety threats to eastern Idaho, the Republican governor said on Wednesday that he wants the agency to reconsider the proposal that has been panned by critics ranging from animal rights groups to snowmobile enthusiasts.

In a letter sent to Park Service official Clifford Hawkes in Lakewood, Colo., Kempthorne



Dirk Kempthorne

echoed complaints about the plan that among other things would ban snowmobiles between West Yellowstone, Mont., and Faithful, Idaho. Kempthorne said he would allow only buses, shuttles and a limited number of private vehicles on the plowed road. Snowmobiles and snow coaches would be banned.

The governor said the proposal would be bad for wildlife, park visitors and nearby communities that depend on snowmobiling for their winter economies.

"As currently written, none of the alternatives in Draft EIS are acceptable to the State of Idaho," Kempthorne wrote. "Idaho's concerns, however, are adequately addressed by the proposals submitted by the States of Montana and Wyoming, and would recommend the adoption of either of those proposals."

Specifically, Kempthorne said implementing the Park Service's preferred alternative would eliminate a snowmobile trail running from Ashton to Flagg Ranch to West Yellowstone, and then back to Ashton.

approval next fall. That would allow the plan to be implemented in time for winter when bison traditionally wander from the snow-blanketed park in search of food.

The decision also sends the state and federal government back to federal court, where a lawsuit filed by the state over bison management has been pending for almost five years.

Feds blast Montana's bison plan

HELENA, Mont. (AP) - The federal government, fed up with what it considers stubborn state officials, has abandoned a seven-year effort to reach agreement with Montana on a long-range plan for managing diseased Yellowstone National Park bison.

In a letter to Gov. Marc Racicot, the Agriculture Department and Department of

the Interior said the state's insistence that a plan not allow any bison to remain outside the park will result in the unnecessary killing of bison.

The agencies condemned the state's stand as "without scientific foundation" and "unwarranted." The departments said they will continue developing the management plan on their own with final

approval next fall. That would allow the plan to be implemented in time for winter when bison traditionally wander from the snow-blanketed park in search of food.

The decision also sends the state and federal government back to federal court, where a lawsuit filed by the state over bison management has been pending for almost five years.

Democrat enters 2nd District race

BOISE (AP) - An Internet expert and former Air Force flight instructor said new technology and old fashioned grassroots organization will help his Democratic challenge of Republican 2nd District U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson succeed.

Craig Williams said on Wednesday that the "Team Democrat" campaign to recruit, train and support local and legislative candidates throughout the state should pay dividends as he tries to unseat the first-term lawmaker representing eastern and southern Idaho.

Former congressman Richard Stallings' Democratic bid to return to Washington fell short against Simpson last year in part because it lacked underpinning of support from candidates down the ballot, Williams said.

"One of the reasons he lost is

because at the state Legislature there were no Democratic candidates. In over 50 percent of the seats that are available in the 2nd CD, the Democratic Party did not even field a candidate," he said. "So what it boils down to is the guy that ran last time was the only man running against the entire Republican Party."

Williams, 48, moved to Idaho in 1985 as a fighter pilot flight instructor at Mountain Home Air Force Base. He left in 1988 to complete his military career. Later worked at the University of Idaho and in 1996 he became vice president and chief technology officer for Cornerstone Integrated Services, a small high-tech company in Austin, Texas, that ultimately was sold.

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School officials decide to drop Indian mascot

SALMON (AP) — The threat of legal action has prompted members of the Salmon School Board to drop the Indian high school mascot used for 60 years as its mascot.

"This year's graduating class will be the last class to graduate with the Indian head as a school symbol," Salmon Superintendent Candis Donicht said. "We have been made aware that it is offensive to some people."

National Coalition on Racism in Sports and Media threatened last summer to sue both the Salmon School District in central Idaho and the Pocatello School District in southeastern Idaho for using the Indian head as a mascot. They are among more than a dozen Idaho high schools with mascots and nicknames linked to Indian tribes.

A decision on the Salmon High School team name "Sawtooth" and a future school symbol will not be made before March, Donicht said.

The matter is still under review in Pocatello, where leaders of the local Shoshone-Bannock Tribes have remained neutral in the debate and have publicly said the coalition does not represent their views.

The Shoshone-Bannock governing council met with educators and student leaders in recent weeks to promote understanding of tribal culture and values. Salmon students have also discussed the issue with students at the Sho-Ban Junior-Senior High School on the reservation.

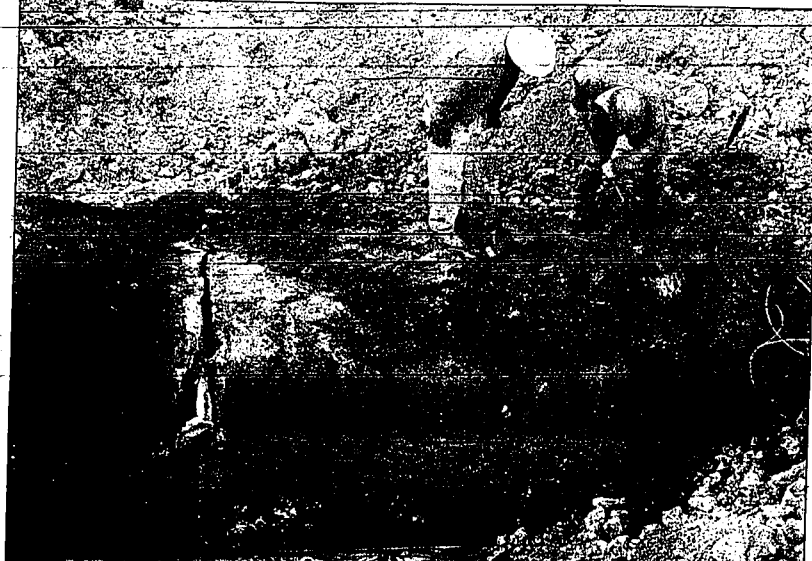
And leaders of the Nez Perce Tribe in western Idaho have urged educators and communities statewide to reconsider high school mascots and nicknames in light of their reflection on specific groups, but they have threatened no legal action.

In Salmon, 160 miles north-northeast of Boise, a community advisory group that includes students will recommend a solution to the school board in March. Among the options are finding a completely new name and mascot or retaining the Sawtooth name but finding a non-Indian symbol to go with it.

Once a decision is made, Donicht said students will be given time to plan a way to bid farewell to the Indian mascot in what she hopes will amenable to the controversy that has been simmering since spring.

"We don't want our community torn apart over this," she said.

The school district's attorneys told the board that fighting the court battle could initially cost up to \$150,000 — a bill the district could not afford.



Orange County Water District workers clear soil away from a break in a water pipe Tuesday in Irvine, Calif. The rupture has left more than 800,000 people in the area short of water supplies, and they may have to conserve water for seven to 10 days. The break seen on the left happened after the first rupture.

Crews work on broken water line

MISSION VIEJO, Calif. (AP) — About 800,000 Southern Californians can expect another week or so of water shortages after a major pipeline break this week. Residents were asked to stop filling pools, watering lawns and washing clothes for at least a week.

"This isn't a joke. This really is a crisis," said Dave Seymour of the Rancho Santa Margarita Water District. "People are taking it very seriously. We've had people calling to tell us their neighbors are watering the lawns and washing their cars."

The main rupture late Monday afternoon cut all or part of water supplies to 14 communities in south Orange County, including some of its wealthiest areas.

Calling it "a catastrophic failure," water officials shut off water to 80 construction sites to conserve supplies, bringing housing development to a standstill.

Although county and city officials had yet to issue citations or seize meters, water district employees were patrolling neighborhoods.

"We're simply asking for conservation at this point," said Keith Goolidge of the Municipal Water Districts of Orange County.

Officials were unsure what caused the rupture, but speculated recent earthquakes and corrosion may be to blame.

The underground break sent concrete and debris hurtling 25 feet to the surface of a field. Although no injuries reported, water flooded strawberry fields.

Crews were excavating around the break and repairs were expected to take more than a week to complete.

The pipeline, built in 1981 by the Municipal Water District of Orange County, carries treated water from the Colorado River and Northern California on a 26-mile run from a filtration plant in Yorba Linda to Dana Point.

Along the way it supplies water to Irvine, Lake Forest, Aliso Viejo, Mission Viejo, Rancho Santa Margarita, El Toro, Trabuco Canyon, Laguna Woods, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Hills, San Juan Capistrano and San Clemente.

The county typically has an emergency water supply stored in the event of a disaster, such as an earthquake.

Within hours of the break, officials began publicly asking for volunteer water rationing. Television and radio stations continually broadcast conservation tips.

"If we stretch, we have seven to 10 days of water," Seymour said. "That's if everybody does their part."

The drought was already beginning to cause a deluge of prob-

Seven of eight boys plea bargain

BEAVER, Utah (AP) — Seven of eight boys accused of assaulting a counselor at a wilderness therapy group have agreed to plea bargains.

The boys' escape launched an extensive search in the remote western portion of Iron County.

The seven boys pleaded either guilty or no contest to second-degree felony robbery and third-degree aggravated assault on Monday, and are slated for sentencing Jan. 11. The eighth, rejected the plea deal.

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Survey: Refuge managers feel threatened

RENO, Nev. (AP) — More than 70 managers of national wildlife refuges across the country have experienced threats or harassment to their family or refuge staff, including at least three death threats, a worker advocacy group says.

Officials at U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service headquarters in Washington said in response to Freedom of Information Act requests they have record of only a single incident — a mallroom clerk's threat against a supervisor in Washington D.C. in March 1998.

But leaders of Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility say that's because the service doesn't track such cases.

They say refuge workers across the country report an increasing number of potentially-violent situations with hunters and other land users upset about resource policies.

PEER's survey conducted in recent months shows nearly one-third of the refuge managers questioned, 32 percent, have experienced some sort of trouble

over the course of their career.

"It is past time for the Fish and Wildlife Service to take this issue seriously and take steps to better protect its field people," said Gene Houct, a recently retired veteran of the agency who worked 29 years on wildlife refuges in five states.

Fish and Wildlife Service officials said Tuesday they were taking the report seriously and would consider establishing a system to better track such cases. "It is a problem out there? Yes it is," agency spokesman Eric Eckl said Tuesday from Washington. "We are really concerned about the well-being of our employees out there."

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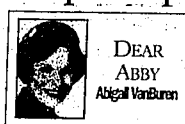
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Pets are wrong cargo for back of the pickup

DEAR ABBY: On my way to work today, I followed a pickup truck with a beautiful husky dog in the back. As we sped along, he moved anxiously from one side of the truck to the other. Suddenly, the dog jumped out, hit the pavement and began tumbling out of control. I was driving a full-size van at 60 mph. I slammed on the brakes and was able to keep from running over the poor animal.



DEAR ABBY Albigal VanBuren

I pulled off the road and saw the dog had gotten up and was hobbling across the grassy median toward oncoming traffic. Fortunately, I was able to coax the animal into my arms and I held him until the driver of the pickup returned. I will never forget his stupid explanation: "Why, he has never done this before!" It took all my willpower to keep from smacking the driver against the side of his head.

unpredictable. And should the driver get into an accident, there is absolutely no protection for the passengers in the back.

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I just moved to Michigan from a Southern state because of his job. I had to leave mine, and I want to find new employment here. However, I am 17 weeks pregnant.

If I interview for a job, should I tell my prospective employer of my pregnancy then, or wait until I receive an offer? I am not showing yet.

Please, Abby, pass this story on to everyone. If just one person reads it and decides to keep his or her pet inside the cab with them, it will have been worth it.

NEEDS TO KNOW ABBY: DEAR NEEDS TO KNOW: You are not required by law to inform prospective employers that you are pregnant. If they withdraw an offer because they are in violation of fair employment practices.

DEAR JOHN: Thank you for an important letter. Not only should pets not be allowed to ride in the back of a pickup truck, neither should human beings. As your story illustrates, animals can be

Financial burden lifted in surprising manner. Pisces involved. Don't ask too many questions. Taurus, Leo, Scorpio persons also figure in dynamic scenario. Puzzle solved.

HOROSCOPE Sydney Omair

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Some fears, doubts will be erased. Popularity on the rise. You'll be asked to participate in political-charitable campaign.

DEAR NEEDS TO KNOW: You are not required by law to inform prospective employers that you are pregnant. If they withdraw an offer because they are in violation of fair employment practices.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Opportunity exists to display capabilities - many will be taken aback by your rough, tough exhibition. Secret will be revealed - in your favor.

SCORPIO (Feb. 19-March 20): Logical fans remain - read and write, distribute information. Member of opposite sex confides. "I can hardly keep my hands off you," Virgo says, "Enjoy your fantasy!"

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Some people claim you are repeating yourself. They do this out of jealousy - know it, put best foot forward, let some people eat their hearts out.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Spotlight on creativity, cooperative efforts, marital status. Don't eat too much. Member of opposite sex declares, "I like you the way you are."

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Attention revolves around best way to protect family. Emphasis also on insurance rates, methods of beautifying surroundings.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): You will win money and acclaim. Victory will be conceded.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Be ready to debate, to stand tall for beliefs. Pisces, Virgo persons figure in exciting scenario. You will win money and acclaim. Victory will be conceded.

SCORPIO (Feb. 19-March 20): Logical fans remain - read and write, distribute information. Member of opposite sex confides. "I can hardly keep my hands off you," Virgo says, "Enjoy your fantasy!"

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): You will be involved in negotiations design, art, copywriting. Many express surprise at new-found abilities. Gemini plays dynamic role.

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SCORPIO (Feb. 19-March 20): Logical fans remain - read and write, distribute information. Member of opposite sex confides. "I can hardly keep my hands off you," Virgo says, "Enjoy your fantasy!"

Just give the garlic breath a little time

Q. What's the difference between a pigeon and a dove? A. No difference except in the origin of the words Pigeon comes from the French, dove from old English.

Nearly half the people in the world have not yet reached their 24th birthdays.

The flea is armored with spines and bristles, directed backwards. That's why it's hard to pick a flea out of fur.

WHAT'S WHAT L.M. Boyd

Q. Didn't the late Orson Welles once play The Shadow on radio? A. He did. And so did such luminaries as Frank Reedick, Bill Johnson and Brett Morrison.

Q. Client asks what does away with garlic breath. Only time testers put garlic in slow-to-dissolve capsules and fed it to volunteers. It didn't touch their lips, tongue, throat, even stomach.

Q. Danish Proverb No. 714C: "Faints are thick where love is faint."

Q. African lions in the wild feed first on the intestines of their kills. For whatever's therein their bodies crave. Fats and vitamins.

Q. Curious how the bodies of animals, even as yours and mine, send signals to dictate diet. What do you suppose is in a salami sandwich to make it so compelling? No, better not ask.

Q. Consider that lizard called the chuckwalla. To escape whatever it senses into its hidey-hole crack in the rocks, then inflates its body to wedge itself so tightly therein it can't be pulled out.

Q. Can I say San Francisco's cable cars are this country's only mobile National Monument?

A. You can say they and the St. Charles streetcar line in New Orleans share the distinction.

A. A sea lion's fur is dark brown, not black, but you'd never know as much unless you saw it dry.

Second chance is coming your way, Libra

IF DECEMBER 16 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You are mysterious many times you are considered glamorous, secretive. Pisces, Virgo persons play outstanding roles in your life - could have these letters, initial in names: G, P, Y. Throughout this year, you felt you had found the right person, only to be disillusioned.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Some fears, doubts will be erased. Popularity on the rise. You'll be asked to participate in political-charitable campaign.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Opportunity exists to display capabilities - many will be taken aback by your rough, tough exhibition. Secret will be revealed - in your favor.

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SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Spotlight on creativity, cooperative efforts, marital status. Don't eat too much. Member of opposite sex declares, "I like you the way you are."

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): New phase of activity upcoming - you will be active in design, art, copywriting. Many express surprise at new-found abilities. Gemini plays dynamic role.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):

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Smithsonian opens African cultural exhibit

WASHINGTON (AP) — The voices of Africa are speaking to America.

"Hear us, our voices speak from across a vast continent," booms from a speaker, greeting visitors Wednesday at the opening of a new "African Voices" exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of Natural History.

More than six years in the making, the \$5.5 million, 6,500-square-foot permanent exhibition is the largest cultural hall in the Smithsonian and forms the centerpiece for African studies and programs, said museum director Robert W. Fri.

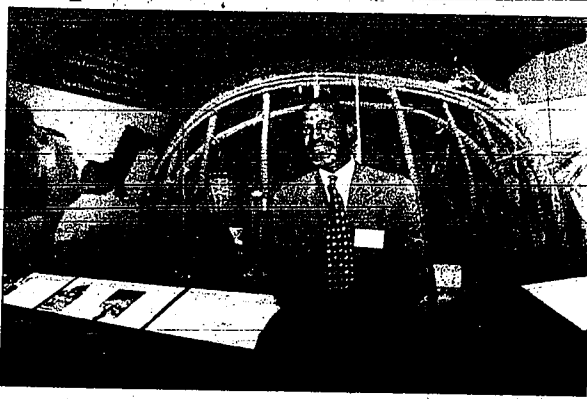
"The work is a great dance," exclaimed lead exhibit developer Sulayman S. Nyang. He described the project as a collaborative effort of scholars and the people and artists of Africa and of African extraction.

The goal of the exhibit, said Fri, is "to present the diversity and dynamism of Africa, ... to show how African cultures have spread worldwide, ... to encourage visitors to question the existing stereotypes and assumptions about Africa and Africans."

What sets the exhibit apart is the voices that speak to the visitor. "They are the voices of your neighbors," observed curator Mary Jo Arnoldi.

The voices speak out loud, narrating video clips, telling about African food and music and rituals and daily life.

The voices speak in print, in proverbs and quotations written on the walls — the words of an African mailworker, of a 19th century Senegalese sheik, of Nelson Mandela, of Steve Angelou.



Sulayman Nyang, exhibit developer for the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History, sits in front of a contemporary mobile office house in the new permanent exhibit 'African Voices' Tuesday. The 6,500 square-foot exhibit, the largest cultural hall in the Smithsonian, opened Tuesday after six years in the making.

And the voices speak symbolically, in the artwork and tools, the clothing and homes of the Africans.

Visitors quickly learn that mankind originated in Africa 5 million years ago and spread to the rest of the world from there.

History is displayed along the main pathway taking tourists to visit 13th century Spain under African rule, the Nile Valley

under Nubian pharaohs, Zanzibar during the slave trade and South Africa's struggle for freedom.

Notes and cranials along each side provide glimpses of African life: a portable Somali house and a gallery of wood carvings; a street market in Ghana, a crossroads where people go to invoke their ancestors' blessings for success; glimpses of the daily lives of the Bamana, the farming people of Mali, and the techniques of

African potters; Masai herders in Tanzania.

In addition to the exhibit hall, an internet connection is planned through which people can study the exhibit via the Wide World Web and learn more detail than can be presented at the museum itself.

The exhibit will be kept up to date with continuing performances, seminars, lectures and program changes.

Heller had sublime taste for the ridiculous

By Peter Carlson
The Washington Post

The first time I saw Joseph Heller, back in the late '60s, he was delivering a speech at New York University. That night, he revealed his plans for the future. "I'm going to live forever," he said "or die trying."

On Sunday night, he died trying. A heart attack didn't what Nazi anti-aircraft gunners failed to do in World War II. The author of "Catch-22" and seven other books was 76.

The first and only time I had lunch with Heller was last year. It was the early days of the Monica Lewinsky scandal, which he was enjoying tremendously.

"I love it!" he said, smiling broadly beneath a fluffy halo of bright white hair. "The fact that it's so ridiculous is what makes it so exquisitely entertaining to me."

Heller was a connoisseur of the absurd. The scandal was providing delicious new realms of ludicrousness that not even he could have imagined. A few days earlier, Lewinsky's soon-to-be fired attorney, William Ginsburg, had complained that his client's life was ruined, that nobody would ever again want to date her or hire her.

"I wanted to call and say, 'I'll date you. I'll hire you!'" he cackled uproariously. Then he went back to eating crab cakes. The man loved to eat.

It was supposed to be interviewing Heller about his latest book, "Now and Then," a dainty, charmingly memoir of his boyhood in Coney Island and his adventures as a bombardier in World War II. But I spent most of the time asking about "Catch-22," which is my favorite novel of all time. It's a strange, convoluted, grim, hilarious war novel that seems to suggest about the whole world is completely insane. This message confirmed suspicions I held when I first read it in 1968, and it has been corroborated countless times since then.

I told Heller that his crazy book



Joseph Heller

had helped keep me sane. He smiled. At a reading the previous night, a man stood up and publicly thanked Heller for "Catch-22."

"I read your book the day before I got called up for Vietnam," he said, "and I have to tell you, it helped."

A year earlier, in Prague, people kept buttonholing Heller to tell him that bootlegged copies of "Catch-22" served as an antidote to the absurdities of life under communism.

Translated into nearly every written language, "Catch-22" has sold well over 10 million copies. It sells briskly wherever human beings feel tormented by crazed bosses and mindless bureaucracies — which is just, about everywhere.

It is ostensibly the story of a U.S. bomb squadron in the Mediterranean during World War II and a bombardier named Yossarian who is driven crazy by the Germans, who keep shooting at him when he drops bombs on them, and by his American superiors, who seem less concerned about winning the war than they are about parades, loyalty oaths and getting promoted.

Yossarian is so crazy that he should be excused from combat but, alas, there's a catch, Catch-22. You can't be excused unless you ask to be excused, and anybody who asks to get out of combat is obviously sane and therefore ineligible to be excused.

"That's some catch, that Catch-22," Yossarian said.

"It's the best there is," said his buddy Doc Daneeka.

The term entered common language and earned a place in the dictionary. I read Heller the official definition from Webster's: "a paradox in a law, regulation or practice that makes one a victim of its provisions no matter what one does."

"That's a better definition than I could give," he said, smiling. Catch-22 begot several of its own Catch-22s. When it was published in 1961, critics complained that it was plodding, repetitive and incomprehensible. When the rest of his novels appeared, critics complained he had failed to write a book as good as "Catch-22." Heller always had an answer for that: "Who has?"

In 1998, a letter printed in the London Sunday Times kicked up a British literary controversy by suggesting many scenes in "Catch-22" were similar to scenes in an earlier Air Force novel, "The Sky is a Lonely Place," by Louis Falstein. The insinuation was absurd. It wasn't the depiction of Heller in a bomb squadron that made Heller's novel a classic; it was its grand comic vision of the absurdity of modern life.

Heller said he'd never read Falstein's novel. "I find it funny," he added, "that nobody else noticed any similarities, including Falstein himself."

Life had a way of turning Heller's most outrageous satire into banal realities. In 1979's "Good as Gold," he invented a president who spent his first year in office writing a book about his first year in office. This seemed far-fetched until New York Mayor Ed Koch and Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura spent their time in office writing books. In "Catch-22," Milo Minderbinder,

the wheeler-dealer supply officer, actually contracts with his enemies to bomb his own squadron. Critics considered this ridiculous until Oliver North, a Marine working for the United States government, sold missiles to the same Iranian government that had earlier supported the bombing of a Marine barracks in Lebanon.

Joe Heller is dead but Catch-22 will live forever. He would have preferred the opposite, but what can you do? Death is the ultimate Catch-22.

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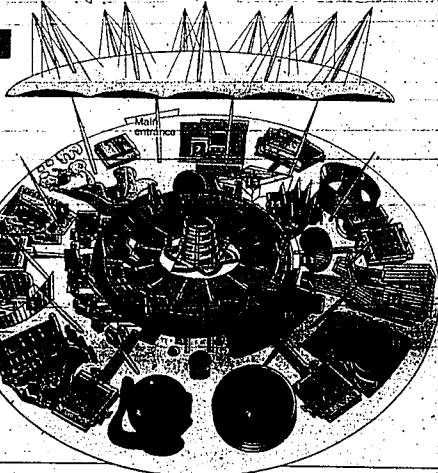
WORLD

London's millennium experience: the Dome

As the world marks the year 2000, London moves to center stage with completion of the Millennium Dome, where tens of thousands are expected to celebrate the opening of the next 1,000 years. The Millennium Dome features 14 zones to explore, including a trek through the body and a voyage through space.

Millennium Dome layout and zones

- 1 The Millennium Show stage
- 2 Learning area
- 3 Body area
- 4 Play area
- 5 Journey
- 6 Shared ground
- 7 Living island
- 8 Home Planet
- 9 Self portrait
- 10 Talk area
- 11 Faith area
- 12 Mind area
- 13 Rest area
- 14 Our Town stage
- 15 Money



Source: Millennium Dome NMEC

Britain builds world's largest dome ever

LONDON (AP) — It's been the butt of jokes, a source of endless media speculation and a political headache for Prime Minister Tony Blair's Labor Party. There are those who desperately want it to succeed, and those predicting a colossal failure. Soon, the \$1.2 billion Millennium Dome will face the critics who really matter — members of the paying public — who will decide whether the project is, as the government has promised, "the most exciting thing to happen anywhere in the world in 2000."

Resembling a squashed mushroom sprouting along the Thames in the southeast London borough of Greenwich, the dome — at 1,050 feet in diameter and 165 feet high at its center — is Britain's attempt to outline the rest of the world

with a supervised, year-long millennium celebration. Designed by British architect Sir Richard Rogers, its large enough to shelter a reclining Eiffel Tower. It could hold 13 Royal Albert Halls or 18,000 double-decker buses; the fabric roof could support a jumbo jet.

"It will be a triumph of confidence over cynicism, boldness over blandness, excellence over mediocrity," Blair has said. "I defy anyone who sets foot in the dome not to be awed by its sheer scale, variety or range of attractions."

Queen Elizabeth II officially opens the dome on Dec. 31, along with Blair, 10,000 invited guests and television viewers in some 100 countries.

They will get the first look at the dome's 14 themed zones, exploring three fundamental

questions: Who we are? Where do we live? What do we do?

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12-year-old twins lead crusade

KA-MAR-PA LAW, Myanmar (AP) — Here at the jungle base of God's Army, no one questions the leadership of Luther and Johnny Htoo.

No matter that the 12-year-old twins are shorter than the M-16 rifles some of their followers carry. The fighters who have rallied behind them believe the brothers offer divine protection in a children's crusade that blends elements of the Old Testament and "Lord of the Flies."

An offshoot of the ethnic Karen guerrilla movement that was nearly crushed in a brutal government offensive two years ago, God's Army is made up of about 100 battle-hardened veteran fighters, former university students and children.

But the Htoo twins are unlike most of the estimated 300,000 child combatants in Third World conflicts around the world.

They rule their unit, which operates from Ka-Mar-Pa Law, a village base in the malarial jungle near Myanmar's border with Thailand. They call their followers "brothers" to fight; what to eat, how to behave. Their leadership is never challenged.

Surrounded by adult aides and a bodyguard of rifle-toting children, the twins speak little to outsiders. Reporters must first be carefully screened by their sympathizers in Thailand and then make a half-day trek on foot through mountainous jungle to reach their remote camp.

Johnny, chubby cheeked and shy, seems the more childlike of the two. He readily lays aside his gun to bounce a volleyball.

Luther, whose moods swing



Johnny Htoo, left, watches as his twin brother, Luther, smokes a cigar at their jungle base.

quickly between cocky and sultry, has a disarming 1,000-watt smile. Both boys smoke cigars. Constantly, they are asked to stop. "I have never cried," Luther told an Associated Press reporter who recently visited the base.

"Why would a man cry?" When Luther noticed a gun lying unattended, he shouted for its owner. A larger boy came forward. Luther ordered him to do 100 jumping exercises as punishment.

Twin Falls Canal Company

NOTICE OF REGULAR ANNUAL STOCKHOLDER'S MEETING

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED that the regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Twin Falls Canal Company will be held on Tuesday, the 11th day of January, 2000. The meeting will be called to order by the Directors at 9:00 a.m. in the Pine Area Auditorium at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

A Director from District 1 (Purroughs/Kimberly) will be elected for a three-year term and a Director from District 5 (Castleton) will be elected for a three-year term.

Petitions of Candidacy for Director must be filed by December 1, 1999.

Notice is given that a stock vote will be taken on a By-Law amendment that permits the Company to take the necessary action to insure that stockholder's discharge is in compliance with applicable water quality standards.

Affirmative vote of 2/3 of the stock and proxies voted is required for passage.

Copies of the full text of the proposed amendments are available for stockholders to review during regular business hours at the Company Office, 357 Sixth Avenue, West, Twin Falls.

Other business will also be conducted. There will be reports from the Company's General Manager, auditors and lawyers. There will also be reports concerning operation and maintenance efforts, 2000 water supplies, water quality issues, Snake River Aquifer studies, the Endangered Species Act, the SRBA, and other matters of interest.

The corporate books will close for the transfer of stock on December 31, 1999.

The polls shall be open at the office of the Company at 357 Sixth Avenue West, Twin Falls, Idaho between the hours of 12:00 noon and 6:00 pm on January 11, 2000.

Proxies shall be filed with the Company's Assistant Secretary at the Company office on or before January 7, 2000.

DATED: 15th day of November, 1999.

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Finding the rhythms of outdoor life

I could use a good fire about now. A fire with a tent pitched not far away and a lake to look out over. It wouldn't bother me if the lake had ice on it.

This longing for the woods often comes over me this time of year, when hunting season is winding down and the prospect of paddling a canoe are roughly six months away.

What I need, what I'm missing, is simply living outside.

I miss woodsmoke and the purring of a river and sitting on a rock. I miss being famished and digging into an aluminum pot of pasta. I miss being physically exhausted and slipping into my sleeping bag.

In short, I miss the rhythm of life on the trail.

There is something so natural and so addicting about being on the move through good country that the thought of living half a year without it leaves a hole somewhere inside me.

BEND IN THE RIVER Sam Cook

Hunting helps. A week in pleasant country, soaking up the sky and reading a dog, provides much of what my soul desires. But not everything. Although I don't spend much in deer camp, I'm guessing that would be good, too. But both of those endeavors involve going inside and walls at night.

For me, living outside means sleeping close to the ground and having little more than a wisp of nylon between me and the call of a barred owl. I need to immerse myself in the outdoors, to feel the shocking cold of a mountain stream come sloshing over the bow of the canoe, to coast a fire up life in a drizzle, to grunt under the weight of a Duluth pack on portage.

All of that is good a day or two at a time. Most often, given the realities of life, that's how we have to take it. But only when you can string several of those days together do you begin to live right. A week is good. Ten years is better. The longest I've been on the trail is three weeks. I haven't made a trip yet that was too long.

The longer the trip, the more apt you are to slip into that state in which time means almost nothing. You check the map each evening, just to make sure your pace is about right, but most of the time you're free to live entirely in the present. You may contemplate anything from the peaks on the horizon to a tickle on your nose. You do not anticipate what the weather will be. You live in whatever it is. The frustration you feel at rain dripping down your sleeves is no less intense than the joy you feel when the sun re-emerges in the sky.

Something else happens when you immerse yourself in the rhythm of a large area. Your body responds to the physical demands of the trek, and you soon feel as if you can handle almost anything you're dealt.

One day, midway through a Hudson Bay river trip, a lack of campsites forced us to keep paddling far into the evening. We made it well past dark, and we were on big lakes and flat water. It was one of the most satisfying days I've ever spent on the water. I don't recall feeling any different the next morning. So soreness. No fatigue. We'd been out for some time. We were trail-tempered.

I know I don't have to wait six months to find that kind of rhythm again. Nobody says we can't strap on snowshoes, hitch up a pack and sleds and go. And we probably will. But now, I'm thinking about a little island where my wife, Phyllis, and I had lunch last summer. Just a spit of glacier-chewed rock, a quick dip in and some peanut butter and jelly crackers.

We were in the middle of a trip, in that zone where we'd forgotten what day it was. We had just come off a killer portage for rescuers known only to seasoned travelers. We had enjoyed it.

I remember how good the peanut butter and jelly was, and the dried apricots. And how I could have lived that way for a long time.

Sam Cook is a thoughtful old crank who writes for The Duluth (Minn.) News-Tribune.

Big black birds

Ravens are fun-loving, intelligent, and intensely loyal

By Stu Murrell
Times-News correspondent

Ravens are a common sight in southern Idaho, which is understandable because they are one of the most-widely distributed birds in North America.

These all-black birds can be distinguished from crows because they are larger and have rounded tails, unlike the square-tailed crows. Even their cries are different, with ravens emitting a deep "croak" while crows can muster no more than a raspy "caw."

Ravens mate for life, so if you see one, another one is likely to be nearby. They are long-lived birds, with one surviving more than 20 years in captivity.

They prefer to nest in craggy cliffs, where they lay clutches of four to five green- and brown-streaked eggs.

They are adaptable birds, so they will build nests in other areas — even telephone poles — if cliffs are unavailable.

Ravens have a fairly long gestation period for a bird, and the young hatch after about three weeks. Both parents tend to the young. They are year-round residents that establish territories which they regularly patrol.

As for diet, be it bits, ravens bear a passing similarity to hawks. Rodents are a favorite food, but they will scavenge any meat they can find. Ravens have sharp eyesight, so they are constantly on patrol for roadkill. They also have quick reflexes because motorists rarely, if ever, hit one.

Ravens are protected by a federal

treaty with Mexico that protects all members of the Corvidae family, which includes crows, jays and magpies. The treaty was intended to safeguard the Chihuahuan (or white-necked) raven, which inhabits parts of the American southwest and Mexico.

Crows, on the other hand, are classed as a game bird in Idaho.

Ravens are highly intelligent and there are countless stories of their cunning antics. For instance, they were notorious for raiding Idaho Department of Fish and Game surveys

of sage grouse nests. That was because Fish and Game biologists would flag a nearby sagebrush to mark the nest's location — and ravens quickly learned that flagging meant tasty sage grouse eggs weren't far away.

In the end, Fish and Game biologists had to leave their markers much farther from the sage grouse nests.

In addition to being sly, ravens also are intensely loyal to their mates. Before ravens were protected by international treaty, an old hunter told a tale about shooting one on the shore of a lake. Its mate tried to lift the dead bird with its beak, creating a scene so heart-breaking that the hunter vowed to never shoot one again.

If Johnny Cash was a bird, he'd probably be a raven. Typical of the species, this handsome fellow sports a heavy beak and powerful claws for ripping into rodents.

Ravens are fun-loving birds that revel in aerobatics. They crack off barrel rolls, side slips and other hot-dog maneuvers with the aplomb of fighter pilots. Each one seems to have a speciality and they sometimes appear to be competing to see which one can pull off the most difficult stunt. This can go on for hours, to the delight of participants and observers.

One fellow who rehabilitating a crippled raven would cage it every night after the bird had enjoyed a day of freedom in his home. The bird didn't like its loss of liberty, so there was a

spirited chase every evening.

Eventually, however, the man would catch the bird. The captive would eye the captor with a beady eye, then clamp his finger in its powerful beak — firmly, but not painfully — and all but dare the man to put it in the cage.

If the man followed through and put the bird in the cage, he was rewarded with gusses ripped from his fingers, hands and arms. He still bears scars from these encounters, but he can't forget the spirited bird which he named "Ronko-Bonko."



—Edgar Allan Poe

STU MURRELL/THE TIMES-NEWS

University's outdoor program builds hut system

The Associated Press

POCATELLO — Weekend family camping trips don't have to stop because summer is over.

The Portneuf Range Hut System, which consists of five yurts located in the mountain east of Pocatello, provides a winter camping experience for the family.

"It is a way to do something different and really enjoy the outdoors and roughing it with the luxuries of heat and a cooking facility," said Brian Herrick, director of the Idaho State University Wilderness Equipment Rental Center.

"It is a great winter activity and is real unique."

Each yurt requires a person to either hike, cross-country ski or snowshoe to get to the yurt. Two yurts are beginner-level hikes, one is an intermediate hike and the last two are advanced hikes.

The yurts remain open until the end of April.

"If you haven't experienced one, you need to because it is a really fun trip," Herrick said.

A yurt is an adaptation from the nomadic hut used in China, Herrick said. The yurts are tent-like, dome-shaped dwellings made of a heavy white canvas and have a wooden frame structure and wooden floors. Each yurt has a wood stove, cooking stove, Coleman lantern, pots, an axle of wood to burn in a fire and six plywood bunk beds. One of the pans provided is used to melt snow for drinking water, Herrick said.

Setting up a yurt takes time and hard work. It includes hauling in the canvas for the structure by horseback.

The yurts in the Portneuf system are based on a Mongolian design, but have a



Lev Olson, right, connects the ribs of a yurt into a central pole to hold the canvas roof up as I.C. Green, left, and Dana Olson-Elli assist in Pocatello in 1998. Yurts are tent-like, dome-shaped dwellings made of a heavy white canvas and have a wooden frame structure and wooden floors.

modern twin and a plastic skylight that offers a great nighttime view of the stars, said Dana Olson-Elli, ISU Outdoor Program director. "The yurt's advantage is that it can take a lot of pressure from heavy snow loads."

The system of yurts was adopted in Pocatello to provide a cross-country ski system for residents. The two beginner-level yurts and the East Fork Mink Creek Yurt and the

Springs Hut. The route to the east fork yurt is off the prepared tracks on the Mink Creek Touring Center on South Mountain Road.

This yurt is 24 feet in diameter and sleeps up to six people. Springs route is two miles across a mostly open, rolling terrain, and the vertical rise is 700 feet. It takes up to 2 1/2 hours to reach.

The Inman Hut is the intermediate skill level hut. The route to the yurt follows a

If you go

Backpacking for winter can be the real deal. Idaho State University Wilderness Equipment Rental Center at (208) 238-2848. Information on the yurt system is available from Idaho State University Outdoor Program at (208) 238-2812. Idaho State Park and Ski stickers are needed to park at the trailheads. They can be purchased at cross-country ski stores.

snowbound road for the first three miles and the last half mile is up a narrow hiking trail through heavy timber. The vertical rise is 1,000 feet and the road is regularly machine groomed. It sleeps up to six people.

The Jackson Creek, Inkom Pass Hut and the McNabb Point Hut are the advanced yurts. Jackson Creek is a 2,300-foot climb over a 3.5 mile distance. McNabb Point is a 2,500-foot climb over a four-mile distance.

Both routes to the yurts cross sleds which can be hazardous because of avalanches and hold up to six people.

The yurt system was established in 1983 with three donated canvas wall tents located where the McNabb, Jackson Creek and Inman yurts sit. Pocatello Recreation Department, ISU Outdoor Program, Pocatello Nordic Ski Association and Caribou National Forest volunteers worked together to provide the yurt system.

In 1984, the wall tents were replaced with yurts designed by Kirk Bachman, who was a senior at the university. He built the yurts at the ISU Craft Shop.

The last two yurts were set up in 1985. The bunk beds were added to the yurts in 1991 after the organizers of the system received a \$700 grant from the Bill Franck Memorial Endowment.

OUTDOORS

Texas mule deer know where to go in drought

Knight Ridder News Service

QUITAKE, Texas - Texas mule deer are different. Aside from the oversized ears that give them their name, Texas mule deer are animals that live on the rugged edge, inhabiting range that's so tough most live-respecting whitetails would never consider moving in. Texas is home to an estimated 145,000 mule deer.

They inhabit the Trans-Pecos Region, the desert mountains of far West Texas and the Panhandle Region - both the Rolling Plains and the High Plains. Of the two areas, life is probably easier in the Panhandle, where rainfall is a little more plentiful, soils are deeper and humans are growing wheat, soybeans and other crops that help supplement the deer's natural forage.

Wherever you find Texas mule deer, said Dr. Jerry Cooke, you've found an interesting animal. Cooke is big game program leader for Texas Parks and Wildlife and has spent 15 years studying mule deer on TP&W's Black Gap Wildlife Management Area. The Gap, as Cooke calls the WMA, is 87,000 acres of the roughest environment you'll find in a state known for wide-open spaces.

"The first thing you have to realize about mule deer is that they relate to the habitat much differently than do white-tailed deer," said Cooke. "In order to survive, mule deer must use a much larger area as their home territory. I studied one group of deer that routinely traveled around six sections of the Gap about 3,600 acres."

Cooke discovered that the deer inherently knew where to find the best forage in the harsh environment. After a rain, deer could often be found feeding in the thin

soils on the tops and sides of mountains. During the traditional droughts, the deer were more likely to be found in the valleys where soils were deep enough to retain moisture longer. Despite most of the annual mule deer harvest being directed at bucks, the mule deer population is fairly balanced between bucks and does.

Cooke found that when mule deer are stressed (usually by prolonged drought), female fawns die at three to four times the rate of male fawns. It is unknown whether increased natural mortality among females evolved as a means of keeping the population low, but it accomplishes that purpose.

Unlike whitetails, which tend to bounce back quickly when conditions are good, mule deer rebound slowly.

Texas mule deer are consid-

ered to be desert mule deer and are smaller in body and antler size than their Rocky Mountain counterparts. For record purposes, the Boone and Crockett Club has never recognized desert mule deer as a different species, but the creation of the Texas Big Game Awards in 1991 has helped quantify the undeniable differences between the animals.

Only one Texas buck reported since 1991 scored above the minimum requirement for entry in B&C mule deer records. The Potter County buck shot by Mickey Van Hise in 1996 scored 196 5/8 and is considered the Texas record for the species. The second-best buck reported to TBGA was a 1992 Loving County buck scoring 182.

A Youkum County buck taken in 1997 is the highest scoring Texas non-typical mule deer. Par Beaud shot that enormous buck. It scored 221 two-eighths point.

nearly nine points shy of the all-time B&C record minimum.

The number two non-typical in TBGA is a 1996 Oldham County buck scoring 217 5/8. "There's no question among wildlife biologists that desert mule deer are physically different than Rocky Mountain mule deer," said Cooke. "To produce on high quality bucks, you need an early spring, a moderate fall and deer with a lot of age on them."

Invest in your future
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FAN WALL HEATER
Complete. Permanently sealed motor. 16-element alloy 1/4" steel mesh. White. (Thermistor not included)

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600 watt/3000 BTU 120 volt. Commercial quality. Heavy duty. 16 element motor. Five year warranty. Permanent thermistor control.

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40x40, 2-hole. Aluminum. White acrylic finish. Heavy duty. 1/2" x 1/2" x 1/2". ST-147's 11-1/4" (Lamps not included)

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COMICS

Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



Blonde

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



Pickles

By Brian Crane



Garfield

By Jim Davis

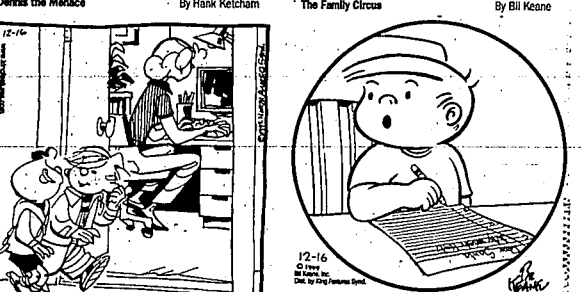


Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketchum

The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



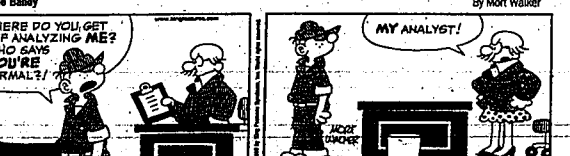
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Brann



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



The Born Loser

By Art Sanson & Chip



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



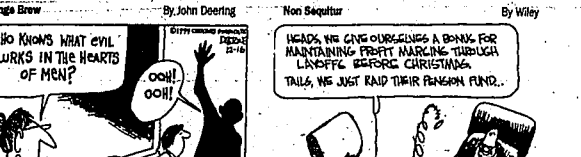
Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Luann

By Greg Evans

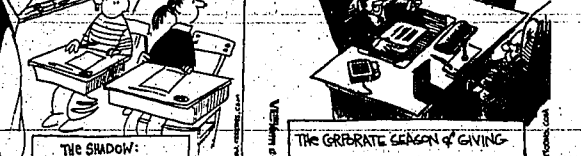


Strange Brew

By John Deering

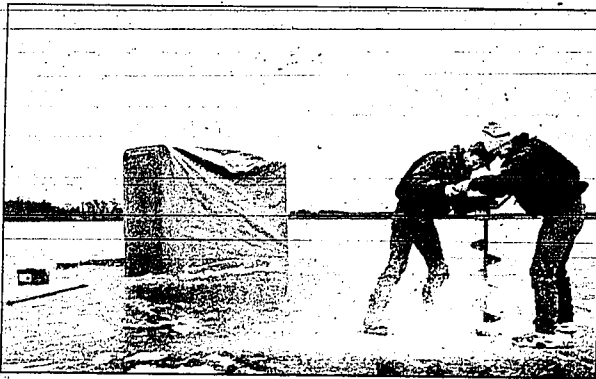
Non Sequitur

By Wiley



OUTDOORS

LOOK OUT BELOW



Bob Herkenhoff of Crookston, Minn., left, and Bruce Kulseth of Thompson, drill a hole in five inches of ice on Maple Lake during their first day of ice fishing Dec. 9.

Bird makes rare stop in Idaho

POCATELLO (AP) - A yellow-billed loon has been seen camping out on the Snake River below American Falls Dam, far from its usual wintering grounds in south-east Alaska or northern British Columbia.

The birds summer above the Arctic Circle, rarely leaving the coast. But that this particular loon is a thousand miles or more from its traditional wintering ground does not bother bird enthusiast Mary Collar.

He is glad he got the chance to see it. "Birds are my passion," he said Tuesday, explaining the significance of the loon's presence at American Falls.

Chances are, Collar said, the bird is a "vagrant," or wayward loon. It also is a juvenile born sometime this past summer, probably in June.

The bird in eastern Idaho was first reported Dec. 7 by a birder visiting the area from Salt Lake City. Other birders from throughout the state have made the trek to American Falls to see the loon, and Collar has been fielding calls from excited birders throughout the region.

Biologist tracks wolves near Yellowstone Park

YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK, Wyo. (AP) - A wolf pack that spent last winter in Wyoming's National Elk Refuge has been seen near Yellowstone Lake with a second pack.

The Gros Ventre Pack's two females, a male and two pups were with the Soda Butte Pack, according to Mike Jimenez, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service wolf biologist.

The Soda Butte Pack has four wolves including an alpha female, but no alpha male, which could explain why the packs are mingling, Jimenez said.

"The Soda Butte Pack is evolving," he said. "The Gros Ventre Pack is pretty well established. But the two packs are not all that unrelated."

The Soda Butte Pack killed the alpha male of the Washakie Pack, which fathered the adult females in the Gros Ventre Pack.

The Soda Butte Pack spent last winter moving between the elk refuge and Yellowstone and may have met the Gros Ventre Pack in the refuge while establishing new territory.

It is too soon to say where the packs will spend the winter of whether they will spend it together, according to Jimenez.

"I think they are just cruising," he said. "We used to think this is really strange to have two packs hang out, but they do more

around a lot and it's not that weird."

The Teton Pack, an adult female and five pups, is exploring the valley of Grand Teton National Park, where it spent the summer.

"Those wolves are cruising all over the countryside," he said. "The pups are big enough to be cruising age and the mom is putting miles out. It's possible she is looking for a mate."

The pack's alpha male was killed by a car in the spring and park officials began leaving road-killed game for the pack after learning that the alpha female was about 25 pounds underweight.

The artificial feeding ended in September, according to Jimenez.

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BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Mini-Cassia seeks good entrepreneurs

BURLEY - The Mini-Cassia business community is looking for a few good entrepreneurs.

The College of Southern Idaho and the Mini-Cassia Development Commission have reserved space in the new Mini-Cassia CSI campus for a small-business incubator, with the goal of locating new businesses in downtown or main-street real estate once they are established, the Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce said.

Space in the incubator is provided at below-market lease rates with flexible terms. Incubator clients will have access to resources provided by the Idaho Small Business Development Center, such as business- and marketing-plan development, the chamber said.

A Mini-Cassia Advisory Group has been established to provide a sounding board and mentoring group for startups.

This is an excellent opportunity for persons who would like to develop their ideas into a profitable business," the chamber's statement said.

To apply to be a client of the small-business incubator, call Todd Christensen of the Mini-Cassia Development Commission at 679-6232 or send e-mail to tchristensen@mini-cassia-dev.org.

AT&T declares its system bug-free for Y2K turnover

AT&T Corp., the nation's largest telecommunications company, has spent millions of dollars and poured over millions of lines of programming code to make sure its phone system is ready for the year 2000.

This week AT&T officials said the vast network has been tested, week after week, and tested again to make sure the Y2K bug won't stop long-distance phone calls from going through when clocks roll over to Jan. 1, 2000.

John Pasqua, AT&T's Y2K vice president, said the network has been tested by independent third-party firms, and AT&T has contingency plans in place, including backup power to run their systems for months if necessary.

AT&T believes the U.S. domestic phone system is ready with the exception of a few small companies, but in foreign countries the story is not quite as positive," Pasqua said.

When AT&T looked at international systems, it found that of the 53 countries with the most telephone traffic to and from the United States, about 75 percent have phone systems that are at low risk for any Y2K problem. About 15 percent are at medium risk, and 10 percent are at high risk for a problem.

Most of the equipment that carries and routes phone calls does not have computer clocks that are year-sensitive, said Pasqua. The company has run certain network supporting systems, such as databases that instruct the network where to route certain calls, billing, administration and maintenance do have year-sensitive programs.

As for any post-New Year's trouble with international calls, Pasqua said a person making a call will likely find that certain things, such as billing and network management might be negatively affected. These troubles might not show up for weeks, he said.

Yahoo!, Kmart to offer free Web access soon

SAN FRANCISCO - Yahoo! Inc. and Kmart Inc. have announced a partnership with Kmart Corp., the third-largest retailer in the U.S., to offer free Internet access.

Under the agreement, the two companies will offer a co-branded commerce Web site, BlueLight.com, which will provide subscribers with some of Yahoo!'s personalized content. The service will also feature products and special promotions from Kmart on an introductory basis, Kmart said.

Kmart - which has stores in Twin Falls and Burley - will own 60 percent of BlueLight.com, which is named after the retailer's in-store broadcast refrain directing shoppers to deals on products in aisles and end caps displays.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

Rebuilding with the future in mind

Times-News restructures management team and gets ready for new marketing push.

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Expect to see more focused marketing of The Times-News as the newspaper restructures its management team this month.

Former General Manager Allen Wilson has departed for a job as circulation director of The Times-News' largest sister publication, *Anchorage*, the Howard Publications Inc. group, The Times in Munster, Ind.

So Times-News Publisher Stephen Hartgen distributed



Jan Rogers



John Kneuder



Mary Karon



Daniel L. Wolock

some of Wilson's duties among other managers and hired Times-News veteran Jan Rogers to fill the newly created position of

marketing director. "My job is to build awareness of the newspaper as a resource to the community," said Rogers,

who started work Nov. 22. She has more than 25 years' experience in marketing and communications, including a year of advertising agency ownership. During several periods with The Times-News, Rogers has been a new-business development saleswoman, customer service manager and advertising sales manager. Most recently, she said, she spent four years as executive vice president for an Irving, Texas, business-to-business advertising agency.

Her new task encompasses The Times-News' community

relations, promotions, public service advertising and marketing of all aspects of the newspaper to the community.

In January, readers will see Rogers' first major project, an advertising campaign detailing what the news product has to offer, she said.

Her goal: "Really showing the total value of the newspaper beyond just the news." It's a broad information source, she said, "the single place a person can go to find all of the news and

Please see TIMES, Page E3

Western Business



Pam Heaney, left, helps student Christina Ekeland give 'Cali' a haircut at Madeline's Institute of Pet Grooming in Santa Clara, Calif. These are boom times in the pet grooming business. There just aren't enough skilled groomers to keep up with the growing number of busy, well-off pet owners seeking professional help in keeping their animals bathed, fluffed and coiffed.

Pampered pups and prissy kitties

Pet lovers can't find enough groomers keep their critters fluffed

The Associated Press

SANTA CLARA, Calif. - "This is terrific week," announced instructor Michelle Higbee. The five students gathered at Madeline's Institute of Pet Grooming in Santa Clara exchanged looks of excitement.

Higbee drew a diagram of a terrier on the whiteboard. She sketched in little arrows to show how the fur should be trimmed.

"With a schnauzer," she told the class, "you bring the clipper down and airplane off."

The students took careful notes, already familiar with clipper techniques such as "airplaning."

"With an Airleide," Higbee continued, "it's pretty much the same. You want to blend. Like you did with the cocker."

Her students nodded. Terriers would be no trouble.

These are boom times in the pet grooming business. There



'Max' has his nails trimmed by Jeff Ekeland, a student at Madeline's Institute of Pet Grooming.

just aren't enough skilled groomers to go around as growing numbers of busy, well-off pet

owners seek out professional help in keeping their pooches and kitties bathed, fluffed and

coiffed.

Stephen Mart, a business consultant for groomers and operator of the Petgroomer.com Web site, estimates that on any given day, there are 500 job openings for skilled groomers nationwide.

Mart should know. His mother is Madeline Bright-Ogle, who sold Madeline's Pet Grooming Salon to Higbee in 1987 and is herself a prominent pet grooming industry consultant. Mart helped Higbee launch her affiliated pet grooming school in 1997.

There are about 50 licensed pet grooming academies throughout the country. Most are small affairs, often no more than a sidehug for a local pet salon.

Madeline's is one of the nation's biggest. Because the adjoining salon has nearly 5,000

regular clients, students have a steady stream of pets on which to practice - a plus that has attracted budding groomers from as far off as Singapore and Indonesia.

Tuition for the 14-week program runs \$3,600. Students also are required to shell out an extra \$1,000 for equipment. Higbee said that the school typically sees six students per quarter and that enrollment is rising by "about 5 percent a year."

"People are tired of jobs that don't give you emotional rewards," she said prior to beginning the day's terrier lesson. "This is big-time emotionally rewarding."

Professional pet grooming is not, however, all that financially rewarding. Most groomers pull down about \$30,000 a year.

Then again, most groomers will insist that they're not in it

Please see PETS, Page E4

Pier 1 Imports quarterly exceeds

quarterly expectations

Knights Ridder News Service

FORT WORTH, Texas - Although third-quarter profits were down more than 15 percent because of increased freight costs and lower prices on certain products, Pier 1 Imports still beat analysts' earnings estimates and reported that sales rose 2.8 percent in stores open more than one year.

Analysts said shipping prices - to which Pier 1 attributed about half of its profit decline - have affected importers across the board.

"That news has been out for a while," said William Armstrong, an analyst with Pennsylvania Merchant Group. "That is really

an external situation, and they don't have much control over it."

The Fort Worth-based home furnishings chain with a Twin Falls store reported earnings of \$16.2 million, or 16 cents a share, for the quarter that ended Nov. 27, compared with earnings of \$19.1 million, or 19 cents a share, for the same quarter last year. Analysts had expected Pier 1 to make 14 cents per share.

Total third-quarter sales were up 8.6 percent to \$298 million. Freight costs will continue to affect earnings in the first part of the coming year, but they will be factored into compared earnings after that.

In light of those pressures,

Please see PIER, Page E4

Exxon Mobil plans to cut 16,000 jobs

Bridges News

NEW YORK - Exxon Mobil Corp. said Wednesday the job cuts resulting from the \$82 billion merger of its Exxon and Mobil units will total 16,000, far higher than the 9,000 previously estimated.

Exxon Mobil Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Lee Raymond also told investors and reporters the world's largest oil company hopes to achieve annual cost savings of \$3.8 billion from the merger, well above the \$2.8 billion previously estimated.

"When we announced plans for the merger about a year ago both companies recognized this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity," Raymond said. "Since that time, we have further refined



Lee Raymond, right, Exxon Mobil chairman and CEO, answers a question as Lou Noto, company vice chairman, listens at a New York news conference Wednesday. Company officials said their merger will result in deeper job cuts and greater cost savings than previously estimated.

Please see CUTS, Page E4

Microsoft puts juice into tech sector Year-by-post office for stamps, cash

NEW YORK (AP) - Microsoft led the stock market higher Wednesday, putting an end to a one-day slump in technology shares and lifting the Dow Jones industrial...

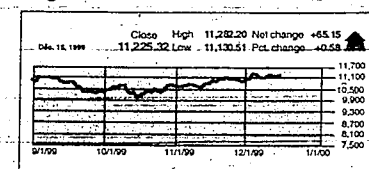
The Dow rose 65.15 to close at 11,225.32. Microsoft accounted for more than half the gain, and Intel contributed nearly all the rest.

Broader stock indicators closed higher after reversing early declines. The Standard & Poor's 500 rose 10.16 to 1,413.33, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 50.29 to 3,621.95.

Stocks rose after Microsoft said its Windows 2000 code, which has been held up in numerous lawsuits, has been delivered to software manufacturing plants. Retail customers will be able to purchase Windows 2000-based products on Feb. 17.

Microsoft shares rose 9.75 to 107.716, its highest close ever. The gain sent Microsoft's market capitalization soaring to nearly \$550 billion.

In recent sessions, Microsoft has rebounded from a slump that began in early November, when a federal judge said the company had abused its monopoly in the software business.



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Tune in to the art of jewelry shopping

By Joyce M. Rosenberg The Associated Press

NEW YORK - In the last days of the holiday shopping season, many idea-strapped gift givers decide they can't go wrong with jewelry.

It's easy to walk into a store, pull out a credit card and spend thousands of dollars on jewelry. And, if you're an online shopper, it only takes a few clicks.

The advice consumer advocates give to anyone buying jewelry is whether it's in a store or catalog or on the Internet, is no different from what they suggest to people making any kind of purchase.

"The key to buying fine jewelry is where you shop - buy from someone that you have confidence in, whether you're buying in a traditional retail outfit or buying online," said Lynn Ramsey, president of the Jewelry Information Center, a non-profit jewelry association.

If you're not sure about a retailer, ask the Better Business Bureau or the state attorney general's office if there have been complaints about the merchant.

Shoppers can also help themselves by knowing something about the jewelry they're looking for. Gold jewelry is not required by law to be marked 14 karat or 18 karat, which describes the amount of pure gold in the piece.

After a decade as the Times-News's business manager and a year as finance director at the North County Times in Escondido, Calif., another Howard publication, Kneeler returned to the Twin Falls Rotary Club.

Kneeler is a past president of United Way of Magic Valley and a former Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce volunteer of the year. She is rejoining the Twin Falls Rotary Club.

Along with the creation of her position, the newspaper's John Kneeler - who oversaw marketing and computer systems - becomes. The Times-News' accountant and computer systems manager.

WASHINGTON (AP) - Customers using debit cards can now make cash withdrawals of up to \$50 without debit business - the post office, the Postal Service announced Wednesday.

Times

Information of their community." Rogers has a son and a daughter, both grown. Her husband, Chuck, is a building contractor.

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customers using ATM debit cards to buy postal products at the agency's 33,000 post offices.

The post office also announced that it has started accepting Diners Club-Card.

Technology in New York, Kneeler is a finance committee member for St. Edward the Confessor Catholic Church and was the charter president of the Blue Lakes Rotary Club. He and his wife, Sheila, have one son.

Human Resources Coordinator Mary Karren will assume the additional responsibility of personal manager for the newspaper's business office, Hartgen said.

Karren has been with The Times-News since 1985, first as a newspaper librarian and receptionist, later as publisher's assistant and most recently in human resources.

She works with the Magic Valley Drop Free Workplace Project and is a member of the local chapter of the Society of Human Resource Managers. She and her husband, Dan, who is in the insurance business, have two grown children.

Blanche and JCB International cards. This means the post office now accepts major credit and debit cards, including Visa, MasterCard, Discover, Novus and American Express.

Walock has taken control of The Times-News' mail room and is more involved with the production area at the back of the building.

"We hope to in the near future have increased productivity levels in the back," he said.

Walock has worked at a variety of daily and weekly newspapers in the Midwest. He has a master's degree in business administration from North Dakota State University in Fargo.

He and his wife, Kari, First Federal Savings Bank's credit and compliance coordinator, are expecting their first child in March. Walock is participating in the chamber's leadership program and is active in his church's choir and in professional newspaper-circulation groups.

The Times-News's strongest leadership team in terms of diversity of skills, Hartgen said.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of NYSE stock prices including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and YTD. Includes sub-sections for Most Active, Gainers, and Losers.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary of market activity for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ. Includes sections for Most Active, Gainers, Losers, and Indexes.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table of NASDAQ stock prices including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and YTD. Includes sub-sections for Most Active, Gainers, Losers, and Indexes.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table of American Stock Exchange stock prices including columns for Name, Div, Last, Chg, and YTD.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns: Commodity, High, Low, Open, Change. Lists various commodities like Soybeans, Corn, Wheat, and their respective price movements.

BEANS

Table listing prices for various bean types such as Soybeans, Green beans, and Kidney beans.

GRAINS

Table listing prices for various grain types including Wheat, Corn, and Soybeans.

CHEESE

Table listing prices for various types of cheese.

POTATOES

Table listing prices for various potato grades and types.

SUGAR

Table listing prices for various sugar grades and types.

LIVESTOCK

Table listing prices for various livestock types.

Table listing various market indices and commodity prices, including Gold, Silver, and various metals.

Table listing various market indices and commodity prices, including Oil, Gas, and other energy products.

Table listing various market indices and commodity prices, including various types of cattle and hogs.

Table listing various market indices and commodity prices, including various types of hogs and sheep.

Table listing various market indices and commodity prices, including various types of metals and minerals.

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Table listing various market indices and commodity prices, including various types of metals and minerals.

Pets

Continued from E2. Hibble noted, "You have to be the type who doesn't mind hard work."

It was enough for Pam Gilles-Hennessy, 44, who walked away from a high-paying career assisting with Silicon Valley startups, enrolled at Madeline's and is now the school's customer service manager.

"The last startup I worked with got bought out," she said. "All of a sudden it hit me that I was being laid off. I was getting burned out. It was giving me financial returns but not emotional returns. I needed emotional returns."

Gilles-Hennessy still gets calls from venture capitalists asking if she has gotten this pet-grooming thing out of her system and is ready to tackle another startup. She turns them all down.

For her, it's simple: Technology is cold; humans are warm. A survey published by Groom & Board in June found that 43 percent of pet groomers are seeing at least 10 percent more in sales year to year in 1998 and that the average groomer charge has increased nearly 13 percent to \$28.74 from \$25.21.

Pier

Continued from E2. "They did a much better job on the expense side," said Dennis Talarow, an analyst with the Hoak-Breadlove-Watson investment firm in Dallas.

"They're starting to build some good credibility," he said. "Over time, if earnings improve, the stock will respond accordingly."

"We're very pleased with the company's third-quarter earnings," Chief Executive Marvin Girouard said, adding that the company has seen same-store sales gains in midsize digits for the first part of December.

"Since May, Pier 1 has pursued a value pricing strategy offering more competitive prices on certain popular items to help drive sales. Lower prices have

Cuts

Continued from E2. "I think the \$3.8 billion in cost savings was in the range of what the Street was looking for," said J.P. Morgan, oil analyst J.P. Morgan.

But the announcement of 16,000 job losses out of a total workforce of more than 120,000 still caught some analysts off guard.

Raymond said as a result of the merger and other identified organizational efficiency steps, the 16,000 will be "downsized" by the end of 1999 and year-end 2000.

About 10,000 of those jobs cuts will come in the next year with about 4,000 in the United States and 6,000 abroad.

Another 2,000 of that reduction already occurred in 1999, prior to completion of the merger.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table listing various mutual funds, their categories, and performance metrics. Columns include Name, Assets, and various performance indicators.

The Times-News CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE

Reach more than 53,000 readers a day with just one phone call • Twin Falls: 733-0931 • Burley: 677-4042

Legal

- 401 Schools/Institution
- 402 Music Lessons
- 403 Tutoring

Education

- 612 Pasture For Rent
- 613 Pasture Wanted
- 614 Wanted To Rent
- 615 Mobile Home Space
- 616 Roommates Wanted

Personals

- 101 Lost & Found
- 102 Card of Thanks
- 103 Dietary Aids
- 104 Personals
- 105 Happy Ads
- 106 Special Notices
- 107 Abortion Alternatives
- 108 Professional Services
- 110 Home/Health Care User
- 111 Employment Services
- 3000 Service Directory

Real Estate

- 501 Open Homes
- 502 Homes For Sale
- 503 Out-Of-Area Homes
- 510 Full-Of-State Homes
- 512 Farms/Acreages/Lots
- 513 Acreages and Lots
- 514 Income Property
- 515 Commercial Property
- 516 Vacation Property
- 517 Timeshares
- 518 Mobile Homes
- 519 Cemetery Lots
- 520 Real Estate Wanted
- 521 Manufactured Homes

Agriculture

- 701 Livestock
- 702 Farm/Ranch Supplies
- 703 Custom Farm Services
- 705 Irrigation
- 706 Farm Seed & Fertilizer
- 708 Hay, Grain & Feed

Recreation

- 901 ATVs & Motorcycles
- 902 Bicycles
- 903 Boats & Accessories
- 904 Campers & Sheds
- 905 Golf Carts
- 906 Hot Tubs & Pools
- 907 Motorcycles & ATVs
- 908 Snow Vehicles & Equip.
- 909 Sporting & Hunting Equip.
- 910 Travel Trainers
- 911 Utility Trainers

Merchandise

- 801 Antiques & Collectibles
- 802 Appliances
- 803 Bazaars & Crafts
- 804 Building Materials
- 805 Camera's & Equipment
- 806 Children's Items
- 807 Clothing
- 808 Communication Equipment
- 809 Computers
- 810 Firewood
- 811 Furniture/Carpet
- 812 Heating & Air Conditioning
- 813 Auctions
- 814 Jewelry & Gems
- 815 Lawn & Garden
- 816 Exercise Equipment
- 817 Recreational For Sale
- 818 Medical Instruments
- 819 Office Equip./Supplies
- 820 Pets & Supplies
- 821 Stereo/Radio/TV
- 822 Tools & Machinery

Transportation

- 1001 Aviation
- 1002 Auto Parts & Accessories
- 1004 Autos Wanted
- 1005 Antiques & Collectibles
- 1006 Semi/Heavy Equipment
- 1007 Trucks
- 1008 Truck Parts & Accessories
- 1009 4x4s
- 1010 Buses
- 1020 Autos For Sale
- 1053 Imports & Sports Cars
- 1054 Stock Cars
- 1055 Auto Services & Repairs
- 1099 Auto Dealers

132 3rd Street West
P.O. Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303

325 1/2 East 5th North
Burley, Idaho 83318

OFFICE HOURS: Mon.-Fri. 8:00 to 5:30 Sat. 8:00 to 10:00 AM
(Burley Office Closed on Saturday)

Call 733-0931
FAX 734-5538

In Burley Call
677-4042
FAX 677-4543

- We're Open -
8 AM to 5:30 PM Mon.-Fri.
8 AM to 10 AM Saturday
(Burley Office is Closed Saturday)

- Pre-Payment -
The Times-News accepts payment for classified ads in cash, personal check, Visa, MasterCard or electronic check.

- Happy Ads -
Celebrate a special event in the lives of friends and loved ones with a *Times-News* Happy Ad. Call us at any time and we'll have your ad placed in our special rates. Call a *Times-News* customer service representative for more information.

- Deadlines -
For Private Party

Line	Publication Day	Deadline
1	Sunday	5 PM Friday
2	Monday	10 AM Saturday
3	Tuesday	10 AM Sunday
4	Wednesday	2 PM Tuesday
5	Thursday	2 PM Wednesday
6	Friday	2 PM Thursday
7	Saturday	2 PM Friday
8	City & County	2 PM Thursday

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

Call Our Customer Service Representatives for Information on Weekly Classified Specials!

Z-Day Guarantee Ad: ...regular 7-day rate + \$3 flat fee. If guaranteed item does not sell, the ad will be run for an additional 7 days at no charge.

15-Day Guarantee Ad: ...regular 15-day rate + \$3 flat fee for guarantee. If guaranteed item does not sell, the ad will be run for an additional 7 days at no charge.

Ad may be cancelled early for customer convenience but will not be re-rated or substituted. For private party only. Excludes pets and livestock.



LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF THE SALE OF REAL ESTATE
On Monday, April 5, 2000, at the hour of 10:00 o'clock a.m., of said day at the lobby of the office of **SHOENES STREET REALTY, INC.**, 905 Shoshone Street, Twin Falls, Idaho, **TWIN FALLS TITLE AND ESCROW COMPANY** an Idaho corporation, as Successor Trustee will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, for cash, in lawful money of the United States, the following described real property, situated in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho, and described as follows: Block 30 in Block 83, Buhl Townsite, Twin Falls County, Idaho, according to the final and amended plat thereof, recorded in Book 17, Page 33, records of Twin Falls County, Idaho.

The property is commonly known as 819 Main Street, Buhl, Idaho 83316.

Said sale will be made without covenant or warranty as to the title, possession or encumbrances to be sold, and the purchaser shall be bound to pay the purchase money to the power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust executed by the Seller on November 17, 1989 as instrument No. 1989-002920, records of Twin Falls County, Idaho.

Interested parties should contact Arthur C. Kimball, Trustee, at 905 Shoshone Street, Twin Falls, Idaho, or Escrow Company, 1199 S. Main Street, Twin Falls, Idaho, for more information.

The Commission shall plan the operation, construction, improvement, and development of said airport and shall recommend employment of airport personnel; the Commission shall also recommend and advise generally the construction of water, drainage, and other facilities as to all matters concerning the airport.

All meetings of the Airport Advisory Commission shall be conducted at the Airport Manager or the chairman of the Airport Advisory Commission, or at such other place as may be designated by the Commission. The passage of any action shall require a minimum of four (4) votes.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, December 6, 1999.

ATTEST: Mayor Dale Eskridge
ATTEST: Judy Hal, Deputy City Clerk

PUBLISHED: December 9, 1999, 23 and 30, 1999.

STATE OF IDAHO has been amended as follows:
ROD J. GRIFFITH, Clerk of the Court, Buhl, ID 83316
BULLH: ID 83316
ID 83316 1029299
BULLH: ID 83316
Tributary to Deep Creek
Determination Plan WMSW
BULLH: ID 83316
within N14E, both S09N
and S10N, T21N, R14E, Twin Falls County, Idaho.
User 11Y-1231
BULLH: ID 83316
Under and by virtue of a Judgment issued out of the above-entitled Court on November 15, 1999, wherein the above-named Plaintiff-Counterclaimant, Green Tree Financial Services, Inc., N/A Concoast Financing Services Corp. ("Concoast") obtained a judgment against the Plaintiff-Counterclaimant, Terry Blaine and Mary Stone, in the amount of \$126,149.75, together with interest from and after November 15, 1999, at the rate of 10.125% per annum until paid, and also accrued and under and by virtue of a Writ of Execution issued out of the above-entitled Court, I am compelled to sell at public auction, in the manner prescribed by law, the following real property, to-wit: a parcel of land located at 3888 North 2430 East, Filer, Idaho, 83424, containing 1.999, 199 acres, more or less, as that certain 20x24, 199 acre parcel, containing 1.999 acres, more or less, situated in the County of Blaine, State of Idaho, and described as follows: Block 10 in Block 105, Vinland, ID 83353, for a new irrigation water right No. 37-98899 with changes to Water Right No. 37-001124 (E.U.C.C.) & Right No. 37-00480 (E.U.C.C.) owned by the Applicant to Augter Re-charge uses as mitigation for the new irrigation water right as described above; Blaine County, Idaho.

Interested parties should contact the Applicant, Green Tree Financial Services, Inc., 1341 Filmore St., Suite 200, Twin Falls, Idaho 83301, for more information.

Any person protesting the proposed applications must file a separate protest in the manner prescribed by law, together with a copy of the protest to the applicant.

Karl J. Dreher, Director
PUBLISHED: December 18 and 23, 1999

OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
Case No. CV-99-1029
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of **DAVID EUGENE ESTOCK, Deceased.**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present the same to the undersigned on or before the date of the first publication of this notice, to-wit: December 18, 1999. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated, and with the Clerk of the Court.
DATED: The 18th day of October, 1999.
ATTEST: I, **JEFFREY S. NELSON**, County Clerk of Twin Falls County, Idaho, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original filed with me in my office.
PUBLISHED: December 16, 23 and 30, 1999

TO: CHARLES & ELVINA CHRISTOPHERSON
You have been sued by MTA Resorts, the Plaintiff, in the District Court of Twin Falls County, Idaho, Case No. CV-99-2341, for damages against you in connection with your collection. Any time after 20 days following the last publication of this notice, the Plaintiff's summons, the court may enter a judgment in favor of the Plaintiff without further notice, unless you file a written answer in the proper form, including the proper filing fee and any required filing fee to the Clerk of the Court at P.O. Box 128, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303-0120, (208) 738-4004 and serve a copy of your answer to the undersigned at the address indicated, and with the Clerk of the Court.
DATED: The 18th day of October, 1999.
ATTEST: I, **JEFFREY S. NELSON**, County Clerk of Twin Falls County, Idaho, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original filed with me in my office.
PUBLISHED: December 9, 16 and 23, 1999

OF GOODING, MAGISTRATE DIVISION
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of **DAVID EUGENE ESTOCK, Deceased.**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present the same to the undersigned on or before the date of the first publication of this notice, to-wit: December 18, 1999. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated, and with the Clerk of the Court.
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ATTEST: I, **JEFFREY S. NELSON**, County Clerk of Twin Falls County, Idaho, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original filed with me in my office.
PUBLISHED: December 9, 16 and 23, 1999

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
The undersigned, **JEFFREY S. NELSON**, County Clerk of Twin Falls County, Idaho, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the original filed with me in my office.
PUBLISHED: December 9, 16 and 23, 1999

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
The undersigned, **JEFFREY S. NELSON**, County Clerk of Twin Falls County, Idaho, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the original filed with me in my office.
PUBLISHED: December 9, 16 and 23, 1999

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
Case No. CV-99-1197
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of **EVELYN G. SNYDER, Deceased.**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present the same to the undersigned on or before the date of the first publication of this notice, to-wit: December 18, 1999. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated, and with the Clerk of the Court.
DATED: The 18th day of October, 1999.
ATTEST: I, **JEFFREY S. NELSON**, County Clerk of Twin Falls County, Idaho, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original filed with me in my office.
PUBLISHED: December 16, 23 and 30, 1999

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
Case No. CV-99-1147
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
In the Matter of the Estate of **DAVID EUGENE ESTOCK, Deceased.**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present the same to the undersigned on or before the date of the first publication of this notice, to-wit: December 18, 1999. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated, and with the Clerk of the Court.
DATED: The 18th day of October, 1999.
ATTEST: I, **JEFFREY S. NELSON**, County Clerk of Twin Falls County, Idaho, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original filed with me in my office.
PUBLISHED: December 9, 16 and 23, 1999

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS
Case No. CV-99-1223
NOTICE OF HEARING
In the Matter of **MICHAEL RAY ALWOOD**
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned has been appointed Personal Representative of the above-named estate. All persons having claims against the decedent or the estate are required to present the same to the undersigned on or before the date of the first publication of this notice, to-wit: December 18, 1999. Claims must be presented to the undersigned at the address indicated, and with the Clerk of the Court.
DATED: The 18th day of October, 1999.
ATTEST: I, **JEFFREY S. NELSON**, County Clerk of Twin Falls County, Idaho, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original filed with me in my office.
PUBLISHED: December 9, 16 and 23, 1999

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT
The undersigned, **JEFFREY S. NELSON**, County Clerk of Twin Falls County, Idaho, do hereby certify that the following is a true and correct copy of the original filed with me in my office.
PUBLISHED: December 9, 16 and 23, 1999

LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE OF WATER RIGHTS
Notice is hereby given that the following water rights have been filed with the Department of Water Resources by Vizzer C&D 91790...

Transfers No. 5589 requests to consolidate irrigation into a modified 184.3 acre irrigable area of use within lands described above with a total of 12.74 cfs...

PUBLISH: December 16, 23, 30, 1999 and January 6, 2000

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On the 21st day of March, 2000, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time) in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho...

PUBLISH: December 16, 23, 30, 1999 and January 6, 2000

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On Tuesday, December 14, 1999, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., of said day, in the office of ALLIANCE TITLE & ESCROW CORPORATION, located at 311 2nd Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

PUBLISH: November 25, December 2, 9, 16 and 19, 1999

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On the 12th day of April, 2000, at the hour of 10:30 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time) in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho...

PUBLISH: Thursday, December 2, 9, 16 and 23, 1999

plus accrued interest, costs and advances. All delinquent amounts are now due, together with accruing late charges...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On the 18th and the 19th of October, 1999, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time) in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho...

PUBLISH: December 16, 23, 30, 1999 and January 6, 2000

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On Tuesday, December 14, 1999, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., of said day, in the office of ALLIANCE TITLE & ESCROW CORPORATION, located at 311 2nd Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

PUBLISH: December 16, 23, 30, 1999 and January 6, 2000

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On Tuesday, December 14, 1999, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., of said day, in the office of ALLIANCE TITLE & ESCROW CORPORATION, located at 311 2nd Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

PUBLISH: Thursday, December 2, 9, 16 and 23, 1999

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On Tuesday, December 14, 1999, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., of said day, in the office of ALLIANCE TITLE & ESCROW CORPORATION, located at 311 2nd Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

PUBLISH: Thursday, December 2, 9, 16 and 23, 1999

Associated General Contractors
165 South Capitol, Idaho Falls, ID 83402
Associated General Contractors
1100 N. 27th, Twin Falls, ID 83301

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On the 18th and the 19th of October, 1999, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time) in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho...

PUBLISH: December 16, 23, 30, 1999 and January 6, 2000

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PUBLISH: December 16, 23, 30, 1999 and January 6, 2000

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PUBLISH: Thursday, December 2, 9, 16 and 23, 1999

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PUBLISH: Thursday, December 2, 9, 16 and 23, 1999

containing Henry A. Rawson, Attorney at Law, PO Box 1038, Okanogan, WA 98840 (Phone No. 509-422-0696)
YOU AND EACH OF YOU are hereby notified that the written surrender of the above-named children and consent to adoption, by the mother of the above-named minor children, such mother's name being HEATHER ANN SARTIN...

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On the 18th and the 19th of October, 1999, at the hour of 10:00 A.M., of said day, (recognized local time) in the Office of First American Title Company, 260 3rd Avenue North, Twin Falls, in the County of Twin Falls, State of Idaho...

PUBLISH: December 16, 23, 30, 1999 and January 6, 2000

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

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PUBLISH: Thursday, December 2, 9, 16 and 23, 1999

Florida, WPCS operates on 105.1 MHz FM Channel 302, IDTV
PUBLISH: December 16, 1999

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE
TWIN FALLS STORAGE
Under provisions of Idaho Code 26-7-210, will sell at public Auction on December 28, 1999 stored items of...

PUBLISH: December 16 and 23, 1999

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGE OF WATER RIGHTS

Notice is hereby given that Gladys Laverty, PO Box 176, Chubb, ID 83201 has filed Application for Transfer No. 5597 with the Department of Water Resources for changes to points of diversion for water rights diverted from Salmon River tributary to Snake River as described below in T13N, R19E, C&D 91790...

PUBLISH: December 16, 23, 30, 1999 and January 6, 2000

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF OKANOGAN

BRADY DAWKINS, Plaintiff, vs. DAKOTA JAMES SARTIN, Defendant.
SUMMONS AND NOTICE OF PETITION FOR RELINQUISHMENT OF CUSTODY; TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS; AND NOTICE OF ADOPTION PROCEEDINGS.

PUBLISH: December 16, 23, 30, 1999 and January 6, 2000

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE

On Tuesday, December 14, 1999, at the hour of 10:00 a.m., of said day, in the office of ALLIANCE TITLE & ESCROW CORPORATION, located at 311 2nd Street North, Twin Falls, Idaho...

PUBLISH: Thursday, December 2, 9, 16 and 23, 1999

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PUBLISH: Thursday, December 2, 9, 16 and 23, 1999

LEGAL NOTICE

On December 2, 1999, an application (FCC Form 348) was filed by Panacost Christian College, Inc. with the Federal Communications Commission...

PUBLISH: December 16, 23 and 30, 1999

LEGAL NOTICE

On December 2, 1999, an application (FCC Form 348) was filed by Panacost Christian College, Inc. with the Federal Communications Commission...

PUBLISH: December 16, 23 and 30, 1999

LEGAL NOTICE

On December 2, 1999, an application (FCC Form 348) was filed by Panacost Christian College, Inc. with the Federal Communications Commission...

PUBLISH: December 16, 23 and 30, 1999

Looking for a new Job? Click Here! Classified ads on the Internet. They're fast, they're easy, and they get results! Whether you're buying or selling, all you have to do is click. To find out more, call today! For more information, call 733-0931. The Times-News http://www.magicvalley.com Your #1 choice for online classifieds. www.classifiedwarehouse.com

A GUARANTEED AD

Buy the Guaranteed Package and The Times-News guarantees to sell merchandise or automotive items in 7 days and real estate in 15 days, or we will return the ad an additional 7 days. There is a \$3 extra charge for the guaranteed package. Ads may be cancelled early for customer convenience but the charge will remain the same.

217 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE

Federal employment information is free. Remember, no one can promise you a federal job. For free information about federal jobs, call Career America Connection, 812-527-3000

218 Times News Carriers

BUHL MOTOR-ROUTE

The Times-News is currently looking for an Independent Motor Route Carrier in the BUHL area. Valid drivers license & reliable vehicle a must.

If you live in the Buhl area & are interested in being a Newspaper Carrier, please contact the Twin Falls Times-News office at 733-0931, ext. 347, or stop by 132 3rd St. W. Twin Falls.

FILER (8)

THE TIMES-NEWS IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER CARRIERS FOR THE FILER AREA. Walking Routes Available

ROUTE 649
100-600 6th St.
400-600 Main St.
100-700 Midway St.

ROUTE 551
100-600 6th St.
700 Rayburn Circle

If you live in this area & are interested in being a newspaper carrier, please call District Manager, 733-0931 ext. 347.

TWIN FALLS (6)

THE TIMES-NEWS CURRENTLY HAS THE FOLLOWING INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER ROUTES ON THE WEST SIDE OF TWIN FALLS

ROUTE 818
200-400 Bk 7th Ave N.

ROUTE 860
100-300 Borah Ave. W

ROUTE 862
500 Bk. Bohon St.

ROUTE 865
100-200 Bk. Carney St.
300 Bk. Casa Grand Ct.
100 Bk. Martin
100 Bk. Ross St.
300-600 Shoup Ave. W

ROUTE 887
100-300 Bk. Crossview
900 Bk. Sparks

If you live on the West side of Twin Falls & are interested in being a newspaper carrier, please contact District Manager 733-0931, ext. 347

TWIN FALLS (7)

THE TIMES-NEWS CURRENTLY HAS THE FOLLOWING INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER ROUTES ON THE EAST SIDE OF TWIN FALLS.

ROUTE 701
2500 Bk. 9th Ave. E.
600-1000 Bk. Cypress Way

ROUTE 724
800-900 Elm St. N
700-800 Walnut St. N
1200-1400 Willmore Ave.

ROUTE 839
600 Bk. Borah Ave.
200-400 Bk. Fillmore St
300-400 Bk. Taylor St.

If you live on the EAST side of Twin Falls & are interested in being an independent newspaper carrier, please contact District Manager at 733-0931 ext 348

GOODING (5)

THE TIMES-NEWS IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR INDEPENDENT JR ROUTES AVAILABLE IN THE GOODING AREA.

ROUTE 500
500 Bk. 2nd Ave. West
500-700 Bk. 3rd Avenue West
700 Bk. 4th Ave. West
600-800 Bk. 7th Avenue West
600-800 Bk. 8th Avenue West

200-700 Bk. Ardena St.
200-300 Bk. Texas St.
200 Bk. Utah St.

If you live in this area & are interested in being a newspaper carrier, please call District Manager, 733-0931 ext. 346.

302 MONEY TO LOAN

303 CONTRACTS & MORTGAGES

304 INVESTMENTS

305 CONTRACTS & MORTGAGES

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BARKER
Realtor
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Twin Falls

This 1990 3 bedroom, 2 bath single story home features vaulted ceilings and an open spacious feel. The home is comfortable with central air and a gas fireplace. Master suite opens onto a large redwood deck. 2 car garage has built-in storage as well as a shop area. Plus RV parking next to garage. A Must See Home! \$159,900.

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* 541 ACRES - Sprinkler irrigated farm, Snake River frontage, Glenora, Fort.

* 285 ACRES - Good quality spring irrigated row crop farm north of Pauline.
* 280 ACRES - Hay farm west of Blaine. Good climate for wintering cattle.
* 226 ACRES - Crops & grazing, home, southwest of Carey.
* 110 ACRES - Unique farm/cattle set-up, stream & springs. Good home, plus rental house. West of ROBERT JONES REALTY 733-0404

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BUIL - 2 brnm, gas heat,
\$225 month, call 324-5850

607 OFFICE & RETAIL SPACE
JEROME: Office space, 400 sq. ft., Lincoln, Call 1204, 734-0000/418

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WANTED - to rent property ground between Jerome and Wendell, Call 734-6131

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BUIL. Roommates for Buhl area. Call for details. Please call 734-4334

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Handyman Services
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614 ROOFING
Roofing Services
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ELECTROLUX Vacuum cleaners, shampooers, central vacs. Sales, repair and rental. 230 DuBois, Call 733-8618

SHARES - 200, Steaks River Burger Co. beetle, Call 733-4575
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CATTLE - Colustrum fed Jersey bull calves, \$15. Call 529-1634

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712 TREE SERVICE
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702 APPLIANCES
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703 JEWELRY & FURS
COAT - Persian Lamb, long, light, \$250. Call 733-5250

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CUT AND SPLIT fiberglass, 1/2" thick, 8' x 10'. Call 734-9914

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