

The Times

Twin Falls, Idaho/95th year, No. 23

Sunday, January 23, 2000

\$1.50

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy in the morning with patchy fog. Increasing clouds in the afternoon, with light winds. High, 39. Cloudy tonight with a chance of snow. Low, 30.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Canyon unlocked: Hikers can now tour picturesque Box Canyon.

Page B1

Making a splash: The city's newly covered pool is attracting more winter swimmers than officials had expected.

Page B1

SPORTS



Money time: Four NFL teams vie for two conference championship titles today.

Page C1

SWAC showdown: The College of Southern Idaho men and women hosted Ricks Saturday night.

Page C1

FAMILY LIFE



Yule do better: Burned out by the recent experience of a Christmas too crass? Make some changes now for next year.

Page E1

OPINION

Respectable again: The Idaho Food Quality Assurance Laboratory deserves credit for a powerful comeback.

Page A-14

SECTION BY SECTION

Section A	Section C
Weather ... 2	Sports ... 3-8
Nation ... 35, 7	Movies ... 7
West ... 6, 9, 11	
Magic Valley 10	
World ... 12, 13	
Opinion ... 14, 15	

Section B	Section E
Magic Valley 1-4	Features ... 1, 6
Obituaries ... 2	Dear Abby ... 2
Idaho/West 4-7	Community ... 4
	Seniors ... 6

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TALES OF TWO CASES

Victim's family questions fairness of Thrush sentence

By Brian Haynes
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS—Hailey Williams' brother and sister still visit their little sibling every week. With a batch of toys in their arms to share, they make the regular trek across town with their mother.

But Christian and Samantha can't see their little sister.

Hailey is in a grave, and the man who put her there is behind bars. But Jesse Thrush could be free in less than six months.

That possibility has left family members and others in the community wondering whether justice was done in the death of 2-year-old Hailey, who overcame heart surgery and lived with Downs syndrome during her short life.

Reactions

Hailey's mother, Angela Williams, said the sentence was God's will.

"I know whatever decision the judge made, it was prayed about," she said. "I think it's enough if that's what God wants."

Others in her family aren't as accepting, especially after the judge's decision to let Thrush remain free until after Christmas. "Hailey never got to see Christmas lights this year," said Tammy Hochhalter, Hailey's great-aunt. "She never got to open a present, but because he wears a badge, he does?"

Pauline Anderson, Hailey's great-grandmother, said Thrush got special treatment because of his law enforcement background.

"If he was a regular prisoner, he wouldn't have stayed out for Christmas," she said. "Why

Thrush and Rose

They are two different cases, in two different counties, before two different judges.

With, potentially, two different sentences.

And those sentences are why some Magic Valley residents, including several Times-News letter-writers, have drawn comparisons between the cases of Jesse Thrush and Dana Lynn Rose.

Thrush could spend as little as six months in jail, in connection with the death of a child.

Rose faces a four- to 10-year prison sentence, after a jury said he struck a chair with a baseball bat, while his girlfriend lay nearby. Here's a closer look at both cases.

should he get all these privileges after he killed a 'little baby'?"

Thrush is serving a six-month sentence at the Twin Falls County jail after pleading guilty to voluntary manslaughter. At the end of that six months, District Judge Daniel Meehl will decide whether to send Thrush to serve his five- to 15-year prison sentence or put him on probation.

A 15-year prison sentence is the maximum state law allows in a voluntary manslaughter case.

Special prosecutor Ron Howen has heard plenty of negative feedback on the sentencing from



Angela Williams holds her daughter's favorite stuffed animal as she stands at her gravesite in Filer. Hailey Leann Williams was 2 years old when she was killed in February 1999.

the family and law enforcement, he said.

"I know if it were my child, I would be very upset with the sentence," said Howen, a deputy state attorney general.

But he added that it's premature to criticize Meehl because he can still sentence Thrush to prison after the six-month review.

Other cases

If Thrush receives probation after the review, his sentence would be far lesser than other recent baby-shaking cases around the Magic Valley.

In 1995 Aaron Whitaker of Rupert was sentenced to spend at least five years in prison for shaking his 7-month-old daughter. She didn't die, but she suffered brain damage and possible lifelong blindness.

Please see THRUSH, Page A6



Jesse Thrush sits at his February 1999 arraignment. The former Twin Falls County sheriff's deputy later pleaded guilty to voluntary manslaughter in connection with the death of 2-year-old Hailey Williams. His sentence, which could be as short as six months in jail, has drawn sharp criticism.

Victim or habitual offender?

Prosecutor, brother say Rose has tried to downplay past

By Rutlr Streeter
Times-News writer

BURLEY—Dana Lynn Rose calls himself a victim.

His own brother says otherwise. A Cassia County jury said otherwise, six months ago.

The prosecutor who tried the aggravated assault case against Rose also says otherwise.

The question might someday be decided by a jury in a civil trial.

Rose, 48, was convicted in July 1999 of aggravated assault after striking a chair with a baseball bat while his girlfriend lay nearby. Rose shows no remorse, and says the high-profile case is another example of a legal system that has done him wrong. Rose places the blame on corrupt law enforcement,

ineffective counsel, vindictive relatives and overhanded adjudicators and county officials.

"The whole court was trying to bury me," he said in an interview Jan. 11, the same day District Judge Monte Carlson let stand Rose's four- to 10-year sentence in the case.

Others say Rose, once convicted in California on a charge of battery

on a peace officer, is a habitual offender who has finally been put away for a violent crime for a long time. Illustrating Rose's inability to reform, Carlson at a recent hearing cited the \$1,200 in bad checks Rose had written while awaiting trial. And some say Rose is minimizing the crime against Bettis, much as he has minimized his criminal past.

Please see ROSE, Page A2

Bush tangles over taxes, abortion as caucuses loom

The Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Hitting every corner of this sprawling state, Republicans squabbled over abortion and taxes in a fight for their conservative base Saturday, as presidential candidates in both major parties braved nasty weather to rally supporters to Iowa's caucuses.

"Every voice matters!" said GOP front-runner George W. Bush, who attempted to burnish his anti-abortion

Little anticipation - A3

credentials for a third consecutive day. The Texas governor pledged to keep the abortion plank in a staunchly conservative GOP platform.

On Monday night, about 10 percent of the state's 1.8 million registered voters are expected to gather in living rooms, schools, church basements and

Please see CAUCUS, Page A2

Magic Valley economic trends moderate

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — Idaho's stretch of unusually strong economic growth appears to have run its course, economists are saying.

Indeed, the Magic Valley in the fourth quarter faced continued low farm prices, climbing interest rates and slowed population growth, suggested by Idaho Power Co.'s new-customer numbers.

Twin Falls County residents in the final months of

1999 bought fewer homes and cars and received permits for less single-family residential construction than in fourth-quarter-1998. The Times-News' quarterly survey of economic indicators shows.

Magic Valley employers added fewer nonagricultural jobs over year-earlier numbers than they did at the end of 1998. And telephone companies in Twin Falls County hooked up fewer new phone lines during the fourth quarter than they did during any

of the previous five quarters.

But some in the Magic Valley have blamed part of the year-end slowdown on consumers' apprehension about Y2K, which passed without incident.

And economists still predict a healthy, stable 2000 for Magic Valley and the rest of Idaho. Some factors in The Times-News' survey could point to reasons for that optimism.

For the complete story, please see page D-1.

\$250,000 donation helps families start raising funds for new library

LITTLETON, Colo. (AP) — Buoyed by a \$250,000 donation and the support of the school board, a group of Columbine High School parents started a fund-raising campaign Friday to replace the library where two gunmen killed eight classmates and themselves.

The group wants to raise \$3.1 million before the one-year anniversary of the nation's worst school shooting. The Jefferson County School Board on Thursday approved tearing down the library and building a new library wing.

Twelve students and a teacher died after Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold, armed with guns and homemade bombs, opened fire at Columbine on April 20.

The library, where most of the victims died was never reopened, and its doors were walled off with lockers. A temporary library was set up in a trailer.

"You know what would be incredible is to stand up on April 20 and say, 'We've got \$3.1 million,'" said Dawn Anna, whose daughter Lauren Townsend was killed in the rampage.

The largest donation so far, \$250,000, came from Sharon Magnus, whose late husband Bill Magnus co-founded cable giant TeleCommunications Inc.



Dawn Anna, left front, and Rita Kahn are pictured with other Columbine victim's family members at a news conference in Littleton, Colo., Friday. They announced they have joined together under the name of HOPE.

The parents group, Healing of People Everywhere, also has received more \$30,000 from Public Service Co. and from the Denver Rocky Mountain News. The group estimates it will

need \$300,000 to begin the design process, \$777,500 to raise the library and \$2 million to build a new 14,000- to 15,000-square foot library, which it hopes to have open by the 2001-02 school year.

Candidates head down final stretch in Iowa campaign

The Washington Post

DES MOINES, Iowa — The Iowa caucuses have often been the scene of pitched battles, big surprises and vigorous debates. But on the eve of the opening day of the campaign, 2000, there is little anticipation and even less passion here about the presidential nomination fights that will begin to unfold on Monday night.

With two days of campaigning left in Iowa, the candidates crisscrossed the state Saturday in an effort to build excitement and swell turnout for the caucuses.

In the final hours, the crowds have grown more boisterous. But as often as not this week the voters have acted more as polite spectators than enthusiastic participants in the process.

"Usually by this time you've got a lot of people talking about the different candidates," said Alan Clark, the

Republican county chairman from Grinnell, Iowa. "I'm just not hearing it. It's just not coming up."

Part of the voters' indifference stems from the lack of suspense about the outcome on Monday night. Bush is expected to defeat his five Republican rivals in the caucuses, while Vice President Gore has strengthened his commanding lead here over a now-defensive Bill Bradley, who will be forced to rethink his New Hampshire strategy if he suffers a big loss here Monday.

One question left unanswered here is how Monday's results will shape the final week of campaigning in New Hampshire where both races are more competitive and where Bush's stiffest competition comes from Arizona Sen. John McCain, who is not competing in Iowa. But party activists and political analysts point to other reasons why the nomination fights this year — both here and in subsequent states — may lack

the drama and significance of past battles.

Those elements begin with the economic good times that have fueled a sense of national optimism while muting demands for dramatic action on policy. But the reasons also include the absence of sharp ideological divisions within the parties, a dramatic policy dispute or the energy provided by the kinds of charismatic or movement-driven candidates seen in past races.

"This is not a year where there's a particular dynamic in either party," said Republican polster Bob Teeter. "There's nothing going on."

The candidates and their advisers, who now are engaged in daily combat to affect voter attitudes and influence media coverage of the races, would disagree sharply with Teeter's assessment. From their bunkers, the campaign of 2000 has never been more intense.

Clinton says feds will go after frauds

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The government, expanding its battle against waste and abuse, plans to create a team of "fraud fighters" to crack down on bogus insurance claims and other schemes to bilk the nation's Medicare program, President Clinton said Saturday.

Clinton said his fiscal 2001 budget, scheduled for release next month, will propose placing federal agents in the offices of health insurance companies and other contractors that process Medicare bills and will seek extra funds to finance "new technologies" to track false claims filed by health care providers.

"Medicare fraud and waste are more than an abuse of the system, they are an abuse of the taxpayer," Clinton said. "By overbilling, charging for phony procedures and selling substandard supplies, Medicare cheats cost taxpayers hundreds of millions a year."

In his weekly radio address, Clinton urged Congress to support his proposed crackdown on fraud. He asked Congress to give Medicare the power to broaden the pool of private sector companies eligible to provide program services and process health care claims. Current law limits the program's choices of contractors and makes it difficult to discipline them, officials said.

Rep. J. C. Watts of Oklahoma, the chairman of the House Republican Conference, commended Clinton for attacking Medicare fraud. "His fight is a valid one," Watts said in a statement.

Grandmothers plead case for return of Cuban boy

Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — In the latest episode in an impassioned international custody battle, both grandmothers of shipwrecked six-year-old Elian Gonzalez Saturday pleaded with Attorney General Janet Reno for help in taking the boy back to Cuba.

"We ask that you return Elian to his immediate family and not to his distant family," Mariela

Quintana Garrido and Raquel Rodriguez Rodriguez said in a letter to Reno. The letter was released after they met for about an hour with Reno and Immigration and Naturalization Service Commissioner Doris Meissner.

The grandmothers said it is important to restore Elian "to the normality of life with his father, brother, family, friends at schools, his toys, dog and parrot."

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Wife of late Gen. MacArthur dies at 101 in New York

NEW YORK (AP) — Jean MacArthur, wife of the late Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who won admirers around the world with her vibrancy and charm, died Saturday. She was 101. Mrs. MacArthur died at Lenox Hill Hospital in New York, said Col. William Davis, director of the MacArthur Foundation in Norfolk, Va.

She was at her general's side in war and peace. She accompanied him aboard a PT boat when he was ordered out of the Philippines to escape a Japanese siege at the outset of the war in the Pacific. She represented him at official and social functions and mingled with throngs of Japanese on her trips around Japan during the postwar occupation.

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 Kohl Louise Osterhout February 3, 1999 Parents: Sara & Bruce Osterhout Grandparents: Carol & Tim Williams	 Ashley Nicole Green February 19, 1998 Parents: Ron & Christi Green Grandparents: Steve & Pam Braun	 Bryce Jade Osterhout September 18, 1992 Parents: Sara & Bruce Osterhout Grandparents: Carol & Tim Williams	 Aubrey Ann Farran August 27, 1999 Parents: Jeff & Angela Farran Grandparents: Gary & Ann Coleman, Ron & Linda Farran	 Dylan Ross Farran April 27, 1995 Parents: Jeff & Angela Farran Grandparents: Gary & Ann Coleman, Ron & Linda Farran	 Abbigayle Korrin Cummins November 16, 1998 Parents: Keith & Angie Cummins Grandparents: Kim & Helen Cummins, Walt Logsdon	 Skylar Shane September 8, 1992 Parents: Chad & Cheryl Shane Grandparents: Jerry & Treva Feltman, Darrell & Allene Sweet	 Hainnah Bybee October 27, 1997 Grandparents: Jim & Doris Pearson	 Koby Shane September 13, 1997 Parents: Chad & Cheryl Shane Grandparents: Darrell & Allene Sweet, Jerry & Treva Feltman	 Jaicey Dawn Hall-Painter April 25, 1999 Parents: Dawn Hall-Painter Grandparents: John & Verlee Hall, Gary & Rhonda Painter	 Brice Avery Wojcik July 30, 1995 Parents: Bart & Debra Wojcik Grandparents: Mr. & Mrs. Joe Alcala, Mr. & Mrs. Bruce Wojcik	 Camryn Belle Layer September 8, 1999 Parents: John & Tamra Layer Grandparents: Mervin & Joyce Baker, Bob & Betty Layer (Deid)
 Kylee Pierce 4 years old Parents: Travis & Dakinay Pierce Grandparents: Butch & Nancy Pierce	 Pierce Medeiros 1 year Parents: Scott & Tiffany Medeiros Grandparents: Butch & Nancy Pierce	 Kensee Pierce 2 1/2 years old Parents: Travis & Dakinay Pierce Grandparents: Butch & Nancy Pierce	 Trenton Skylar Gracida August 22, 1995 Parents: Justin & Scott Gracida Grandparents: Terry & Susan McNew, Keith & Kathy Adams	 Paris Medeiros 4 months old Parents: Scott & Tiffany Medeiros Grandparents: Butch & Nancy Pierce	 Cabe Ollen Brixey July 20, 1999 Parents: Jess & Kelly Brixey Grandparents: Lois Dooly	 Mercedes Pearson November 4, 1991 Grandparents: Jim & Doris Pearson	 Tyce Pearson January 2, 1997 Grandparents: Jim & Doris Pearson	 Morgan Pearson September 8, 1992 Grandparents: Jim & Doris Pearson	 Cameron Carter September 17, 1999 Parents: Tom & Glancy Carter Grandparents: Lela & Lyle Masters	 Darby Lee Robertson December 18, 1996 Parents: Alicia & Joe Robertson Grandparents: Lela & Lyle Masters	 Kyle Carter February 25, 1997 Parents: Tom & Glancy Carter Grandparents: Lela & Lyle Masters
 Audrianna Marie Binggell October 15, 1997 Parents: Wendy & Keith Binggell Grandparents: Linda & Marlon Huber	 Nina Allysen Weeks November 13, 1998 Parents: Nicole & Keith Weeks Grandparents: Linda & Marlon Huber	 Hannah Bybee October 22, 1997 Parents: Ryan & Anne Bybee Grandparents: Gary & Joyce Bybee	 Lexi Bybee June 22, 1995 Parents: Ryan & Anne Bybee Grandparents: Gary & Joyce Bybee	 Scout OJui Monson May 4, 1996 Parents: Steve & Stacey Monson Grandparents: Larry & Karen Tucker, Mike & Marie Heath	 Shylar Rae Monson September 29, 1996 Parents: Steve & Stacey Monson Grandparents: Larry & Karen Tucker, Mike & Marie Heath	 Bradyn Robert Ford April 23, 1997 Parents: Rob & Tiffany Ford Grandparents: Janie Moon-Dale Ford	 Roxanne Lake June 26, 1997 Parents: Kevin & Laura Lake Grandparents: William Hornaday	 Isaac Calvin East November 6, 1999 Parents: Cole & Renee East Grandparents: Doug & Candis Young, Frank & Mary East	 Isabella J. Gunning May 26, 1999 Parents: Stacy Shane & Tom Gunning Grandparents: Darrell & Allene Sweet, Tom & Joan Gunning	 Adrian Nicholas DeKruif September 16, 1999 Parents: Dan & Mickey DeKruif Grandparents: Kurt & Cindy Viereim, John & Thana DeKruif	 Paige Mariah Crane June 24, 1995 Parents: Bob & Annie Crane Grandparents: Bob & Linda Crane
 Moetta Marabeth Seaman December 25, 1996 Parents: Tom & Jeannet Huff, Betty Crawford	 Adam Glen Urte September 5, 1998 Parents: Heather Urte Grandparents: Larry Urte, Jim & Sammie Warren	 Emily Dawn Vance December 29, 1999 Parents: James & Tonnie Vance Grandparents: Judy Anderson	 Ryan Steckert February 18, 1998 Parents: Lee & John Steckert Grandparents: Jack & Geri Miller	 Michelle Ann Ricketts July 30, 1999 Parents: Steve & Libby Ricketts Grandparents: Dave & Kellie Truigher, Steve & Karrie Ricketts, Bill & Pat Fisher	 Peter Seppi May 14, 1995 Parents: Ann & Kurt Seppi	 Bailce Sue Price May 4, 1999 Parents: Travis & Kellie Price Grandparents: Bill & Cheryl Price, John Austin	 Fresten Dakota Rumpfelt July 13, 1999 Parents: Kody & Melanie Rumpfelt Grandparents: Kim & Terri Ford, Dennis & Janet Rumpfelt	 Sadie Brooke Parish September 4, 1998 Parents: Laila & Mary Parish Grandparents: Doug & Candis Young, Lewis & Larson Parish	 Trevor Chase Reed December 9, 1997 Parents: Trevor & Sara Reed	 Sydney Kulhanek August 7, 1998 Parents: Eric & Krista Kulhanek Grandparents: Sharon Folsom	 Walker Lyle Johnson June 6, 1999 Parents: Jeff & Janice Johnson Grandparents: Gary & Judith Walker
 Tanner David Crawford December 25, 1996 Parents: Mrs. & Mr. David Crawford Grandparents: Tom & Jeannet Huff, Betty Crawford	 Alexis Bybee June 22, 1995 Grandparents: Jim & Doris Pearson	 Austin James Barber May 4, 1999 Parents: James & Debbie Barber Grandparents: Lawrence & Joyce Barber	 Jade Browne December 22, 1998 Parents: Tim & Jini Browne Grandparents: Mike & Judy Tremblay, Don & Karen Frosen	 Christian Tyler Cohee December 27, 1998 Parent: Teresa Ann Cohee Grandparents: Judy & Bob Cohee	 Taylor Sharnell Harrison July 17, 1998 Parents: Shane & Courtney Harrison Grandparents: Scott & Mel Taylor, Thad & Stephanie Harrison	 Tyler Olovido Jones April 17, 1999 Parents: Bill & Linnie Jones	 Hailey Sierra Wagstaff January 8, 2000 Parents: Allison & Debra Wagstaff Grandparents: Duane & Carmen Wagstaff	 Connor Jeff July 23, 1999 Parents: Shane & Joni Jeff	 Emily Kathryn Ann Hanchett July 24, 1999 Parents: Tom & Ginger Hanchett Grandparents: Bill & Kathy Hanchett, Mac & Gopie Hanchett	 Noah Dedman December 20, 1999 Parents: Ron & Maria Dedman Grandparents: Jackie & Sharon Dedman, Robin & Cheryl Sanchez	 Mayra Liseth Zuniga September 24, 1999 Parents: Jeff & Heidi Zuniga Grandparents: Francisco & Maribel Castillo, Jesus & Humilia Zuniga

Freed man faces retrial for murder

ROCHESTER, N.Y. (AP) — Since being freed last spring after 25 years in prison, John Duval has spent weekdays sweeping the floor and filling in the appointment book at Val's, his mother's neighborhood beauty salon.

"It's not a job," said Duval, 47. "It's just something I do to keep busy and stay out of trouble."
But the joy of being on the outside after having his conviction overturned for a 1973 murder is tempered by the prospect that he might soon end up behind bars again.

Prosecutors have opted to retry him, and testimony is scheduled to open Monday.

Duval concentrates hard on living each day as it comes.
"With my faith in God, I don't worry about nothing," he said. "I used to worry, but I don't no more because I know in my heart I'm in the right."

Duval and Betty Tyson, both former prostitutes, got 25 years to life imprisonment in February 1974 for the strangling of Timothy Saworth, 52, a Philadelphia business consultant who left his Rochester hotel the night of May 24, 1973, apparently to look for a prostitute. Police believe the motive was robbery.

In the absence of physical evidence, Duval and Tyson were convicted of second-degree murder on the basis of confessions they insist were beaten out of them by a rogue detective, William Mahoney, and on the testimony of two teenage runaways, Wayne Wright and Jon Jackson.

In 1997, Wright recanted his account, saying Mahoney had terrorized him into lying. Prosecutors then came upon a buried synopsis of a police interview with Jackson in which he also denied seeing Duval or Tyson with the victim.



John Duval stands in his mother's beauty salon in Rochester, N.Y., Jan. 5. Since being freed last spring after 25 years in prison, Duval has spent weekdays helping out in the salon, with a retrial looming ahead.

Neither prosecutors nor defense lawyers had seen the interview before.

Ruling that exculpatory evidence was wrongfully suppressed, a judge freed Tyson in May 1998 and Duval last April. While prosecutors decided not to retry Tyson — the city gave her \$1.2 million in compensation — they went after Duval again. While Tyson had steadfastly maintained her innocence, Duval had twice admitted his guilt before a parole board.

"If you don't show remorse, they're not going to let you go," Duval explained. "I was very upset about it... but I didn't have outside support, anybody saying 'We're trying to get you out Johnny, just hold on.'"

Prosecutor Howard Relin has

no doubt Duval took part in the slaying. Unlike the Tyson case, two detectives who interviewed Duval are still alive to testify. In addition, Relin maintained, Mahoney was not directly involved in Duval's case.

The chief detective, investigated at least 10 times for allegedly abusing suspects, resigned in 1980 after fabricating evidence in an unrelated case. He died in 1981.

Duval's retrial does not constitute double jeopardy because he did not establish in his appeal that there was prosecutorial misconduct, Relin said.

One of eight children, Duval was a rebellious teen-ager who dabbled with heroin and entered a world of prostitutes and transvestites.

Investigators search records over dorm fire

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — Investigators attempting to determine the cause of a dormitory fire that killed three university freshmen are seeking records about the building, including reports on whether required fire drills were conducted, officials said Friday.

Several Seton Hall University students said Friday that they couldn't recall any drills at Boland Hall, the six-story dormitory, where the fire began before dawn Wednesday. Six of the 58 injured students remained hospitalized Friday. Four were in critical condition.

"We didn't have any drills when we lived in Boland last year," said Vordana Ruggeri, 19. "They don't even wake us up when the alarm goes off," said Bob Barber, 19.

College dormitories in New Jersey have been required since at least 1995 to have two fire drills a year and maintain reports about the drills for local fire officials.

University spokeswoman Lisa E. Grider said Boland Hall had no drills during the fall semester.

"There were fire education programs, where the (resident assistant) posts the fire evacuation plan and talks in a meeting with students," Grider said.

An Essex County grand jury has subpoenaed fire inspection records and engineering plans for Boland Hall, said Charlotte L. Smith, executive assistant prosecutor. She would not discuss the contents of the records.

Minnesota, North Dakota lead nation in workers with two jobs

FARGO, N.D. (AP) — Deanna Kubas took on a second job seven years ago because she wanted some extra spending money — her daytime job as a deputy court clerk paid enough to cover the bills, but left little extra.

"Financially, it was always tight," said Kubas, 39, a county court clerk in Fargo for nearly 16 years.

She's not alone. A new study says North Dakota has the second-highest rate in the country of workers who take on second jobs.

In 1998, the latest year for which figures were available, 10.6 percent of the state's workforce had more than one job.

The national rate was 6.3 percent, according to the survey released this week by the North Dakota State Data Center at North Dakota State University.

Minnesota led the nation with 10.8 percent of its workforce collecting two paychecks.

The study was based on results of a comprehensive U.S. Department of Labor survey of workers.

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Town Meeting

Twin Falls 2nd Century Plan

Thursday, January 27, 2000
7:00 p.m.

The Meeting is being held at College of Southern Idaho's Room #277

For more information, call LaMar Orton at 736-2267.

Come Take a Look!

Directions: Access to the CSI and the Taylor Administration Building is best from Falls Avenue. The Taylor Administration Building is directly in front of the main entrance. Parking is available on either the west or east side of the main entrance in front of the Taylor Administration Building. Enter the Taylor Administration Building on the west side—directly across the courtyard from the fine arts center. Once inside the building, turn immediately left and go upstairs to the 2nd floor.

The 2nd Century Plan for Twin Falls is Ready! The Plan represents a year's worth of work and details the actions we need to take to meet the needs of a growing population and make Twin Falls an even better community to live and work.

Film actress Frances Drake dies at 91

Los Angeles Times

Frances Drake, a leading lady of the 1930s and '40s who was one of that era's great brunet beauties of film, has died.

A longtime resident of Beverly Hills, Calif., Drake died Monday at Irvine (Calif.) Medical Center, said her husband, David Brown. She was 91. Drake, known for her

striking looks and huge hazel eyes, appeared in more than 20 movies with her generation's biggest stars, including Joan Crawford, Clark Gable and Cary Grant.

Drake, born in New York and educated in Canada and England, started out as a nightclub dancer in London, where she made her stage and screen debuts under her real name, Frances Dean.

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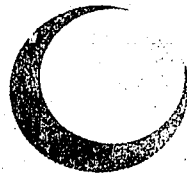


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Lobbyist: Plan may exclude rural schools

BOISE (AP) — An Idaho Rural Schools Association lobbyist is concerned Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's plan to help school districts fix building problems would not help rural districts unable to get voters to approve school bond levies.

Kempthorne has proposed a loan program for school districts that have been unable to fix the buildings' health and safety problems. Part of the plan calls for the state to pay for the interest costs while school districts would be responsible for paying back the principal of the loan.

"I don't know if that is a plus or not," John Eikum of the Idaho Rural Schools Association told the Senate Education Committee.

Kempthorne's proposal might not be the solution for rural school districts with voters who will not approve bond levies to

construct buildings, he said. The Idaho Rural Schools Association is a loosely knit group of 30 school districts.

Daryl Bertelsen, superintendent of the Whitepine School District, in which Troy High School has become the poster child for the state's school building crisis, said he intends to visit Boise to get more details on the governor's proposal.

The loan program "would be great, but we still would have to pass a levy to pay it back," he said. "Anything is better than what we got for sure."

As a gubernatorial candidate two years ago, Kempthorne called for reducing the two-thirds voter approval required for school bond levies to 60 percent during primary and general elections. But his school building committee rejected this option late last year.

Utah Web site bashes media

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — When a newspaper failed to print his letter to the editor, Michael Hayes didn't get mad. He got even. The one-time radio disk jockey created a Web site called RiptheMedia.com, a wide-open forum for criticism of newspapers, TV and radio stations and networks.

"I don't have any big agenda," says Hayes, who spent \$10,000 building and hyping his Web site, trying to make it a national clearinghouse for comment on the media, including movies, actors and musicians. "There's no other in-your-face Web site like this."

So far, it's mostly a Utah sounding board, and many of the posting are decidedly boorish. What do people care about? The hairstyles of TV anchorwomen, for one thing.

But there's also a running debate on that of Salt Lake City's two daily newspapers is more "biased" in reporting, for instance, on the Mormon church or gun control. There doesn't appear to be any consensus.

"I think it does a great service,"

says popular talk-show host and self-proclaimed "voice of reason" Tom Barberi, who has taken his share of hits. "It lets people feel they have some power through the anonymity of their keyboards to call people of the media ugly, stupid or jerks and not be sued for libel like we can be taken."

Barberi has taken barbs for allegedly going soft on guests, including Gov. Mike Leavitt. The criticism seems fair enough, though Barberi insists he has "hammered the governor" at times for pandering to voters. But what amazes Barberi is the attention he's received "for things I've never said or people I've never interviewed."

"People are always accusing the media of twisting things. We are the 'bad guys,'" said Barberi, who has held court on KALL-AM radio in Salt Lake City for 29 years, five days a week, four hours a day.

"But when I read these comments, it's almost like the tables are turned. If these people were reporters, we'd get nothing but half-truths or no-truths."



Thomas 'Tony' Forster, president of the San Juan Capistrano Historical Society, stands Thursday next to paintings and furniture belonging to his ancestors who owned the famous Spanish mission for nearly two decades during the 1800s in San Juan Capistrano, Calif.

New exhibit celebrates California cultural ties

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, Calif. (AP) — Tony Forster stands in an exhibit hall at Mission San Juan Capistrano making a cultural connection — Oriental trunks, Spanish clothing, Mexican hats, Indian art and English furniture.

Each item belonged to ancestors who lived at the famed Spanish mission for nearly two decades in the 1800s, and left behind a legacy that is neither Hispanic nor European nor Chinese nor American Indian.

Rather, Forster says, it's all of them — a convergence of culture and cultural history that make up not only his family history but that of Southern California.

It is in that spirit the mission offers "Celebrating Cultural Connections," its first new exhibit in more than a decade. The year-long program, beginning Saturday, features an exhibit, a lecture series and a computer workshop.

"Today, people get up in the morning, drink their South American coffee, water their Mediterranean plants and drive to work in their Japanese car. They are surrounded by cultural connections," said Alana Jolley, the museum programs director. "With the exhibit, we're showing that

cultural connections have always been part of the American fabric."

Founded in 1776 by Father Junipero Serra, the mission was one of 21 built by the Spaniards that extended as far north as Sonoma and helped establish a stronghold in colonized California.

Today it is one of the oldest buildings in the state and Orange County's third most popular tourist destination, behind Disneyland and Knott's Berry Farm. A favorite destination among history buffs and schoolchildren, the mission's exhibits have always focused on state history, including "ranchero" life, colonization and steechold.

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Fear of nerve gas halts process

DENVER (AP) — A scrap metal company has halted its processing of empty nerve gas artillery rounds from Tooele Army Depot after a former depot official warned they could contain residue of the deadly agent sarin.

No trace of sarin has been found, but officials with Denver-based DuWald Steel Corp. say they are taking no chances with materials from the Utah facility.

"We decided to stop processing immediately and stop accepting any more of these projectiles until the government assured us that these projectiles were safe," DuWald vice president Michael Yourtz said Friday.

DuWald had been processing 36-pound steel projectiles from Tooele since June 1997, about 10 months after a \$650 million incinerator opened at the depot 50 miles west of Salt Lake City. It is the first of eight proposed nationwide to dispose of the country's 31,000 tons of chemical warfare agents.

The metal rounds once contained a liquid nerve agent so lethal that droplets on the skin could cause permanent disability and death. The Tooele disposal plant drains the nerve agent from the 10mm artillery rounds and burns it in an

incinerator. The empty projectiles are placed in a separate furnace to burn out any residue before being shipped to scrap metal companies such as DuWald.

The company halted processing Jan. 11, the day charges of safety lapses were raised by Gary Harris, a former permit coordinator at Tooele who quit in 1996 after five years at the plant.

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Correction
 On the front wrap of today's insert, we advertised Quicken TurboTax Standard software (1426-4075) at our everyday low price of \$19.95 before manufacturer's mail-in rebate.
 We mistakenly pictured the Deluxe version.
 We apologize for any inconvenience.
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Promotion

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- Radio promotion on the Buzz building up to the event with a live remote at the Expo.
- Times-News Bridal Expo rack cards in newspaper vending machines promoting the event.
- Bridal Passport card to encourage visits to each exhibit.

Exhibit Space Plus Advertising Package
 12x12 booth
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- Insert your own promotional flyers in The Times News Bridal Packets at no extra charge.
- Each exhibitor will receive an Exhibitor's Kit, including name tags and a sign.
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The Times-News

Twin Falls County

TWIN FALLS - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Twin Falls County.

Misdemeanor sentencing

City of Twin Falls

Jason Raymond Torres, 27, 1015 N. Fir No. 59, Jerome; obstructing an officer; pleaded guilty; \$50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards. Brian Earl Merrill, 23, 1787 Heyburn Ave. E., No. A, Twin Falls; contempt of court; pleaded guilty; 180 days' jail time; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards. Sheri Lee Hill, 50, 397 Quincy St., Twin Falls; conspiracy; pleaded guilty; one day jail time, suspended; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards. Kia Van Lam, 38, 151 Second Ave.; Twin Falls; trespass; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs, uncollectible; 90 days' jail time; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman. Matthew Eugene May, 23, 236 Filer Ave., Twin Falls; count 1, reckless driving; amended to inattentive/careless driving; pleaded guilty; \$150 fine; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.

Twin Falls County

Megan S. Moore, 39, P.O. Box 331, McCammon; failure to provide passenger safety for a child under 4 years of age; pleaded guilty; \$100 fine, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumbach. Justin Royal Hammond, 23, 171 Blue Lakes, Twin Falls; possession of controlled substance; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs, 30 days' jail time; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.

Juvenile appearances

Christopher Kelly Wasson, 16, 323 N. 22nd E., Kimberly; carrying a weapon on school property; public defender appointed; pretrial Feb. 8; in custody of juvenile detention center. Timothy Greene, 14, 1357 Stonebrook Circle, Twin Falls; petit theft; public defender appointed; pretrial Jan. 27; released to parents in lieu of detention under strict house arrest. Amy Kleim, 14, 408 13th Ave. N., Buhl; count 1, incorrigible; count 2, battery upon a law enforcement officer; public defender appointed; pretrial Feb. 1; released to parents in lieu of detention under strict house arrest.

Juvenile sentencings

Matthew Wampler, 16, 261 State Ave. N., Twin Falls; count 1, disturbing the peace; count 2, possession of drug paraphernalia; pleaded guilty; 180 days' detention, 10 days' discretionary, 170 days' indeterminate; six months' probation; 25 hours' community service; submit to search and seizure; no association with anyone else on probation; shall not possess weapons, shall not possess or use drug, alcohol, or any other intoxicating substance; Magistrate Judge Thomas Borresen.

Child support cases

State of Idaho Child Support Services vs. Martin Maqueda Jr. Seeking \$543 monthly support, plus 61 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide insurance; \$363 attorneys fees and costs. State of Idaho Child Support Services vs. Jose Antonio Perez. Seeking \$142 monthly support, plus 60 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide insurance; \$363 attorneys fees and costs. State of Idaho Child Support Services vs. Casey L. Jones. Seeking \$411 monthly support; \$330 attorneys fees and costs. State of Idaho Child Support Services vs. Darrell Pace. Seeking \$245 monthly support, plus 60 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide insurance; \$363 attorneys fees and costs. State of Idaho Child Support Services vs. Daniel Garcia Ramos. Seeking \$246 monthly support, plus 60 percent of medical expenses not covered by insurance; provide insurance; \$363 attorneys fees and costs. State of Idaho Child Support Services vs. Joshua Peterson.

Seeking \$142 monthly support; \$330 attorneys fees and costs. State of Idaho Child Support Services vs. Emilio Oceda. Seeking \$336 monthly support; \$330 attorneys fees and costs.

Divorces

Robert L. Leazer vs. Shelly D. Leazer. Alan Dean Nauman vs. Hope Lynn Nauman. Chase F. Bretches vs. Karen A. Bretches. Beth Ann Shepherd vs. Travis Leroy Shepherd. Ritchie L. Whitted vs. Victoria M. Whitted. Gayla Sue Southern vs. Nathan Douglas Southern. Michelle A. Richter vs. Walter Dean Richter. Kathy Nell Stone vs. Robert Ray Stone. Gary Marlene Wilkins vs. John R. Wilkins. Robert Hutchinson vs. Susan Hutchinson. Hoa T. Frey vs. Richard H. Frey. Clayton Adams vs. Paige Ash. Luann Harney vs. Frank Harney. Lyle Douglas Voge Jr. vs. Ruth Jean Voge.

Misdemeanor dismissals

City of Twin Falls. James R. Hirsch, 17, 380 Park St., Twin Falls; failure to give notice of change of address; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumbach. Daniel Lee Cowles, 43, Cactus Inn, No. 8, Twin Falls; battery; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards. Grace M. Sheilder, 51, 523 Eighth Ave. E., Jerome; driving without privileges; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumbach. Charles W. Drummond, 19, 336 Fifth Ave. W., Twin Falls; failure to stop; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumbach. Edward Arthur Helean, 44, 404 Third Ave. E., Jerome; petit theft; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards.

Twin Falls County

Debbie Lynn Hughes, 22, 2913 E. 3600 N., No. 84, Twin Falls; domestic battery; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards. Jennifer A. Reese, 18, 705 Grant St., Twin Falls; possession of controlled substance; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Melvin Edwards. George A. Hill, 39, 305 13th Ave. N., Buhl; possession of controlled substance; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumbach. Shawn S. Brown, 15, 2449 Salmon, Hollister; exceed maximum speed limit; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumbach. Mark James Friel, 18, 1706 Fourth Ave. E., Twin Falls; provide proof insurance; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumbach. Clifford Lawson, 33, 547 Prospector Drive, Jerome; exceed maximum speed limit; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumbach.

Arraignments and appearances

Jason Allan Albertson, 20, 871 Second Ave. N., Twin Falls; failure to pay fines on conviction for malicious injury to property; warrant; pleaded innocent; public defender continued; \$563.50 cash bond. Alan Albertson, 20, 871 Sparks St., Twin Falls; failure to pay fines on conviction for aiding a misdemeanor; warrant; pleaded innocent; public defender continued; \$63.50 cash bond. Timothy Michael Andrae, 20, 698 Monroe St., Apt. E., Twin Falls; petit theft; resisting arrest; pleaded guilty; \$10,000 bond; public defender appointed; \$2,500 bond. Jeremy Ryan Billado, 19, 557 Second Ave. W., Twin Falls; battery; warrant for failure to appear at pretrial hearing; pleaded innocent; public defender continued; \$5,000 bond. Gary Dean Brannon, 36, 528 Fourth Ave. E., Twin Falls; aggravated assault; preliminary hearing Friday; public defender appointed; \$5,000 bond; no contact with victim ordered. Neil Hyrum Gibby, 21, 506 Gem Drive, Kimberly; driving without

privileges; possession of drug paraphernalia; malicious injury to property; possession of stolen property; resisting arrest; reckless driving; pleaded innocent; private lawyer hired; \$3,500 bond. Neil Hyrum Gibby, 21, 506 Gem Drive, Kimberly; probation violation for driving without privileges; warrant; pleaded innocent; private lawyer hired. Donald James Houlihan, age unavailable; 190 Wilson St., No. 102, Eden; driving without privileges; Washington; waived extradition; public defender appointed; \$20,000 bond. Donald James Houlihan, age unavailable, 190 Wilson St., No. 102, Eden; driving without privileges; possession of drug paraphernalia; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; \$1,000 bond. Jan Marie Kistler, 38, 2081 Elizabeth Blvd., Twin Falls; battery on an officer; pleaded innocent; public defender denied; released on own recognizance. Samuel Lopez Jr., 27, 2650 N. 48 Lane, Phoenix, Ariz.; possession of cocaine; preliminary hearing Friday; public defender appointed; \$10,000 bond. Samuel Lopez Jr., 27, 2650 N. 48 Lane, Phoenix, Ariz.; driving without privileges; possession of marijuana; possession of drug paraphernalia; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; \$1,000 bond. Clayton James Neal, 25, 1825 Kimberly Road, No. 5, Twin Falls; possession of drug paraphernalia; resisting arrest; pleaded guilty; sentenced to 31 days in jail. Michael S. Patterson, 40, address unavailable; Hagerman; driving under the influence; driving without privileges; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; \$1,200 bond. David C. Shell, 21, 3251 E. Ridge Place, Twin Falls; probation violation on conviction for driving under the influence; warrant; pleaded innocent; private lawyer hired; \$5,000 bond. John Edward Simmons, 35, 309 N. Broadway, Buhl; domestic battery; pleaded innocent; public defender appointed; \$2,500 bond; no contact with victim ordered. Andrew Bryan Trask, 19, 3701 Garrity, Nampa; petit theft; resisting arrest; pleaded innocent; waived counsel; released on own recognizance. Keven Brady Wonenberg, 35, 4400 N. 1753 E., Buhl; failure to purchase driver's license; pleaded guilty; driving under the influence; pleaded innocent; public defender denied; \$1,500 bond.

Gooding County

GOODING - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Gooding County included the following:

Arraignments and appearances

Kleo Andrew Allen, 21, 174 Second Ave. W., Wendell; probation violation for providing shelter to runaway; pleaded guilty; probation terms reinstated to July 13; encourage violations; dismissed; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Christopher Douglas Barnett, 20, P.O. Box 24, Hagerman; lewd conduct with child under 16; jury trial Feb. 22; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Kathy Irene Blumires, 41, 1888 E. 2900 S., Wendell; motion to revoke probation on possession of controlled substance; pleaded guilty; \$10,000 bond; sentencing/disposition hearing Feb. 8; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Christopher L. Dixon, 15, 424 N. Hankley, Wendell; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; sentencing Thursday; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Floyd Larry Fisher, 44, address not available; possession of con-

Gooding County

rolled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; status hearing March 16; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Jorge Flores-Quintana, 26, no address available; drug trafficking in methamphetamine; possession of controlled substance; intent manufacture/deliver; drug stamp tax violation; change plea/sentence hearing. Tuesday; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Elsa Garibay, 17, 1897 Shoestring Road, Gooding; driving without privileges; court trial March 3; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Tiodoro Marcial Garza, 17, 04923 Lake Creek Village Drive, No. 15, Edwards, Colo.; reckless driving; pleaded innocent; court trial March 3; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Sthem Kirk Hansen, 20, 613 Montana St., Gooding; possession of controlled substance; pretrial conference April 4; jury trial April 20; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Doyal L. Jacaway, 23, 506 Fifth Ave., Glens Ferry; driving without privileges; court trial March 3; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. John Edward Kelso, 45, U.S. Highway 30, Bliss; driving under the influence (aggravated); jury trial Feb. 16; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Steven Brandon Lopes, 19, 24258 S. 1100 E., Hagerman; grand theft; sentencing March 21; delivery of controlled substance; sentencing March 21; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Dustin Lee McKean, 18, 1360 E. 4000 N., Buhl; possession of drug paraphernalia; pleaded guilty; sentencing Feb. 3; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Juan Abelardo Ojeda-Leyva, age not available, 280 Fifth Ave. W., Wendell; probation violation for driving under the influence; hearing Thursday; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Charles Lee Putman, 33, 314 Seventh Ave. W., Gooding; disturbing the peace; drunkenness; battery; jury trial Monday; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Segrorio Rodriguez-Gomez, 19, 213 Colorado St., Hagerman; forgery (two counts); arraignment continued; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. James Dee Singer, 53, 314 Colorado St., Gooding; driving under the influence; change plea/sentence hearing March 14; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Simon G. Sombze, 21, 2189 E. 1375 S., Gooding; inattentive, careless driving; public defender appointed; jury trial Feb. 28; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. James Phillip Sorenson, 25, 245 Nevada St., Apt. 4, Gooding; battery (two counts); unlawful entry; jury trial Monday. Under the influence of controlled substance; jury trial Monday; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. William A. Sorg, 57, 17156, 11th Ave. N., Nampa; driving under the influence; failure to appear at hearing; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. William Harry Squiers, 24, 406 11th Ave. E.; Gooding; driving under the influence (second offense); pleaded innocent; jury trial Monday; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Todd LeRoy Valahs, 32, 1917 S. 2175 E., Gooding; use of telephone to harass and make obscene phone calls; arraignment continued Thursday. Assault; battery (two counts); arraignment continued Thursday; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.

Gooding County

trouled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; status hearing March 16; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.

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Gooding County

trouled substance; possession of drug paraphernalia; status hearing March 16; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.

Sentencings

David L. Anderson, 47, 1368 Oakridge Drive, Boise; driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$78.50 court costs; 178 suspended; 12 months' probation; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Douglas Scott Cornelison, 36, 241 Spring, Hagerman; probation violation for possession of controlled substance; \$1,000 fine; suspended, \$63.50 court costs; 90 days' jail; driving under the influence amended to driving under the influence (second offense); \$1,000 fine, suspended, \$63.50 court costs; 90 days' jail; transportation of open container; dismissed; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Jason K. Crist, 32, 2268 Bob Barton, Wendell; driving without privileges amended to failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$70.50 fine, \$63.50 court costs; dismissed; District Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Donna J. Duffy, 48, 2350 E. 4500 N., Filer; driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$78.50 court costs; 180 days' jail, 178 suspended; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Noel James Edwards, 22, 2206 S. Main St., Gooding; rape; \$1,000 fine, \$88.50 court costs; three years determinate in penitentiary, 12 years indeterminate; suspended; \$250 victim compensation; rape (two counts); dismissed; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Salvatore Pizano Estrada, 27, no address available; flee or attempt to flee police officer; \$88.50 court costs; one year determinate in penitentiary, four years indeterminate; suspended; 60 months' supervised probation; three-year driver's license suspension; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Teresa L. Gentry, 33, 617 Montana St., Gooding; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; \$134 fine, \$70.50 suspended, \$63.50 court costs; giving false information to a police officer; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Robert Roy Hall, 55, 1015 E. 4200 N., Buhl; first-degree arson, burning dwelling/structure normally inhabited; pleaded guilty; \$50,000 fine, \$88.50 court costs; 15 years determinate in penitentiary, 10 years indeterminate; \$200,000 restitution; battery; pleaded guilty; \$100 fine, \$63.50 court costs; five years determinate in penitentiary, five years indeterminate; consecutive sentence; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Dwight E. L. Harris, 54, 417 W. Fifth, Shoshone; failure to purchase/invalid driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$134 fine, \$70.50 suspended, \$63.50 court costs; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Jaime Ambriz Hurtado, 45, P.O.

Box 562, Jerome; driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$103.50 court costs; one year determinate in penitentiary, four years indeterminate; five-year driver's license suspension; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Robert W. Oliver, 31, 251 W. Idaho, Ontario, Ore.; transportation of open container; \$25 fine, \$63.50 court costs; driving under the influence (excessive) amended to driving under the influence; \$1,000 fine, \$600 suspended, \$78.50 court costs; 180 days' jail, 150 suspended; 90-day driver's license suspension, 30 absolute/immmediate; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Reggie L. Frimm, 20, 210 Opal, Kimberly; trespassing to hunt on cultivated property without permission; \$25 fine, \$71 court costs; hunting license suspended for one year; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy. Jerri Annette Reyes, 40, 2150 S. 1100 E., Bliss; driving under the influence; pleaded guilty; \$1,000 fine, \$103.50 court costs; two years determinate in penitentiary, three years indeterminate; suspended; 60 months' supervised probation; five year driver's license suspension; District Judge Nathan W. Higer. Scott L. Wagner, 32, 715 Center St. E., No. 1, Kimberly; trespassing to hunt on cultivated property without permission; pleaded guilty; \$25 fine, \$71 court costs; hunting license suspended for one year; Magistrate Judge Kevin P. Cassidy.

Dismissals

Robert Roy Hall, 55, 1015 E. 4200 N., Buhl; first-degree kidnapping; dismissed by prosecutor; District Judge Nathan W. Higer.

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Farmers get fencing materials at no cost

Grants help farm improvements protect salmon.

WARRENTON, Ore. (AP) — The Skipanon River and feeder streams that carve through Richard Tagg's family farm — once plump with slippery salmon — carry mostly smaller fish now, without the bounty that fueled generations.

"My dad used to catch salmon there, they used to be really thick," Tagg said of the waterways on the land that's been in his family since 1845.

"I heard old stories back in the '30s and '40s when they'd go down there and pitchfork 'em."

These days, it's perch, bass, catfish and trout that shimmer under the surface, scarcely a salmon to be seen.

Maybe not for long. Under a blanket of bleak rain, three men who used to make a steady living fishing and logging slog across a muddy road near the back of Tagg's 400-acre spread.

On this day, they're founding fence posts into the soggy ground. Eventually, the posts will help string together five miles of winding fence that surrounds the back property and lines the river banks.

"They've spent three weeks putting up the fence that will help contain Tagg's five dozen cows and keep them away from the river."

Soon, they'll plant thousands of trees along the waterways and native grasses to help keep the bank from breaking apart.

The work — funded through government grants and done by local fishermen hit hard by declines in the salmon industry — has an ambitious aim echoed in similar projects across Oregon: bring back the salmon.

"It's to everyone's benefit," said John Sprague, salmon coordinator for the Clatsop Soil and Water Conservation District, which heads up many of the local projects.

"It's something to help fish and these guys are getting good, family-wage jobs."

Volunteer salmon habitat restoration projects like the one at Tagg's place have become a familiar calling card in the recent grassroots movement to fix ailing

salmon runs. In the last few years, the work has exploded.

Workers with Clatsop Soil and Water Conservation's program have put up 42 miles of fencing and planted close to 80,000 trees since 1995.

The payoff comes later.

"The way I see it is that there's no guarantee that all of this is going to work, but it's better than doing nothing at all," said Sprague, a longtime commercial fisherman who turned his attention to habitat restoration when the industry started drying up.

The bottom line, he said, is giving salmon a chance to rebound. Much of the habitat restoration work focuses on farming and agricultural lands, places where livestock might trample streamside plants on their way to the river, and then foul the water.

Lining the rivers and streams with fencing will keep the cows away from the water and banks, improving the water quality and streamside.

Planting trees will provide shade and drop the water temperature so it's more suitable for young salmon.

The work is paid through government grants funneled through the local soil and water conservation district.

Landowners sign up for the program and get thousands of feet of fencing for free.

The only costs down the road are for maintenance, according to Ron Figo-Barnes, the conservation district's administrator.

Still, many property owners are skeptical about the program when it's offered to them, Sprague said.

"I'll go knocking door-to-door, offering them a free fence and sometimes they just say, 'nope, we won't do it.' They're worried that it's government interference," Sprague said.

Conservation district officials are trying to overcome that perception and often rely on word-of-mouth to get new projects. The program hasn't been a tough sell for Tagg.

Jim Edmonson, conservation director for the San Francisco-based California Trout, stands in front of Rindge Dam Friday in Malibu, Calif. Edmonson says the dam is one of the reasons for the near extinction of the southern steelhead trout. The southern steelhead is listed as federally endangered, and is just one of the many species of salmon and steelhead along the Pacific coast whose populations are in trouble.



Coalition works to save southern steelhead

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ed Henke remembers the winter steelhead runs in the Ventura River of his youth as if he were still perched beneath its cottonwoods and tule reeds, fishing rod in hand.

Anglers packed themselves shoulder-to-shoulder around the brackish estuary at the river's mouth, casting into columns of steelhead so thick they transformed the current into a ribbon of silver.

That was the 1930s and '40s, and the Ventura River wasn't unique. Biologists say the species of steelhead native to Southern California numbered close to 35,000 at the close of World War II. Today, the population is estimated at no more than 500 and as low as 200.

Environmental groups now hope to reverse that decline and spare the southern steelhead the same fate that befell the native California grizzly. Next month, a coalition that includes the Sierra Club, the National Audubon Society, the Natural Resources Defense Council, California Trout and a host of grassroots organizations will announce a campaign to pressure government into acting.

It seeks millions of dollars and staff dedicated to saving a species that once flourished from south of San Francisco to northern Baja California, hatching in rivers and streams, migrating to the Pacific and returning after several years at sea to spawn.

The southern steelhead is now largely a memory for those who

once witnessed its magnificent runs from December through March in the Los Angeles, Ventura, Santa Clara and Santa Ynez rivers and a host of smaller creeks.

Among them is Henke. "When rain-churned sediment settled in the Ventura River and the water cleared, he and his buddies would plunk hooks packed with fish eggs into the river's upstream holes, 10 feet deep and stacked with steelhead as long as their arms."

"I've just seen huge wads of them — 25, 50, 100 in a hole, with fish from top to bottom and you couldn't count them," said Henke, now 72 and living in Ashland, Ore. "It just overwhelms you the number of fish going into that system."

The southern steelhead, listed as federally endangered in 1997, is one of many species of Pacific Coast salmon and steelhead whose populations are in trouble.

Reasons for their decline are similar: dams that prevent fish from reaching upstream spawning grounds; water diversions

that reduce streams to a trickle; destruction of river beds through logging, cattle grazing and other activities.

Of the 122 streams south of San Francisco known to have contained the species, 40 no longer support viable populations, according to a 1996 restoration plan prepared by the state Resources Agency and Department of Fish and Game.

Saving those stocks from "impending extinction" should be the top priority for the state's steelhead management program, according to the document.

Yet resources have been scarce.

Of \$6.7 million in federal money budgeted for steelhead and salmon programs this year in California, the National Marine Fisheries Service dedicated less than 4 percent for the southern steelhead, said Jim Lecky, the agency's assistant regional administrator for protected resources.

Since 1981, the state Department of Fish and Game has approved an estimated \$37.3

million for steelhead and salmon restoration projects from Santa Cruz north to Oregon, said Michael Bird, senior fish habitat supervisor. For projects to the south, it approved just \$962,486 during the same period.

The state has no budget or staff dedicated to saving the species, said Terry Jackson, associate fishery biologist for the Department of Fish and Game.

"We have too much to do and too little time and way too little money," he said.

The coalition wants to change that at both the state and federal levels.

It will ask the state to hire two biologists dedicated to southern steelhead recovery; recommend the state and federal governments coordinate recovery plans; build fish ladders around dams; remove dams that are no longer useful; and, if extinction appears imminent, start a captive rearing program.

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WORLD



An Indian protester prays in front of police officers stationed outside the Congress building in Quito, Ecuador, after being forcibly removed from the building Saturday.

Ecuador's vice president takes power, stalling crisis

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Ecuador's vice president assumed the presidency of this small Andean nation Saturday — ending, at least for now, a political crisis that exploded when Indian protesters aided by a cadre of junior military officers seized power and ousted a highly unpopular president.

Vice President Gustavo Noboa's sudden ascension came after Ecuador's military chief, buckling to U.S. pressure, dissolved a three-man junta that had claimed power just few hours earlier. Noboa becomes the sixth president since 1996 in this troubled nation, which has suffered years of political and economic turmoil.

The handover of power came a day after political tensions boiled over in Quito, the capital.

Angry at ousted president Jamil Mahuad's inability to stop Ecuador's economic slide, hundreds of Indian protesters

Radical students dismiss vote, won't end strike

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The university directory calls it the Jose Valdano classroom, but to the band of students who have been living here for the last nine months it's "the Igloo."

"The light doesn't come in through the windows fully and it gets cold," says Alejandro, a 30-year-old architecture student who doesn't give his last name because of possible criminal repercussions.

Despite a referendum on Thursday in which administrators, faculty members and students at Latin America's largest university voted overwhelmingly in favor of ending a strike, the radical students who have occupied the main campus at the National Autonomous University are living just as they have for the past nine months — and don't plan to go anywhere.

The strikers' main demand was clear: Scrap an idea to raise tuition from a token few cents to the equivalent of \$150 a year.

The voting Thursday merely confirmed what most Mexicans already know: Most people at the 268,000-student university want the strikers to move out and let things get back to normal.

G-7 treasurers support U.S.

Knight Ridder News Service

TOKYO — U.S. Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers won broad support from his G-7 counterparts Saturday for a "more balanced pattern of growth" among the world's richest countries, hoping to reduce the world's dependence on the American consumer as the key force driving global economic expansion.

At the same time, however, finance members from the world's seven richest nations offered scant evidence that they would force down the value of the Japanese yen, as the Japanese had dearly hoped. Instead of suggesting worry, they offered an upbeat diagnosis of the world economy.

"We see improved prospects for non-inflationary growth in the major industrial economies as a whole," said the final statement of the Group of Seven finance ministers and central bankers,



German Finance Minister Hans Eichel, left, and U.S. Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers, center, listen to Italy's Treasury Secretary Giuliano Amato as they stroll in a Tokyo garden for a group photo Saturday.

urging the rich nations to take advantage of the robust investment opportunities being created by high technology.

With America's \$26.5 trade

deficit looming in the background, Summers repeatedly urged his counterparts to do more to get their economic engines cranked up and running.

Atomic energy inspectors check Iraqi nuclear sites

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — An International Atomic Energy Agency team began searching Iraqi nuclear sites Saturday in the first inspection by a world body in more than a year.

The team arrived in Baghdad on Friday for the first visit by monitors from the Vienna-based organization since U.N. weapons inspectors left the country in late 1998 on the eve of U.S.-British airstrikes.

"We will start our first round this morning," was all that Ahmad Abuzahra, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, said as he and five monitors left their hotel.

Their job is to make sure Iraq's nuclear stocks are not used for military purposes.

"We are here to perform routine physical inventory checking for nuclear material," he said.

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Russian troops try to win civilian favor

URUS-MARTAN, Russia (AP) — The Russian tank smashed into a red brick wall that Islamic militants had built as an execution spot, a way to enforce their rule and intimidate Chechen residents. Cheers and shouts of approval rose from the hundreds of people in the surrounding crowd.

Demolishing the wall was a key part of the Russian military's efforts to win the support of people in Urus-Martan and surrounding towns and restore government control.

Other measures in this heart-and-minds campaign include helping find the bodies of civilians killed in the fighting and promising aid to rebuild shattered towns.

It's an uphill struggle, local official Tokha Chugayev admits. The Russian-backed administration has few resources to offer people.

Every time Chugayev goes outside, he is surrounded by residents demanding to know what the military will do to repair their damaged houses. He can only list, since the military has given little or no actual aid.

Urus-Martan and nearby villages were badly damaged in December, when the Russians drove out rebel fighters. Most windows are covered by ragged plastic foil that can't keep out the freezing winter winds.

One of Chechnya's largest



Russian soldiers guard a school around the clock Thursday in Tolstoy-Yurt, six miles northeast of Grozny. The school has a newly opened computer classroom presented by Russian Interior Minister Vladimir Ruzhiko. Russian troops marched into breakaway Chechnya in September 1999 after militants based there staged armed attacks on the neighboring Russian region of Dagestan.

cities, Urus-Martan was until recently a major base for Islamic militants. But most residents in the city, 12 miles south of Chechnya's capital Grozny, had little sympathy for the rebels —

members of the radical Wahhabi sect who sought to establish their rigid version of Islamic rule. The militants built the execution wall, where two men were publicly killed by the Wahhabis

shortly before the Russians captured the city late last year. Residents said one victim was accused of raping and killing a woman and the other was a drug dealer.

Slaying of Serb warlord might be gangland hit, not political

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — A week after the slaying of Serb warlord Arkan, police announced the arrests of three suspects Saturday and implied that the killing was probably a gangland hit, not a political move to keep the victim quiet about Yugoslav war crimes.

The announcement followed widespread rumors that President Slobodan Milosevic's security services had killed Arkan, whose real name was Zeljko Raznjatovic, because the warlord knew too much about

high-level government involvement.

Police Col. Milenko Ericic identified the three suspects as Dobrosav Gavric, 23, allegedly the triggerman; Dejan Pitulic, 33; and Vujadin Krstic, 36. Ericic identified two of the three as current or former police officers. Pitulic was fired from the police force last year and Gavric was officially on sick leave because of links to criminals, he said.

Few details about the third suspect, Krstic, were released.

Sweden hosts international conference on Holocaust

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — Three years ago, the government

was stunned to learn that nearly a third of Swedish youths did not believe the Holocaust took place. It immediately launched an ambitious information campaign, a so-called Living History project that included films, lecture series, seminars and a free book, translated into several languages, to guide parents in talking to their children about the Holocaust.

"I have my doubts if there is anybody in Sweden who doesn't know about the Holocaust anymore," said Lena Posner-Korosi,

president of the Stockholm Jewish Community.

Sweden's effort is being highlighted at a conference starting Wednesday in Stockholm. The three-day International Forum on the Holocaust is drawing more than 600 delegates and more than 650 journalists from more than 40 countries and dozens of organizations.

The gathering — which coincides with the Holocaust Remembrance Day commemorated Thursday in many countries — will feature speeches by Nobel laureate Elie Wiesel.

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- To promote wellness of the expectant mother, with the optimum goal of a healthy baby

CHILD BIRTH PREPARATION PROGRAM

PREPARED CHILDBIRTH PROGRAM

CLASS SCHEDULE 1999-2000

It is recommended you complete classes in your 37-38th week of pregnancy.

Day of Week	Beginning	Ending
Wednesday	Feb. 9	March 8
Tuesday	Feb. 22	March 21
Thursday	March 9	April 6
Wednesday	March 29	April 26
Tuesday	April 11	May 9
Thursday	April 27	May 25
Wednesday	May 17	June 14
Tuesday	May 30	June 27
Thursday	June 15	July 13
Wednesday	July 5	August 2
Tuesday	July 18	August 15
Thursday	August 3	August 31
Wednesday	August 23	Sept. 20
Tuesday	Sept. 5	October 3
Thursday	Sept. 21	October 19
Wednesday	October 11	Nov. 8
Tuesday	October 24	Nov. 28
Thursday	Nov. 9	Dec. 14
Wednesday	Nov. 29	Dec. 27
Tuesday	Dec. 12	Jan. 9, 2001
Thursday	Jan. 4, 2001	Feb. 1, 2001

For information regarding the availability of Saturday childbirth classes, please call 737-2900.

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Saturdays each month from 10 to 11:30 a.m.
 Cost: \$7.50/child or \$10/family.

February 5	March 4	April 8
May 6	June 3	July 8
August 5	September 9	October 7
November 4	December 2	

January 6, 2001

CESAREAN CHILDBIRTH CLASS

The third class of each Childbirth Preparation Program will be available to anyone wishing to learn more about cesarean deliveries. Post-partum care instructions, medications, hospital procedures, non-conforming labors, and a tour of Labor and Delivery will be covered. (Pre-registration is not required for this program.)

Evenings, 7-9:30 p.m. Cost: \$15.

Thursday, Feb. 3	Wednesday, Feb. 23
Tuesday, March 7	Thursday, March 23
Wednesday, April 12	Tuesday, April 25
Thursday, May 11	Wednesday, May 31
Tuesday, June 13	Thursday, June 29
Wednesday, July 19	Tuesday, Aug. 1
Thursday, Aug. 17	Wednesday, Sept. 6
Tuesday, Sept. 19	Thursday, Oct. 5
Wednesday, Oct. 25	Tuesday, Nov. 14
Thursday, Nov. 30	Wednesday, Dec. 13
Tuesday, Dec. 26	Thursday, Jan. 18, 2001
Wednesday, Jan. 31, 2001	

INFANT CPR CLASSES

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New parents, grandparents, and caregivers are encouraged to learn infant CPR and what to do if the infant should choke. Child safety and prevention of injury is also discussed.

Evenings, 7-9:30 p.m. No charge.

Tuesday, Feb. 1	Thursday, Feb. 17
Wednesday, March 8	Tuesday, March 21
Thursday, April 6	Wednesday, April 26
Tuesday, May 9	Thursday, May 25
Wednesday, June 14	Tuesday, June 27
Thursday, July 13	Wednesday, Aug. 2
Tuesday, Aug. 15	Thursday, Aug. 31
Wednesday, Sept. 20	Tuesday, Oct. 3
Thursday, Oct. 19	Wednesday, Nov. 8
Tuesday, Nov. 28	Thursday, Dec. 14
Wednesday, Dec. 27	Tuesday, Jan. 9, 2001

CAR SEATS

Installation instruction and information is available by Calling Magic Valley Safe Kids at 737-2430.

CHILDBIRTH REFRESHER CLASS

The second class of each Childbirth Preparation Program will be offered for persons who have previously taken any prepared childbirth course. Childbirth preparation and medical center procedures will be reviewed. Tours of the labor/delivery area will be given.

New class each month. Evenings, 7-10 p.m. Cost: \$15.

Thursday, Jan. 27	Wednesday, Feb. 16
Tuesday, Feb. 29	Thursday, March 16
Wednesday, April 5	Tuesday, April 18
Thursday, May 4	Wednesday, May 24
Tuesday, June 6	Thursday, June 22
Wednesday, July 12	Tuesday, July 25
Thursday, Aug. 10	Wednesday, Aug. 30
Tuesday, Sept. 12	Thursday, Sept. 28
Wednesday, Oct. 18	Tuesday, Nov. 7
Thursday, Nov. 16	Wednesday, Dec. 6
Tuesday, Dec. 19	Thursday, Jan. 11, 2001
Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2001	

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EDITORIAL

Ag lab deserves credit for a powerful comeback

The Idaho Food Quality Assurance Laboratory has come a long way since scandal slammed shut its doors four years ago. Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's proposal to resume state funding for the lab is a powerful message that the lab has regained the respect of Idaho's political leaders.

That's an important piece of news for Idaho's farmers, and for Idaho communities that rely on agriculture to power their economies. In an age of food scares and avid activism by groups that sow distrust of farm products, credibility may become the most valuable of all farm commodities.

Credibility was what the Idaho Legislature had in mind when it created the lab on the College of Southern Idaho campus in 1993. Lawmakers recognized that one of the best things

have taken the right steps in the years since then. Affiliation with the University of Idaho restored confidence in the lab's scientific professionalism. Oversight by a broad consortium of interest groups gave it accountability. Financial support from the state's commodity commissions, primarily the Potato Commission, gave it a bridge of stability until state leaders could be persuaded of the lab's rehabilitation.

News reports from the state Capitol last week suggested that the necessary persuasion has taken place. Kempthorne's budget proposal included \$100,000 for the lab - a modest but significant amount.

Kempthorne's proposal is slightly less than the lab received from the state in 1995, its last year of state funding. That's appropriate, because at the time of its closure, legislators were trying to wean the lab from state support. It's also timely, because support from the commodity groups has been scheduled to run out next year.

A renewal of state support would provide the lab with a more dependable long-term financial base. It also would signal that the state recognizes and endorses the importance of the lab's mission.

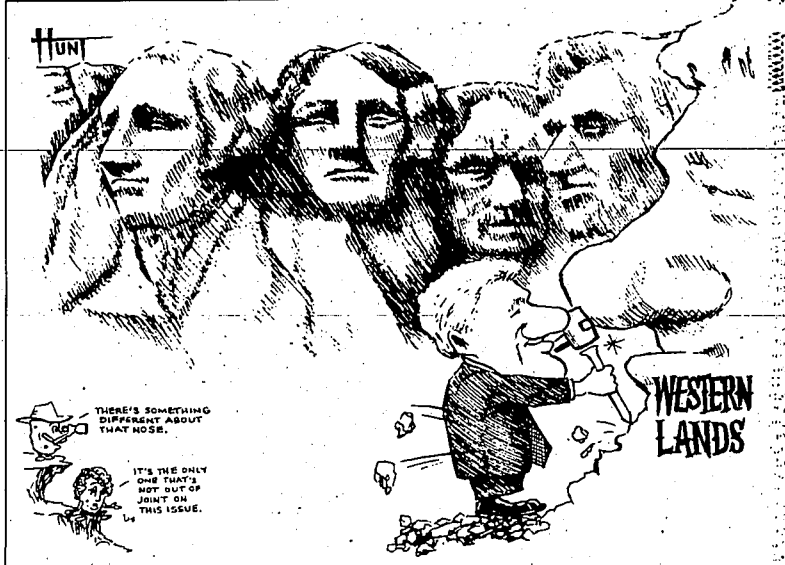
Four years ago, the lab teetered at the edge of extermination. The strength of its comeback is a tribute to the resolve and hard work of its staff and its supporters.

Try to name any edible product that is more widely recognized and respected than the Idaho potato. The value of such a broadly positive image can't be measured in dollars.

they could do for Idaho's economy was to ensure worldwide consumer confidence in the purity and quality of Idaho's farm products.

If the wisdom of that idea isn't immediately apparent, try to name any edible product that is more widely recognized and respected than the Idaho potato. The value of such a broadly positive image can't be measured in dollars.

The allegations of mismanagement that led then-Gov. Phil Batt to close the lab were a blow not only to the lab itself, but to all of Idaho agriculture. But the lab's supporters (led by Sen. Laird Noh of Kimberly)



State of Iowa hogs all the GOP perks

Iowa looks like a different state this week as it prepares for Monday's presidential delegate caucuses under a blanket of snow - a stunning contrast to the warm, sunny Saturday last August when the Republicans conducted their presidential straw vote in nearby Ames. But it's the same state. And that is the problem.

For more years than I care to remember, I have defended the right of Iowa and New Hampshire to lead off the nominating process, against the many critics who ask why two such relatively small and arguably unprivileged states should always have the privilege of taking first crack at the candidates.

Defending Iowa and New Hampshire is easy, because over the years, I have learned how seriously the voters of these two states take their responsibilities. They make it their business to check out the White House aspirants with care. From high school assemblies to insurance company auditoriums and from church basements and coffee shops to libraries and town halls, they turn out to quiz the candidates and size up their characters.

The media in both states also take politics seriously, and the dialogue on talk shows and in letters-to-the-editor columns gives everyone a chance to be heard - and to compare their own views with those of their neighbors. It may not be an ideal system; certainly it is true that minorities are underrepresented in the two electorates. But it is a good thing for this democracy that, before the candidates are swept up in an expensive exercise of mass communications in the later primaries and the general election, they engage in sustained, face-to-face conversation with the voters of these two states.

But what happens in Iowa and New Hampshire is more than conversation; it's an elimination contest. And at least on the Republican side, Iowa has contrived to make the candidates jump through two hoops: first, the August straw poll and then the delegate caucuses. To be blunt about it, Iowa doesn't deserve two bites at the apple, when so many other states get none.

The Iowa Republican Party, according to its chairman, Kayne Robinson, said the presidential campaigns about 35,000 tickets (at \$25 a head) for last August's event in Ames, and almost 24,000 people were patient enough to wait in line to mark their presidential preferences in a straw vote that had no official status except for the publicity the press gave it.

On Monday, Robinson expects four to five times as many Republicans to brave the wintry blasts and demonstrate enough patience to spend two hours or more at precinct caucuses that will actually bring the Iowa delegate selection process. Unless Robinson and other Republican veterans are all wet, Monday's result will duplicate last August's find: George W. Bush, first; Steve Forbes, second; everybody else, fighting for scraps.

The score will likely be the same, because the straw poll and the caucuses test the same thing: the ability of candidate organizations to turn out a fraction of the voting population for an arduous endurance exam. Those who have the



DAVID S. BRODER

most to spend on organizing - Bush and Forbes - are almost sure to win. It is useful to test those organizations; but to do it twice in six months in the same place is redundant. Iowa Republican leaders love the "double-dipping," because, as Robinson told me, the visiting national campaigns have helped the state GOP raise about \$1.5 million in this cycle. But at quite a cost: The straw poll campaign was so expensive, and the payoff so paltry, that two seasoned candidates, Dan Quayle and Lamar Alexander, pulled out of the race soon after, and a third, Pat Buchanan, decided to leave the GOP and seek the Reform Party nomination. That's a fairly hefty price for the national party to pay so the Iowa Republicans can feel flush.

Iowa Democrats will also caucus Monday night, with the advantage of labor and teachers' support making Al Gore a strong favorite over Bill Bradley. But the Democrats had no straw-poll preference, and no one bailed out of their race prematurely.

The national GOP is re-examining its nominating process. It would be well justified in telling Iowa Republicans, "We love you guys a lot, but you really have to choose elsewhere to work the financial and publicity bonanza of your straw poll, then delay your caucuses until other states have started picking delegates in the election year. And if you want to be first in electing delegates, then scrap the straw poll - or some other state have that wonderful summertime event in the pre-election year."

There are lots of states, south and west of here, that would be happy to fill the breach.

David S. Broder is a Washington Post columnist.

The Times-News

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Idaho, not Uncle Sam, should manage wildlife in our state

Regarding state endangered species protection. Discussion has been growing over the last few years in Idaho over state management of non-game, threatened and endangered wildlife. But unlike most other parts of the United States, the discussion still has not matured here.

Because of Idaho's or even maliciousness toward non-game, non-endangered wildlife, we are regularly squandering our right, protected under the U.S. Constitution, to manage these resources. We have no right to complain if other Americans feel compelled to intervene under the federal Endangered Species Act to conserve our collective wildlife heritage if we won't take advantage of the opportunity to authorize and fund management at the state level.

In part because of my years of experience as a federal endangered species biologist, I believe the state could often do a better job managing non-game, threatened and endangered wildlife resources. Currently, roughly 30 federal biologists - including me - work in Idaho primarily to conserve endangered species, and we're almost all in Boise. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game has hundreds of employees based in seven different regional offices around the state. Who do you think is more responsive in serving the public and more well-informed at the field level about species status, management conflicts and other issues?

All we need to do is empower and fund the department to serve our needs. For such efforts to be effective and worthwhile for all, those needs should be consistent with the broader need to conserve species as required in the federal ESA.

In my years of endangered species work, I have yet to meet an Idahoan who advocates extraction of any species, so achieving consistency with federal law should not be difficult. Usually, concerns over endangered species stem from fear of federal regulations, not a desire to see species become extinct, and this is where state involvement can help.

For example, the state should be involved in leading wolf recovery because it could more efficiently monitor wolf packs concerning their annual and respond more quickly to public concerns and address manage-

READER COMMENT

Edward D. Koch

ment needs more sensitively from any of its regional offices. Also, working with a familiar person helps during times of conflict, such as authority and jurisdiction, and more citizens know Fish and Game employees than most federal biologists.

The state could develop conservation plans and receive permits authorizing take of currently listed species on state or private lands, reducing uncertainty over future regulation under the ESA. Even better, such conservation planning for species not yet listed under the ESA could preclude the need to list species altogether, leaving management authority entirely in the hands of the state.

The state could also pay private landowners for conservation easements or buy land and protect habitat outright. State dollars can often be used to leverage matching federal and private funds for species conservation, gaining far more in conservation value than what Idahoans would have to pay. Species such as salmon, bull trout, lynx, snails and others could all be managed with more, such as authority and jurisdiction, and with a greater likelihood of achieving successful species conservation.

In almost every surrounding state, citizens are far better served on this issue than we are here in Idaho. We should all support passage of a bill to allow the state of Idaho to manage all non-game species, and to provide adequate funding for such management.

Edward "Ted" D. Koch has been an endangered species biologist in Idaho and the Pacific Northwest for more than 10 years. He is president of the Idaho Chapter of the American Fisheries Society and a past president of the Idaho Herpetological Society.

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When you're older, you'll get it

To Renee Jesse: While I find your reasons against school uniforms thought provoking, I do not agree. Do not get me wrong; I understand your reasoning. However, there are some positives about school uniforms.

They reduce class barriers between students. I understand there will always be some separation, and that is an unfair fact of life. But why promote this separation because one child's parents can afford a Mercedes & Fitch while another's can only afford a Kmart? Further, the reason some kids do not like others is jealousy. Uniforms eliminate a lot of that because no one looks any different than anyone else, which brings me to my next point - individuality.

School is no place for it. You are in school to acquire skills to promote yourself in life. You are there to learn how to be a productive, self-supporting adult. You are not there to prove what an individual you are. If you want to show your individuality, do it academically or by achievement. You don't have to have a 4.0 grade-point average to shine. Just do everything to the best of your ability.

One of the positive aspects of uniforms is the elimination of gang-like attire. The education system has no place for baggy pants and oversized coats. It detracts from the purpose of school.

There is one point I do agree with you on, and that is the attire of our educators. When I see Valley High School 20-some years ago, teachers dressed professionally. They were respected; jeans, sweat-shirts and the like were not acceptable.

LETTERS

As I progressed, the dress code began to change and teachers began to dress more casually, probably in an attempt to "relate" to their students. Instead of relating, which should not be their objective, they lost their authority and respect in the classroom.

Although you may not agree with me now, when you are older you will understand. The way you dress makes an incredible impact on the way you are perceived. Potential employers, peers, it doesn't matter. You are instantly assessed by your appearance, and first impressions are often the strongest, and the hardest to dispel.

Best of luck to you, Renee. Though I do not agree with you (don't worry; my stepchildren do), I wish you the best. HEATHER PILKINTON Wendell

Education must dominate agenda

Re: "Study Slams Idaho Education" Idaho received an F for teacher quality and the effort to improve it. As we know, education is a local obligation; state, county and school district, and thus, the rating of F is our local responsibility. The governor is a Republican who hired an expert to look to his educational adviser. He is paying Mr. Morley more than \$85,000 a year when Idaho has its own constitutional Superintendent of Education, Marilyn Howard, in office.

The Idaho Legislature is dominated by the Republican Party, and all of lower Magic Valley is Republican. One wonders if bashing education has become almost a cliché, but since this was a national firm that did the ranking, we

must pay attention. It appears that the problem is mostly teachers' salaries, which are not competitive with neighboring states, so the more qualified teachers go elsewhere to work. The F grade apparently is related only to salaries. Idaho teachers are dedicated professionals. The F grade implies that the teachers are sloppy if not incompetent, and that is not true.

The quality of education should dominate the discussion of the Legislature. The Legislature continues to fund the staff of Gov. Kempthorne, including this fellow Morley.

The administrative staff receives a combined income of \$3 million, and that will not solve the educational problem; but it will help. In any event, education has been thrust before us as one of our primary problems. So there should be a report from the Legislature and the governor as to what they have done to improve the quality. Marilyn Howard has a package of legislation, which she will submit. She states that the package cannot be a cure for the education problem, but it will help.

Thus, the question posed in The Times-News each week should be: "What is the Legislature doing about our grade F?" "Is it going to fund the \$80,000-plus administrative assistants to the governor?" and, in particular, the \$85,000 assistant who gives advice on education.

Somewhat separate, but still a part of education, is a question for Sen. Larry Craig: "As a member of National Rifle Association, why should guns be allowed at any school function, anywhere, anytime?" LLOYD J. WALKER Twin Falls

Celebrity cases suggest U.S. drug war is being fought as a class war

Do you suppose they were radically profiling Whitey Houston when they looked for pot in her luggage? Maybe, but her case suggests that even if authorities did use race to seek out a suspect, they were also intimidated by her wealth and power. Indeed, the wealthy and the powerful don't usually object to drug law enforcement — as long as it's not enforced on them.

On Jan. 11, the black singer was stopped at an airport security checkpoint in Hawaii when authorities allegedly found half an ounce of marijuana in one of her bags. Security officers, who can only make arrests for violations relating to airplane safety, asked her to wait for the police, but she boarded her flight, which took off 30 minutes before the cops arrived.

However, just as the cops weren't exactly racing to keep her from leaving, so prosecutors seemed content to merely warn her against returning to the Aloha State. After all, what law enforcer wants a hassle with a well-lavendered defendant? Everyone fighting the drug war knows it's OK to throw little fish in just to get the fish, it's better to throw them back. And so a rainbow coalition of celebrities — including Oliver Stone, Darryl Strawberry and Lawrence Taylor — have all been busted recently for drug offenses, but none has suffered more than a fine and probation.

Indeed, the true feelings of the chatter-culture complex were made clear after a report about the government's screening of prime-time TV scripts. The Office of National Drug Control

JAMES P. PINKERTON

Policy has been kibitzing with the networks to goose shows with anti-drug messages. The media establishment was outraged; The New York Times editorialized against "censorship and state-sponsored propaganda." Yet, if drugs are the enemy, why shouldn't everyone be enlisted in the fight?

The answer, of course, is that the elites are far more afraid of Big Brotherish meddling with the First Amendment than they are of drugs, as long as they are politely and privately consumed. So drug enforcement is OK — if it's aimed at someone else. There's a word for this: hypocrisy. And because of that hypocrisy, the drug war rages, not in the elite suites, but on the mean streets. There, mostly working-class cops — a high percentage of them minority — do battle with mostly lower-class drugies, and both sides lose.

In last week's debate in Iowa, Democratic presidential candidates Bill Bradley and Al Gore noisily declared their opposition to racial profiling, but where were they when the decision was made to profile whole population groups? Where were they when the cops instituted zero-tolerance enforcement against whole neighborhoods? According to the Sentencing Project, a Washington-based research group, African Americans constitute 13 percent of all monthly drug users; they represent 35 percent of arrests for drug possession, 55 percent of

convictions, and 74 percent of prison sentences.

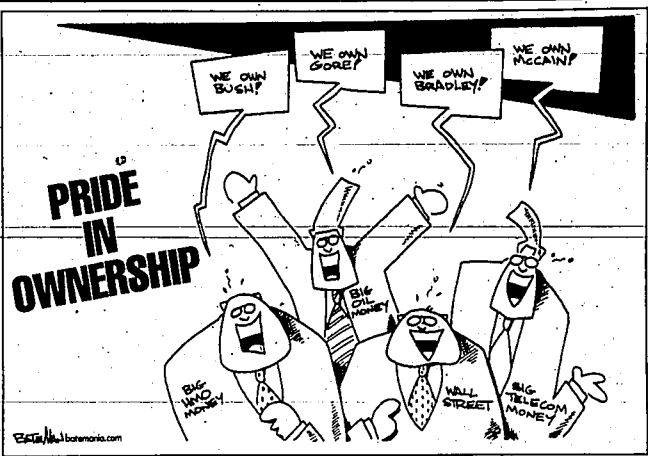
So while some urban areas are being decimated, what's less understood is the detrimental effect the drug enforcement crusade is having on the police. Joseph D. McNamara is a former New York City cop; coming from a family of cops, who went on to be the police chief of Kansas City, Mo., and then San Jose, Calif. Now a research fellow at the Hoover Institution at Stanford University, he cites thousands of cases of police corruption and brutality stemming from the war on drugs in his forthcoming book, "Gangster Cops: The Hidden Cost of America's War on Drugs."

McNamara's sympathies are with the police, but he sees the current anti-drug effort as moral quicksand. "We've been telling cops they're in a war," McNamara says, "and in a war, there's no due process."

He adds, "The tough tactics that cops use in minority neighborhoods wouldn't be tolerated for a week in a white neighborhood."

To the elites today, drugs are an occasional source of recreation, not a source of embarrassment, but rarely a topic of serious discussion. In the meantime, on the other side of the tracks, a furious war rages on. That war is not all the fiercer because combatants know, in their heart of hearts, that the larger society — including singers, sitcom writers and politicians — doesn't care what horrors are committed in the name of social order.

James P. Pinkerton is a columnist for Newsday.



LETTER

Appreciate roses of family

We buried my mother, Viola Koch, in Wendell on Jan. 5. Among the condolences sent to us was one from friends in New Hampshire with the closing line: "God gave us memories so we can have roses in winter." I had heard the thought before, but it took on a new meaning for me this week.

We have fond memories of Mom, but I appreciated to a new degree how our friends and family members have added to those memories. They have come through the immediate family but also through the members of the extended family who have been quick to arrange and attend get-togethers when some of us "came by," through those who arranged reunions and researched and printed family histories, shared pictures and correspondence and linked us by telephone and e-mail. What they did and how they did it is all part of the memories. The church is part of that family, and how comforting to have a home church from which to bury Mom; how many memories flooded back as we shared that building with members — living and departed,

who had praised God's name with us there.

In my comments in our 50th class reunion book, I thanked the citizens of Wendell for having provided schools for Martina and me, for our children while I was in Vietnam and for being kind to our parents through their many years there. Last week, I realized how they had taken us to their hearts, even when we were boisterous youth who weren't always very considerate, and that they are still holding us close. To all who have been part of these memories, I

say, "thank you." The circle goes far beyond family or Wendell or the Lutheran Church. It includes all of the personal friends and all of you who built the communities in which we lived. To those of you who were part of our world of memories, thank you so very much.

To those who are not appreciating your families and not building memories, I would say, "Wake up before it is too late. There are roses available for your next winter."

GLENN A. KOCH
Peoria, Ariz.

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Medicare can make, break Clinton legacy

More than anything, President Clinton wants to — needs to — take on the mantle of statesman in his last year in office. A year of state-making leadership could help him leave office on a high note, rather than the low note that has marred much of his tenure.

The president will have lots of opportunities to make his mark. The Union message later this month to establish a legacy of achievement — especially when it comes to Medicare and Social Security. Can he do it? Will he do it?

Last year, the Bipartisan Commission on the Future of Medicare, led by Democratic Sen. John Breaux (La.) and House Republican Bill Thomas (Calif.), created a proposal to save — or at least delay — the financial collapse of the Medicare program.

Part of the reform package recommended by the commission was a prescription drug benefit for seniors on Medicare. However, the commission was never able to gain the two-thirds majority it needed to send a recommendation to Congress because Clinton's appointees to the commission killed it by one vote. Unable to pass a whole dose of Clinton Care, they were unwilling to settle for something that would ease the pain.

The president's plan would have paid half of a senior's prescription drug costs up to a maximum of \$2,000 — with the government matching each dollar the senior spent up to \$1,000. The administration expected millions of seniors to join the plan. Indeed, there is a good chance that if passed it would eventually become the only prescription drug benefit — though the administration would certainly deny this point.

By contrast, most of the members on the Bipartisan Commission wanted a very limited drug benefit to help low-

MERRILL MATTHEWS JR.

income seniors who don't have prescription drug coverage and can't afford to pay for prescription drugs out of pocket.

What we're talking about between the two plans is the difference between a safety net and a hammock — only the president's hammock would be very unstable. Recently, some of the major drug companies have come out endorsing a limited drug-coverage plan, as has the Republican Party and most of the Republican presidential candidates, including Texas Gov. George W. Bush.

Of course, any legislation that gets the government involved in providing drugs for seniors would have to be crafted very carefully if we don't want the government in our medicine cabinets. Congress might also consider helping states set up prescription drug benefit programs for their low-income citizens, as 13 states have already done on their own. The solution is to make it easier for insurers to offer supplemental drug coverage. Finally, Congress could provide low-income seniors with a voucher to buy prescription drug coverage.

Thus the president probably can have a Medicare legacy, but he is going to have to be willing to work with the other side to address their concerns. Clinton is also reviving his Universal Savings Accounts proposal for saving Social Security. USA accounts don't actually save anything, they simply divvy up a part of the federal budget surplus and hand it out to lower- and middle-income Americans. Higher-income workers are phased out under the plan.

In future years, retirees would use funds from their USA accounts to offset the decreased

benefits coming from the financially strapped Social Security.

Is that a bad deal? Not necessarily, and if the president is willing to work with Republicans, he could establish a legacy in Social Security.

For one thing, Republicans will want to address the long-term solvency of Social Security. In addition, it is not clear from the president's proposal whether a USA account would be a private retirement account, similar to a 401(k), that would belong to the individual or an account held and controlled by the government. Most Republicans would demand that the account belong to the individual.

That's because one of the clearest principles in the Republican Party currently is that people, not bureaucrats, ought to be making their own decisions. People in consultation with their doctors ought to determine which drugs they need, and people in consultation with their financial advisors ought to determine how they should invest for their retirement.

In other words there are a lot of people and a lot of ideas about how to help seniors get prescription drug coverage or additional money for their retirement. A leader wanting a legacy would see that as an opportunity to move forward. A politician with an agenda would see that as an opportunity to condemn the other side.

Merrill Matthews Jr. is a national commentator and political analyst for the USA Radio Network.

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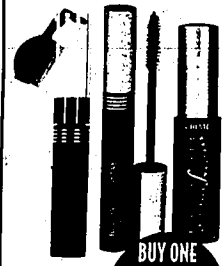
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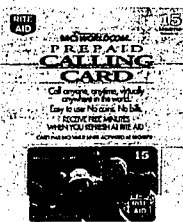
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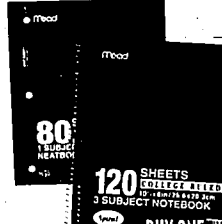
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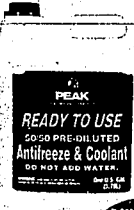
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INSIDE
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The Times-News

Sunday, January 23, 2000

Section B

Don't ever listen to your mother

My favorite writer, Garrison Keillor, says that one of two things happen to small-town women after their turn of 50.

First, they can become Republican Babes, who stop going to Luther League meetings, streak their hair blonde, apply for a Nordstrom's credit card, and take vacations at casinos, where they sip cocktails with paper umbrellas while listening to Frankie Valli tribute acts.

Or they can become Earth Mothers, acquiring knit vests, Save the Whales bumper stickers and heavy turquoise jewelry and hanging out with Unitarians.

The reason for such drastic changes, Keillor theorizes, is that by your seventh decade, there are no female authority figures left to tell you what you shouldn't do.

By then, Grandma is long gone and your mother and your aunts are otherwise occupied at the Happy Acres Assisted Living Center.

Fascinating theory, that: For country folks - women especially - there is no force on earth as devastating as the question, "Is THAT what you're wearing?"

It's curious why. By and large, small-town women are self-reliant to a fault. Why else do you suppose that there are 35 years

worth of canned rhubarb in every basement in the Magic Valley?

And yet even the implied disapproval of her mother can keep an otherwise stalwart country gal wearing print house dresses and buying ethyl gas for the Buick well into her 50s.

So Independence Day comes late - usually after a woman takes store-bought, and not homemade, potato salad to a family dinner for the first time and nobody says a thing.

Then one day, she has an epiphany: "It's Saturday morning and I'm cleaning the oven; why am I wearing pantyhose?"

The realization that it's nobody's damn business-but-my-own strikes like a thunderclap among Crump women of a certain age.

They're all Mormons or Baptists, so none of them has read "The Feminine Mystique." Yet somehow, after the kids get raised, hell gets raised.

One cousin became a long-haul trucker at 57. A widowed greeter sold her farm, bought a boot-repair shop in town, and married a calligrapher.

Usually, though, the changes are more subtle: Lifelong Soropontists become Democratic precinct committeewomen. Former Relief Society presidents take up her door as a matronly pick-up get traded in for Lincoln Town Cars.

The husbands, when they're still in the picture, seem largely irrelevant to this process. It's doctrine in my family that there's no point trying to do a matronly pick-up woman with "a burr in her saddle blanket."

My cousin Althea especially. She grew up in a prosperous family so cheap that her father never bought a furnace: They heated their seven-room farmhouse with a wood stove.

Until well into the '60s, two-gallon maple syrup cans that had been hammered flat covered holes in the family's kitchen linoleum. When we went over there for Sunday dinner, we'd always took along a bottle of ketchup to cover up the taste of underdone fried potatoes.

Althea married a lousy farmer. Fields got neglected and payments were missed, and Tobias always managed to sell his crops at the very bottom of the market.

Sill Althea managed to keep the family together until after their youngest son went off the Navy, when she dumped Toby's sorry backside and moved to Fossil.

Within two weeks, she was a bookkeeper for a grain elevator there. Within two years, she was running the place.

She recently lost her second husband, who developed real estate in Hawaii. Althea, who'll turn 70 on Valentine's Day, lives on some of it.

Along with her pink plastic flamingos and her Harley.

Times-News features editor Steve Crump last saw Cousin Althea at a family reunion 10 years ago. She was wearing a bikini jacket, and nobody asked her why.

Pool makes bigger splash than expected

By John T. Huddy
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The city's newly covered pool is attracting more winter swimmers than officials had expected.

"When we did our budget structure, we based the budget on an average of 120 people per day," Aquatic Director Gretchen G. Scott said. "We're averaging about 150 per day on open-swim days."

Open-swim days last summer typically drew between 120 and 300 people, according to a city report. So an average of 150 people on a winter day isn't bad,

Jumping in

Pool prices:
Age 4 to 12 - \$2.50
13 and up - \$3

Open swim hours:
Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays - 3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Wednesdays and Fridays - 3:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturdays and Sundays - 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

considering the pool has much shorter hours during the winter, Scott said.

The pool opened for the winter in early December, after a fund

Special events:
Open kayaking will be held from 7:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Feb. 1 and 15. Cost is \$5 and includes a kayak.

A senior swim program will start Feb. 1. Hours will be from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. The cost is \$3.

For more pool information, call 734-2336.

drive raised more than \$230,000 in donations for a removable cover.

Scott said officials had projected the pool's cost at \$20,179 per

month during the winter. They haven't yet seen a full set of monthly bills to learn whether the forecast was accurate, she said.

"We don't know how much natural gas is being used yet," she said.

A slight hike in the pool's fees rates and continued attendance during swimming hours will help pay for pool operations, Scott said.

While the winter season at the pool has just begun, pool officials are getting ready for the summer.

"We're putting together a lesson schedule," she said.

Scott said she would like to get more people to take swim lessons, which cost between \$25 and \$33. Lesson attendance has been low so far this winter, but it should pick up by the summer, she said.

One plan Scott is working on for the summer is a "Dive-In-Movie." A projector would be set up at the pool during the summer, and every week a movie would be shown while people floated on inner-tubes.

Times-News staff writer John T. Huddy can be reached in Twin Falls at 733-0931, Ext. 239 or by e-mail at jhuddy@magicvalley.com

THE FIRST OF MANY



Wahle Szczepanowski was one of the tour guides Saturday at the first guided tour of the Earl M. Hardy Box Canyon Springs Preserve. Tours will be available on the third Saturday of every month.

Tour of beauty

Box Canyon Springs opens up trail to public - complete with guides

HAGERMAN - The weather was brisk and the ground was damp, but that didn't stop about 50 nature-lovers from joining the first guided tour of the Box Canyon Springs Preserve.

From the parking lot, they trekked about 3/4 of a mile before reaching the first overlook, which looms 220 feet above the pristine stream's beginning.

Below the overlook are two large pools of crystal-clear water that will eventually make its way to the Snake River.

"It's one of the best views around," tour guide "Wahle" Szczepanowski said.

From there the stream churns downstream before twisting out of sight around the bend. Hikers can follow the canyon edge or use a trail to get to another overlook downstream.

The second overlook steps above a misting 20-foot waterfall, and it is the beginning of a trail to the bottom of the canyon.

The Snake River of an intact alcove ecosystem," Szczepanowski said. "This is visually one of the most amazing examples."

One of Saturday's tour-givers was Rich Allen, who as a boy picked asparagus in the mouth of Box Canyon, he said. He had to wait 45 years before seeing the rest of it, but it was worth it, he said.

The view "was more than I thought it would be," he said. "It's fantastic."

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

Spending a few weeks in each region, Kempthorne and several members of his administration traveled at state expense. A few legislators and Idaho business reps also tagged along, paying their own way to tour Beijing, Seoul, Tokyo, Taipei and Mexico City.

"It is the cost of doing business," Kempthorne press secretary Mark S. Smith said. "You have to form a relationship with Japan."

"Please see TRADE, Page B3

Dealing with the drop: Schools assess needs, brace for cuts

By Lorraine Cavener
Times-News writer

BURLEY - Several years of dropping enrollment have officials in the Minidoka and Cassia school districts looking for ways to keep programs and staff members.

State revenue is calculated on the number of students enrolled. After losing a combined total of more than \$1 million in state revenue, the districts already have begun making cuts.

Some staff members who quit or retired haven't been replaced, officials in both districts said.

Cassia County School District has lost 110 students in the past year, Superintendent Jerry Doggett said.

"That translates to a half million dollars," he said.

Principals from each school in Cassia's district have been asked to make a list of their needs, Doggett said. He will be scrutinizing the needs. In February, the past two years' enrollment will be looked at, and needs of the schools will be assessed to see where cuts can be made.

"We are going to try to not affect or eliminate any programs," he said.



Kindergarten enrollment particularly has been down, Doggett said. This indicates that young families are moving out of the community, he said.

There are other reasons for the drop in enrollment, too. "Families are not as large as they are in the past," he said. And unemployment remains rel-

atively high, compared with nearby counties.

"I don't see that trend turning until some industry comes to bring stability or growth," he said.

School district planning is easier during growth than during decline, he said.

Minidoka Superintendent Nick Hallett agrees that growth

is the only way to keep local schools from losing more state money.

"We need to make ourselves open to growth to improve the infrastructure," Hallett said. "That includes schools."

A \$20 million school bond issue for facilities improvements failed in Minidoka County last

fall. There will be a supplemental levy in Minidoka County this spring for buses and equipment, he said. The levy won't include salaries to replace teachers.

"We know that when we lose students, we lose staff," Hallett said.

He is not sure how many staff members will have to be cut from Minidoka County schools next year, because enrollment fluctuates on a daily basis, he said.

Departing staff members have not been replaced for three years, Hallett said. Even so, eight to 10 teachers may have to be laid off next year, Hallett said.

But the situation can be turned around, Hallett said.

"Many communities in decline have pulled themselves up by the bootstraps," he said. The Mini-Cassia area can pull itself up by attracting industry, Hallett said.

Both districts are already working toward bringing industry to the area by improving the work force, he said.

"Both districts are putting emphasis upon vocational education," he said. "That is a real plus."

Please see SCHOOLS, Page B3



DON'T ASK ME
Steve Crump

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Buckaroo bards take Elko stage

By Karen Terrell
Times-News correspondent

ELKO, Nev. — More than 8,000 visitors are expected in Elko this week as the Millennium Cowboy Poetry Gathering gets under way. Main gathering activities begin Wednesday but some activities are scheduled earlier in the week. Organized by the Western Folklife Center, this is the 16th year for the annual event. Gathering Coordinator Debbie Fant said this year's gathering will focus on ranching culture at the millennium and will feature workshops and demonstrations during the first part of the week. This year's workshops include rawhide braiding, photography, hitching and Basque cooking.

WFC Director Charlie Seeman said informal performances by poets and musicians are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m. today, Monday and Tuesday at the G Three Bar Theater located inside WFC headquarters at 501 Railroad St. Admission is \$15. This year's Buckaroo bards include Baxter Black, Linda Hasselstrom, Paul Zarzyski and young poets from local schools. Australian bush poets Louise Dean and Guy McLean will also delight this year's audience with their own brand of humor from the land down under. This year's musicians include Ian Turpin, Joni Harms, Michael Martin Murphy, Ramblin' Jack Elliot and Red Steagall. An exhibit of art and artifacts

will be on display at the center, and the Northeastern Nevada Museum has an exhibit of brandy and branding irons during the week. WFC Artistic Director Meg Glaser said the exhibit features pieces from the collections of J.P. Bryan and Torch Energy Advisors. Fant said tickets are still available for many gathering events but advises people to reserve their tickets as soon as possible. Ticket and event information is available by calling 1-888-880-5885 or by visiting the center's website at www.westernfolklife.org.

Times-News correspondent Karen Terrell can be reached in Elko at 775-738-2733.

Success seminar uses convict in ad campaign

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A man convicted of bilking investors out of thousands of dollars has been listed in an advertisement for a high-profile success seminar as the "nation's premier financial consultant."

Peter Jeppson says he did not even know he was being advertised as a participant in Peter Lowe's seminar, which is also billing appearances by Joe Montana, Picabo Street and Christopher Reeve. Jeppson, 53, said he was shocked to see his picture prominently displayed in advertisements for "Success 2000," scheduled for April at West Valley City's E Center. The ads have run in The Salt Lake Tribune and Deseret News, and Jeppson is also listed on the program on Peter Lowe International Inc.'s Internet site.

"Peter Jeppson will give you the vital tools you need to add zeros to your paycheck into a padded portfolio," the ad states.

But Jeppson, who was convicted of securities fraud in 1994, is the program because he continues to repay \$217,535 in stolen funds. Prosecutors say Jeppson and co-defendant Karyl Eugene Harkins Jr. ripped off a dozen investors through a company called American Asset Management Corp.

According to ads for the seminar, Jeppson was to lecture on "the three irrefutable rules of money management," as well as "the six keys to successfully increasing your income."

Jeppson, who gives talks on personal finances and sells a personal budgeting system, said he expected to be included in follow-up seminars, but never agreed to participate in the main session. "I don't know where they came up with that," he told The Salt Lake Tribune. "They did it all without talking to me. It's all totally wrong."

Jeppson speculated that someone in the organization assumed he would participate in the program because he lives in the area. And he said he has never told Lowe — whom he claims to have worked with before in a behind-the-scenes capacity — about his criminal history.

The Salt Lake Tribune reported that a customer services representative at Peter Lowe International's office said the group was unaware of Jeppson's past. No one could be reached for comment Saturday.

Lowe bills himself as "America's No. 1 success authority." Two years ago, some 12,000 people filed the Delta Center to hear Lowe and other speakers, including George and Barbara Bush, talk-show host Larry King, and Utah Jazz star Karl Malone.

The daylong seminar set for April 13 is advertised as costing \$225 at the door, or \$39 in advance.

Regulators propose fine for safety violations

SPOKANE, Wash. (AP) — Federal regulators on Friday proposed fining a Spokane-based company \$122,500 over alleged workplace safety violations involving aerial platforms and scaffolding at a job site in Sandpoint, Idaho.

Inspectors from the Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration began investigating Northwest Handling Systems Inc. after an accident that injured two workers, said Ryan Kuehmichel, OSHA area director in Boise, Idaho.

The company has 15 working days to contest the fine and three citations.

Regulators accuse Northwest Handling of endangering workers

by improperly using an elevating work platform.

Those alleged violations resulted in two willful citations, in which the employer is accused of knowing about a hazard without making a reasonable effort to correct it.

A serious citation — a less severe penalty — involved allegedly improper use of scaffolding.

SERVICES

Laura Lois Aland of Twin Falls and formerly of Buhl, memorial service at 2 p.m. today at Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl.

the funeral Monday at the church.

Lawrence Alfred Hodges of Twin Falls, memorial service at 9 a.m. Monday at White Mortuary Chapel.

Alma Lorraine Burt of Rupert, graveside service at 2 p.m. Monday at the Albion Cemetery (Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel).

Myrtle R. Jibson of Fremont, Calif., service at 11 a.m. Monday at the Declo Stake Center (Hansen Mortuary).

Luke Vanderbrink of Twin Falls, graveside memorial rites at 2:30 p.m. Monday at the Twin Falls Cemetery (Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home).

Belvu May Stoddard Mix, formerly of Rupert, service at 11 a.m. Monday at the Heyburn LDS Chapel. Family and friends may call from 6-8 p.m. today at the Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel, and one hour before

Marjorie "Marge" Ashenbrenner of Twin Falls, prayer vigil with rosary at 7 p.m. Monday at St. Edward's Catholic Church; memorial funeral Mass at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the church (Reynolds Funeral Chapel).

OBITUARY

For obituary rates and information, call 733-0931, 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.

HANSEN



Merle W. Jones
Merle W. Jones, Hansen, passed away January 14, 2000, in Yuma, Arizona. Merle was born January 6, 1923, in Jerome, Idaho, to Hugo and Arlie Garner Jones. He married Evelyn Miller, and they had four children. Merle was a veteran of WWII, serving in the Philippines and Japan. In 1958, he moved to California with his family, remain-

DEATH NOTICES

Valentino Gomez
BURLEY — Valentino "Sparky" Gomez, 78, of Burley, died Friday, Jan. 21, 2000, at the Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley.

A graveside service will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday in Santa Maria, Calif. Arrangements are under the direction of Payne Mortuary in Burley.

Marjorie Oehl
GOODING — Marjorie Oehl, 75, of Gooding, died Saturday, Jan. 22, 2000, at St. Benedict's Family Medical Center in Jerome.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

Ruby J. Galcagorre
JEROME — Ruby J. Galcagorre, 71, of Jerome, died Saturday, Jan. 22, 2000, in Jerome.

At her request, no formal service will be held at this time. Arrangements are under the direction of Farnsworth Mortuary in Jerome.

Gayle S. Dolney
MERIDIAN — Gayle Stephanie Dolney, 46, of Meridian and formerly of Twin Falls, died Friday, Jan. 21, 2000, at her home.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced at a later date.

Oliva A. Ward-Sweet
RICHFIELD — Oliva A. Ward-Sweet, 82, of Richfield, died Friday, Jan. 21, 2000, at her home.

The funeral will be held at 1 p.m. Tuesday at the Richfield LDS Church. Friends may call from 11:30 a.m. until time of the funeral Tuesday at the church. Arrangements are under the direction of Demaray's Shoshone Chapel.

HOSPITAL

MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
Some names are omitted at patients' request.

Admitted
Bonnie Jones and Burnettia Oppliger, both of Twin Falls; Lance Blik of Castledorf; Bryson Lehman of Kimberly; Naedene Machacek of Buhl; and Dorthea Poole of Filer.

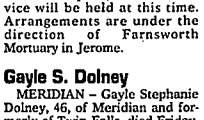
Released
Glenn Miller and Jeannette Whiting, both of Twin Falls; Keith Cook of Jerome; and Adonna Sander of Buhl.

The family of Kenneth (Kennie) Hudson wish to thank the congregations of the Castledorf & Kimberly Methodist Churches, our friends and neighbors for their support, cards, letters, food and flowers.

Thanks also to Dr. Skoem & staff plus the Magic Valley Hospice Team for their care and concern.

God Bless You All
Betty and Ed Hudson
Family
Erlene and Phil Ford
Family

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Classifieds

733-0931

State courts, legislators might side with protesters on abortion issue

BOISE (AP) — Hundreds of people marching in the annual demonstration against the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark Roe vs. Wade decision on Saturday advised protesters to remain patient and to wait for a possible reversal of fortunes in the courts on late-term procedures.

The marchers were praised by Bishop Michael Driscoll, head of the Roman Catholic Church in Idaho, who said they must be prepared to help women make the proper choice about abortions and comfort those who have undergone the procedure.

"I know I'm speaking to the choir," he said. "But that's wonderful to have an unifying fact that we as Americans can continue to stand for life, to see the dignity of every single human person."

The march was in protest at the 27th anniversary of the Roe vs. Wade case and the legalization of abortions in the country.

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne last week embraced last year's compromise dictating parental consent for young girls, despite some uncertainty of how that will be accomplished.

U.S. District Judge B. Lynn Winmill last month voided Idaho's 1998 ban on controver-

whether states may ban that surgical procedure, which involves partially extracting a fetus, legs first, through the birth canal, putting the skull and draining its contents.

A decision is expected by July. Kerry Uhlenkott, legislative coordinator of Right to Life of

"That's wonderful to have an unifying fact that we as Americans can continue to stand for life, to see the dignity of every single human person."

— Bishop Michael Driscoll, head of the Roman Catholic Church in Idaho

sial late-term abortions, declaring it unconstitutional. He agreed the law was so vague and overly broad that it would essentially ban all abortions after the 13th week of pregnancy.

The U.S. Supreme Court this month said it would decide

Idaho Inc., said the Idaho attorney general's office indicated that if the U.S. Supreme Court rules favorably to prohibit that type of abortion, the state would then go to court to lift the injunction in Idaho.

"We hope and pray women make only one choice and that's the choice for life," Driscoll said. "We need to stand by to take care of them, to ensure all the wonder and good things out there can happen to them."

For women who opted for an abortion, "we need to help them psychologically, physically and for all that comes from a bad choice that can come to them and scar them for the rest of life."

Idaho mayor visits Russian secret city

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — Mayor Linda Milam has begun her journey to a mysterious place few have seen, or even heard of. Milam's destination is Snezhinsk, one of Russia's secret cities, located in Siberia but not found on any maps before the Cold War's end.

She is one of four mayors from U.S. cities making the trip. All the cities, Idaho Falls; Carlsbad, N.M.; Miamisburg, Ohio; and Oak Ridge, Tenn., have U.S. Department of Energy nuclear sites.

From Jan. 25-28, the mayors will meet with their Russian counterparts from the former Soviet Union's secret cities. They are being asked to offer advice on diversifying economies devastated by the end of the Cold War.

Milam said she planned to tell the officials to be realistic. "American companies are not in a position to come in and just put money in those cities without guarantee of a return on their investment," she said. "There are going to be issues. People will have to work together."

It is a lesson experience has taught her. Idaho Falls overcame a nearly 5,000-person reduction in the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory workforce by diversifying the economy and creating industries that benefited from the expertise of lab scientists and engineers.

But Milam said her trip has a dual purpose. Russian scientists suffering from the culmination of

the Cold War are ripe for the picking by countries trying to expand their nuclear capabilities.

"You've got people who are highly trained, highly educated, working in situations where their wages are frozen, if they're being paid at all," Milam said. "You don't want those people going to countries where they are not being friendly to the U.S. and their allies."

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Liberal trend might allow Albion man to wine, dine customers

By Ruth Streeter
Times-News writer

BURLEY — In the olden days, says Bennie Chaburn, who's not a drinker himself, the only place people could find booze on Sunday was at the drugstore, where it was sold for medicinal purposes.

"That kind of made it halfway legal, I guess," said the Albion city clerk, and a long-time resident.

For as long as the residents of Cassia County can remember, they've had to cross the river on Sundays for a bottle of wine. The county's option to not sell wine in grocery stores, mandated by the County Option Kitchen and Table Wine Act, has never been reversed. The issue went out to voters in 1992, and lost by 628 votes, receiving only 37 percent of the vote.

Why the difference between Cassia and Minidoka counties, no



Scott Woods and Tanya Short, both of Rupert, check out the extensive wine selection at Ridley's Food and Drug Store in Rupert. Under a state wine option act, Minidoka County, unlike Cassia County, has opted to allow the sale of wine in its grocery stores.

one can say for sure. It strikes some people, such as Minidoka

County commissioner John Rensberg, who's not a wine-

drinker either, as odd. Speaking on behalf of Minidoka County, the fact that wine is more available up there seems to be just a sign of the times.

"I think people in the country consume a lot more wine with their meals than they used to," said Rensberg.

Meanwhile some folks attribute Cassia County's own standards to its conservatism. But while the county is traditionally conservative, it is gradually becoming more liberal, says former Cassia County commissioner Weldon Beck, who served on the commission 35 years.

That could bode well for an Albion man who wants to serve wine at his restaurant, and who may try to gain the backing of county voters in May to change the codes of the county.

But changing attitudes may be hard to gauge, especially in the complicated town of Albion — a town with a 20-year ban on

liquor-by-the-drink, but one of the few precincts in 1992 with a majority vote in favor of retail wine sales, with 54 percent of voters favoring the measure.

Jenkins already attempted to overturn Albion's ban last November, but the measure failed by just six votes. In a referendum that's been held a few times over the last 20 years, Chaburn thought this time around the vote might have succeeded in passing if the population had changed in the last few years, but the city has been dry for long, it will probably continue to be, Chaburn said.

For Roger Jenkins, who co-owns the Albion Cafe with Leanna Hauser, the liquor restrictions may do more harm than good. They stifle variety, because they discourage responsible, value-added establishments. From locating in a community. The ability to sell

alcohol with meals makes up some of the difference lost in hosting dinner, the most expensive meal to put on, Jenkins says. Denied those returns, quality restaurants will go elsewhere.

George K's in Burley has been selling wine for 15 years. And those sales are good, with the bulk of them coming not from the bar, but the dining room, said Joyce Bjorklund, co-owner of George K's.

The Cassia County commissioners recently dashed Jenkins' hope that they would sign a resolution to allow wine-by-the-drink, preferring that the electorate have the say. And for at least another few years, the pulse of the community will have again been checked.

Times-News writer Ruth Streeter can be reached at the Mini-Cassia Bureau at 677-4042 or by e-mail at rstreeter@magicvalley.com

Trade

Continued from B1
the customer. You have to get to know the people. They have to get to know you."

Kempthorne recently reiterated his commitment to international trade, saying its near limitless potential could prove a boon to the state's high-tech industry, and could be the boost a sagging agricultural market needs to rebound.

During his State-of-the-State speech Monday, Kempthorne mentioned a few success stories that can be directly attributed to the trip.

One of those stories involved a Twin Falls manufacturing firm, Hamilton Manufacturing and Distributing.

The lucrative contacts Tamara Hamilton-Harney and her husband made during previous trips and the latest trade mission to Asia gave them the exposure they needed to land good deals in China, and could prove to blaze a trail for other Idaho firms.

A customer of Hamilton Manufacturing — which produces

building insulation made of recycled newspapers — is coming from China to visit a few Boise companies, after they were impressed with the Twin Falls company and the Idaho delegation that visited Beijing in late September and early October.

"Those companies have never been to China," Hamilton-Harney said, "but they'll likely get some business because of the groundwork done by those trade missions."

That is exactly why McBride, whose boss is currently in Mexico visiting potential customers, believes the \$100,000 spent on the two trips was a good investment of Idaho tax money, even though he cannot directly attribute any of his company's new business to the missions.

"The state needs to be assertive in those markets," said McBride, whose company's biggest overseas market is Japan. "Whenever they go over talking about Idaho and its products it's a positive thing for all businesses here."

McBride said most of his company's overseas trade is done through brokers who know their way through the red tape found in most foreign markets.

"But every once in a while a company will call because they like the way we do business and, 'We want to do more business with you,'" he said.

Establishing the trust and direct contact takes a long time, but with the weight of the state's political figures, cutting through the red tape and gaining trust becomes much easier.

"Doing business overseas is nothing like doing business in the U.S.," Hamilton-Harney said. Her top frustration is the language barrier, but a close second is the myriad of political and financial systems that must be dealt with.

"You have to be dedicated," she said. "Every country and every port is a different experience."

Vicki Thomas, international business division director for the Idaho Department of Commerce,

said government and business go hand-in-hand in most other countries, making bureaucracy a top irritant. And especially in Asia, where government figures are revered, the state's intervention often makes things easier for businesses.

"And that's not just in communist China, but places like Mexico as well," she said.

The Department of Commerce makes up most of the trade missions, Thomas said. Businesses who go on the missions are queried immediately after the trip, asked about their success of making contacts. That data, along with follow-up queries six months and one year after the trip, is used to determine what markets are best for Idaho goods and which brokers and businesses in those markets are best to work with.

"That information is made available to all business wanting to do business overseas."

"We'll get a lot for that \$100,000," Thomas said. "It was well worth it."

Schools

Continued from B1
When Cassia County's bond issue passed a few years ago, the district built Cassia Regional Technical Center, which was opened two years ago with automotive, electronics, manufacturing, and six other vocational programs.

Minico High School has also a strong vocational program, which the district has put a lot of grant money and work into over the past few years. The program is called the professional technical program.

Students in the program earned 430 College of Southern Idaho credits in 1999, said Marvin Scow, head of the professional technical program at Minico.

"If you have the people with those skills, that promotes industry," Scow said.

If any programs are cut, the basics such as math, reading, and English will stay. But if revenue losses go deep enough, programs such as the professional technical program could be cut, he said.

"The things that are nice to

have — we'll lose," he said. "As enrollment goes down we won't be able to offer as wide a variety."

Large cuts have not been made yet, but until enrollment begins to increase, schools throughout both districts are finding small ways to cut.

"We are being more careful with equipment and supplies," said Laurell Adams, principal of Dworshak Elementary School.

She has seen her budget for supplies and equipment stay the same for three years, she said.

She gets a lot of help from a supportive Parent Teacher Organization, which has often pitched in and raised money to fill gaps.

The 20-student drop at Dworshak has not yet affected the number of teachers at the school, but Adams does not yet know if she will be operating Dworshak with fewer teachers next year.

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IDAHO/WEST

Resorts crack down on recklessness

KEYSTONE, Colo. (AP) — Lee Jess was passing the top of Schoolmarm trail when he got pulled over.

Summit County Deputy Jonathan Comyn didn't ask for a driver's license and registration. "You're going 30 mph, which is way too fast on this run," Comyn told Jess, who was in town from Grand Rapids, Minn.

Like most of Friday's ski traffic violators, Jess didn't take issue with being pulled over by a ski cop with a radar gun.

"That's neat; we were wondering how fast we were going, and now we know," he said. "We were going twice as fast on the blue runs."

Resort spokeswoman Amy Kemp said, "We wanted to increase awareness that people need to be going slow out there in the slow zones. It's not to harass

people. It's just to educate them."

Last year 12 people died on Colorado slopes, twice the average, and resorts are under pressure from longtime guests to slow down reckless riders. Nationally, 39 people died on U.S. ski slopes, compared with 26 the year before and an average of 34.

Resorts launched a national safety campaign this season. This week was National Skier Safety Awareness week.

Utah resorts are also getting tougher on reckless skiers. Park City Mountain Resort plans to suspend season passes or take away day passes for second offenders, and was setting up plastic fences to slow traffic in areas where runs converge. Deer Valley Resort designated some runs for slower skiers or family areas.

Vail and Beaver Creek created a speed-control squad called the "Yellow Jackets." They pulled 60 lift tickets during their first week of operation. At least 200 tickets have been pulled at Keystone, which caters to families.

The resort has 13 new full-time members on its Mountain Responsibility Team, and the ski area has set up 25-foot-tall "slow zone" signs placed in areas that are designed for beginners, families or where trails merge.

"Most of these people have no idea how fast they're going," said Lyn Herrick, manager of the mountain responsibility team. Ski patroller Rex Lint said riders shouldn't exceed 20 mph on green runs.

"Think about what happens to your car when you hit a tree at 30 mph," Lint said. "Then take away the car."

Boise residents lose sleep over airline training

BOISE (AP) — Horizon Air will stop training at the Boise Airport for at least one month after complaints from residents.

Ada County residents criticized the airline, saying overnight training exercises were disturbing area neighborhoods.

"I lay awake sometimes until 2:30 in the morning listening to the jets flying over my house every five or 10 minutes," Boise resident Jan Raeder said.

Horizon serves cities such as Los Angeles, Seattle and Portland from Boise. And the company trains new air personnel at night over Treasure Valley skies.

Airline officials said the reasons include Boise's sophisticated landing system, four Horizon jets being stationed overnight and the airport's excellent maintenance base.

Ken Nichols, project manager for the Boise Air Terminal, said the noise problems are sporadic.

"The training occurs on a periodic basis and it's not continuous," Nichols said. "Sometimes it can last two weeks in a row, and other times there are two or three months in between sessions."

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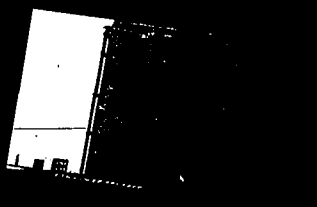
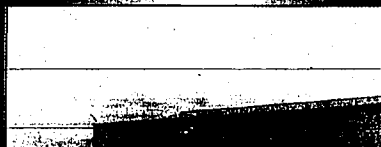
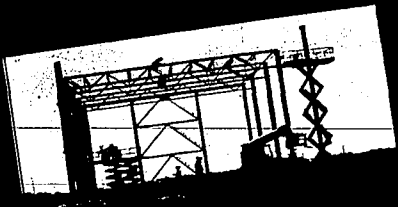
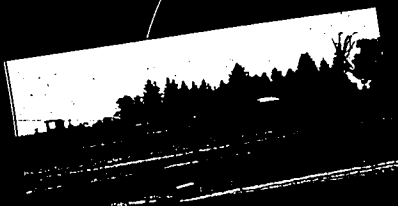
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Which way to the world's tallest tree? Don't even ask

UKIAH, Calif. (AP) — The world's tallest tree is somewhere ahead on the trail, and park ranger Karl Poppelreiter is dawdling over a new.

It's an interesting new, as snows go, with a nut-brown back and a bright red belly. But news are not why a reporter and photographer have joined Poppelreiter on this cold, drizzly morning in the redwoods.

The ranger has promised, with some hesitation and several restrictions, to reveal a closely guarded secret: the precise location of the world's tallest tree.

First, however, he wants his guests to consider news. And ferns. And fallen tree trunks. And hollow stumps. Poppelreiter's attention flashes from one small wonder to another.

"Look at this," he says, capping a fallen branch 10 feet high and stuck in the trail like a javelin. "That's called a widow maker."

Fascinating. But what about the tallest tree?

Oh, yes, the tree. There's something you should know about that tree, Poppelreiter warns:

"It really doesn't stand out among the rest. The significance of this particular tree is that it's part of a grove with a large number of tall trees. This is a wonderful place to come and enjoy creation. There's no place as lush and beautiful and enjoyable as a redwood forest."

That's the Ranger Poppelreiter. Now will you show us the darn tree?

The biggest. The tallest. The heaviest. There's something big about our obsession with big, nowhere more so than in the redwood and sequoia groves of California.

Measurements made last March confirmed that Mendocino Tree, a coast redwood growing in Montgomery Woods State Reserve near Ukiah, is the tallest known tree in the world. It stands 367 feet 6 inches, or five stories higher than the Statue of Liberty.

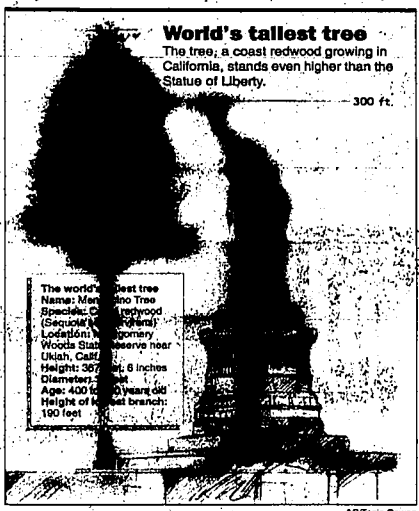
Since then, Poppelreiter has had no end of tall troubles: nosy journalists, "tree baggers" eager to check off a new champion on their lists, and "tree baggers" jealous of the privacy, too, who are seeking another roadside attraction.

Through it all, he has tried to get people to look past the trees and see the forest. Big is a matter of perspective, he explains, more significant to humans than to nature. A towering redwood may inspire awe, he says, but even more inspiring is the web of life to which it belongs.

The usual response: That's swell, Ranger Poppelreiter. Now which way to the world's tallest tree?

Things could be worse. A century ago, California's biggest redwoods usually were measured and admired only after they were cut down. Only 5 percent of the original redwood forest remains today, mostly in public parks and reserves.

Preservation has brought its own abuses — the kind born of



World's tallest tree

The tree, a coast redwood growing in California, stands even higher than the Statue of Liberty.

The world's tallest tree
Name: Mendocino Tree
Species: Coast Redwood (Sequoia gigantea)
Location: Montgomery Woods State Reserve near Ukiah, Calif.
Height: 367 feet 6 inches
Diameter: 10 feet
Age: 400 years old
Height of tallest branch: 190 feet

AP/Tonia Cowan

good intentions. There are drive-through redwood trees, their bases hollowed out to accommodate cars. Other trees are encircled by fences and paved trails.

Further inland than most reserves sheltering tall redwoods, Montgomery Woods was surrounded by a "scrubby forest" of oak and madrona. But deep in a narrow valley, rooted in rich alluvial soil and moistened by a meandering creek, stood an 80-acre grove of giants.

Among them was Mendocino Tree. Redwood lovers already knew it was tall, but no one knew just how tall until a laser range finder pegged it at just under 368 feet.

Based on that measurement, Mendocino Tree was listed in the 1998 Guinness Book of Records as the world's tallest living tree. The book even mentioned that it grew in Montgomery Woods. But the short paragraph, buried among other curiosities — longest conga line, most tattoos — sparked no tourist stampede.

Reassured by this indifference, Sillet agreed to participate last fall in a documentary funded by the Save the Redwoods League. As cameras rolled, he climbed Mendocino Tree and confirmed its height with a weighted measuring tape. It stood 367 feet 6 inches tall — indisputably the world's tallest.

With everyone involved vowing not to reveal the tree's location, Sillet thought he'd found the best of two worlds: The inner circle of tree fanciers had a new champion to study and celebrate, but the big redwood had escaped the notice of the trampling masses.

That, of course, could not last.

Step by slow step, Ranger Poppelreiter is getting closer to the world's tallest tree. He ducks under a boxcar-sized log, then crosses the creek on another fallen giant.

Things have been crazy, he says, ever since the first reporter called him last June.

Tipped off by a boy who'd been reading the Guinness book, reporter Mike Geniella of the Santa Rosa Press Democrat asked if Poppelreiter would guide him to the world's tallest tree.

The ranger hemmed and hawed, whereupon Geniella suggested that if Poppelreiter didn't help, sooner or later someone else would.

Poppelreiter relented, figuring he could at least educate people about biodiversity and forest ecology.

The front-page headline on June 4 missed those subtleties. "World's tallest tree near Ukiah," it declared, next to a big picture showing the ranger strolling up the tree.

Late that night, a couple walked up to the front desk at Orr Hot Springs resort, two miles from Montgomery Woods, and asked: Which way to the world's tallest tree?

The stamped head began. From June through September, 15,300 people visited the reserve, double the usual number, Poppelreiter says. People were spotted walking the mile-long trail, newspaper in hand, trying to match the picture to a tree.

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The small parking lot started overflowing on weekends. The pit toilet, filled up faster. Tour-group operators called Poppelreiter, asking if they could bring in busloads of tourists. A Japanese film company wanted to drive a boom truck into the grove.

So far, Poppelreiter has fended off all proposals for industrial-strength tourism. The road to the reserve is too narrow for tour buses, he says, and the trail to the grove is too steep for trail walkers.

On Poppelreiter's orders, there are no signs or arrows pointing to the tree. What's more, he is the only park employee who knows

where Mendocino Tree is. Other staffers prefer not to know, he says, so they don't have to lie to visitors.

This don't-tell approach is not universally popular. As a "tree-hugging," redwood-loving taxpayer, I feel I have a right to know and see the new tallest tree," one frequent visitor complained in a letter to Poppelreiter.

But other locals think things should be even more secretive. Road signs to the park have a habit of disappearing. At Orr Hot Springs, employees don't know or won't tell where the tallest tree is.

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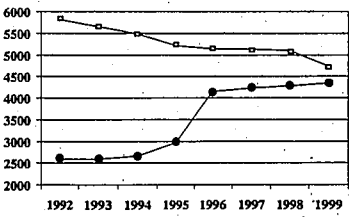
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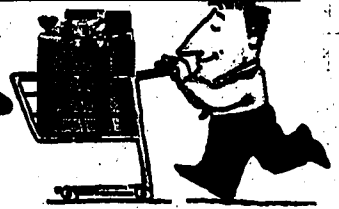
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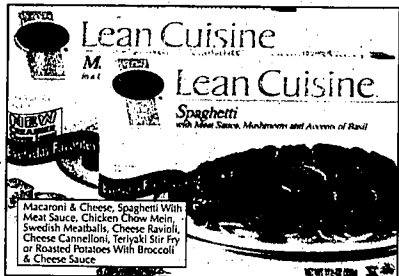


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ALBERTSON'S VALUABLE COUPON - EXPIRES JANUARY 25, 2000 #1927

KODAK PICTURE CD \$2 off

Available from 35mm 4" and Advanced Photo System color print roll, C-41 processing. Service times add one additional day. KODAK Picture CD Includes free viewing software. Scanned image resolution is 1024 x 1536 pixels and requires Windows 3.1 or higher. Prints required with each order. Kodak and Advantix are trademarks of Eastman Kodak Company.

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AVAILABILITY: Each of these advertised items is required to be readily available for sale at or below the advertised price in each Albertson's store, as specifically noted in this ad.

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RAIN CHECK: We strive to have on hand sufficient stock of advertised merchandise. If for any reason we are out of stock, a Rain Check will be issued enabling you to buy the item at the advertised price as soon as it becomes available.

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

MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“Freakin’ incredible.”
—Chicago Tribune sports columnist Bernie Lincane, on the football dominance of Tennessee Titans rookie defensive end Jevon Kearse

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Women's college basketball
Cal-State Fullerton at Idaho, 2 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Jerome charity auction scheduled

JEROME — The Jerome girls' basketball team will host a charity auction during halftime of its Thursday home game against Blackfoot.

Girls' Class A-4 post-season kicks off

TWIN FALLS — Class A-4 post-season girls' basketball begins this week with the double-elimination Northside Conference and Magic Valley Conference tournaments at Shoshone High School and Castleford High School, respectively.

Shoshone has clinched the conference title, and enters the Northside tournament with a first-round bye, as does No. 2 Carey. Fifth-seeded Ketchum and fourth-seeded Camas County play Tuesday in the opener at 6 p.m., followed by No. 3 Dietrich against No. 6 Richfield at 7:30.

Shoshone plays the winner of the Camas-Ketchum game Wednesday at 6 p.m., with Carey squaring off against the Dietrich-Richfield winner at 7:30. Play continues with losers-bracket games finals on Friday and semifinals and the final on Feb. 23 — as well as Feb. 4, if necessary.

At the Magic Valley Conference Tournament in Castleford, where seeding has yet to be determined, games begin this Thursday and continue on Saturday and into next week. The outside Conference title will be decided Feb. 3 at 8 p.m. The top three teams to emerge from each conference tournament — a total of six teams — meet Feb. 9 and 11 to determine District 4's four berths to state.

Twin Falls All-Star board needs baseball coaches

TWIN FALLS — The Twin Falls Traveling All-Star Baseball Board is looking for coaches for the 2000 season.

Anyone interested in participating should call Gary Cook at 733-1804 (work) or 733-1915 (home), or Mitch Watkins at 733-5705 (work) or 733-0985 (home) as soon as possible. Deadline is Feb. 1.

U of I tops UC Irvine in women's game

MOSCOW — All-America candidate Allie Nieman scored a game-high 21 points and grabbed 11 rebounds, as the University of Idaho women's basketball team outlasted UC Irvine 63-59 late Friday night in a game dominated by huge scoring runs and shifts of momentum.

The Vandals (9-7, 2-1) erased a 27-22 halftime deficit, and led by two midway through the second half. The lead stretched to 14 late in the game, but a furious Anteaters rally trimmed the difference to 59-57 with less than two minutes remaining before Idaho pulled away for good.

Correction
Wednesday's local sports roundup included an incorrect score. In the varsity bowling contest between Jerome and Wendell, Jerome won 5-0. The Times-News regrets the error.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

Sharing the dream Horner brings baseball into the classroom

By Vin Cappiello
Times-News writer

KIMBERLY — If the best lessons learned are the ones from the school of hard knocks, then who better than Jim Horner, who passes those lessons along to seventh-graders?

Seventh-graders? What's a minor-league catcher in the Seattle Mariners' farm system doing teaching middle school social studies in Kimberly any-

way? There were days last fall and this winter that Horner, a 1992 Twin Falls High School graduate who departs with his wife Katie and daughter Madison in about a week for the Mariners' spring training site in Peoria, Ariz., asked himself that question.

It's all part of what Horner simply calls the dream.

"Since I was a little kid, even before seventh grade, I'd always dreamed about being on television playing baseball," Horner said. "I'm still not the most talented baseball player in the world. I've been told I work hard — that's what gets me through."

That work ethic began to take shape when Horner was a youngster. Older siblings Rick, Kristen and John would "kick me around a little bit when I got out of line," he said, but those competitive confrontations helped mold his

never-say-quit attitude and his will to win. And that's what Horner, who throws out 35 percent of would-be base-stealers, has tried impart to his students over the last four months.

That, and plenty of other useful information, "I tell them to make sure they have something to fall back on," said Horner, who earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Washington State University in 1996. "Work as hard as you can, but don't let people tell you what you can and can't do."

"If they're upset, I try to tell them this isn't the worst thing that's going to happen in their life, even though at the time it might be. I've told them many times that they have to be able to do something. They have to get good grades so they can go to college."

Horner more or less stumbled into the temporary teaching position at Kimberly Middle School, where his sister, Kristen Keller, is a physical education and health teacher. George McDams had taught the seventh grade social studies class for seven years, but was diagnosed with leukemia last May and was unable to return to the classroom last fall.

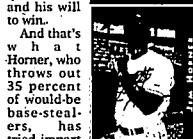
Horner, who had built a reputation as a popular substitute in the district, was contacted while playing for the Double A New Haven Ravens shortly before the start of the school year.

He agreed to take the job, and has found the experience incredibly rewarding.

"It's been unbelievable," said Horner, who split time behind the plate with his students.

Please see HORNER, Page C6

Hard at work



The four-year minor-league baseball career of 1992 Twin Falls High School graduate Jim Horner, shown here on a 1998 baseball card issued by the Orlando Rays, has included stints playing for several teams across the country. He leaves for spring training with the Seattle Mariners in a week.

A typical game day for Jim Horner:

- 1:30 p.m. — arrive at ballpark; catch "bloopers"
- 3:30 — stretch with teammates
- 6:00 — batting practice
- 6:00 — infield practice
- 7:05 or 7:30 — game begins
- 10:40-11:30 — game ends
- 11 p.m. — midnight — leave ballpark

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Please see HORNER, Page C6

Ricks holds off CSI women

By Kevin Hall
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — What began as a comedy of errors settled into an old-fashioned nail biter.

The Ricks College Lady Vikings, in control almost the entire night, won their second straight Scenic West Athletic Conference road game, a 78-74 thriller over the College of Southern Idaho.

Led by the dominating play of post Mandie Little, whose 28-point, 20-rebound double-double demoralized the Golden Eagles in the paint, Ricks improved to 6-3 in the SWAC, 17-3 overall.

"It was quite a ball game," said CSI head coach Joel Bate. "You can give Little a lot of credit — she's a good player."

Shooting guard Sara Collan led CSI with 23 points. Her two gutsy three-point shots in the final 18 seconds kept the Golden Eagles close, but it was too little, too late in the end.

Two categories crushed the Golden Eagles: free throws and rebounds. Overall, a taller Ricks outrebounded CSI 52-32, while CSI missed 16 free throws.

The tough loss drops CSI (4-5, 11-10) two games behind Ricks and once again below .500 in the conference.

"That hurt," said Bate. "And the missed free throws really hurt us. That was the game."

The Golden Eagles missed five of seven tosses from the charity stripe in a two-minute span that saw Ricks hold on to a tenuous three-point lead late.

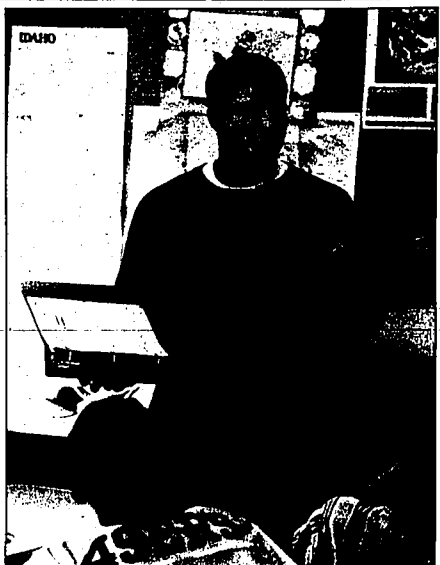
CSI grabbed its first lead of the night at 8:42 left in the game when Erika Empey got underneath for the lay-up. But as they had done all night when the Golden Eagles began to get something going, the Lady Vikings responded, this time with an 11-0 run to tie, 53-53.

But CSI continued to battle, pulling back to 67-63 with just under five minutes on the clock. They kept it at four on a Kim Wegner lay-up with 2:04 remaining, but couldn't capitalize off a Ricks turnover when Amanda McGrath missed a two-footer with 1:35 left. Ricks took the ball and after Please see THRILLER, Page C2



CSI freshman post Erika Empey goes up for the shot against Ricks College Saturday night. The Golden Eagles lost a thriller, 78-74.

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Kimberly Middle School teacher Jim Horner, a 1992 Twin Falls High School graduate, shares his message of hard work and dedication with his students.

CSI downs Ricks

By Kevin Hall
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — With starting point guard Kenny Brunner sitting out a suspension on the bench in street clothes, William Parker and the rest of the College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team decided to take victory in hand.

That they did, with a resounding 87-75 defeat of the Ricks College Vikings in front of a standing room only crowd Saturday night inside the CSI gymnasium.

It was the team's ninth consecutive win overall, sixth straight in the Scenic West Athletic Conference, heading down the backstretch of the conference.

"We had to be fundamentally sound tonight," said CSI head coach Derek Zick. "That's a very tough Ricks team."

With the win, CSI (6-3 SWAC, 18-3 overall) takes over sole possession of fourth place in the conference, while Ricks (5-4, 17-4) drops into fifth.

Matt Siebrandt led all scorers with 27 points with Parker adding 19 points to go along with 10 steals.

"I'm proud of Smoosh Parker. He kept the team focused and pulled them together like a good point guard should," Zick said.

Please see MEN, Page C2

Scenic West weekend Saturday's scores

- Women:**
NIC at TVCC
Snow 81, UVSC 80, OT
Dixie 65, SLCC 61
Men:
NIC 73, TVCC 71
Snow 65, UVSC 63
SLCC at Dixie, no score reported
Friday's scores:
Women:
CSI 75, NIC 52
Ricks 69, TVCC 64
Dixie 67, UVSC 56
Snow 77, SLCC 66
CEU 85, CNCC 71
Men:
CSI 75, NIC 60
Ricks 80, UVSC 62
Snow 83, SLCC 67
CEU 87, CNCC 66
UVSC def. Dixie

Declo rallies to return the Canyon Conference favor

By Matt Peterson
Times-News writer

DECLO — Forty-eight hours after getting blasted in its Canyon Conference opener at Valley, the Declo boys' basketball team returned the favor.

Jumping all over conference-coach Glenns Ferry in the opening period, the Hornets ran away with a 69-48 victory Saturday in Declo. The win evened the Hornets' conference record at 1-1 and improved their overall mark to 10-4 on the season.

"I thought our kids really responded well after that game with Valley," said Declo head coach Lloyd Garey, whose team fell to the Vikings 79-61 Thursday.

Four Hornet players — led by senior Jesse Meyer, who scored a game-high 14 points — reached double digits in the victory.

"Jesse is just getting bigger and better for us all the time," said Garey, whose high-scorer recorded 12 of his 14 points in the decisive first half.

John Smith added 12, and Jacoby Fox and Jeff Stoker each responded well after that game with Valley," said Declo head coach Lloyd Garey, whose team fell to the Vikings 79-61 Thursday.

Can the Titans do it again in today's AFC championship?

The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — If someone had said a decade ago that the Jacksonville Jaguars and Tennessee Titans would play in the first conference championship of the 2000s, the question would have been: "In what league?"

The NFL, of course, where the past 10 years have been marked by expansion and franchise movement. Thus the Titans (near Houston Oilers) as the Jaguars, the most successful expansion team in league history.

Tennessee finished 13-3 in the regular season and handed the Jaguars (14-2) their only two losses.

The road to Atlanta

- AFC Championship:**
Tennessee at Jacksonville
When: Today, 10:35 a.m. (CBS)
NFC Championship:
Tampa Bay at St. Louis
When: Today, 2:15 p.m. (FOX)

"They own us," said Jim Smith, the Jacksonville wide

receiver who led the league with 116 receptions. The Jaguars are coming off a high — a 62-7 thrashing of Miami last week. But when Tennessee beat Indianapolis 19-16 Sunday, any complacency disappeared.

Both the Titans and the Jaguars feel they deserve to be in Super Bowl XXXIV next weekend in Atlanta.

"It's a motivation for us," said Lonnie Marrs, who played for Tennessee last season and now is Jacksonville's middle linebacker. "We're working twice as hard because we know this team beat us twice."

Most remarkable was their 22-16 win over Buffalo in a game that probably will be remembered a century from now. Dubbed the "Music City Miracle," it came after the Bills went ahead 16-15 with 16 seconds left — and kicked off — Frank Wycheck proceeded to lateral across the field to Kevin Dyson, who ran 75 yards for the winning touchdown.

Cowach Jeff Fisher called his Titans "a fisher of destiny," then backed off.

"It's not about destiny," he said. "It's about hard working and making plays and winning games."

There are two reasons the Titans are making plays and winning games this season after going 8-8 for three straight years — as a lame duck in Houston, in Memphis, Tenn., and at Vanderbilt Stadium in Nashville.

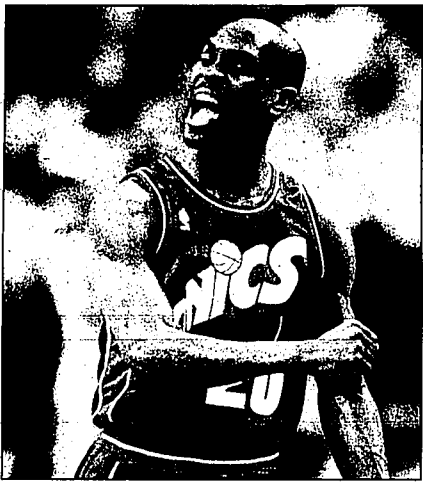
The first reason is Adelphia Coliseum, their new home in Nashville, where they suddenly have the fan support they once lacked.

The second is defensive end Jevon Kearse, who had a rookie record 14.5 sacks plus 10 forced fumbles. "The only other person I've seen do that in his rookie year was Randy Moss," said teammate Eddie George, who ran for 162.

Please see TITANS, Page C5

SPORTS

Payton: MVP material?



Seattle SuperSonics guard Gary Payton gets intense Friday during the first quarter against the Boston Celtics in Boston.

SEATTLE (AP) — SuperSonics fans have a new nickname for Gary Payton. It's just three letters.

"MVP," "MVP," they shout as he makes one dazzling play after another.

"Don't like to talk about the MVP stuff," said Seattle's star guard, also known as "The Glove" for his defense. "All that stuff is crazy."

Not really. The 31-year-old Payton is playing his best basketball in his 10th NBA season.

He was averaging career highs of 24 points and 8.9 assists after the Sonics' season-best seventh win in a row, 104-96 over the Bucks on Thursday in Milwaukee against former coach George Karl.

Payton dominated the end of the game, scoring 7 points and forcing an important turnover in the final 1:57 after Milwaukee had the score at 92.

On Monday in Los Angeles against the Lakers, Payton's 3-point shot with 15.9 seconds left lifted Seattle to its biggest victory of the season.

The Sonics, a team that missed the playoffs last season, don't look like they'll miss out again. They were 27-14 going into the weekend after a 111-86 loss to Boston Friday.

Along with Shaquille O'Neal of the Lakers and Detroit's Grant Hill, Payton is considered a top MVP candidate in the first three months of the season.

"He's having as good a year as just about anybody," second-year Seattle coach Paul Westphal said. "Gary is going to have to be mentioned in the NBA race if he keeps it up the rest of the year and our team keeps winning."

With a rebuilt roster that includes new starters Ruben Patterson, Brent Barry and Horace Grant to go along with the Baker and Payton, the Sonics have been the NBA's surprise team so far this season.

Payton shouldn't be a surprise, though. A five-time All-Star who missed only one game in his selection in 1998, he's doing what he's been doing all along. Well, slightly better now.

"I'm having a more consistent year this year," he said. "In other years I'd have one good game for three or four games, then I'd have a mediocre game."

Against his former All-Star teammate, Shawn Kemp of Cleveland, last Tuesday night, Payton showed another why he has changed this season.

Early in the third quarter, Kemp fouled Payton hard, knocking him to the floor. Then he helped him up. Payton, known as one of the league's biggest trash-talkers, didn't say a word.

"Normally, he would have said something," Kemp said, noting Payton's maturity.

Payton still has plenty to say, though. Just ask Westphal. After the Lakers beat the Sonics by 24 points on Nov. 30 in Seattle, Payton went into Westphal's office and exploded because he felt he was taken out of the game too early. Westphal doesn't like to be berated, but he took Payton's emotional outburst.

This is a superstar who is not easy to live with.

"He started ranting from time to time," Westphal said. "But he is a very, very tough competitor and I would always rather have a tough competitor who gets a little cranky sometimes than somebody who doesn't compete and you end up trying to light a fire under them."

Grant played with Michael Jordan on three title teams in Chicago in the early '90s. He thinks Jordan and Payton are the two most competitive players he's played with in his 13 NBA seasons.

"For a guy who takes a team on his back like he's done this year, he gets my vote for MVP," Grant said. "When I played against him, he was one of those guys you love to hate because he talked so much. But he also was one of those guys you'd love to have on your team."

The Sonics have had a lot of time to get used to the former Oregon State star, whom they selected second in the 1990 NBA draft.

In Payton's rookie year, Seattle's top player was Xavier McDaniel and Ricky Pierce, and the coach was K.C. Jones.

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In Payton's rookie year, Seattle's top player was Xavier McDaniel and Ricky Pierce, and the coach was K.C. Jones.

Jamal Mashburn from Miami to Philadelphia, once believed to be near completion, was still not consummated Friday.

Pat Riley, who acknowledged the teams have talked about the Sixers guard Larry Hughes, said Thursday that he has "a very hard time with other management that leaks information. That really bothers me, because you can't trust anybody."

He accused the Sixers of leaking a deal that would have sent Hughes, Billy Owens, Naz Mohammed and Bruce Bowen to the Heat for Mashburn. For whatever reason, the deal stalled Friday. Sixers general manager Billy King both said no trade was imminent.

Nelson nears 900
A victory over the New Jersey Nets on Saturday would've provided Mavericks coach Don Nelson with his 900th career victory.

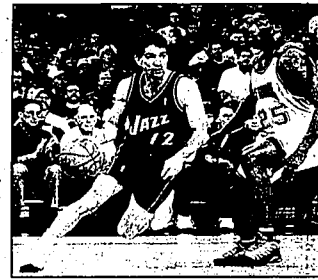
He'll have to wait — Dallas lost 98-95 — but when it comes, the win will put him in an exclusive club. Lenny Wilkens (1,164), Pat Riley (970), Bill Fitch (944), Red Auerbach (938) and Dick Motta (935) are the only coaches who have won 900 NBA games.

putting it back up, they'd throw it back to me," he said. Burnsville's full-court press and fast-break style gave Warden coach Bob Stover fits.

"If I hadn't been a young coach and afraid of getting suspended, I would have taken my kids off the floor at halftime," Stover said. A few hundred spectators attended the game in this town about 80 miles from Charleston, although the gym didn't have seats for them.

Something else was missing — Heater's family. Dad was home sick and Mom decided to stay with him. At half time, Heater's sister, Carolyn, was summoned from a nearby hangout. She watched him break the state record early in the second half, after which Stalnaker called a timeout to take Heater out of the game.

Jazz snap Kings' winning streak



SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Karl Malone and Bryon Russell each scored 24 points as Utah won for the seventh time in nine games and snapped Sacramento's seven-game winning streak with a 104-101 victory.

The Kings had won 10 straight at home. Clinging to a 96-94 lead, Malone drove the lane for a go-ahead layup with 24.5 seconds left Saturday.

Utah ahead 100-94 with 1:09 left.

NBA Twice the Kings pulled within a basket in the final 21 seconds, but John Stockton, who had 22 points and 13 assists, made three free throws in the final 20 seconds, and Chris Webber missed two 3-point shots in the closing moments as the Jazz held on for the victory.

Nets 98, Mavericks 95

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — Stephon Marbury scored 20 points and drove the length of the court for a go-ahead layup with 24.5 seconds left Saturday as the New Jersey Nets beat Dallas.

Trail Blazers 95, Lakers 91

LOS ANGELES — Steve Smith scored a season-high 27 points and Rasheed Wallace scored seven of his 19 points in the fourth quarter to lead Portland over Los Angeles.

The loss was the third in five games for the Lakers since their 16-game winning streak ended, but they reached the halfway point of the season with a 33-8 record — best in the league.

Magic 85, Grizzlies 82

VANCOUVER, British Columbia — Pat Garrity hit a 3-point shot with 13.5 seconds left as Orlando snapped an eight-game losing streak. Tariq Abdul-Wahad and Chucky Atkins scored 16 points each as the Magic won for only the second time in 15 games — both wins coming against the Grizzlies.

Bulls 98, Pistons 92

CHICAGO — Toni Kukoc led five Bulls in double figures with 22 points. Chris Carr scored a season-high 15 and Dickey Simpkins grabbed a career-high 14 rebounds as the Bulls beat the Pistons.

It was Chicago's first victory over Detroit in six games, while it was the third straight loss for the Pistons.

Spurs 96, Knicks 83

SAN ANTONIO — Tim Duncan had 33 points and 15 rebounds to lead San Antonio over New York Knicks in the first matchup between the teams since last season's NBA Finals.

Utah Jazz guard John Stockton, left, drives to the basket past Sacramento Kings guard Nick Anderson Saturday during the first quarter at Arco Arena in Sacramento.

Hornets 110, Celtics 96

CHARLOTTE — Derrick Coleman had 24 points and 11 rebounds as the Hornets won their fourth straight game in front of a very sparse crowd.

With the victory, the Hornets denied Boston its first five-game winning streak since the 1994-95 season.

Hawks 111, Wizards 93

ATLANTA — Isaiah Rider scored 28 points and Dikembe Mutombo added 17 points, 19 rebounds and six blocked shots for Atlanta.

The Hawks, who snapped a four-game losing streak, led only 70-68 before an 18-6 run in the final five minutes of the third quarter gave them a 14-point entering the final period.

76ers 103, Pacers 97

PHILADELPHIA — Allen Iverson scored 37 points, including a decisive three-point play with 64 seconds left.

In a rematch of Indiana's four-game playoff sweep in last year's second round, the Sixers held Reggie Miller scoreless for the final six minutes and finished with a 7-2 run for their fifth victory in six games.

Suns 101, Cavaliers 88

PHOENIX — The Suns welcomed Penny Hardaway back to the lineup with a 13-point victory over road-weary Cleveland, which lost its fifth in a row.

One Miss tops Auburn in day of upsets

NCAA Top 25

OXFORD, Miss. (AP) — Lataryl Williams' put back with 38 seconds left in overtime helped Mississippi upset No. 4 Auburn 79-77 Saturday.

Ole Miss (13-6, 1-5 SEC) came into the game on a five-game Southeastern Conference losing streak. Auburn (16-2, 4-1) had won 14 straight.

No. 3 Stanford 81, California 70
BERKELEY, Calif. — Mark DeRozier scored 19 points and Stanford's top defender, Steve Lavin, led California to 19 percent shooting in the first half.

No. 5 Duke 75, Wake Forest 61
WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. — Freshman Jason Williams scored 19 points and Duke set an Atlantic Coast Conference record with its 28th consecutive regular season league victory. The Blue Devils (15-2, 6-0) last lost to an ACC opponent in the regular season on Feb. 5, 1998, to North Carolina.

Missouri 81, No. 7 Kansas 59
COLUMBIA, Mo. — Clarence Gilbert hit seven three-pointers and scored a career-high 27 points as Missouri beat Kansas. The Jayhawks (15-3, 4-1 Big 12) have lost the last four times they have brought a Top 10 team into the Hearnes Center.

No. 8 Connecticut 92, Georgetown 71
WASHINGTON — Khalid El-Amrani, held without a field goal in the first half, scored 19 of his 22 points in the second half. Connecticut (13-3, 2-2 Big East), rebounding from a home loss to St. John's, stretched its conference-record road winning streak to 13 games.

No. 9 Florida 77, Alabama 70
TUSCALOOSA, Ala. — Mike Miller scored 25 points and Teddy Dupuy hit two free throws with 16 seconds left as Florida won for just the second win in Tuscaloosa since 1970. The Gators (14-3, 3-2 Southeastern Conference) have won consecutive SEC road games for the first time in five years.

No. 10 Mich. St. 69, Northwestern 45
EAST LANSING, Mich. — Charlie Bell scored 14 points and Morris Peterson and Andre Hutson each added 11 to lead

Michigan — State — past Northwestern. The Spartans (13-5, 4-1) had their 21-game Big Ten winning streak snapped by Ohio State last Thursday.

Purdue 83, No. 11 Indiana 77
WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Jarran Cornell scored 25 points and hit six three-pointers, including one he banked off the glass to give Purdue the lead in the closing minutes of a win over Indiana. The victory lifted Purdue (13-5, 4-1) to a first-place tie in the Big Ten.

Texas A&M 64, No. 12 Ok State 59
COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Bernard King scored 17 points, including two clinching free throws with nine seconds left, as Texas A&M got its first victory over a ranked team in 13 years.

No. 13 Ohio St. 65, No. 19 St. John's 64
NEW YORK — Michael Redd scored nine of his 15 points over the final 3:20 and Ohio State scored the game's final 11 points to beat St. John's.

No. 14 Texas 72, Texas Tech 59
LUBBOCK, Texas — Chris Mihm had 15 points and 10 rebounds to lead No. 14 Texas to a 72-59 victory over Texas Tech on Saturday night. Chris Owens added 14 points, Darren Kelley and William Clay had 11 apiece and Lawrence Williams scored 10 for the Longhorns (12-5, 4-1).

No. 15 Tulsa 100, Hawaii 78
TULSA, Okla. — Brandon Kurtz and Greg Harrington had 18 points apiece as Tulsa beat Hawaii. Eric Coley added 14 points and 11 rebounds for the Golden Hurricane (18-1, 4-0 Western Athletic Conference), who out rebounded the Rainbow Warriors 40-25.

No. 16 Okla. 80, Iowa St. 75 2OT
NORMAN, Okla. — Eduardo Najera scored seven of his 25 points in the second overtime as Oklahoma, which blew 74-point points and 11 rebounds for Iowa State. The Sooners (15-3, 3-2 Big 12) were 13-of-27 from 3-point

range, including two by Tim Heskett in the second overtime when they finally were able to put Iowa State away.

No. 18 Kentucky 81, No. 20 Vanderbilt 73, OT
NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Jamaal Magloire had 23 points and 15 rebounds and coach Tubby Smith got his 200th career victory as Kentucky beat Vanderbilt. Sophomore Desmond Allison added a career-high 23 points for Kentucky.

Florida St. 76, No. 21 North Carolina 71
CHAPEL HILL, N.C. — Damous Anderson scored a career-high 25 points while Ron Hale scored 17, including the go-ahead basket at 1:06 left, as Florida State handed North Carolina its fourth straight loss.

No. 22 Utah 69, Wyoming 61
SALT LAKE CITY — Alex Jensen had 19 points and 14 rebounds as Utah scored 17 of its worst shooting game of the season to beat scrappy Wyoming (11-8, 1-3).

St. Louis 75, No. 23 DePaul 69 OT
CHICAGO — Justin Love scored 10 of his 18 points in overtime and Saint Louis upset DePaul. Saint Louis scored 23 Conference USA) and lost eight straight games and DePaul (12-6, 3-3) has lost three of four, all against unranked opponents.

No. 24 Maryland 74, Clemson 62
COLLEGE PARK, Md. — Tahj Holden had 12 points and 10 rebounds in his first career start and Maryland allowed only eight first-half baskets against Clemson. The Terrapins (13-5, 2-3 Atlantic Coast Conference) were without No. 2 scorer Terence Morris, who sprained his left ankle Wednesday against Wake Forest.

No. 25 UCLA 83, Arizona St. 77
LOS ANGELES — Freshman Jason Kapono scored a career-high 24 points and reserve Matt Barnes added a career-high 17 as UCLA held on to beat Arizona State. The Bruins (11-5, 2-3 Pac-10) trailed most of the second half until Kapono followed a three-pointer by Ray Young with one of his own to tie the game at 65 with 7:58 remaining.

Hornacek's swish and the face wave

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — It's one of the most efficient, time-tested and familiar free-throw shooting routines in the NBA.

Jeff Hornacek of the Utah Jazz steps to the line, his face serious and his eyes locked on the rim. He strokes his face three times with his right hand, a not-so-secret way of saying hello to his kids back home.

Three dribbles. Three times flexing at the knees. Swish.

"I've started years ago, they always told you to keep the same routine all the time," said Hornacek, who leads the league from the free-throw line at an exceptional 96 percent (96-of-100).

Hornacek has said this will be his final season, and he has mastered the free throw. A career 87 percent shooter at the line, he reached the 90 percent rate that eluded him during his 14-year career.

"I never shot 90 before," Hornacek said. "I'd been at 89, 89.8, 89.9 within the last five or six years. One of my goals during this last season was to try to get 90."

Last season Hornacek was sixth in the league, hitting .893 from the foul line. He was the Reggie Miller led the NBA at

NBA notebook

915, barely ahead of Chauncey Billups of Denver, who shot .913. Hornacek said the most important thing about consistent free-throw shooting is relaxing. And the best way to do that, he said, is to follow the same routine over and over.

"That's where his three kids, and the hand gesture, come in."

"He started years ago," Hornacek said. "They said 'Wave to us when you're on TV.' I told them I couldn't wave, so that's what we came up with instead. I wipe my face three times. I decided to try it, and ever since then I've been up near that 90 range."

"That kind of accuracy attracts attention. But the question Hornacek most often answers is about his children and the face wave."

"It's a fun thing," Hornacek said. "I started out as a secret wave, but now I get letters from all over the world about it. I guess it's not such a secret anymore."

The trade that wasn't

A proposed trade sending

The night a high school player scored 135

BURNSVILLE, W.Va. (AP) — Danny Heater just shrugs when asked about the night 40 years ago when he scored 135 points in a high school basketball game.

He says he doesn't think about it much anymore.

HELL-LO! It was 135 points! A record that still stands!

"I was happy and sad at the same time," Heater said when pressed about the game on Feb. 26, 1960, in Burnsville High's basement gym. "I was embarrassed. I wasn't raised that way to embarrass people. I didn't know how to say, 'I did it.'"

"What do you say when you've done that to somebody?"

to win a college scholarship for the son of an unemployed coal miner. Stalnaker was a tough coach but had a soft spot for Heater, a shy, clumsy kid who would dribble a ball from class to class and once broke his wrists running into a wall at the gym, which had a court 20 feet shorter than a standard court.

Stalnaker came up with the idea before the game to have Heater break the 74-point state scoring record.

"When the coach told us that, we went out to warm up and I said, 'No, no.' I didn't want to do it," Heater said.

Heater, a 6-foot-1 guard who averaged 27 points a game, scored 50 points, mostly on layups, in the first half for a 75-17 lead.

"If I'd shoot and miss, instead of

putting it back up, they'd throw it back to me," he said.

Burnsville's full-court press and fast-break style gave Warden coach Bob Stover fits.

"If I hadn't been a young coach and afraid of getting suspended, I would have taken my kids off the floor at halftime," Stover said.

A few hundred spectators attended the game in this town about 80 miles from Charleston, although the gym didn't have seats for them.

Something else was missing — Heater's family. Dad was home sick and Mom decided to stay with him. At half time, Heater's sister, Carolyn, was summoned from a nearby hangout. She watched him break the state record early in the second half, after which Stalnaker called a timeout to take Heater out of the game.

SPORTS

Homer

Continued from C1
the plate with another catcher last season and sported a career-best .270 batting average with 50 RBIs. "I really enjoy teaching. I really like leaving, but I really want to play baseball."

over 6 feet and 185 pounds; he has quarterbacked Twin Falls High school in the Class A-I state championship football game in 1991 (the Bruins lost 49-25 that day) to Capt. whose quarterback back was Jake Plummer, now a star quarterback for the Arizona Cardinals. "He patted one on us," Homer recalls.

Mel Harder's stellar baseball career is Hall of Fame material

CHARDON, Ohio (AP) — Mel Harder puts down his walking cane, eases back in a living room chair and vividly recalls the day 72 years ago when he gave up a home run to Ty Cobb.

to hit against."
Harder's case for the Hall: From 1928-47, he was one of the American League's most consistent pitchers, winning 223 games for the Cleveland Indians, and he would later coach for 16 years.

Fame pitcher.
Impressive. But immortal? "He had a great career and I'm not sure why he's been overlooked to this point," said Hall of Fame Veterans Committee member Jerome Holtzman, who last year was appointed baseball's official historian.

Dealin' Dan transforms the Rockies, keeps only three players from last year

DENVER (AP) — When the Colorado Rockies assembled at spring training in their inaugural season in 1993, pitcher Bryn Smith playfully issued name tags to expedite the getting-to-know-you process.

Baseball notebook
includes only a handful of holdovers — right fielder and defending NL batting champion Larry Walker, first baseman Todd Helton, shortstop Neifi Perez and second baseman Mike Lansing, assuming he is recovered from back surgery.

Blue Jays players will feature a different logo on their caps at spring training and during batting practice in the regular season.
The caps will have a large red "T" in the background with a blue jay holding a bat and ball, wrapping a wing around the letter.

Even the front office is new, with Dan O'Dowd having replaced the Rockies' original general manager, Bob Gebhard, and Buddy Bell having taken over as manager from the retired Jim Leyland.

Miller Park work resumes
MILWAUKEE — Workers at the future Milwaukee Brewers stadium began lifting a 230-ton section of the ballpark's retractable roof Friday for the first time since another crane collapsed last year, killing three workers.

Blue Jays unveil new logo
TORONTO — The Toronto Blue Jays will sport a new look

Selig explains his plans

CHICAGO — Baseball ownership meetings have always been volatile, unpredictable events. But Bud Selig, the inside man, has done what his predecessors from the outside world could not do. He has made them less like a pay-per-view wrestling spectacular and more like the programming on ESPN2.



Bud Selig Has big plans for baseball

A — I do believe the game is more popular, is experiencing a renaissance. I've said those things, and I believe in them. But at the same time the game does have serious problems. Fans in cities like Kansas City, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Milwaukee know it.

Question — Why are owners comfortable giving you power?
Answer — I think maybe my three decades of experience. Obviously, I'm very sentimental about the office. Some people find power intoxicating. I worry about being very judicious in its use.

Q — How much of a difference can you make on competitive-balance issues, and how long will it take to provide relief for underfinanced teams?
A — That's a problem. No one can make believe it doesn't exist. It exists, and it's being exacerbated every year. I don't have long this will take. I don't have a timetable. But I believe I will make a difference, and now we're going to accelerate the process. I'll tell you what I told the clubs. I was a fan for many years, I ran a club, and one thing I've known, I've been convinced of, is that every fan has to have hope and faith. If you remove hope and faith from the mind of a fan, you destroy the fabric of the sport. It's my job to restore it.

Q — Does baseball need to implement an NFL- or NBA-style salary cap, including not just a salary ceiling but also a salary floor?
A — I don't want to get into specifics. We need to do a lot of things internally, and certainly we need salary restraint.

Yankees win while Orioles pay

The Associated Press
While the New York Yankees won the most, the Baltimore Orioles paid the most.

Table with columns: Team, 1999, 1998, 1997, Totals. Rows include Baltimore, NY Yankees, Los Angeles, Boston, Cleveland, Atlanta, NY Mets, Florida.

For 1999, the Yankees had the high tax bill for the second time in three seasons: \$4,804,081. They were followed by the Orioles (\$3,475,048), the Dodgers (\$2,663,079), the Mets (\$1,137,992) and the Red Sox (\$21,226).

rate of 34 percent on the amount of salary above the midpoint of the teams with fifth- and sixth-highest payrolls.
By shedding payroll late in the season, the Dodgers and Orioles cut their tax bills significantly.

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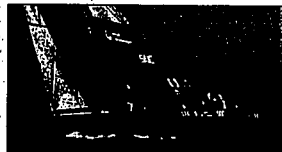
Racing for the Cup

AmericaOne will compete against Luna Rossa of team Prada Challenge in the Louis Vuitton Cup Finals, which begin on Tuesday. Team New Zealand awaits the winner of the best-of-nine final series, where the first team to reach five wins advances to the 30th America's Cup.

The skippers

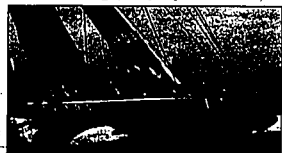
- Paul Cayard - AmericaOne**
- 1998 Rolex Yachtman of the Year
 - Winner of the 1998 Whitbread
 - Six-time world champion
 - 1991 Intercontinental America's Cup Class World Champion
- Francesco de Angelis - Prada Challenge**
- Winner of the 1995 Admiral's Cup
 - Five-time world champion

AmericaOne, USA

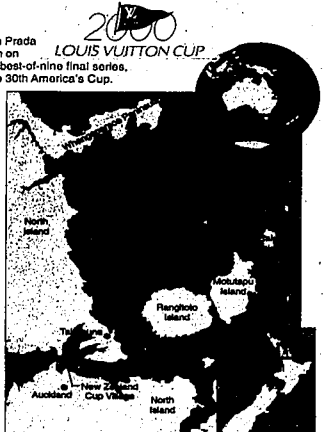


Sponsoring club: St. Francis Yacht Club
Boat name: AmericaOne
Sail numbers: USA-49, USA-61
Home port: San Francisco
Skipper: Paul Cayard
Designer: Bruce Nelson
Budget: \$32 million

Prada Challenge, Italy

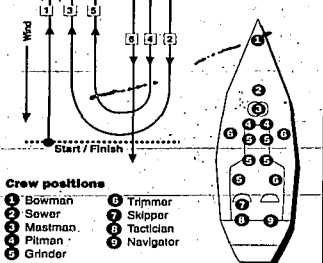


Sponsoring club: Yacht Club Punta Ala
Boat name: Luna Rossa
Sail numbers: 45, ITA-48
Home port: Punta Ala, Italy
Skipper: Francesco de Angelis
Designers: David Eggen, Gorman Frors, Gorman Frors Jr., Doug Peterson
Budget: \$50 million



The race course
 Boats start the race going into the wind on the six-leg circular course.

Leg	Nautical miles
1	3.25
2	3.00
3	3.00
4	3.00
5	3.00
6	3.25
Total	18.50



Source: America's Cup Organizing Committee

AP/Ed De Gasseo, Justin Gilbert

Gymnastics star absent from Olympic camp

The Associated Press

Hold off on that Vanity Fair cover and wait on the pre-Olympic hype. Unlike 1996, when Dominique Moceanu was the poster girl for U.S. gymnastics, her road to the Sydney Games is going to be a lot tougher.

Moceanu was not among the 15 gymnasts invited to the U.S. Olympic training camp. Eleven others failed to make the cut after the first camp, held last week at the Sydney Games site outside Houston.

"No, she's only been in the gym for two weeks," Mary Lou Tracy, Moceanu's coach, said Saturday from her gym in Cincinnati when asked if she was surprised Moceanu was left off the list.

"The only reason we brought her there is both of us felt it's a good thing to see what the competition is, even knowing this might happen."

But don't count Moceanu out of the Olympics just yet. Karolyi, who came out of retirement to be the national team coordinator, has established escalating criteria for conditioning and skills, and Moceanu could be invited to later camps if she meets those.

Moceanu is taking this as a challenge, not a defeat, Tracy said.

Rodeo winds down; \$500,000 left to win

DENVER (AP) - The National Western Stock Show is winding down and so is the rodeo competition.

The 1,170 contestants have two more days to win some of the over \$500,000 remaining. The next five performances

will determine who qualifies for Sunday's finals.

Sunday's finals will feature the top twelve contestants in the bareback riding, saddle bronc riding, bull riding, calf roping, team roping, steer wrestling and women's barrel race.

MOVIES...TIMES...RATINGS...REVIEW LINKS
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Supernova (PG-13) 12:20, 2:35, 4:30, 7:25, 9:30

The Sixth Sense (PG-13) 12:10, 4:45, 9:35

Man On The Moon (R) 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

The World Is Not Enough (PG-13) 2:20, 7:05

Deuce Bigalow (R) 12:15, 2:45, 4:40, 7:10, 9:25

Down To You (PG-13) 12:25, 2:40, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20

Girl Interrupted (R) 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40
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 Mon-Thurs 7:00-9:30
 Wed 9:30

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 Mon-Thurs 7:00-9:30
 Wed 9:30

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 Sat-Sun 12:15-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:15

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The Green Mile (R)
 Friday 7:45
 Sat-Sun 12:30-4:00-7:45
 Michael J. Fox In Family Fun
Stuart Little (PG)
 Friday 5:00-7:10-9:00
 Sat-Sun 12:40-2:50-5:00-7:10-9:00
Omega Code (PG-13)
 Friday 4:45-7:00-9:15
 Sat-Sun 12:15-2:30-4:45-7:00-9:15

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Galaxy Quest (PG)
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 Mon-Thurs 1:00-4:00-6:45-9:00

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 Daily 4:00-5:30-7:45-9:00
Stuart Little (PG)
 Daily 12:30-3:00-5:10-7:20-9:30
Bicentennial Man (PG)
 Daily 12:45 - 3:45 - 7:00 - 9:40

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American Beauty (R)
 Daily 12:45 - 3:45 - 7:00 - 9:40
Hurricane (R)
 Daily 12:45-3:45-7:00-9:40
WALT DISNEY Toy Story 2 (G)
 Daily 12:50-3:00-5:10-7:20-9:30
Ride with the Devil (R)
 Daily 12:45 - 3:45 - 7:00 - 9:40
Any Given Sunday (R)
 Fri - Sun 12:15 - 4:00 - 7:45
 Mon - Thurs 2:00 - 7:45
Anna and the King (R)
 Daily 12:45-3:45-7:00-9:40

Spectators miss racing thrills

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP) - The mime, costumed in a flowing gray gown with face paint to match, moved slowly as a crowd watched on a water-front cafe in the "City of Sails."

A slow hand gesture to the left, a slight nod of the head to the right. Some spectators appeared captivated. Others sneered and kept strolling on a sunny Saturday afternoon.

"We had a sailor here the other day," a waitress at the cafe said. "He said it was like watching paint dry."

Cynics have had a similar description about the sport: the sailor participates in - America's Cup racing.

On board an America's Cup boat, there is excitement as crew members work feverishly to trim sails and the tactician scans the skies, his mind working overtime to find a favorable wind shift. From a distance, though, the races seem like slow dances in which boats that take the early lead have a good chance never to be passed on the six-leg, 18.5-mile course.

"The first (wind) shift is very important, especially when you have even boats," AmericaOne tactician John Kostick said.

"His acumen will be tested Tuesday in the Hauraki Gulf off Auckland, where the time is 18 hours ahead of the East Coast of the United States and 15 hours ahead of San Francisco, home of the St. Francis Yacht Club which AmericaOne represents.

"For Prada, tactician Torben Grael faces the same challenge as he tries to help Italy sail one step closer to winning its first America's Cup, the top prize in the sailing world.

"The winner of the best-of-9 series between AmericaOne and Prada will face defending champion New Zealand, which has watched while the challenger led and was whittled from 11 boats from seven nations starting last Oct. 19.

"Team New Zealand has used its two boats to practice against each other, but there is no clear indication of how either would match up against AmericaOne or Prada.

"The Kiwis, though, do have an edge. As defending champions, they control many aspects of the racing, including deciding the precise part of the Gulf where the race is set to start Feb. 18, which will be held. Both challengers want to conduct their series on that same course, but the Kiwis might not make that course known until the naming of the first finals race.

"It is very annoying," Vince Cook, chairman of the challengers race committee, said. "We would like to be operating on a level playing field with the defender."

The Americans didn't feel that way through 1983, structuring the rules to their benefit as they never lost the Cup they first won in 1851 in the inaugural America's Cup match.

The New York Yacht Club's grasp on the prize was broken in 1983 when Australia rallied from a 3-1 deficit in Newport, R.I., and beat Dennis Conner's red-hulled Liberty 43.

Conner regained the Cup in Fremantle on Australia's west coast in 1987 and the United States won the next two competitions, both in San Diego. But in 1995, New Zealand easily beat Conner's Stars & Stripes, taking

the Cup out of the United States.

Conner's hopes of advancing this year ended when his boat, also named Stars & Stripes, was upset in its final race of the last round by America True on Jan. 14. But the America's Cup is about making money as well as winning races, and Conner still has several gift shops and a restaurant doing business in Auckland.

Paul Cayard, Conner's helmsman in 1995, now is skipping AmericaOne. His crew has more America's Cup experience than Prada, which lost its two races against AmericaOne in the previous round.

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SPORTS

Blinding snow poses no problem for speedy Strobl

KITZBUEHEL, Austria (AP) — Austrian Fritz Strobl overcame a driving snowstorm Saturday to win for the second time in his World Cup career on the treacherous Streif course.

Strobl, who smashed the record as the fastest man down the Streif when he won here in 1997, covered the hair-raising course — dramatically shortened due to the poor visibility at the top of the Hahnenkamm — in 1 minute, 46.54 seconds.

A master at surmounting foul conditions, Strobl virtually ignored a heavy, blinding snowfall. His victory gave Austrian fans something to cheer about, as the 50,000 spectators crammed into the finish area watched expectantly to see World Cup leader Hermann Maier make history.

Maier, who collected his 25th World Cup victory in Friday's super-G, was looking to equal compatriot Franz Klammer for the most World Cup wins by an Austrian man.

But unable to clinch the win, Maier instead settled for fourth in 1:47.49, marking only

Skilling

the second time in 14 races that the double Olympic and world champion has missed the podium this season.

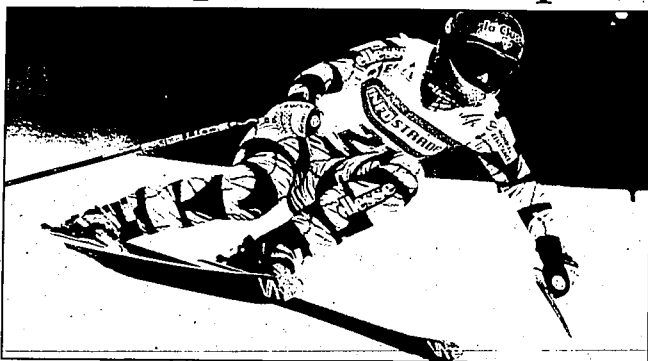
Defending champ wins moguls event

SOUTH LAKE TAHOE, Calif. — Defending World Cup moguls champion Ann Battelle of Steamboat Springs, Colo., won her first World Cup event of the season Saturday, using a nearly flawless run to overtake four other skiers and win by two-hundredths of a point.

Janne Lahtela, the men's current World Cup champion and points leader, led a 1-2-3 sweep by Finnish men. Lahtela and Battelle also won the moguls gold medal at the 1999 World Championships.

World champion German jumps farthest in Japan

SAPPORO, Japan — World champion Martin Schmitt of Germany clinched his fourth



France's Regine Cavagnoud speeds through a turn on her way to win, for the second consecutive year, the women's Ski World Cup downhill race in Cortina, Italy, Saturday.

straight and seventh overall victory of the season today as he came from behind to win the first of the weekend's two

World Cup ski jumping events. On Mount Okura's large hill, Schmitt's 411.75-foot jump was the second best behind

Norwegian Lasse Ottesen's 418.31-foot jump in the first series. In his second jump, this time against a headwind,

Schmitt leapt 387.14 feet, the best in the afternoon series, and earned a total of 238.8 points.

Cavagnoud shocks field with comeback victory

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy — A year after she burst onto the scene here with back-to-back wins, Regine Cavagnoud stunned her rivals again Saturday by coming back from a major knee injury to win a World Cup downhill.

The 29-year-old French woman triumphed for the first time on Cortina's Olympia delle Tofane course last year — after nine years on the World Cup tour. She then won the super-G, another surprise.

But a few weeks later, Cavagnoud tore a knee ligament during downhill training for the World Championships in Vail, Colo., and was sidelined for the rest of the season.

"I was hoping for a good result," Cavagnoud said after winning Saturday. "But this is like a dream."

Accident shatters Olympic dreams

The Salt Lake Tribune

SALT LAKE CITY — On the first turn, the bobsled's front runner suddenly lifted up off the ice. Travis Bell knew it meant trouble. He could not steer the hulking machine. He could not stop it. The sled slammed into the wall, ricocheting off, then rocketed down the track.

Fourteen more turns at much higher speeds lay ahead. Nothing could be done. Less than 50 seconds later, on a snow-swept January morning nearly a year ago, Bell's head smashed into the overhanging lip above turn 14 on Park City's Winter Sports Park track.

Bell blames a top-heavy camera mounted to the nose of his bobsled for the accident. He was filming a Cadillac commercial for Olympic sponsor General Motors. It cost him his career and his health.

Bell says he agreed to the project only after repeated assurances from the producers that the stunt was safe and had been done flawlessly several times before.

Now the 27-year-old Bell, once a promising U.S. bobsled driver, probably will never race again. He still suffers violent seizures, cannot work or exercise or legally hold a driver's license.

Every night, his skull pounds with a headache. He swallows handfuls of prescription painkillers to cope. Bell's neurologists say he will live with epilepsy from now on.

Bell filed a civil lawsuit in Los Angeles County Nov. 24 against General Motors, HSI Productions of New York and HSI Entertainment of Venice, Calif., for personal damages.

Representatives for GM and HSI declined comment and have yet to file their responses to Bell's suit.

Like his sled, Bell's Olympic dreams were smashed in less than a minute. For his efforts, Bell took home \$250.

Bell seemed born to drive a bobsled. A wild horse rider who grew up at 10,000 feet in a house built by one of Buffalo Bill's sidekicks, he broke his Wyoming high school's football record for single-game rushing.

In his rookie season, Bell won in his fourth and first team bobsled races during the 1999 America's Cup. He had come out of nowhere to secure a spot on the national bobsled team as the No. 5 driver, bypassing the usual move-up-the-ranks ladder.

The former University of Wyoming Cowboys' outside linebacker weighed 230 pounds and could bench-press 440. Most of all, he could drive. He was already a top professional snowmobiler, among the world's best at steering small machines at crazy speeds.

Two years ago, he bought a \$30,000 bobsled and three sets of runners, quit his job as a consultant to a Denver law firm and moved to Salt Lake to train for the Olympics.

This racing season, he would have been the number-four bobsled driver on the team, just one

slot from the Olympics. Three U.S. drivers will compete in 2002. Bell won't.

His bobsled is for sale. On Jan. 19, 1999, there had been no Olympic fervor, no medals, no tense international competition.

Still, Bell was excited when he arrived at the bobsled track. He was making a commercial for Cadillac and was using his muscles for Olympic sponsor GM.

He and veteran driver Joe McDonald were skeptical when they first saw the bulky, awkward movie camera contraption the film crew had built onto the nose of the bobsleds. The nose is a sensitive area on a bobsled, subject to tremendous force.

Bell and McDonald say crew members repeatedly assured them the contraption had been used safely many times before. It was used in the filming of the popular movie "Cool Runnings" and for a commercial.

for United Parcel Service on the Calgary Olympic bobsled track two years earlier, the crews said.

Bell says he did not sign a waiver before climbing into his sled. He took his push-start. As turn one came up, Bell's doubts took hold.

By turn four the camera was slamming into the track and flying apart. Each turn came faster than the last.

There was no getting off. There is no way to stop a bobsled. The simple pull-handle brake will flip the sled if used anywhere but in the snow-uphill stopping zone at the bottom of the track.

As Bell entered turn four, he struggled to see through the jumbled metal pipes of the camera support platform. There was so much torque on the camera it whipped the nose of the sled, which can rotate separately from the body, over on its side.

Pieces of the camera started flying. At turn six the film flew out. Bell fought the machine all the way to turn 11, a sweeping left on the Olympic track that races bobsleds with heavy vibrations. Chunks of the camera were hitting him. Finally, the whole contraption flew off and struck Bell in the head.

"I thought 'great,' we might have a chance to make it without the weight of the camera," Bell said.

He was wrong. He hit turn 12 at roughly 80 miles per hour. The entire contraption crumpled forward from the pressure, folding under the front of the sled and popping the nose up in the air.

"It was like having a rifle aimed at you and watching someone slowly pull the trigger," Bell said. Since the crash, Bell's condition has deteriorated. He has suffered several seizures in public and struggles with memory loss. Meanwhile, the medical bills pile up, \$30,000 worth so far. Bell's wife, Sunrise, is the couple's sole breadwinner now.

Bell now watches his peers from the sidelines, always regretting one insignificant trip down the bobsled track.

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BIZFACTS

Getting organized



BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Idaho Power declares quarterly dividend

BOISE — IDACORP Inc. (NYSE: IDA) declared a common stock dividend of 46.5 cents per share, payable Feb. 22, to holders of record at close of business Jan. 25.

Idaho Power Co., which provides electricity to the Snake Valley, declared a quarterly dividend of 1 percent preferred stock of \$1 per share, payable Feb. 1 to holders of record Jan. 14.

Idaho Power also declared dividend on 7.65 percent serial preferred stock, first series, \$100 par value, of \$1.92 per share, payable Feb. 15 to holders of record Jan. 25.

Idaho Power also declared dividend on 7.07 percent serial preferred stock, without par value, of \$1.76750 per share, payable Feb. 22 to holders of record Jan. 25.

Idaho Works! requests input on five-year plan

TWIN FALLS — South Central Idaho Works!, pursuant to the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, is requesting comment on a draft five-year plan for the Title IB Employment and Training Program.

The program will be operated in the eight counties of south-central Idaho through contracts with the Idaho Department of Labor's Job Service, Magic Valley Youth and Adult Services and the Center for New Directions. Estimated funding available will be \$350,000 for adult services, \$287,000 for dislocated worker services and \$419,000 for youth services. This program is replacing the Job Training Partnership Act program, Idaho Works! said.

Copies of the plan are available for review between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday at the Region IV Development Association office, in the Evergreen Building at the College of Southern Idaho.

Comments on the plan must be submitted by Feb. 15 to South Central Idaho Works!, P.O. Box 5079, Twin Falls, ID 83303-5079.

Get help starting in a new direction at CSI workshop

TWIN FALLS — The College of Southern Idaho's Center for New Directions is offering assistance to anyone who is considering college classes and is unsure of where to start or what resources are available.

The "Back to School" workshop is scheduled for 1 to 4 p.m. Feb. 18 at the Center for New Directions; admission is free.

Participants will learn about the services available at CSI, financial aid resources and college procedures. They also will explore the myths that prevent adults returning to college from reaching their goals, said Diana Pauls, office manager at the center.

Students must call to sign up. For information, call 733-9554, Ext. 2680, or (800) 680-0274, Ext. 2680.

Submission deadline moves up this week

TWIN FALLS — The Times-News this week will change its deadline for submission of news items to print in the Sunday Money section's YourBusiness column.

For the upcoming Sunday edition, the deadline for YourBusiness submissions will be noon Wednesday.

Next week, the deadline will return to the customary noon on Thursday.

Compiled from staff reports

Magic Valley economy

Trends point to moderation

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Idaho's span of unusually strong economic growth apparently has run its course, economists are saying.

Indeed, the Magic Valley in the fourth quarter faced continued low farm prices, climbing interest rates and the slowed population growth suggested by Idaho Falls Co.'s new-customer numbers.

Twin Falls County residents in the final months of 1999 bought fewer homes and cars and received permits for less single-family residential construction than in fourth quarter 1998, The Times-News' quarterly survey of economic indicators shows.

Magic Valley employers added fewer non-agricultural jobs over year-earlier numbers than they did at the end of 1998. And telephone companies in the county hooked up fewer new phone lines during the fourth quarter than they did during any of the previous five quarters.

But some in the Magic Valley — such as a real estate agent, a furniture salesman, a bank's mortgage director and a labor analyst — have blamed part of the year-end slowdown on consumers' apprehension about Y2K, which passed without incident.

And economists still predict a healthy, stable 2000 for Magic Valley and the rest of Idaho.

Some factors in The Times-News' survey could point to reasons for that optimism.

Those who did buy or build houses in the fourth quarter paid more on average than a year earlier.

Cattle prices are on the rise.

All of U.S. West's exchanges in Twin Falls County except one finished the year with more phone lines than they started — an indication of a healthy business environment. Murtaugh was down by 26 for the year, of which 23 were residential, U.S. West spokesman Mike Reynolds said. He expects to see more increases in the valley this year.

And Twin Falls, Jerome and Gooding counties' combined unemployment in December dropped to 3.6 percent, the lowest monthly rate in more than three years.

That last factor isn't good news to everyone.

Idaho's small businesses, experiencing tightening labor markets, have found it increasingly difficult to attract and retain employees, and they don't have the resources to compete with larger companies, Zions Bank said. The bank's Small Business Index for Idaho, which measures business conditions from the viewpoint of the small-business owner or manager, declined every month during the fourth quarter.

"Many Idaho employers are offering unusual or expanded benefit options in order to attract and to retain workers, especially in the high technology sector," said Jeff Thredgold, economic consultant to Zions Bank.

But a local labor market analyst said companies eyeing Twin Falls for new locations needn't worry. Workers here are interested in new jobs and eager for higher pay.

Close to 300 people already have applied for 100 positions at The Home Depot, a home-improvement retailer planning to open a Twin Falls store this spring, said Greg Rogers, the Idaho Department of Labor's Magic Valley analyst.

This year, he's hoping to see political polling outfits or call centers arrive to boost Twin Falls wages.

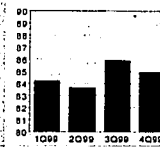
On the job

Idaho's average hourly wage gains in 2000 may vary near 3 to 3.5 percent — almost the same as 1999's growth rate, said Kelly K. Matthews, First Security Corp.'s chief economist.

"Inflation is not likely to exceed 3 percent, so real wage

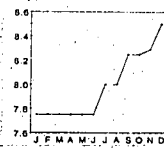
Fourth quarter economic indicators

Market basket



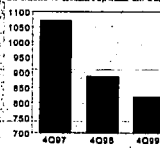
An average cost in dollars of a basket of goods at three area grocery markets.
Source: Times-News survey

Interest rates



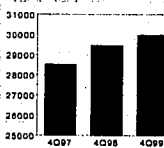
The prevailing national interest rate during the past four quarters.
Source: First Security Bank

Auto sales



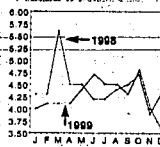
Twin Falls County sales of new vehicles.
Source: Idaho Automobile Dealers Association

Electrical customers



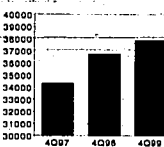
Total electrical customers in Twin Falls County.
Source: Idaho Power Co.

Jobless rate



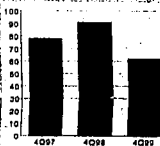
Seasonally adjusted unemployment rate for Twin Falls, Jerome and Gooding counties during 1998 and 1999.
Source: Idaho Department of Labor

Non-agricultural employment



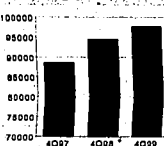
The three average number of non-agricultural jobs per quarter, not adjusted for seasonal fluctuations.
Source: Idaho Department of Labor

Building permits



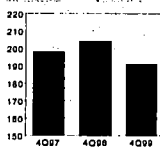
Building permits for new houses issued by Twin Falls city and Greater Twin Falls Association of Realtors.
Source: City and county records

Building permits, average value



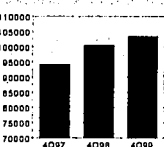
The average value of houses for which building permits were issued.
Source: City and county records

Home sales



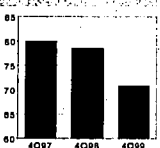
Number of homes in Twin Falls County sold by members of the Greater Twin Falls Association of Realtors.
Source: Greater Twin Falls Multiple Listing Service

Home sales, average value



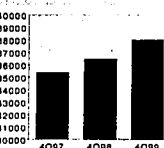
Average value of homes sold by members of the Greater Twin Falls Association of Realtors.
Source: Greater Twin Falls Multiple Listing Service

Farm price index



A Magic Valley commodity price index with a 1980 base index.
Source: Times-News Index

Telephone customers



Total number of telephone lines in Twin Falls County.
Source: Utilities

gains should continue," he said, adding that that gap is none too wide.

Non-agricultural job gains in Twin Falls, Jerome and Gooding counties brought non-farm employment to 37,880 in the fourth quarter. That's an increase of 1,154 jobs over the final months of 1998, which saw 2,411 more jobs than fourth quarter 1997.

The Labor Department pointed to manufacturing, food-processing and services sectors as good performers in the Magic Valley.

In the state as a whole, the tourist industry expanded rapidly in 1999. Travel and convention tax receipts rose 7 percent in the first 11 months of 1999, Matthews said.

This year, Idaho probably can't expect such an aggressive contribution from the construction sector, which posted great job growth in 1999, he said.

The state's Division of Financial Management agrees.

"Construction employment is forecast to grow slowly from 32,809 in 1999 to 33,926 in 2003," it said in the "Idaho Economic Forecast" publication.

U.S. Bank's prediction for the state: "In 2000 Idaho's job

growth of 2.3 percent will be stronger than 1999 with a healthier agricultural industry, a more robust manufacturing sector as high-tech growth picks up, and continued expansion in the service sector.

A key indicator of slower growth in 1999 was declining employment in the state's retail trade sector, as slower growth in personal income reduced consumer spending, the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco said.

Major purchases

Some Magic Valley residents evidently decided the end of 1999 wasn't the most prudent time to buy a house or car.

Builders and owners in the fourth quarter hoisted new-home prices by 3.5 percent compared with a year ago. That improvement followed three straight declines from year-earlier quarterly numbers.

The average value of new-home projects that received permits in Twin Falls city and county rose to \$97,704, up from the \$94,416 average of fourth quarter 1998. In fourth quarter 1997, the average was \$88,587.

But as interest rates rose the

number of home permits slipped, from 91 in fourth quarter 1998 to 62 in October through December 1999, building department records show.

Look for somewhat less home building in 2000 around the state.

Idaho's "reduced pace of population and employment growth, combined with the prospect of somewhat higher mortgage rates, will likely moderate single-family building permits by 5.9 percent in 2000," Matthews said.

But even with the state's single-family permits slipping about 1 percent in 1999 — with southwestern Idaho contributing largely to the decline in October — this still implies a residential construction industry operating at a high level of output, he said.

"Real estate agents' sales of houses, too, were down during the final three months of 1999.

"I'm hearing that from the offices, that business slowed down," said Olivia Rowe, executive officer of the Greater Twin Falls Association of Realtors.

Rowe said she didn't know what to attribute the lagging activity to, except to Y2K worriers holding off on purchases. But

Please see INDICATORS, Page D3

YOUR BUSINESS

MILESTONES

Twin Falls-based EHM Engineers Inc. wins award

TWIN FALLS — EHM Engineers Inc. was presented the eighth annual Starr Corp. TOQ award.

Start is a general building contractor working from its Twin Falls base for more than 37 years.

The award is based on the vote of all Starr employees and recognizes the firm that most positively worked with Starr during the year to give outstanding customer service, product quality and safety.

Criteria include pricing, product quality, service from the company to Starr's clients, paperwork flows and several others. Previous recipients include electrical contractors, painters, steel fabricators and plumbing contractors.

Gerald Martens, owner of EHM Engineers, accepted the award at a Starr banquet.

EHM is a provider of structural and civil engineering, land surveying and environmental engineering services. It employs about 25 people in Twin Falls and has satellite offices serving customers in the Boise, Ketchum and Sun Valley areas.

EHM began business in 1975 as a partnership of Martens, Doug Howard and Carl Edwards. In 1985, Martens purchased the shares of his partners and ran the business as sole proprietor.

He now has two employee minority partners. EHM Engineers has worked on residential and commercial projects in the Magic Valley and provided engineering and construction management services for clients throughout the West and Midwest.

Job hopping becomes common

Experts advise employees to look before they leap

The Washington Post

Forget job trading, profit sharing or building hot tech start-ups... job hopping is the wave of the future. This ain't your parents' work anymore.

T. generations before the big X were told and taught and expected to pick one job and stick with it for 20 or 30 years. They spent each day going to the same office and waiting to get the gold watch. It was a secure way to live and work, and it was the way that the bulk of the population played the job market. Today, however, the economy has changed, so have the rules.

"Workers are coming together in short-term projects to meet the immediate needs of erratic markets," said Bruce Tulgan, CEO and author of "Work This Way: How 1,000 Young People Designed Their Own Careers in the New Workplace and How You Can Too."

"The distinctions among permanent workers, temps and consultants are dissolving. Nothing like dissolving those distinctions, right? People are calling this generation of workers the Me Generation. Whether that distinction is true or not, workers today do need to be looking out for their well-being first and foremost, said Gordon Miller, CEO of the Career Edge, a national network of career coaches.

"We're in the lowest level of unemployment ever. Most of it is because there just aren't enough people to go around," he points out. So here's your chance: Hop around and gather a bunch of skills, more money, good experience and heightened confidence with each jump.

The definition of job hopping can be different for everyone — if you planned to stay at a job for 10 years and end up moving on

Hall will now offer long-term agricultural mortgages, farm and ranch management, consulting, recruitment of ranch managers, appraisals, and farm and ranch brokerage services from Canada to Mexico throughout the Rocky Mountains and Great Plains region.

All employees and partners remain in their current positions with the new company. Hall and Hall operates offices in Sun Valley; Billings, Bozeman and Missoula, Mont.; Denver, North Platte; and Jackson Hole, Wyo.

Business journal ranks Longaberger in top 500

NEWARK, Ohio — The Longaberger Co., for the fourth consecutive year, was ranked in Forbes Magazine's list of the Top 500 Largest Privately Held Companies in the United States.

On Forbes' 1999 list, Longaberger moved up 27 spots to 342nd and has made jumps for the past four years, ranking 497th in 1996, 417th in 1997 and 383th in 1998.

Longaberger, a manufacturer of handmade hardwood maple baskets, is an \$850 million direct sales company based in Newark, Ohio. Locally, Longaberger is represented by Laurie Wirtz of Twin Falls.

AAA awards Four Diamonds to two upscale properties

SUN VALLEY — The Sun Valley Lodge Dining Room earned AAA's elite status and received the AAA's Four Diamond Award for 2000, the 11th consecutive year it has received this award.

AAA said its team of full-time professional field inspectors drive more than 1 million miles each year conducting unannounced evaluations of lodgings and restaurants. Only 3 percent of the estimated 25,000 AAA-rated lodgings and 4 percent of the 11,000 restaurants attain the Four Diamond level of excellence, the company said.

The Grove Hotel in Boise received the award for the first time this year. The Sun Valley Lodge Dining Room and The Grove are the only properties in the 36-state region to earn the AAA Oregon/Idaho to earn the Four Diamond for 2000.

UI sponsors weed control conference

The Times-News

BOISE — The 55th Annual Idaho Weed Control Association Conference will be held Feb. 1-3 at the Airport Holiday Inn.

Agronomic, land-management and -restoration, weed, ecology and -biology and urban-horticulture sessions are planned. The event is sponsored by the University of Idaho College of Agriculture.

For registration information, call Brad Hooglund at 888-0988.

CONTRIBUTIONS

D.L. Evans Bank announced eight \$250 scholarships to Idaho State University will be awarded for the fall semester of 2000 to graduating seniors from Magic Valley high schools.

Criteria: Student must be graduating from a high school in Buhl, Burley, Castleford, Declo, Filer, Hansen, Jerome, Kimberly, Minico, Murtaugh, Oakley, Ralt River, Twin Falls, Valley or Wendell.

The student must attend ISU for the 2000 fall semester. Preference will be given to students majoring in finance, business or economics; however, other majors will be considered.

The student must have a minimum 2.0 grade-point average from high school studies completed at the time of application.

To apply: For information and applications, call the ISU Scholarship Office at 236-3315. Complete the application, attach a high school transcript and a statement; return to the ISU Scholarship Office, P.O. Box 8391, Pocatello, ID 83209-8391. Deadline to apply is March 24.

BUIH — Photographer Robert J. MacDonald said he was notified by Montana Magazine that his image titled "Solitary Splendor" has been chosen as the "Best of 30 Years," in conjunction with the Magazine's 30th anniversary of publication.

As such, MacDonald's image will be on an exhibition throughout Montana venues at locations free to the public.

TWIN FALLS — Etha Carruthers of Desert Sun Travel recently attended a four-day sales-of-professional-workshops and training sessions, plus cruise ship inspections in Florida.

Lauderdale, Fla., while attending the 16th Annual Leisure Travel Conference and Winter Cruise-A-Thon conducted by Travel Trade Publications and Cruise Lines International Association.

Carruthers joined Cruise Line, Tour Operator and other industry leaders, as well as professional travel agents from throughout North America for a study of cruise and tour vacation opportunities available as clients continue to celebrate the millennium with travel, a press release said.

TWIN-FALLS — R. Spence Ellsworth, a longtime southern resident, has been named a manager of Beneficial Life's Twin Falls office at 401 Second St. N. in the Just-a-Mere-June building.

Beneficial Life agents are attached to this office; the office plans to hire five more agents this year.

"Beneficial Life will continue to maintain an office and presence in southern Idaho. We are enthusiastic about serving the residents of Magic Valley and Wood River Valley who are seeking a broad array of life insurance and financial services, including business continuation, estate and retirement planning," Ellsworth said.

"As larger Eastern-based life

CAREER MOVES

insurance companies move agency offices and managers out of rural Idaho in search of a greater population base, Beneficial Life sees this area as a great opportunity for growth and expansion," he said.

Ellsworth graduated from Ricks College and received a bachelor's degree in animal science with a minor in business from Brigham Young University. He was a farmer for many years before becoming a Beneficial Life agent in 1996.

TWIN FALLS — KeyBank, Idaho, hired Virgil Johnson to the position of relationship manager.

Johnson will be responsible for marketing and business development in the greater Twin Falls area. He will provide financial products and services to small businesses as well as consumer clients.

Johnson has been in the financial services industry for the past 18 years. He is both chairman and announcer for the Kimberly Good Neighbor Day Parade, chairman of a youth soccer organization and treasurer of the Kimberly Lions Club. He is a member of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce auction committee and was vice chairman of Kimberly senior citizens.

Johnson is a graduate of Brigham Young University with a degree in business management.

RUPERT — Stephen C. Rice, a Lewiston attorney since 1975, was selected to join the board of directors of the Idaho Youth Ranch.

Rice is an Idaho native, born in Council and educated at the University of Idaho. He served in the U.S. Army before entering

the U of I College of Law. He was a commissioner of the Idaho State Bar from 1995 to 1998 and was president of the Bar in 1997. He also has been active with the Idaho Association of Trial Lawyers and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America, said a statement by the Youth Ranch.

Rice's wife, Julie (formerly Julie Roberts of Twin Falls), will be an active supporter of his efforts with the Youth Ranch, the statement said.

Rice's "legal and estate-planning background and his knowledge of the Nez Perce area will be invaluable," said Bill Daniels, president of the board.

The Youth Ranch said it has been helping troubled youth in Idaho since 1953. Beginning with the Ranch near Rupert, the network now includes Anchor House in Coeur d'Alene; Nampa Boys Home; and Emancipation Home and Hays Shelter Home in Boise; plus day treatment, adoption and family services.

Last year, the organization said, almost 300 young people were helped in the residential programs alone.

TWIN FALLS — Dennis Blevins is the new store manager at the DeMarcos men's clothing store in the Magic Valley Mall.

Blevins began his career in the clothing business as a salesman for Roper's in 1972. In 1982, he became the store manager and remained in that position until the recent store closure.

A lifelong resident of the Magic Valley, Blevins graduated from Jerome High School and the College of Southern Idaho and earned a bachelor's degree in business at Boise State University. He resides in Twin Falls with his wife, Cathie.

TELL US YOUR BUSINESS

YourBusiness is a weekly feature that highlights commercial activity in the Magic Valley. If you have information about any of the following, The Times-News wants to hear about it:

- Promotions and staff changes.
- New certifications.
- Seminars and workshops.
- Awards and achievements.
- Charitable business activities.
- Other business news.

YourBusiness deadline: Noon Wednesday for publication next Sunday.

Many workers spend time online

Knight Ridder News Service

If you're like the majority of employees surveyed in September by Vault.com, a career information and company gossip Internet site, you spend a lot of work time online. Only about one in 10 of the 1,244 workers surveyed said that Web surfing for nonwork reasons

was unethical and that they didn't do it. More than one-third said they surf "constantly."

More than half admitted surfing more than 30 minutes a day. Only 16 percent said they never sent personal e-mails from work. The rest admitted sending and receiving from one to more than 20 nonwork messages a day.

THE LIGHT TOUCH

by Craig Smith



Fish might not be terribly intelligent, but no fish ever got sunburned sitting in a boat while trying to catch a man.

If the Titanic had been a soap opera, it would still be sinking.

Great opportunities come to those who make the most of small opportunities.

A simple cure for insomnia is a committee meeting.

Ever have that nightmare where your ship comes in — and you're at the airport?

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1811 Addison Ave. E. Twin Falls 734-3383
...For the friendly, helpful service you expect.

"See the experts at Snake River Glass!"

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OPEN HOUSE

Join us January 24-28 as we celebrate AAA's move to a new Twin Falls location at 1445 Fillmore St., Suite 1100 (north of the new Post Office, south of Costco)

Come in and register for great giveaways, including:

- Two Nights' Stay at Sun Valley's Elkhorn Resort
- Two Nights' Stay at Boise's AmeriSuites
- A 19-inch Color TV
- Dinner for Two at Daisy's
- American Express Gift Cheques
- Real Theatre Movie Tickets
- ... and More!

Stop by and visit us at our new location. You'll be surprised at how extensive our travel services have become. Everyone's invited, and we have special gifts for AAA members! Enjoy free refreshments while you're here.

AAA Idaho
1445 FILLMORE ST., SUITE 1100
734-6441

Changing market challenges spuds

POCATELLO - Potato growers and shippers came from across the state this week, looking for answers to the ever-toughing job of marketing spuds at profit. Narrowing margins at the grower/shipper level and widening disparity at the retail level has marketers both frustrated and stumped. One seminar - New Buying and Selling Dynamics in the Produce Industry - at the University of Idaho's Potato Conference 2000, held at Idaho State University, looked promising.

Dave Smith, executive director of the Idaho Grower Shippers Association, said IGSA members are hungry for information on how to be better marketers.

"I think there's a lot of things we don't understand about how markets have changed, how buyers have changed," he said. The first objective is to figure out how things have changed on the buying side, and adapt to those changes. "I think a lot of people want to know how they're all (buyers) thinking so we can be better sellers."

Ed McLaughlin, director of the University's Food Industry Management Program, has been studying the issue, surveying retailers and tracking the industry for four years. What he's found is a dynamic industry that's moving rapidly toward consolidation, which means growers are seeking quality, consistency and sophistication from fewer sellers.



Don Gerhardt, left, state statistician with the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service knows all about supply, while Bert Moulton, manager of fresh/daily for Potato Growers of Idaho, is well versed in the demand side of the industry. As attendees at Potato Conference 2000 heard, however, successful marketing is far more complex than the simple laws of supply and demand.



lamb, has been one of NCBA's top priorities the past few years, but the organization has had a tough time getting any legislation on the issue.

Julie Quick, NCBA director of public affairs in Washington, D.C., said the organization decided to take a different route to getting a labeling measure on the books. "They've talked about it in Congress the last few years, but it never came to a vote. That's why we're working in other areas," she said.

NCBA has taken a three-pronged approach. In addition to urging Congress to approve country-of-origin labeling, the organization is also working with retailers to find a workable voluntary program. It is also staying atop of its earlier petition to the USDA to rescind the USDA quality grade from imported carcasses.

Country-of-origin labeling wins USDA sound

"It's been a long time in coming, and it still has a way to go, but at least the groundwork is laid for legislation that would require country-of-origin labeling on meat. A report by the U.S. Department of Agriculture on the benefits of such a measure was released last week.

That's good news in beef country."

"Now we have a baseline to move ahead to implement a labeling program," said George Swan, a Rogerson rancher and president of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

The measure, which would apply to imports of beef and

Indicators

Continued from D1
people who may have delayed before are jumping into the housing market now, she said, and local real estate offices in January are reporting "very brisk" business.

Home sales in the county slid from 204 a year ago to 191 in the fourth quarter, excluding mobile home sales. Though the average sale price - \$103,468 - was 6 percent above fourth quarter 1998's average, that didn't match the 6.7 percent hike between the fourth quarters of 1997 and 1998.

For the third quarter in a row, Twin Falls County dealers sold fewer new automobiles than they did a year earlier. The county's total of 820 new cars and trucks sold in the fourth quarter - 7.6 percent below the 887 sold in the last three months of 1998.

Not all consumer news is bad: Fewer Idahoans are delinquent in their credit.

Total Idaho bankruptcy filings for the first 11 months of 1999 were 6 percent less than the comparable 1998 total, which had jumped 10 percent, Matthews said.

Farm factors

After a string of bad years, farmers might finally see a small positive income in 2000, largely from government payments, one bank economist told a Twin Falls audience this month. But fourth-quarter prices showed precious little reason to hope for higher farm-commodity prices.

The overall farm-price index compiled by The Times-News dropped 9.8 percent, marking the fifth straight quarter of decline from year-earlier numbers.

"The beans, wheat, sugar, spuds and butter categories used for the index all brought lower prices in Twin Falls than in the fourth quarters of 1998 and 1997. Cattle alone commanded

improved prices in the fourth quarter - 17 percent above year-earlier prices, and 6 percent above those in the last three months of 1997, Times-News calculations show.

Beef producers have a brighter outlook elsewhere, too.

U.S. steer prices in December near \$70 per hundredweight were up sharply from the \$60 prevailing a year ago, Matthews said. The nation's average calf prices in the fourth quarter were also up about \$10 per hundredweight from last year.

"The beef cycle is now in its fourth year of herd liquidation, and cattle inventories should reach a cyclical low in 2000 of 97.5 million head," Matthews said. "Beef prices in 2000 can possibly hold near the current \$70 average level."

It's hard to predict improvement in wheat. Idaho wheat production in 1999 increased 2 percent to 104.5 million bushels. The state's average November wheat prices at \$2.64 per bushel were essentially unchanged from a year earlier, Matthews said.

Soft white wheat prices in Portland, Ore., were down 36 cents from a year ago, he said earlier this month. The commodity futures market shows a slightly higher wheat price - perhaps 25 cents more per bushel after mid-2000.

Snake River beet growers get the low down

The news delivered to sugar beet growers at the annual meeting of the Snake River Sugar Co. in Boise last week was probably not exactly what they wanted to hear.

"We just put out another retain, due to a drop in sugar prices, on the final payment of this year's crop," said Myron Huettig, a Hazelton grower and secretary of the grower co-op.

The news followed on the heels of a retain on the final payment for last year's crop, but both were unavoidable, according to Huettig.

"We have to have a certain amount of profit to make our mortgage payment. In order to do that we had to hold back some (money out of growers' checks)," he said, "I think growers were disappointed, they were counting on a full check."

With commodity prices ailing across the board, this year's retain hit growers hard. Compounding the hit was the announcement that next year they could expect the same. Last year, weather led to storage problems and a substantial portion of the crop had to be thrown out. This year, it's a drop in sugar prices, Huettig said, and the co-

op made a commitment to growers that if a retain was expected, they would be informed as soon as possible.

Even with the retain, Huettig said, growers should fare better than they did last marketing year. The average payment on the 1998 crop after the retain was \$35.29 a ton. Payment on the 1999 crop is expected to be about \$40 after the retain. Huettig reports contain good news.

Wheat reports contain better news than expected

TWIN FALLS - Slightly less production than expected and more use than anticipated have given the wheat outlook a slightly rosier shade than earlier reports had predicted.

Enough of a shift, says one University of Idaho grain marketing specialist, to call the January stocks report "bullish." He's referring to the disappearance of 50 million bushels of American wheat between the September stocks report and the January report.

"We've got less ending stocks than the previous report suggested we would," explained Larry Matos from his Moscow office.

A small part of the disappearance can be explained by production figures that were adjusted downward after harvest was complete. Feed use, net exports, probably account for the rest of the disappearance.

Nonetheless, that's good news for Idaho-grain producers who are storing 25 percent more wheat this year than they did last year at this time. According to the Idaho Agricultural Statistics Service, the total amount of wheat stored in Idaho was 73.5 million bushels on Dec. 1, up from 58.6 million bushels in 1998.

There's still more grain on hand than last year, but not as much grain as earlier reports had predicted. That's cause for optimism, Matos pointed out, especially in light of the just released winter wheat planting report.

Idaho's winter wheat seedings for the 2000 crop are estimated at 780,000 acres, up from the 1998 planting of 760,000 acres but still 5 percent less than the 1998 crop.

Indiana farmers try to reverse erosion

Knight Ridder News Service

INDIANAPOLIS - The hills Hal Truax farms near Pittsboro used to be so badly eroded that Truax jokes the red clay was better suited for producing bricks than crops.

But he's coaxing respectable corn and soybeans from those hills, now that he's turned to a newer, more complex method called "no-till."

Truax plants seeds without tilling the soil, leaving stubble from the previous crop to slow water from rushing down the hills and carrying away precious topsoil. "It makes you feel good that you've allowed that soil to come back into production," says Truax, 44.

Oh, for more farmers like Truax, pines state soil conservation director Harry Nikides.

With more no-till converts, Indiana would have reached a self-imposed goal of reducing soil erosion to a "tolerable" level by 2000.

Instead, about a quarter of the state's cropland is still washing or blowing away faster than nature can rebuild it. The results? More contaminated drinking water, less productive land and roadside ditches filling with silt.

Fortunately, much of Indiana is so flat that it is naturally protected from water erosion, the dominant form of erosion in the state. When the state launched its conservation initiative in 1987, an estimated 59 percent of its cropland already was protected by topography and reduced tillage.

With no-till and the other efforts, 75 percent of Indiana farmland has come under protection.

"We're very proud of where we are. We've made big inroads," Nikides says. "But we're still putting sediment and nutrients in our streams."

"It affects everyone's life in one way or another."

Government soil conservation

ists say they fell short of instilling a more thorough conservation ethic because they couldn't fund enough workers for the effective, but time-consuming, individual discussions with farmers and landowners.

They tried. Indiana joined other Midwestern states in 1987 in launching an ambitious soil conservation initiative to combat a problem dating to European settlement.

When settlers began to clear forests and plow the land in the early 1800s, topsoil averaged 15 inches deep.

Now, only seven inches remain. And some slopes have no topsoil. Bob Eddleman, who heads the Indiana office of the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service, recalls playing cops-and-robbers in the '40s and '50s in southern Indiana gullies deep enough to swallow railroad cars.

Those memories helped steer Eddleman into his career, and they still rile emotions.

"Stewardship of the land is the responsibility of anyone who has ownership or use of that land," Eddleman says.

Coincidentally, erosion had just begun to slow when the state launched its "7 by 2000" initiative within the Department of Natural Resources.

"7" stands for tolerable, the amount of soil that can be lost without the land losing productivity.

Erosion peaked at five tons per acre in 1986. By 1997, the latest year for which figures are available, erosion had been reduced to three tons per acre.

Most Indiana soils naturally produce three to five tons of topsoil a year, says Purdue University conservation specialist Mark Evans. Still, some farms are losing more than can be replaced.

Enough Indiana topsoil slipped away in 1997 to cover Marion County with more than a half-inch of sediment.

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Personal finance

Prosperity statistics contain some troubling numbers

By John Cunniff
The Associated Press

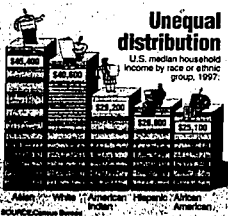
NEW YORK — It's reassuring to have prosperity confirmed by statistics, since what the eyes see these days must be digitized and decimalized to be established as fact in a high-tech world.

Confirmation comes in a triennial Federal Reserve survey of households showing incomes rising but net worth soaring, the latter as home equity rises and stock ownership spreads.

And if you probe, you might find evidence also to support your sense that some people are becoming stratospherically rich, widening the rich-poor gap and that between well off and sunnily well off.

The latter can be observed, and colorfully, by a drive through a suburb of huge houses. Still, black-and-white num-

BizFACTS



bers tend to prove the point — numbers as in money paid athletes for catching a ball, entrepreneurs for creating a hot

stock or investors for owning it.

The Fed survey suggests also what most suspect, an education-income correlation, one that another survey, by Congress' Joint Economic Committee, expresses as 10 percent added annual income for each additional year of schooling.

Not nearly as encouraging, however, are numbers contained in this and several surveys before it, that Americans are pumping up their prosperity by borrowing as if good times are forever.

Based on Fed numbers, the Financial Markets Center, a think tank, reports that margin debt, or money borrowed from stock brokers, amounted to \$180 billion as of last June.

As a percentage of market capitalization, or total value of all stocks, it was the highest since September 1987. And as a percentage of Gross Domestic Product, it

was the highest in 63 years.

It must be noted that this debt doesn't include money borrowed from other sources for use in the stock market — money from home equity, for instance, or money borrowed via credit cards.

This money shows up in other statistics that in themselves are hard for old-timers to digest, such as triple-digit price-earnings ratios and skyrocketing market value for companies without earnings.

Such numbers aren't necessarily bad. Powerful new companies are being created today. And even the triennial survey shows assets are growing faster than debt. Some analysts even suggest that people today are more sophisticated than old-timers in using debt wisely.

They may be right. And they may be too forgiving of modern financial habits, as you suspect Fed chairman Alan Greenspan is inclined to believe.

Leverage — the use of other people's money to seek more for yourself — doesn't know up from down — produce quick market reactions. Ignored, because the market then resumes its ways.

Nobody knows whether increasing prosperity has a long time to go or is close to its limit.

Greenspan concedes these might indeed be unusual times. And in pausing, if only briefly, the markets seem to at least ponder the possibility his warnings may have merit.

The future knows, but we can only guess what the future thinks. It means your guess is as good as anyone's.

No big changes coming this tax season

WASHINGTON (AP) — After two years of tumultuous change in the federal tax code, taxpayers got a bit of a breather in 2000.

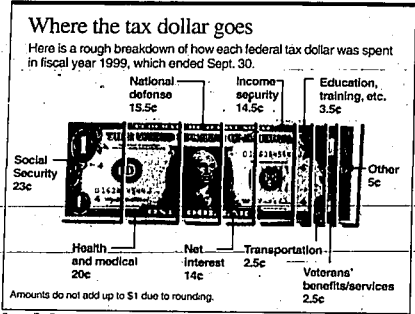
"Things really haven't changed much," said Keith Oates, a tax partner in the Boston office of the DeLoitte & Touche accounting firm. "If you're an individual preparing your own taxes, it certainly makes it easier."

The change likely to affect the most individual taxpayers is the credit for dependent children under age 17, which rises from \$400 to \$500 under a law passed by Congress in 1997.

The credit is reduced by \$50 for every \$1,000 of adjusted gross income above \$10,000 for married taxpayers who file jointly, \$75,000 for single filers.

Liberalized rules for deducting home office expenses also take effect. Beginning this year, a home office qualifies as a "principal place of business" if it is used to conduct "administrative or business activities" and there is no other fixed location for that work to occur.

All the changes are detailed by the Internal Revenue Service in Publication 553. Some highlights:



Amounts do not add up to \$1 due to rounding.

Source: The Foundation

- For the self-employed, 60 percent of insurance premiums can be deducted, up from 50 percent.
- Medical expenses for programs to quit smoking and drugs prescribed for nicotine withdrawal are deductible for the first time.
- If a capital gains distribution is the only item to be reported on Schedule D, it could instead be reported directly on line 13 of the 1040 form.
- Some itemized deductions could be limited if adjusted gross income is above \$126,000 for married people filing jointly, \$63,000 if they file separately.
- The amount that can be deducted for certain student loans rises to \$1,500.
- The maximum income a family with children can have and still qualify for the earned income tax credit is \$30,580, or \$10,200 for those without qualifying children.
- The estate and gift tax exemption rises from \$650,000 to

\$675,000. It will eventually reach \$1 million by 2006.

In 1997 and 1998, the Republican-led Congress passed major tax legislation that resulted in dozens of changes affecting millions of taxpayers.

The GOP tried again last year with their 10-year, \$792 billion tax cut, but it was vetoed by President Clinton because it would have consumed a large chunk of the projected federal budget surplus.

Agreement was reached, however, on legislation to ensure that the child credit, education credits and other personal credits could be taken for the next three years without entangling taxpayers in the complex alternative minimum tax.

Without the law, millions of average taxpayers could have found themselves owing higher AMT taxes — and millions more would have had to do the calculations to see which tax applied — intended to ensure the wealthy don't escape taxation through use of legitimate credits and deductions.

"A lot of people who were not otherwise in the AMT, by claiming these credits, were thrown in," said Mark Watson, partner in the KPMG accounting firm's Washington office. "That would have defeated the purpose of the credits."

Telecommuting increases, but aid from firms doesn't

Although the number of Americans who telecommute has multiplied over the past decade, a survey by the American Management Association survey found that most companies provide no support for these employees.

Only 7 percent of telecommuters at U.S.-based corporations have been formally trained to work outside their normal office environment, according to an AMA survey. The study, which polled 1,265 executives of AMA member organizations, found half the workers were not supplied with the necessary equipment to work from home.

The AMA offered some advice to ease telework difficulties, such as providing adequate hardware, software and remote access capability, establishing clear requirements and expectations, and encouraging teleworkers to set ground rules with their family members for working at home.

Companies are so eager to find and keep top executives that they're guaranteeing new employees a variety of benefits including bonuses, stock options and severance packages.

Around the watercooler

According to a recent survey of 450 firms by Exec-U-Net, an online executive and management services firm, 40 percent of the companies offer sign-on bonuses, up from 35 percent from the previous year and 45 percent offer stock options.

Seventy-two percent now offer performance bonuses, while 41 percent hold performance reviews within the first 6 months and 34 percent guarantee first-year bonuses.

Similarly, a separate study found stock options are driving pay packages to record levels for the most senior positions at multi-billion-dollar U.S. companies.

According to a preview of 1999 pay by executive compensation consultants Pearl Meyer & Partners, CEO compensation grew at the highest rate, swelling 24 percent to 9.4 million. Chief legal officers saw the biggest hike, 13 percent to \$1.9 million. About half the total compensation for each post was in the form of stock options.

— compiled from wire reports

Time to have that talk with the kids?

Knight Ridder News Service

ST. PAUL, Minn. — A girl needs cash, even at the tender age of 9. But for Alicia Hilgers, it's not just so she can buy more stuff.

"I have a special account at a bank," says the Arden Hills fourth-grader. "And when I save enough, my mom or dad takes me to the real bank."

She boasts the money she earns doing household chores with a couple of extra jobs — washing neighbors' cars at \$2 a piece and selling lemonade for 50 cents a cup from a card table in her family's front yard.

"She's a little entrepreneur," says Jody Hilgers, Alicia's mom. "She likes thinking of ways to make a little extra money."

In addition to earning, spending and saving, Alicia thinks about sharing, too. At her initiative, the family sends \$12 a month to help an Ecuadorian child threatened by poverty. Alicia and her 12-year-old brother, Ben, are learning skills early with the help of parents who try to model good habits and teach money-management skills.

After all, their dad works at a bank, Alicia says.

Teaching kids about money may be the most overlooked area of child-raising, says Nathan Dungan, who has worked with hun-

We're talking money

- These pointers can help parents pass on good money-management skills to their children:
- Model good money skills.
 - Explain that needs come before wants.
 - Help kids evaluate marketing messages.
 - Take kids along on shopping trips.
 - Let kids make some spending choices.
 - Set limits on their expenditures.
 - Teach saving and sharing, too.
 - Open a joint checking account for them.
 - Teach them how credit works.

"Sometimes when I'm out shopping with Alicia, she'll say, 'Do you really need to buy that?'" says her mom. "She's picked that up somewhere along the way."

The couple talk with their children about money-related philosophies, rather than hoping they'll learn totally by osmosis. They also model a philosophy of sharing — both time and money — with their community. Al Hilgers, senior vice president and manager of retail and private banking for BNC National Bank in Minneapolis, is a Little League assistant baseball coach. Jody, a self-employed marketing consultant, is president of the 1,500-member congregation at a Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church in Shoreview.

Teaching kids about sharing is more often ignored than any other element of money management, says Lutheran Brotherhood's Dungan. And most kids are bombarded by cultural and media messages that promote materialism practically before they can walk or talk.

But the TV ad that captured Alicia Hilgers' imagination was for Children International. The family's TV sponsors a 7-year-old Ecuadorian boy named Jonathan. And they set financial goals — the college savings fund is a big one — and try to stick to a budget to stay on track.

dreds of families in the Minneapolis-St. Paul area as a financial adviser for Lutheran Brotherhood.

Al and Jody Hilgers are Minnesota humbly; they don't consider themselves the perfect models of parental instruction in financial savvy. But they try to set good examples. They save until they have enough to pay for such big-ticket items as family vacations and the speedboat they bought last summer. And they set financial goals — the college savings fund is a big one — and try to stick to a budget to stay on track.

Mutual fund screens for women's equality

**By Gail MarksJarvis
Knight Ridder News Service**

There's a mutual fund in a niche for just about everyone.

The latest socially responsible asset to surprise I've stumbled across is a fund that allows women a chance to use their investments to try to break through the glass ceiling.

Pro-Conscience Women's Equity is a tiny San Francisco-based fund started in 1993 by two women who got MBAs from Stanford in the '70s and, as they pursued careers in banking and investment, commiserated about hurdles that kept women from advancing.

Six years ago, Linda Pei and Leslie Christian called friends and family members together for a wine and cheese party and asked them to use their investments to provide more funds for women in corporations. They raised \$50,000 and launched a fund that won't invest in companies that aren't promoting women

into top executive and board positions, actively training them and paying them fairly.

Despite predictions that women would reach the top after proving themselves in management in the 1990s and 90s, women held only 7 percent of executive or senior vice president positions in Fortune 500 companies last year, according to Catalyst, a New York research firm. And the highest-paid female corporate officers were making only 68 cents for every dollar their male counterparts earned.

Meanwhile, the Pro-Conscience Women's fund remains one of the smallest in the nation, with about 800 shareholders (85 percent are women) and \$11 million in assets. But it has built a respectable record.

Last year it beat the Standard & Poor's 500, with a return of 28.8 percent. It ranks in the top third of socially responsible funds for the last 12 months, according to CDA Wiesenberger, a mutual

fund ranking firm. During the last three years, as the S&P 500 has grown 23 percent annually, Pro-Conscience has been up 25.8 percent. That's better than the 22.8 percent for the average domestic growth fund tracked by CDA Wiesenberger. The women's fund also has outperformed growth funds for the last five years, but not the S & P 500.

Among the fund's top holdings in June were Microsoft, Medtronic, Lucent, Johnson & Johnson, Merck, Cisco, Bank Boston, SBC Communications, Bell South and Stryker.

Currently, the fund is attempting to influence the promotion practices of NationsBank, a stock the fund purchased in 1998. The fund managers have been troubled by news stories since Nations Bank acquired BancAmerica, another of the fund's large holdings, according to Vanessa Summers, a fund spokeswoman. BancAmerica had an outstanding reputation for promoting women

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Russell 2000 explodes as investors look favorably on small-cap stocks

By Ellen Glanton
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Once again, the small ones are sweeter.

After six years of lagging behind the broader market, the Russell 2000, the basket of small-capitalization stocks, is racking up better returns than any other major stock index. While the Dow Jones industrial average and the Nasdaq composite index have pitched and swooned so far this year, the Russell 2000 has marched to new closing records, including one each day for the past five sessions on Wall Street.

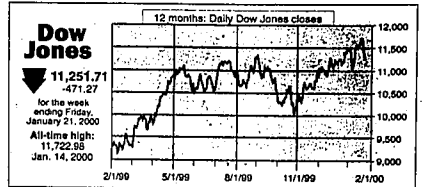
Analysts say investors who poured money into the largest, priciest technology shares in 1999 are now on a hunt for bargain stocks that just might turn into the next Microsoft or Cisco Systems.

"There's been a search for underappreciated value in the small-cap stocks," said Paul Cherney, market analyst at Standard & Poor's. "That's why we're seeing such good results from the Russell 2000."

In the year to date, the Russell 2000 is up 5.6 percent, compared with a 4.1 percent gain for the Nasdaq, a 2.1 percent loss for the Dow and a 1.9 percent loss for the Standard & Poor's 500.

That's a major reversal from 1999. The Russell 2000 languished for most of the year before a late rally helped it to a highly respectable 19.6 percent gain, but it looked like a laggard compared with the Nasdaq, which lists many of the same companies and posted an astonishing 85.6 percent gain.

So what's changed? For one thing, the Nasdaq's sizzling perfor-



mance in 1999 was driven mostly by a small number of very large, widely held stocks, like Microsoft, Cisco and Sun Microsystems that are not part of the Russell 2000. The steep run-up in their prices left them unaffordable to many investors, analysts said.

As a result, investors are now snapping up shares of companies like Etec Systems, which makes equipment for the semiconductor and electronics industries, and Coherent Inc., which makes lasers and other optical equipment. Etec currently trades around \$87 per share, while Coherent is about \$47 per share.

Companies in the Russell 2000 aren't exactly tiny. The index is actually a subset of the Russell 3000 index, which measures the performance of the 3,000 largest U.S. companies based on market capitalization.

The Russell 2000 measures the 2,000 smallest of those companies. The largest company in the index — Broadvision — has a market capitalization of roughly \$12.3 billion. The average market capitalization is about \$526.4 million. It's not Microsoft, but it's not Joe's Pizza, either.

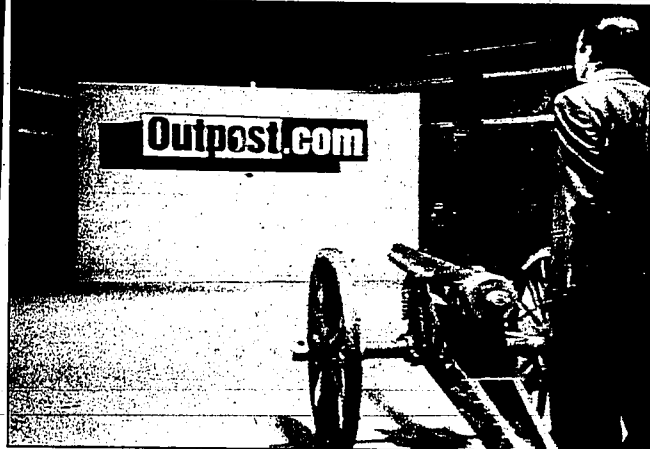
The construction of the Russell

2000 changes every year as Frank Russell Co., the Tacoma, Wash.-based company that runs the indexes, removes companies that have grown too large or have gone out of business.

In the last annual overhaul, completed in July, ETrade and Lycos were bounced from the list while BarnesandNoble.com and Bebe Stores were added.

The last rebalancing, which added more technology companies to the index, helped position the Russell 2000 for a solid advance, argues Chris Wolfe, equity market strategist for private clients at J.P. Morgan.

"For a number of years, the Russell 2000 was a repository of deteriorating companies as they shrank in market capitalization," he said. Now, with Internet and other high-tech companies dominating the ranks, investors are finding far better potential for growth. Still, Brad Lawson, senior research analyst at the Frank Russell Co., said technology stocks haven't been the only star performers this year. Instead, the health care sector of the Russell 2000 is up 26.1 percent for the year while technology is up 10.8 percent.



A 1998 commercial for Outpost.com portrays a gerbil being shot from a cannon. The commercial triggered a brief increase in visits to the web site, but failed to increase sales. Robert Bowman of Outpost.com said the commercial failed to explain what the company did.

Internet companies' ads get attention, but not business

NEW YORK (AP) — From naked online shoppers to gerbils shot from cannons, Internet startups have been responsible for some of the more outrageous advertising to hit television lately.

And yet, these companies are finding it can be hard to stand out from the others. That could spell trouble for e-entrepreneurs under pressure from investors to show results.

The fierce competition for attention will be evident again Jan. 30 when more than a dozen Internet companies ranging from online career sites to a wedding invitation supplier share time on the Super Bowl telecast with beer, auto and credit card advertisers.

"Consumers are pretty overwhelmed," said Edward Boehs, chief creative officer for the advertising agency Mullen. "Certainly, the majority of it cannot be connecting."

Internet companies spent more than \$1 billion advertising on traditional media like television, radio and newspapers in the final three months of 1999, experts estimated. That is well above the \$649 million spent for all of 1998, according to Competitive Media Reporting, a research firm.

Nonetheless, in a holiday survey of 2,677 online shoppers by the firm Active Research, 22 percent were unable to cite any specific Internet advertisement when asked to name the one they found most memorable.

While analysts estimate that online sales tripled this holiday season to as much as \$12 billion, the sites used most were those of established companies such as Amazon.com and eToys, and online offshoots of traditional retailers like BarnesandNoble.com and Toysrus.com.

The results achieved by Internet ads vary widely.

Beyond.com, which sells software, attracted a big media buzz when it featured a naked "at-home worker."

This month, faced with slack sales, the company said it was withdrawing from retail and would focus instead on setting up online stores for other businesses.

Send.com, a gift service from

Ad effectiveness

Despite heavy spending by Internet companies on holiday advertising, more than one in five online shoppers who responded to a recent survey could not recall a single ad. Here are the companies that were most frequently cited as having the most memorable ads.

Amazon.com	3.03%
Yahoo	2.54%
eToys	2.54%
ONET	2.47%
Outpost.com	2.39%
Pets.com	1.68%
Monster.com	1.46%

Based on a survey of 2,677 online shoppers.

Source: Active Research AP

Waltham, Mass., spent \$20 million in November and December on ads featuring "The Giver," who eavesdropped on people's reactions to his presents.

Nielsen/NetRatings said Send.com ranked just 1,820th on its December list of more than 2,600 most-visited Web sites.

Kathryn Carroll, a spokeswoman for Send.com, said the figures understated the number of visitors, since it tracks only visits from home and Send gets people at work.

"We were pleased with the results of our advertising," she said, citing strong sales and Web visits and a sharp rise in brand awareness.

On the other hand, Cyberian Outpost.com, which sells com-

puters and accessories, spent only \$2.7 million on holiday advertising but was 393rd on the Nielsen/NetRatings Web visitor list.

Outpost was the fifth most memorable company in Active Research's survey, with many citing its gerbil ad of late 1998. That ad opened with a man admitting the commercial was aimed at getting people to remember the Web site's name. It then appeared to show gerbils being shot from a cannon at a target.

Robert Bowman, chief executive of the Kent, Conn.-based company, said the ad triggered a brief spike in visits to the Web site but failed to lift sales. "Almost nobody knew from the ads what we did," he said.

This past holiday season, Outpost ads featured actor Martin Mull, who showed what the site sells and promised free overnight delivery.

Bowman said the company actually spent 10 percent less on ads this holiday season, and still Web visits rose steadily and December sales tripled from a year ago.

Mullen's Boehs said it takes patience and persistence to build a brand. "The new rules say it is Internet time. But it takes time to get customers to trust you," he said.

The most frequently recalled Internet advertiser, according to Active Research's survey, was Amazon, the online department store.

It was cited as the most memorable by 11 percent of those in the survey.

Amazon's ads featured men in red sweaters singing Meach Miller-style about the new toy line and the convenience of online shopping.

Amazon spent \$90 million on marketing in the fourth quarter, triple the amount in the previous quarter said, spokesman Bill Curry.

Its sales rose to \$650 million, from \$253 million a year earlier, but Curry said the effect of the advertising was unclear because Amazon had expanded its product line from books, music and videos to include toys, electronics, tools and software.

Utah's high ranking in personal bankruptcy filings puzzles experts

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Despite a booming economy and a strong Mormon work ethic, Utah has among the highest number of personal bankruptcy filings in the nation. It was ranked fourth in bankruptcy filings in 1998, according to the American Bankruptcy Institute. Last year's numbers aren't yet available, but the 1998 figures have experts scratching their heads about why Utah residents are working their credit to the limit. Some experts say Utah's large families are a factor. Others say Utah bankruptcy is a byproduct of divorce. Or perhaps Utah residents, like the rest of the nation, are just a little too fast and loose with their credit cards.

"People don't just charge themselves into oblivion without knowing," said Kelley Matthews, head economist for First Security Bank in Salt Lake. "I think this is the result of something unexpected happening, but that happens in every state. The one thing that is quite different in Utah compared to other states is size of the family." Utah has a median age of 26.7, the lowest in the nation, according to 1998 U.S. Bureau of the Census statistics. Utah ranked first in the number of births, with a 2.63 fertility rate compared to the national average of 2.03.

"One trend that may come into play is that younger people tend to file for bankruptcy more than older people, said George Yacic, vice president of SMR Research, a Hackensettown, N.J., company that tracks bankruptcies. "There are more financial burdens when you're just starting out," Yacic said. "You're probably at the peak of your spending but not at the peak of



Laura Burnett, a customer service representative for Consumer Credit Counseling, talks with a client who is nearly \$14,000 in debt.

Consumer Credit Counseling Service. The nonprofit credit counseling service has operated in the Salt Lake area for 37 years.

"The thing that's difficult for people to understand sometimes about Utah is that until about 10 years ago, this was a bedroom community," McCagno said.

Real estate was cheap, the cost of living was below average and so were wages. But during the past decade, real estate values have skyrocketed, giving many residents the opportunity to take out substantial home equity loans.

"Suddenly, someone who bought a home for \$20,000 to \$30,000 20 years ago, has a home that's worth about 200 grand," McCagno said.

Utah's personal bankruptcy filings hit a record in 1998 at 13,983. But the rise has more to do with the real estate boom than with family size or unexpected tragedy, said Scott McCagno, president and chief executive of Community

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ANSWER: First impressions are lasting and have an important effect on a potential sale. They send a message. A clean, well-kept home shows a home that has had good care and has been properly maintained.

Repaint the interior if needed, but use neutral colors. A sparkling kitchen will appeal to the prospective lady of the house (her opinion can make or break a sale). If it's the heart of any home, so keep it spotless. No dirty dishes. Women are also sensitive to bathrooms. Keep them clean and orderly. Clean all clutter out of closets, basement and garage.

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813 Auctions	1040 Pets & Supplies
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Check your ad for errors the first day. The Times-News will be responsible for the first incorrect insertion and to no greater extent than the cost of space occupied by the error. The publisher assumes no financial responsibility for errors or omission of copy.

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Celebrate a special event in the lives of friends and loved ones with a Times-News Happy Ad. Display ads of any size are available at special rates. Call a Times-News customer service representative for more information.

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Monday	Monday	10 AM Saturday
Tuesday	Tuesday	2 PM Monday
Wednesday	Wednesday	2 PM Tuesday
Thursday	Thursday	2 PM Wednesday
Friday	Friday	2 PM Thursday
Saturday	Saturday	2 PM Friday
Ag Weekly	Ag Weekly	4 PM Thursday

Display Ads: A business day prior to publication. Call a Times-News advertising sales representative for more information.

The Times-News Online features web-based classified ads. Any classified ad placed in the print version of The Times-News can be placed online for 50¢ per day, per ad. In addition to The Times-News Online, ads are included in our national network of classified ads, through a partnership with AdOne Classified Network and more than 500 newspapers across the nation.

Call Our Customer Service Representatives for Information on Weekly Classified Specials!

214 Employment Wanted	215 Resume Preparation	216 Employment Agencies	217 Employment Opportunities
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601 Furnished Houses	602 Unfurnished Houses	603 Furnished Apts./Duplexes	604 Unfurnished Apts./Duplexes	605 Rooms For Rent	606 Mobile Homes	607 Office & Retail Rentals	608 Commercial Property	609 Condominium/Time Shares	610 Storage/Warehouse Rental	611 Farms For Rent
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1001 Aviation	1002 Auto Parts & Accessories	1004 Autos Wanted	1005 Antiques & Collectibles	1006 Semi/Heavy Equipment	1007 Trucks	1008 Truck Parts & Accessories	1009 Vans	1010 Vans & Busses	1020 Imports & Sports	1030 Imports for Sale	1035 Office Equip./Supplies	1040 Pets & Supplies	1050 Stereo/Video/CDs	1055 Auto Services & Repairs	1099 Auto Dealers
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REAL ESTATE

50
LEGAL

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF LOW-INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT
Notice is hereby given by the Idaho Housing and Finance Association that the second application period for the year 2000 for the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit has been opened. Applications will be accepted through 5 pm, February 15, 2000.

During Application Period II, approximately \$824,000 in credit will be available. Non-targeted Credit: \$374,000. Nonprofit Set-Aside: \$300,000. Rural Set-Aside: \$150,000.

TOTAL: \$824,000

Developers of affordable housing interested in applying for a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Reservation may obtain a copy of the 2000 Allocation Plan and 2000 application form by contacting Multifamily Housing Secretary, Idaho Housing and Finance Association, PO Box 7899, Boise, Idaho 83707-1899, telephone (208) 331-4769 or fax (208) 219-2285 or 1-(800) 645-1333. Extension 400, for hearing impaired.

PUBLISH: January 23, 2000

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SPACIOUS COTTAGE ON LARGE LOT!
Charming hm with formal dining & lg country kitchen. 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath & laundry on main level. Approx. 1000 sq.ft. finished basement w/3 rooms is an added plus. In link yard w/decorative fish pond. \$59,900. Call Michelle 423-8292 or 733-2365. #92417.

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FHA BUYERS TAKE NOTICE! Great 2 bdrm winer roof, gas heat & fenced yd w/mature fruit trees. Over 800 sq.ft. w/lots of storage, some vinyl windows & newer storm doors. Lg detached garage with insulated fruit room. Immediate occupancy for buyer's convenience. \$54,500 Call Nichole 423-8292 or 733-2365. #92585

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2.3 Acres, 5 bdrm, 3 1/2 bath home, plus shop with mechanical room, convenient to Jerome or Twin.

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- Jerome-GREAT 3 bdrm home on dead-end street w/ fp, auto sprinklers, & garage w/ door opener. Well landscaped & fenced. \$69,900. DAN SUHR 324-2019 OR 539-2019. #93136
- Jerome-NEW LISTING! Great buy at only \$47,000. Clean 2 bdrm 2 bath home in nice neighborhood. Gas heat, newer carpet, chain link fenced, & private yard. Cute & cozy! SANDRA CAPPS 324-8752 OR 324-3354. #94163
- Jerome-BRICK HOME in good commercial location. Close to schools, shopping & post office. Could be residence or poss office space. Owner will look at all reasonable offers. \$72,000. LINDA MILLER 324-8684 OR 324-3354. #94426
- Kimberly-HISTORIC LANDMARK! Lovingly remodeled over the recent years, this 1919 home awaits your family! 2nd family rm, living rm w/ fp, 2.5 baths, original wood deck & beautiful landscaping. It will capture your heart! Call today for your private showing. \$199,500. KITTY SPENCER 539-0501 OR B.J. ROSS 324-4249. #94042
- Jerome-WHY RENT? Very clean 1984 14' x 52' Fleetwood mobile on its own lot. 2 bdrm, kit appl inc. Fenced backyard & storage shed. \$33,000. ELLIE OR GENE SHARP 733-5559 OR 735-0590. #94168
- Jerome-NEAT, clean & affordable! 2 bdrm 1 3/4 bath mobile on corner lot. Located on the edge of town. \$29,900. BARRY BRACKETT 536-6764 OR 324-3354. #91758
- Kimberly-SPRIRAL STAIRCASE to 2nd story bdrm. This home will require no extra attention. 2 bdrm, low maintenance siding, & auto sprinklers. It has updated electrical, plumbing & heating system. \$69,000. KITTY SPENCER 539-0501 OR B.J. ROSS 324-4249. #94041
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- Shoshone-PERFECT FOR LARGE FAMILY! Quality 6 bdrm 2 1/2 bath home w/ lots of extras! Approx 2600 sq ft + bsmt. Owners are unjalous, so make offer! \$125,000. GAEA (Gaya) LETE 886-2186 OR B.J. ROSS 324-4249. #93163
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- Hagerman-PRICE REDUCED! Quiet & secluded 2 bdrm 2 bath '94 mobile in park. A/C, heat pump, & covered carport. In excellent condition. \$24,500. JAMIE MARTIN 837-6022 OR 539-0503. #92510
- Hagerman-PRICE REDUCED! Snake River frontage on this clean 2 bdrm 2 bath double wide. Incredible views of Thousand Springs. Realtor owned. \$89,900. B.J. ROSS 324-4249 OR KITTY SPENCER 539-0501. #82497
- Hansen-HIGHLY ENERGY EFFICIENT new construction is a great buy! 3 bdrm 2.5 bath home w/ open floor plan, central air, vaulted ceilings & vinyl siding. Priced at least \$20,000 below appraisal. \$108,900. KITTY SPENCER 539-0501 OR B.J. ROSS 324-4249. #94110
- Gooding-EXCELLENT SHARP home for only \$29,500. A park-like setting gives this home a unique charm. Excellent buy! BARRY BRACKETT 536-6764 OR 324-3354. #94466

Farms/Ranches/Dairies:

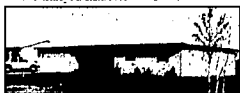
- Gooding-NICELY APPOINTED 3 bdrm 2 bath home on 40 acres north of town. Outbldg incl corral, barn, eq. sheds, & detached 2 car garage. Full water shares. \$165,000. GREG WOKERSIEN 934-5894 OR 934-4334. #94372

Accretages & Lots:

- Hagerman-2 BDRM mfg home w/ added deck & covered porch. Several outbuildings for storage. 5+/- irrig acres of pasture. \$72,000. JAMIE MARTIN 837-6022 OR 539-0503. #94468

Commercial Properties:

- Shoshone-COMplete TURN KEY BUSINESS! One of the oldest, continuously operating businesses in town. \$175,000. ROB BLANC 324-8574 OR 324-3354. #92735
- Wendell-RETAIL BLDG w/ 7900+/- sq ft. On corner lot w/ 2 rental units, parallel & angle parking. Realtor owned. \$200,000. SHERI ARKOOSH 934-5545 OR 934-4334. #94384



Jerome - AFFORDABLE COUNTRY ACREAGE! Never, efficient 3 bdrm 2 bath home on 1 acre. Deluxe wood windows, vinyl siding, central air, jacuzzi tub, & auto sprinklers complete this tidy ranchette. \$102,500. BONNIE B. 324-7304 OR 324-3354. #94028



Jerome - SALE FAILED & back on market! Very clean 3 bdrm 1 1/2 bath w/ 1056 sq ft of living space. Ready to move in. \$55,500. GENE OR ELLIE SHARP 733-5559 OR 735-0590. #90944



Jerome - NEED STORAGE FOR YOUR RV? 3 bdrm 1 3/4 bath all brick home w/ family rm & fp. Attached 2 car garage plus an insulated shop for your toys on .42 acres. \$139,500. DAN SUHR 324-2019 OR 539-2019. #92304



Jerome - NEW LISTING, IMMACULATE 3 bdrm 2 bath home on 1.02 acres. Home features pellet stove, all appliances, shed, & very nice landscaping. Great buy for \$87,500. SANDRA CAPPS 324-8752 OR 324-3354. #93174



Buhl - SPACE FOR EVERYTHING! Nice brick home w/ 2+ bdrms & jetted tub on main floor, poss bdrm & family rm in bsmt. Sprinkler system. \$81,500. VICKI SURBER 543-8501 OR 543-5883. #93084



Buhl - CLASSIC, QUALITY wood work, custom oak kitchen, & lovely setting on 90 acre at Clear Lakes Country Club. Open floor plan, study w/ oak wall case, covered patio, 2 car garage w/ golf cart garage. Gas heat, A/C, spring water, & master suite boasting a lg walk-in shower. \$249,500. WANDA FOSTER 543-5883. #93099



Hagerman - PRICE REDUCED! Very nice 3 bdrm 1 3/4 bath home on 2 lots w/ vinyl siding. Fenced yard on dead-end street. Owner motivated, bring offers. \$70,000. KEITH LIERMAN 324-4206 OR 324-3354. #91540



Wendell - QUIET NEIGHBORHOOD! Neat & clean '95 mfg home on 75' x 125' lot. 3 bdrm 2 bath w/ insulated garage. Chain link fence, cement patio. \$79,900. BONNIE WILLIAMSON 536-6234. #93143



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\$49,500. CUTE 2 BEDROOM HOME ON QUIET STREET. Spacious rooms, freshly painted, new windows & doors, gas heat & metal siding. CALL DOROTHY to see. #94397

\$52,900. Price REDUCED! Newer 1998 home with 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, corner lot, garage, tile entry, oak cabinets, & many extras like appliances & gas heat. This won't last long so CALL JOANNE NIELSEN TODAY. #92018

\$55,000. NEW LISTING! 2 bedroom with swing room that could be 3rd bedroom. 1 bath vinyl floor plan. Close to schools. 12x10 shop, 10x6 storage shed, large fenced back yard w/bbq pit. CALL MARY DEPEU-FLYNN FOR YOUR PRIVATE SHOWING AT 737-3910 OR 738-8132. #92979

\$55,900. WANT YOUR OWN ENCHANTED COTTAGE? This is yours. This 2 bedroom, bath home is ideal for an investor or first time buyer. Large kitchen, single detached garage & basement for storage. CALL DIANN DOMAN 737-3916 OR 735-1428. #92175

\$58,000. NEW LISTING! COMMERCIAL BUILDING FOR SALE. Great location in Twin Falls. For more information CALL KATHI SCHRAEDER 737-3917. #94269

\$63,900. NEW LISTING! Nice manufactured home on permanent foundation. Features over 1500 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, family room, dining room & has many extras including central air, New range & dishwasher & more! CALL WALT 737-3939 FOR DETAILS. #93188

\$64,500. NEW LISTING! Cute cottage home in Jerome w/porch. 1970 total sq. ft. Features 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, gas heat, metal siding & single detached garage plus work shop. Also has a screen in patio w/air conditioning in TV. For more details CALL THE HESS TEAM WALT @ 737-3939. #92951

\$65,000. NEW LISTING! Cute cottage style home on the President Street. This 2 bedroom, 1 bath home features over 1400 sq. ft. in the unfinished basement. Oversized single garage, gas heat & fenced yard are all extras! CALL WALT TODAY BEFORE IT'S GONE! 737-3939. #92919

\$69,900. Cottage style home with 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, additional room for 3rd bedroom or family room. Hardwood floors, large rooms. Sprinkler system, fenced back yard. Great location! CALL PEGGY AT 737-3925. #92319

\$69,900. PRICE REDUCED on this very cute 2 bedroom home in the Avenues, which features vinyl siding, central air, auto sprinklers, single garage, small shop, covered patio & nice fenced corner lot. You MUST see it! CALL LYNN RASMUSSEN 737-3900 OR 420-2807. #93200

\$82,500. EXCELLENT BUY ON THIS 4 bedroom, 2 bath home in a quiet area of Kimberly near the schools & shopping. Features newer gas furnace & hot water heater, family room, 2 fireplaces, auto sprinklers, garage and more! CALL LYNN RASMUSSEN AT 737-3900 OR 420-2807. #91466

\$83,000. IMMACULATE 3 BEDROOM, 1 bath home in desirable location. Fireplace in living room to complement gas heat. Nice family room for relaxing. Good size lot with a huge back yard. Move in & enjoy! CALL BRIAN RASMUSSEN FOR A SHOWING AT 737-3927. #930257

\$84,900. GREAT NEW LISTING! This 3 bedroom home has 2032 sq. ft. of living space and is located in the O'Leary school district. This home has metal siding, fireplace, & gas heat. CALL DAN BEARD for more information on this great home at 737-3906 OR 731-2121. #94440

\$85,500. JUST LISTED WITH LYNN! Fantastic commercial property located in Twin Falls! 1 industrial park, 1792 sq. ft. building sit on 9/10 of an acre. Lots of computer & telephone lines, plus 5 private offices, break room, central heating and air conditioning. CALL LYNN RASMUSSEN @ 737-3900 OR 420-2807. #91505

\$87,900. NEW LISTING! 3 bedroom home with pellet stove. Great for 1st time buyers or even a rental. 892 sq. ft. in the basement. CALL DAN BEARD AT 737-3912 OR 731-2121. #94430

\$92,000. ROOM TO ROAM! 2 1/2 acres with a newer 4 bedroom, 2 bath home with 1782 sq. ft. all on one level. Fully fenced, barn, & garden space. Room for horses or cattle. Kitchen has breakfast bar & pantry. CALL RICK BEARD 737-3912. #94399

\$99,900. PLENTY OF ROOM in this home! Over 2500 sq. ft. and 6 bedrooms. Fireplace in living room to complement gas heat. Great big family room downstairs for relaxing. Located on one of the finest streets in Twin Falls. CALL BRIAN 737-3927. #930257

\$109,900. New listing. Beautiful ranch style home in quiet location. Home features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 1750 sq. ft. & has many amenities such as central air, vinyl siding, auto sprinklers, double garage, beautiful landscaping & more! CALL THE HESS TEAM-WALT 737-3939 for details. #94446

\$112,000. ONCE IN A WHILE a home will come on the market that offers everything from location to price, and this is the one! Beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath home being built in the North Pointe Subd. Come early & pick your colors. CALL DEANNA @ 733-0636 OR DIANN AT 737-3916. #94087

\$119,900. THIS HOME IS READY for you to move in, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, ranch style home in a great Eastside location & has many features including fireplace, breakfast nook, mature landscaping & back up to Thompson Falls. For more details contact THE HESS TEAM-WALT 737-3939. #91877

\$131,900. Price reduced on this superior quality home. This home is all stucco and brick with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, on a quiet cul-de-sac. In great NE area. Stone tile in kitchen, baths and laundry room. BEAUTIFUL! Owner owned. CALL TRACY FOR INFORMATION. #91992

\$139,000. New home on an acre close to Twin Falls to be built. Over 1700 sq. ft. with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 3 car garage. CALL RON FREEMAN-AGENTS, 008-LICENSED TO SELL for details. 734-4208 OR 737-3915. #92953

\$149,900. GREAT BUSINESS opportunity in established downtown location. This building is ready for you to occupy & start your business. Was previously a Mexican restaurant. Some fixtures & equipment included in sale. CALL WALT HESS today for details. 737-3933. #93063

\$157,500. REDUCED! SHARPI SHARPI ACREAGE with great 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath home. Oak flooring, entry, dining & kitchen areas, also oak cabinets. Exceptional grounds without trees, plus patting shed, sprinklers. Stable area, rail fencing, 5 bay shop w/over 20 stalls. CALL KATHI SCHRAEDER 737-3928 OR RON FREEMAN 737-3915. #92933

\$167,500. AFFORDABLE HOME WITH GREAT VIEW OF SNAKE RIVER CANYON. Home is located on the Jerome Golf Course. Dual area w/Association benefits. Many upgrades in this great custom built home. Sit in your hot tub and catch the view! Call MARY DEPEU-FLYNN AT 737-3910. #94283

\$180,000. Best buy investment. Reduced \$20,000 each for quick sale. Each unit includes 2 bedrooms, 2 baths, all appliances plus carpeting, 2 buildings built in 1996 & 2 buildings built in 1997. Owner extremely motivated. Make Assumable loans to qualified buyers. CALL BONNIE PARSONS FOR DETAILS. #90548

\$199,500. QUALITY THROUGHOUT! 3374 sq. ft. on 1.23 acres w/ a 1920 shop. This immaculately kept home has 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, jacuzzi tub, central vac, intercom, sprinkler system, indoor spa room, oak kitchen, maintenance free exterior, & full finished suita! A real must see! 1 mile south of Buhl. CALL JOANN REEVES 737-3915. #93372

\$199,000. Great commercial location could be grocery store, retail outlet, offices, restaurant, etc. has been a great grocery location for many years. Put your entrepreneurial spirit to work! Features approx. 8620 sq. ft. of space. Just under 1 acre. CALL LYNN RASMUSSEN 737-3900 OR 420-2807. #93006

\$224,900. 20 ACRES & A 3 BEDROOM 1 3/4 BATH HOME in quiet location with a great view incredible outbuildings, 4 bay shop that is partially heated along w/circulars & an additional heated building. A must see for master suite. CALL MARY DEPEU-FLYNN 737-3910 OR 738-8132 FOR YOUR PRIVATE SHOWING. #94274

\$249,900. GREAT INCOME PROPERTY! 4-plex, each unit has 1016 sq. ft. w/3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and a 1 car garage! Newly built w/metal & vinyl siding, gas heat. CALL DAN BEARD FOR DETAILS 737-3906 OR 731-2121. #94110

\$257,500. Beautiful home in NE Twin Falls. Features 3200 sq. ft. of quality, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, large kitchen with beautiful oak cabinetry, roll-out shelves, family room with gas log fireplace, triple garage covered deck, fenced yard. CALL LYNN RASMUSSEN 737-3900 OR 420-2807. #92410

\$269,000. SPECTACULAR ACREAGE. 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on 6.5 acres with private lake with dock, 2 ponds & live stream. Beautifully landscaped area, over large trees, garden area & fenced pasture. Newer spacious oak kitchen, large shop w/2nd floor. CALL DOROTHY GEIST 737-3903. #93098

\$310,000. SPECTACULAR! Looking for the home of your dreams? Here it is! Over 3600 sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, 2 baths, private entrance to basement, perfect location, gorgeous master suite-beautiful throughout! CALL CAROLYN CUTLER 733-8026 OR 737-3913. #93025

\$487,000. MAGNIFICENT ACREAGE! You must see this to appreciate it! Fully fenced 3.4 acres, suitable for horses plus exquisite home w/over 6000 sq. ft., 5 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, circular drive, fabulous kitchen, sun room, work out room. See for master suite. CALL CAROLYN CUTLER 737-3913 OR 734-0400. #94110

\$850,000. THIS HOME HAS ALL THE AMENITIES! Plush Home theatre room, Perrine Bridge & Pillar Falls. Exquisite master bedroom, family room & game room & bedrooms, 6 baths. Apartment in basement. Qualified buyers only! For your exclusive showing CALL DEBBIE DANIELS 737-3917. #91655

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\$249,900. GREAT INCOME PROPERTY! 4-plex, each unit has 1016 sq. ft. w/3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and a 1 car garage! Newly built w/metal & vinyl siding, gas heat. CALL DAN BEARD FOR DETAILS 737-3906 OR 731-2121. #94110

\$257,500. Beautiful home in NE Twin Falls. Features 3200 sq. ft. of quality, 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms, large kitchen with beautiful oak cabinetry, roll-out shelves, family room with gas log fireplace, triple garage covered deck, fenced yard. CALL LYNN RASMUSSEN 737-3900 OR 420-2807. #92410

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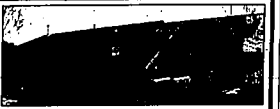
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EXCEPTIONAL BUY AT THIS REDUCED PRICE OF ONLY \$89,900. Over one acre, nice 2 bedroom home, garage, greenhouse and storage building. MAKE AN OFFER!!!
Host: David Robinson 324-4603

RIRWIN REALTY
Feature of the Week...



SUPER SHARP HOME! 3 bedrooms upstairs, 2 bedrooms downstairs. Total sq. ft. 2044, 2 baths. Beautiful home in nice cul-de-sac location. Oak floors in kitchen-dining room, entry. Quality Oak cabinets in kitchen. Large backyard, garden area, new carpet, paint & central air. ALL THIS FOR ONLY \$119,900. CALL VICTORIA RAY TODAY AT 734-5830 (94000)

COUNTRY LIVING COULD BE YOURS in this choice property in Mecha Valley. 8 acres bordering Mud Creek. 10 year young oak stream for fishing or just to look at (and listen to). Existing well on property, located just 3 miles from town. PRICE REDUCED TO \$59,000. CALL BOB OR BETTY VEEN TODAY AT 734-2222 OR 731-9500. (92831)

PRIVATE HAGERMAH HIDEAWAY! Charming country farmhouse features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Lots of trees and year round water on 27 acres. Just minutes away from Snake River recreation. \$200,000. CALL GAYLE ANDERSON TODAY AT 734-8224 OR 420-9623. (94508)

RAINTREE BUDS ANOTHER CUSTOM HOME for the public. Maintenance free exterior, stucco accents, great room & formal dining room, gas fireplace & Kenmore appliances in kitchen. Enjoy your new home! ONLY \$128,800. CALL STUART A. CANADA TODAY AT 735-8681 OR 734-6500. (94500)

734-6500 • 1-800-658-3863
Complete inventory on line at www.rtwinc.com

\$14,500 Large homesite with city water and city sewer and natural gas available.

BARKER
Realtors

BLISS. Land investment opportunity. 1 group of 9 undeveloped residential lots. Call 298-4601-4001

FILER. 14 acres end of secluded rd. extraordinary view overlooks creek. \$58K. Call 733-2451 or 731-3322

FILER. 5 ac. 5 water shares. Spectacular view of mountains & Snake River Canyon. 5 minutes to Twin Falls. 25.10 E. 4278 N. S70K. 734-9838

GOODING 40 acres on airport hill. West of Gooding. Good place for a Dairy. 11910 S. 2700 E. 1999. \$75,000. 208-234-0836

JEROME. Lots on the Jerome golf course. There are some of the most fantastic views on the north side. 1 and 2 acre lots. Homes available. Call Carl Borger to get more information. 734-7316 or 731-2275.

DOSHIER REALTY
734-2922

TWIN FALLS! Beautiful quiet sq ft home on 20 acres. 10 minutes SW of Twin Falls. Fabulous outbuildings. Great for home based business. 30x80 clean insulated, heated, lighted shop. 30x60 heated shop. 30x60 storage area w/air conditioning & overhead door. 4 car garage. 10 acres pasture of created wood grass. 12 x 12 ft. concrete pad w/ concrete loading area. Private well. Beautifully landscaped. 1/2 mile driveway. Priced to sell \$225,000. Call 736-8845

FAX YOUR AD
TIMES CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT
208-734-5538
OR
208-677-4543
(BURLEY)

HOLLISTER 5 approved, sewer & water. 4 undeveloped lots. Call 1-717-252-1120 for more info.

KIMBERLY. NOW OPEN: Pleasant Valley Ranches & Golf, final phase. Call 423-5620.

TWIN FALLS! (Grove subdivision) lot for sale. \$39,900. Will build to suit. Call 733-0039 leave msg.

TWIN FALLS! Vacant building lots. So of Curry on Stonerock. \$58K. Call Steve Kohntopp. CRB, CRS. 734-1991. #70173

magic valley realty
734-1991

TWIN FALLS! Baro land in TF county suitable for building. Hanging from 1 acre to 13 acres. Zoned residential & agricultural. Priced from \$2,000 to \$100,000. Call Neil Harpster 734-1329. #91168

magic valley realty
734-1991

TWIN FALLS! Great building site! Approx. 2.6 acres near TF with gated pipe. \$79,500. Call Steve Kohntopp, CRB, CRS. 734-1991. #92198

magic valley realty
734-1991

514 INCOME PROPERTY
FILER: Rental income property consists of 4 homes & 2 mobile homes w/room for one additional unit. \$279,900. Call Steve Kohntopp, CRB, CRS. 734-1991 or 731-4567. #92314

515 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY
GOODING Investors - Don't pass up this opportunity to own a Laundromat business with a positive cash flow. Includes machines, land & 2 bedrooms. 2 bath home. Only \$150,000. Call Gary 734-9450

SABALA REALTY
733-4321

TWIN FALLS
Curry Crossing. 8 lots within frontage zoned commercial. 1/2 to 2 acres each. Price ranging from \$65,000 to \$150,000. Call Steve Kohntopp, CRB, CRS. 734-1991. #70330

Commercial building. Formerly Main Street Motors. Good location for auto repair business. Priced at \$9,500. Call Steve Kohntopp, CRB, CRS. 734-1991. #94405

Commercial acreage. 3 acres with rail siding by Curry Grain & Plant Co. Call Steve Kohntopp, CRB, CRS. 734-1991. #92426

Manufacturing site. 10,000 sq. ft. concrete slab build on Eastland Dr. Well insulated with fire suppression system. \$225,000. Call Neil Harpster 734-1329. #91022

MVR COMMERCIAL
734-1991

OPEN HOUSES

Sunday 1-4pm
5613 E. 3908 N. Kimberly
Directions From Blue Lake: Drive East On Highway 6 to Highway 10 on East New Construction on 3 bedrooms, 2 bath with full home on acre in Horizon View Subdiv. Kimberly, Boise, trees, air, stone top, 1100 sq. ft. fireplace, central air, 3 car garage. \$119,900. MLS #92251
Rich Whitecaver 736-0164.

Sunday 12-2pm
515 Carriage Way
Excellent Value In Great Location. Approx. 2032 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, split bedroom design. \$159,900. MLS #93004
Mark Jones 734-4599.

Sunday 2:30-5:00pm
3400 E. 5940 N. Kimberly
Price Reduced - Beautifully Done. Twenty-two vintage home, 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, updated windows, metal sliding upgraded kitchen, roof and gas furnace, 3 car garage. All on acre. \$124,900. MLS #92964
Mark Jones 734-4599.

Sunday 1-4pm
1421 Bitterroot Drive
The Grove Subdivision. Approx 1704 sq. ft., 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 9 ceilings, arched, and plant shelves. Glass block accent windows. Fully landscaped. \$109,900. MLS #92211
Rick Gleaser 731-8446.

Sunday 1-4pm
1269 Candler Circle
Designed For The Active Family. Great room, formal living and dining. Approx. 2627 sq. ft., additional family room, guest room and bath in basement. Large master suite with deck and spa. Located in quiet sub-sec. 4 bedrooms, 3.5 baths. \$219,900. MLS #92448
Rick Gleaser 735-2448.



RESIDENTIAL

SOUTH SIDE NORTH SIDE

Beautiful Classic Ranch Style
Approx. 2700 Sq. Ft.
4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths
2 Car Garage
Mature Trees, Pond & Foundation
\$189,900. MLS #92958
Mark Jones 734-4599 or Denise McClusky 734-6776.

New Construction
Perfect 1 Acre Lot
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Approx. 1400 Sq. Ft.
2 Car Garage
\$104,500. MLS #92162
Anthony 934-5665 or 961-7777.

Sell New!
Manufactured Home
2 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Wood Stove & Gas Forced Air
\$39,000. MLS #92410
Rich Whitecaver 736-0164.

Priced Below Seller's Building Cost (Seller Motivated)
Approx. 2700 Sq. Ft.
4 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths
Inmate Hair Custom Home With Rock & Granite Cabinetry and Built-in Kitchen
\$189,900. MLS #92476
Jeff Rick 731-2086.

Magnum Home & Private Setting
Approx. 7500 Sq. Ft.
3 Bedrooms, 6 Baths
200' of Snake River Frontage
"Sunset House" Computer Controlled
2 Kitchens
Huge Master Suite
\$799,000. MLS #92789
Steve H. Lacey, J. Frensch or Bruce Lawrence 734-7653.

7.5 Acres
Approx. 1502 Sq. Ft.
3 Bedrooms, 1.75 Baths
20x50 Shed
All New Windows & Doors
New Sided Siding
\$114,900. MLS #92392
Mark Jones 734-4599 or Denise McClusky 736-0770.

Beautiful Home In Panoramic Setting
Approx. 3900 Sq. Ft.
3 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths
Spacious Master Suite With Granite
Great Room, Rec. Room, Sun Room
Hardwood Floors
\$148,000. MLS #92521
J. Francis or Betty Florence 734-6786.

Sharp Country Acreage
Approx. 1 Acre With Good Soil
Manufactured Home
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
Approx. 1300 Sq. Ft.
Great Family Set Up
\$90,900. MLS #92743
Anthony 934-5665 or 961-7777.

Extra Large Lot
Approx. 1441 Sq. Ft.
4 Bedrooms
Gas Heat & Ion Water
Fenced Backyard
Deck
\$129,900. MLS #92242
Beckie Kukul 524-8736.

Beautiful Home In Panoramic Setting
Approx. 3900 Sq. Ft.
3 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths
Spacious Master Suite With Granite
Great Room, Rec. Room, Sun Room
Hardwood Floors
\$148,000. MLS #92521
J. Francis or Betty Florence 734-6786.

Great Location
1/2 Acre Building Site
Approx. 2.5 Acre Water Shares
Concrete 2 1/2 Baths
\$25,900. MLS #91623
Paul Lloyd 324-9377

Great Family Home
Approx. 3000 Sq. Ft.
5 Bedrooms, 2.5 Baths
Gas Heat
Lots of Updates
Fenced Backyard With Sprinklers
\$199,900. MLS #92772
Paul Lloyd 324-9377.

Beautiful Home In Panoramic Setting
Approx. 3900 Sq. Ft.
3 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths
Spacious Master Suite With Granite
Great Room, Rec. Room, Sun Room
Hardwood Floors
\$148,000. MLS #92521
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\$199,900. MLS #92772
Paul Lloyd 324-9377.

LAND & LOTS

SOUTH SIDE
Twin Falls Lot
Great Location Subdivision
Gas Water, Sewer, Power, Telephone & Cable
\$49,900. MLS #92905
Rich Whitecaver 736-0164

Large Lot
Just Outside City Limits
Gas and Power
Sewer and 1/2 Acre
School District
\$34,900. MLS #92905
Mark Jones 734-4599 or Denise McClusky 734-6770

Must See!
Approx. 2100 Sq. Ft.
3 Bedrooms, 2 Baths
2 Family Rooms
Central Air Conditioning
In-Home Updates
\$101,900. MLS #92684
Paul Lloyd 324-9377.

Eagle Creek Estates
Featuring A View Of The Snake River Gorge Like No Other
Peaceful Surroundings
Golf Course Community
Minutes From Twin Falls
\$34,900. MLS #92912
Paul Lloyd 324-9377

Great Location
1/2 Acre Building Site
Approx. 2.5 Acre Water Shares
Concrete 2 1/2 Baths
\$25,900. MLS #91623
Paul Lloyd 324-9377

Mini Farm/Ranch
Approx. 1000 Sq. Ft.
2 Bedrooms Home
Approx. 2150 Acres With Water Shares
Some Irrigation Equipment
\$101,900. MLS #92684
Teri Stokes 524-2571.

Beautiful Home In Panoramic Setting
Approx. 3900 Sq. Ft.
3 Bedrooms, 3.5 Baths
Spacious Master Suite With Granite
Great Room, Rec. Room, Sun Room
Hardwood Floors
\$148,000. MLS #92521
J. Francis or Betty Florence 734-6786.

Great Location
1/2 Acre Building Site
Approx. 2.5 Acre Water Shares
Concrete 2 1/2 Baths
\$25,900. MLS #91623
Paul Lloyd 324-9377

Welland
Approx. 2000 Sq. Ft.
3 Bedrooms
All Basement
Fenced Backyard
Nice Area
\$79,900. MLS #91054
Bill or Melinda Bunn 324-7653.

Beautiful Home In Panoramic Setting
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Income Opportunity

Income Opportunity
Duplex
2 Bedrooms, 1 Bath Per Unit
Gas Heat
Fenced Backyard
Great Buy
\$69,900. MLS #92714
Bill or Melinda Bunn 324-7653.

See The Bridge & Lanes To The River
Approx. 2200 Sq. Ft.
Quality Constructed
3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths
On Canyon Rim
Fenced With Small Horse Barn
On Canyon Rim
New Jerome Golf Course
\$44,900. MLS #94415
Bill or Melinda Bunn 324-7653

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Approx. 2000 Sq. Ft.
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Fenced Backyard
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Nice Area
\$79,900. MLS #91054
Bill or Melinda Bunn 324-7653.

Attention Investors! 3 duplexes, 6 units total, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath per unit. Excellent rental history. \$240,000. Beckie Kukul 524-8736. #92802

576 FALLS AVENUE
TWIN FALLS, IDAHO
208-733-7653
(ACROSS FROM THE MAIN ENTRANCE TO CSI)

CORNERSTONE

1102 SOUTH LINCOLN
JEROME, IDAHO
208-324-2236

Townhouse In Buhl



2 and 3 Bedroom Townhouses. Picture Perfect View of Golf Course. 2 Car Garage With Golf Cart Storage. MLS #92410
Reduced To \$189,500 & \$214,900!

Call Mark Jones 734-4599 or Denise McClusky 736-8770

CORNERSTONE
208-733-7653

Each Office Independently Owned And Operated.

We'll Sell Your Home For Only \$2495 Flat Fee! **Assist In Sell**

- 589,900... 1636 Harmon Park Ave. Spacious bedrooms with formal dining room and located on gas furnace with air conditioning. Family room with wood stove and brick fire. 990771
- 589,900... 2450 Jerome Ave. Well-kept brand new 3 bedroom, 2 bath home, gas fireplace in great room. Double garage. Covered front porch. Put your own call! 990731
- 589,900... 181 Van Buren St. Handyman's delight! 2 bedroom home with full basement, detached garage, metal siding exterior. 990351
- 592,500... 513 Elizabeth Park Dr. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, gas fireplace, central air, vinyl siding, hardwood floors, updated paint, auto sprinklers, brand new. 990631
- 578,900... 936 S. Fillmore. Jerome. Tidy ranch style home with kitchen, 4 bedrooms, 1 bath, new carpet. 990016
- 599,900... 841 Capri. Price reduced \$9,000 less than recent appraised. 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, large master suite, full finished basement, fireplace, large walk-in pantry, large kitchen. Covered patio, automatic sprinklers, double garage with auto opener. Central air conditioning, brand new vinyl siding, central air, close to schools, city swimming pool & shopping. 990771
- 5115,000... 247 9th St. N. Historical home on the main floor! 2 story home with hardwood floors, fireplace, 1.5 bath, 4 bedrooms, 2 baths. Only \$115,000! 990414
- 1216 FILER AVENUE EAST • TWIN FALLS, IDAHO
- 2786 Indian Trail. Price Reduced! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, Sprinkler system, double garage, gas fireplace, deck, wood floors, air, fenced backyard, crock. dr. air conditioning. 990651V
- 485 Hankins Dr. N. Only 1/2 acre, 3,600 sq. ft., 3 1/2 bath home with 2 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, 2 car garage, hardwood floors, central air, country kitchen, home office. 990351V
- 351 Elmore. All brick home with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Includes 28x60 Vandyke split bedroom plan, 4 mobile home rental spaces. 30x18 heated shop garage. 1000 sq. ft. concrete slab build with attached office. 990731V
- 330 2nd Ave. N. Income property! (S) 1 bedroom units, stores & refrigeration included. Recently restocked, new garage, new carpet. Will bring in gross income of \$1,615 per month. 2 rent for \$300, 2 for \$350, 1 for \$275. 990730V
- 407 Knottingham. All brick home with 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, and side yard sprinklers. Carport, new walk in maintenance. 990717V
- 1990 Poplar Ave. 3 bedroom ranch style home on corner lot. New kitchen, new windows, gas heat with central air & central vacuum system for kitchen. 1.5 bath, 2 bedrooms with marble tile entry. Landscaping is great

REAL ESTATE

BURLEY Overland Ave. 8200 sq ft plus full bsm. Great price \$69,800. Call 733-5656 anytime.

TWIN FALLS Nice 2 story building, over 2500 sq ft, with overhead doors, offices with break-room, fenced-in lot. Good location on West 5th St. **ROBERT JONES REALTY 733-5404**

518 MOBILE HOMES
EASY MONEY
MOBILE HOME LOANS
Used Homes: Buying/Selling
Lower Payments than refinancing
Home equity loans
GO WITH THE LEADER
IN MOBILE HOME FINANCING
1-800-784-3135

LOTS OF GREAT DEALS ON REPO HOMES
The Bank must call. Call Westwind Homes 733-5710

REPO'S
Used homes, Brockenham's Call Gino 738-1592 or 324-4360.

520 REAL ESTATE WANTED

FAX YOUR AD

TIMES CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT
208-734-5538 or 208-677-4543 (BURLEY)

PERSONALS

101 LOST & FOUND

Please check your ad for correctness on the first day that it runs, as The Times-News is not responsible for errors after that time.

102 CARD OF THANKS

TOD: TOPHAT TAPPERS
Who are 'All Girls KVS' Thank you to the Veterans of Pleasure!!!

103 DIETARY AIDS

Protein Diet Success

Lose 10 LBS. in 2 months, free samples. 855-83625.

104 PERSONALS
IF YOU WOULD LIKE to meet an honest, sincere man with a good heart who likes dancing, romancing & (if) Take a chance, you won't be sorry. In SEARCH OF: P.O. Box 2170 Twin Falls, ID 83303

106 SPECIAL NOTICES
ALCOHOLICS
DON'T DRINK
206-733-8300 & 735-4658

FAX YOUR AD
TIMES CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT
208-734-5538 or 208-677-4543 (BURLEY)

REMEMBER
This bimonthly ad placed some time ago in The Times-News? Now is the time to come pick up your picture. Stop by The Customer Service Dept today!

107 ABORTION ALTERNATIVES
PREGNANCY CRISIS CENTER
FREE TESTING
734-7472 - 800-371-7472

108 PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
Accidents, divorce, DUI, personal injury and workers' compensation. Rice Law Office, 734-6387

109 HOME/HEALTH CARE SERVICES
AT HOME MHA can child care opening. For information call 734-6998.

110 CHILD CARE SERVICES
Don't pay to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7050.

111 EMPLOYMENT

112 PUBLIC SERVICE

113 CHILD CARE SERVICES

114 PERSONALS

115 SPECIAL NOTICES

116 HOME/HEALTH CARE SERVICES

117 CHILD CARE SERVICES

118 PERSONALS

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110 CHILD CARE SERVICES
Don't pay to find work before you get the job. For free information about avoiding employment service scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7050.

111 EMPLOYMENT

112 PUBLIC SERVICE

113 CHILD CARE SERVICES

114 PERSONALS

115 SPECIAL NOTICES

116 HOME/HEALTH CARE SERVICES

117 CHILD CARE SERVICES

118 PERSONALS

119 HOME/HEALTH CARE SERVICES

120 CHILD CARE SERVICES

121 PERSONALS

122 SPECIAL NOTICES

123 HOME/HEALTH CARE SERVICES

124 CHILD CARE SERVICES

125 PERSONALS

126 SPECIAL NOTICES

127 HOME/HEALTH CARE SERVICES

128 CHILD CARE SERVICES

129 PERSONALS

130 SPECIAL NOTICES

131 HOME/HEALTH CARE SERVICES

ACCOUNTANT
Experience with large agricultural, multiple entities and complex tax situations. Please call Nature's Best Produce at 438-7500 or fax to 438-7502.

AGRICULTURE
Experienced farm equipment operator for row crop farm. House furnished. Call 208-423-4484 evenings.

APARTMENT MANAGER
Apartment Manager Burley and Twin Falls, Idaho

Two senior apartment companies located in Burley and Twin Falls, Idaho are seeking a full-time apartment CEO. Job duties include oversight of total operation, maintenance, financial and real estate operations. Professional experience includes property management or a subsidized housing.

Qualifications include a high school diploma or equivalent. Computer experience, as well as good communication skills required. Salary to \$30,000 based on qualifications. Excellent benefits package.

Forward resume to: Vice President of Human Resources, The National Benevolence Association, 1000 N. 1st St., Suite 100, St. Louis, MO 63146-4157. For more information, call 314-241-2100 or please visit our website at www.nba.org. EOE

ASSISTANT MANAGER
Silver Creek Assistant Manager. The Nature Conservancy, Idaho, Idaho. The duties of the Silver Creek Assistant Manager include operating Silver Creek Preserve and Visitor Center, monitoring 9000 acres of conservation easement, and maintaining positive community relations. Entrance requirement is a bachelor's degree in natural science or related field and two years of related experience. Opportunity to develop skills in community based land conservation. Position is a spectacular setting 30 miles South of Sun Valley. Send resume with resume, and names of three references to Silver Creek Assistant Manager, The Nature Conservancy, P.O. Box 165, Sun Valley, ID 83353. Phone: (208) 738-7910. E-mail: matw@nca.org. Position will be closed when filled, with interviews beginning in early March.

ASSISTANT MANAGER
Looking for the right individual to assist in the management of an internet business. Duties include administration, customer service, and design web sites for area businesses. We also have consulting responsibilities for several businesses throughout the Magic Valley including potato fresh & processing plants, export-import firm & a winery. Duties include:
• Assisting & supporting the Manager.
• Supervision & performance of the customer service, order taking & catalog sales dept.
• Web site construction & marketing.
• Marketing project tasks.
• Customer relations. Excellent communication & team building skills, extensive computer & internet experience, creative typing & organizational skills, self educating, self starting & honest. Experience in these areas are a plus. Must have a minimum Microsoft Word & Excel, Eudora, & FileMaker/Pro. Apply at Sun Valley, resume & cover letter to: jobs@skylink.com

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Associate Director, Justice & Discipline, Idaho Board of Nursing, IAN/BSN/Master's, experience in supervision/case management/supervision/case investigation. Contact (208) 338-3242 before 21/100 for details.

AUTOMOTIVE
Expert. Tire tech needed. Competitive wages/benefits, permanent full time position. Apply at 679 E. 1st St., John.

AUTOMOTIVE
Mountain States Glass needs experienced, competent, auto glass installer, who want a career not just a job. We offer great pay, Medical insurance, 401K, and more. We have openings and many other teams. If you're tired of working hard for nothing & want a change call now! 1-800-668-5949

ATTENTION HAIRSTYLIST
Guaranteed hourly wage + guaranteed wage & benefits. Apply to: 733-5519 Dennis

BAKER
2 yrs experience. Good pay & benefits. In Halley. Call 208-337-9110 Dennis

BOOKKEEPING
A/P, A/R & DATA ENTRY person needed for large, professional construction firm. Job requires accuracy and attention to detail. Experience with spreadsheets preferred. flexible hours, approx. 30 hrs per week. Fax resume to: 733-5519 or mail to: Engelmann, Inc., Box 6240, Ketchum, ID 83340

BUSINESS
MANAGER/CLERK
The Filtration School District is seeking someone who is computer literate with knowledge and experience in spreadsheet programs such as Excel and Quattro Pro and a general background in bookkeeping. Position is a full-time, 12 month position with employee medical insurance, enrollment in the Public Employees Retirement System, vacation, sick days, and personal days. Filtration School District is an equal opportunity employer. The closing date for this position will be at the end of office hours February 24, 2000. To apply contact Sandra Roberts, Filtration School District, 700 B Street East, Filtration, ID 83328 or (208) 528-8911

CHILD CARE
Nannies wanted East of Idaho. Call 800-549-2132

CHILD CARE
Need dependable childcare in home M-F. 420-9332

CLEARANCE
The City of Twin Falls is accepting applications for a part-time UTILITY SERVICES REPRESENTATIVE. The position will have a flexible schedule of approximately 10 to 12 hours per week. \$7,000.00. Occasional it will require a 40 hour work week. Required to perform routine clerical and financial work. Must have high school diploma or GED. Knowledge of general office practices, including computer use. Complete job description and employment application available at the City Office located in City Hall, 321 2nd Avenue East or phone 738-2225. The City of Twin Falls is an Equal Opportunity Employer. EOE

COMPUTER SUPPORT ENGINEER
The Amalgamated Sugar Company LLC is seeking a computer support engineer to join our sugar plant processing plant in Twin Falls. Applicants must have a B.S. degree in Physical Science or related engineering discipline. This successful candidate needs an in-depth understanding of hardware and networking. Programming experience is highly desirable with Delphi and C++ preferred. We pay design and implementation, Linux, database and process control. This position is a plus. We offer an excellent benefit package and competitive salary. Interested applicants may mail or e-mail a resume including salary history to: The Amalgamated Sugar Company LLC, Attn: Andrea Mortimer, PO Box 1520, Ogden, Utah 84402 or 801-328-3242. E-mail: Amortim@ag.com. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer

CHORAL CONDUCTOR
1st Presbyterian Church of Twin Falls seeks exp. director. 30 voice choir. hrs. wk. 39 wks per yr. Paid. Apply with a resume to: 209 5th Ave N.

CLEARANCE
Needed Chiropractic Assistant in Gooding. 934-5208 between 8am & 6pm

CLEARANCE
Secretarial & bookkeepers 733-7300 or 878-4040 PERSONNEL PLUS

CONSTRUCTION
General Laborer. Pipe fitting experience. Exp. helpful. Long term position. Jerome area. 3 yrs experience/1/10 aprinker systems. Good pay. 3 to 4 mos. position. 505 STAFFING, 653 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. Twin Falls ID 736-4474

COOK
5 yrs experience as Diner in the Jerome School District. Must have good qualifications. Contact Roger 733-5404

CUSTOMER MAINTENANCE
The Jerome School District is actively recruiting applicants for custodial & janitorial maintenance positions. Previous experience is desired & applicants must have a high school diploma or equivalent. Custodial positions will begin immediately. Summer maintenance positions will begin approximately in April depending on weather condition. Applications may be picked up at the Jerome School District Office, 102 West 3rd, Jerome, ID, 83338. Between the hours of 9:00 am and 4:30 pm.

DISTRIBUTOR
Earn \$530 weekly distributing phone cards. FT or PT. No exp. necessary. Call 1-800-831-6717

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Exp. Flatbed Drivers needed for OTR. Base pay. Minimum of 2 yrs. OTR exp. required. OTR 11 Western States Co. Certified Profit Sharing
• Paid Vacation
• Quarterly Fuel Bonus
• Health Insurance
• Home on Average of 7-10 Days
• Earn 27-30 pm CDL
For application interview call 1-800-453-2227

DRIVERS
Willis Shaw Express Experience Pay \$18.00 per hr. 1st day 100% independent experienced drivers
• 1st day 100% independent
• 1,100 miles avg. length of haul
• Pay after every load
• Cash load advances
• No company match
• Paid Trip & ProPAss
Assigned conventional EXCELLENT TRAINING PACKAGE AVAILABLE FOR INEXPERIENCED DRIVERS
1-800-JOIN-WSE 1-800-564-6973

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DRIVERS
Care to win?

Of course you do! After all, you're the kind of person who embodies the dual spirit of passion and composition. Now, you can put your diverse talents and solid experience to work as a home-based entrepreneur with LTC, an immensely successful, fast-growing marketer of long term care insurance. Part of Centand, the world's leading consumer and business services concern, LTC offers you a career that allows for outstanding growth in keeping with your efforts. A motivated, high-energy individual, you'll connect with clients on a level that recognizes and solidifies their needs. We'll even supply the leads. A winning combination in the making.

Invest in your future today. Respond immediately by applying online via our website (preferred method): www.ltc.com or by calling: 1-800-573-7443 24/7 anytime to take the first step toward financial independence. An equal opportunity employer.

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Remember: Location, Location, Location

12 Acre Country Estate
Approx. 4,000 sq. ft., 4 bedrooms, 3 bath home with beautiful landscaping, patio entrance, large 2nd floor. 2 acre lot with one acre parcels. \$209,900. Anthony 934-5663 or 961-7777. MLS #39043

Country Luxury
Beautiful custom built home with 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, office, sewing room and storage. Contemporary modern kitchen. \$250,000. Anthony 934-5663 or 961-7777. MLS #34228

Two Dairy's For The Price Of One
Daily At 40 acres, double 4 dairy barn corrals, wheel lines, outdoor cottage home, 115 row CWD. Only \$125,000.

Price Reduced! Dairyman's Dream!
Single/parallel 10/acre Dairy - Opportunity Knocks For The Right Individual. Owner willing to sell, turn key and ready to go. New clean dairy barn, 1000 gallon tank, 3 bedrooms, 2 bath home included. EPA approved hay barn. Property includes 10 more acres on a 1/2 acre. \$247,000. Located at 8725 S 280 E. Haeckon. Anthony 934-5663 or 961-7777. MLS #39043

Large Cattle Ranch Perfect For Private Grazing - 688 Acres With A New Plot
Town of water with approx. 1 mi. of Big Wood River Frontage. (Covered Plot included) The Ranch Features 4 brand new Zimatic Pools on all 1 mi. of frontage. The water supply is (1) 119 shares of American Falls, (2) 250 shares of Big Lost River, (194) 21 3000 gallons of scenic water, (1) 2 acre pond irrigation deep well, (1) 2 acre pond irrigation deep well, (1) 2 acre pond irrigation deep well, (1) 2 acre pond irrigation deep well. This farm is a great find in a country ranch. Conservatively priced \$1,200,000. Anthony 934-5663 or 961-7777. MLS #21535. Located 2100 S 202 E, Gooding.

Great 40 Acre Parcel
With water shares and gated pipe. Located in Shoshone/Gooding. \$67,000. Located in Shoshone/Gooding. \$67,000. Located at 800 W. 470 N., Gooding.

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Care to win?

Of course you do! After all, you're the kind of person who embodies the dual spirit of passion and composition. Now, you can put your diverse talents and solid experience to work as a home-based entrepreneur with LTC, an immensely successful, fast-growing marketer of long term care insurance. Part of Centand, the world's leading consumer and business services concern, LTC offers you a career that allows for outstanding growth in keeping with your efforts. A motivated, high-energy individual, you'll connect with clients on a level that recognizes and solidifies their needs. We'll even supply the leads. A winning combination in the making.

Invest in your future today. Respond immediately by applying online via our website (preferred method): www.ltc.com or by calling: 1-800-573-7443 24/7 anytime to take the first step toward financial independence. An equal opportunity employer.

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SALES - We want career minded people who want to work hard in a professional environment. No experience necessary. We will train the right applicants...

SALES/DRIVER - Opening for Field Manager. Also a part-time driver. Send resume to: Valley Co. Ford, Fortziller 200-2295, 415 Park Ave., Main, Jerome, ID 83338

SECURITY - Spears Manufacturing Co., Jerome, ID, is accepting applications for PT Security Guard. Supplemental retirement income. Prior security background a plus.

SPRAY TECHNICIAN - Hiring - Professional applying for local lawn spray business. If you are willing to get licensed, Compensation averages \$100 per week. Lots of overtime. 733-1491

TECHNICIAN - Local Co. seeks aggressive, motivated, service oriented person with good work ethic & driving record. FT w/benefits. Fax resume to 733-6562

TELECOMMUNICATIONS - HighSpeed Comm is a fast-growing telecommunications company providing services in WA, OR, ID, CA, NV, CO, AZ and HI. We are an FCC Licensed for 40 years...

217 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES - HighSpeed Comm is a fast-growing telecommunications company providing services in WA, OR, ID, CA, NV, CO, AZ and HI.

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Full Time 7:00am-3:40pm Part Time 4:00pm-10:00pm Saturdays 8:00am-5:00pm

\$6.50/hr (Guaranteed wage, min. hrs. required)

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SALES PERSONNEL - We offer 5 day work week, 401K with company contributions, wide range of benefits including hospitalization and paid vacations. Applications accepted Monday thru Friday, 9am to 6pm.

Ask for Butch Heatwole at THESEIN MOTORS - 701 MAIN AVE. E. • TWIN FALLS • 733-7700

SOCIAL WORKER - Licensed Social Worker needed for outstanding mental health clinic in Twin Falls area. Contact information at 737-0777 or 737-3913.

WELDERS - Experienced welders experienced in repair, mig welding. Apply at Charnac Trailors, 452 South Park Ave. W. TF. No. 733-6562

WELDERS - Top wages and benefits, openings for all types of welder (mig, tig, and arc). Sheet metal workers, millwrights, and pipe fitters. Call 208-229-8272

WEY CLERK/SECRETARY - Full time position for Why Clerk Secretary at these offices. We are based on qualifications with excellent benefit pkg.

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BURLEY - The Times-News is currently looking for an Independent Walking Route Carrier in the BURLEY area.

ROUTE 408 - If you live in the Jerome area and are interested in being a Newspaper Carrier, please contact the Twin Falls Times-News office at 737-0931, ext. 346, or stop by 132 3rd St. W. Twin Falls.

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604 UNFURNISHED HOUSES - TWIN FALLS, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fully furnished, with utility, no pets, \$1400 per month with \$1000 deposit. For more info, call 733-6562 or 733-5336 or 1-800-734-5536

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SHOSHONE nice 2 bdrm house, gas heat, \$395. Call 733-6562 or 324-8499.

TWIN FALLS QUIET AREA - Adult park, very nice 3 bdrm, 2 bath, fully furnished, no pets. Available. Listed for sale. \$219,900. Call 733-6562

TWIN FALLS - Very nice 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, pool, tile, AC, nice fenced back yard, garage. Listed for sale, \$875. -CSI location, large 10' x 12' deck, tile, AC, gas heat & water, outside pot possible, \$300. Call 733-6562

TWIN FALLS - 3 bdrm w/ bsm. Fenced yard, garage, some pots ok. Available Now! \$275. Call 734-9064, msg #

TWIN FALLS - East side, 3 bdrm, 2 bath home, dbl garage, gas heat, tile, W/D, DW, refrigerator, stove, close to school, \$795. Call 733-6562

TWIN FALLS - 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, gas heat, no pets, Call 324-2834.

TWIN FALLS - 195, 3550 sq ft, 3 bdrm, 2 bath, appls, 2-car garage w/wrapers, huge fenced yard, call 733-6562

TWIN FALLS - 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, great room, home plus oversized dbl garage w/overhead door, 551 Caitlin Dr. All appliances included. Immediate possession, \$950/mo. Call 733-6562

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TWIN FALLS - 2 bdrm, 1 bath, no carpet, new paint, stove, refrigerator, carpet, fenced yard, \$475 mo. Idaho Housing welcome. Available January. Call 733-6562

TWIN FALLS - Clean 2 bdrm duplex, range/refrig, W/D, hood, garage, near Hospital, no smoking, \$450+dep. Call 733-5097.

TWIN FALLS - 2 bdrm, 1 bath, fully furnished, approved, available immediately, \$400 mo. + \$200 dep. Call 733-6562 or Slave at 734-1991.

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CHEVY ENGINE, 454, complete, \$10,000. Please call 208-678-8795.

CHEVY, Suburban, '95, rolled All or parts. Please call 208-637-6396, oves.

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FORD FALCON 1964, engine needs work. \$1500/offer 436-1942

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DODGE 1990, 1/2 ton ext. cab, auto, cruise, air, runs good. \$5500. 423-4789.

FORD - 1983 F150, 302 engine, AT, new shocks & complete tune up. \$1200 /offer. Call 736-8997.

FORD Ranger XLT, 1997, 23K miles, \$6000. Call 733-8211.

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FORD - 1992 F150, orig. owner, 500 ci six, 5-995, short box, glass shell, many extras. \$4900. 837-4122.

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DO NOT BUY A '1999 OR 2000' SERIES FORD FROM AN UNAUTHORIZED DEALER BECAUSE...

- You are paying too much...**
 - a. A non-Ford dealer is paying invoice or more for USED vehicles.
 - b. These vehicles are from surrounding states and Canada which means you will incur additional high transportation costs.
 - c. You lose the free services and conveniences offered by an authorized Ford Dealer.
 - d. Even if sold to you w/no miles, under Idaho law this is still considered a used vehicle.
- Warranty problems...**
 - a. If one of these USED 1999 or 2000 Ford Turbo Diesel trucks is of Canadian Registry all warranty work must be approved through Ford of Canada. Ford of Canada does not offer Roadside Assistance.

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The mailman, the handyman and Aunt Lillian

In high school, way back when, I signed up for a class in shorthand. Not speedwriting. Shorthand. With symbols for words.

My best friend signed up, too, and she turned out to be much better at shorthand than I was. In fact, by the end of the semester, my friend could take shorthand at 140 words a minute.

"Do you think people can talk that fast?" I asked her one day.

"Probably not," she replied.

"Then what's the point?"

"I don't know," she said. "Maybe you could have a cup of coffee while someone finished a sentence."

My friend went on to become a court stenographer, for a few years.

Eventually, she got tired of people who didn't talk fast enough.

I, on the other hand, still use my high school shorthand, and I like it much better than anything anyone has dreamed up since.

After all, I acquired the skill during my "good old days" — the days when I never bought sensible shoes, and always knew the Top Ten songs. Back then, nobody my age ever thought much about the year

2000. We were all too sure that everyone past 30 was over the hill anyway, so it wasn't really matter what we would be doing in the year 2000, because we would be too old to care.

Now I know better. And I do try to keep up with some of the newer trends.

The Old Farmer's Almanac 2000* reports that celestial blue will be the color of the new millennium, and cuddly cashmere will be the "in" clothing fabric. Furniture will be heavy on brushed aluminum, with some dark woods tossed in for good measure.

And food will be both spicy and exotic.

Meanwhile, the Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. reports that we will be living longer to enjoy all this. In fact, life expectancy has hit an all-time high, and men who make it to age 65 can now expect to live beyond age 80.

The report I read doesn't mention women, but we've always lived longer than men — and the men have always insisted that we drive them to earlier graves — so I don't suppose that is going to change.

Other stuff has already changed beyond recognition.

The November 1999 issue of Good Housekeeping magazine reprinted some of the etiquette-type advice that Emily Post dispensed during the first half of the 20th century.

"A sickroom visitor does not smoke unless the patient suggests it or is smoking herself," Emily Post wrote, "and a bride abstains from smoking while she has her wedding veil on."

Also considered archaic by today's standards is Post's advice about engagements: "As soon as the young woman's father accepts the engagement, eightette should be the parent of the bridegroom-elect call within 24 hours upon the parents of the bride-to-be. Not even deep mourning can excuse the failure to observe this formality."

These days, about the only constant left in the old-time wedding arrangement is romance.

"The Farmer's Almanac" reports getaway bookings at bed and breakfasts up 25 percent, along with sales of cruises which are now clocking in at 1.2 billion stems a year — and blooming.

Oh well. I'm just glad love still makes the world go round. I think. At least I was until the last time I called my friend Lillian on the telephone.

"Aunt Lillian is complaining that her handyman is bothering her again," Phyllis told me. "She says he calls her all day and hangs up, and he drives by her house all night."

Both Aunt Lillian and her handyman are in their 80s.

One day, Phyllis said, the handyman waited for the mailman on Lillian's front walkway.

"Are you dating Lillian?" the handyman asked.

"No, man! I'm married," the mailman replied.

"I see you around here a lot," said But. What's not all.

A few days later, Lillian's son told her the handyman had come into his shop and said, "Do you know your mother is dating the mailman?"

Please tell me this isn't the newest trend among would-be suitors — of an age.

Denise Turner is assistant features editor at The Times-News.



Shoppers charge into a Twin Falls store during the pre-dawn hours of this past Christmas shopping season. Increasingly, people are looking for ways to find more meaning and less stress during the holidays.

Photo by BRUCE SHIELDS/The Times-News

Do Christmas differently this year

Yule season 2000 doesn't have to ring hollow; make some changes now

"And he puzzled three hours, till his puzzler was sore. Then the Grinch thought of something he hadn't before—Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas perhaps means a little bit more."

—"How the Grinch Stole Christmas," by Theodore ("Dr. Seuss") Geisel

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

RUPERT — There are only 336 more shopping days left until Christmas. Believe her, Jackie Handy knows for sure.

"Christmas for us starts long before Christmas," said Handy, president of the Mini-Cassia Christmas Council, a non-profit charitable organization that collects and dispenses toys and food to more than 500 families each December. "It's something we do almost year-round."

While most of the world was at

- Vox pop**
- 59 percent of Americans surveyed said they had taken steps to buy fewer gifts or otherwise simplify their holiday celebration in the past three years.
 - 91 percent of Americans think the Christmas holidays are too commercial and that the idea of "peace on earth" has been forgotten by too many people.
 - 27 percent feel pressured to have a more elaborate or more expensive holiday than they would like.
 - If there were no pressure to give Christmas gifts, 39 percent of Americans would either save the money or use it to pay off debts, while 35 percent would give gifts as planned.

—Source: Center for a New American Dream, from a telephone poll of 1,015 adults conducted Nov. 18-21, 1999, by Opinion Research Corp. Intentional. (Margin of error plus or minus 2 percent)

the mall a month ago, Handy spent the few days before Christmas matching generosity with need. It's a better way to mark the holidays, she believes.

And not the least because she and the volunteers she works

with don't spend January wondering what became of the Christmas spirit.

"People need to get the Christmas spirit before November," said Ed Hudson, a retired Air Force colonel who for years headed the East End Providers, a Kimberly-based group of volunteers.

The fact that many don't may have something to do with rising public dissatisfaction about Christmas, according to Center for a New American dream, a Maryland-based non-profit organization that advocates a simpler lifestyle.

Ninety-six percent of 8- to 12-year-olds included a big screen TV on their 1997 holiday wish list, according to the center's website, even while 73 percent of their parents said they would like to limit their children's TV watching.

And the average holiday gift budget is now \$1,088, up 16 percent in a year, according to American Express.

"To many of us, Christmas does primarily mean spending money mindlessly, and quite often on things that are not particularly meaningful to anybody," said Chuck Langham, who runs a Virginia-based anti-commercialism organization

called SCROOGE. "Buy it, charge it, wrap it, deliver it, and forget it, just another obligation met and chore completed."

Instead of rushing into the Christmas 2000 rat race, Alternatives for Simple Living advocates a seven-step approach:

- Plan ahead: Instead of going on auto-pilot the day after Thanksgiving, hold a family meeting to decide what the group really wants to do and who is going to do what.
- Avoid debt and refuse to be pressured by advertising to overspend.
- Avoid stress. Don't assume that things have to be the same as they're been in previous years.
- Draw names rather than everybody giving something to someone else in your giving circle. Set a ceiling on what can be spent for each gift recipient. Give children one thing they really want, rather than an overload of so many presents.
- Put gifts under the tree shortly before opening them and then take turns unwrapping so that each item can be admired and each giver thanked. This avoids the tear-off-the-paper frenzy of green that starts youngsters out on the wrong foot regarding materialism.

• Give appropriate gifts and consider alternatives (baby-sitting "coupons," help with a project, contributions to charity, etc.)

• Make changes in the way you celebrate Christmas slowly but, persistently. Don't try to change everything and everybody all at once. The resistance may make you feel defeated and depressed.

However you do Christmas differently, Handy said, it's really about putting the holidays in the right perspective.

"I hear it every year," she said. "Volunteers come back realizing how lucky they really are."

"Help somebody out who needs it, and don't wait until December to do it," Hudson said. "That's the Christmas spirit."

Visit the Alternatives for Simple Living website at <http://www.simpliving.org>, the SCROOGE website at <http://www.geocities.com/Enchant-ed/Forest/Falace/4079>, and the Center for a New American Dream website at <http://www.newdream.org>

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 223, or write to him at crump@magicvalley.com

Some advice for the world of creative play

If you want to encourage your children to engage in creative play, here are some do's and don'ts from Teachers Resisting Unhealthy Children's Entertainment:

- Skip toys with movie, television and other media tie-ins. Example: Jar Jar Binks Monster Mouth.
- Try to cut out toys that emphasize technology. Example:

Etc...

- Elmo Talking Doll Stroller
- Pass over toys that take the creative play out of classic toys.

Example: WCW Mold and Mash Wrestlers, an art set containing four wrestler molds

• If you can't afford expensive toys, create a "Shoe Box for Creative Play." Decorate an empty shoe box and lid — use gift wrap, stickers or colored paper. Choose a theme and put a picture and word describing the theme. For an office theme, fill the box with a stapler, hole

puncher, tape and similar products. For a restaurant theme, include cloth napkins, pretend food and the like.

TRUCE recommends these toys:

- Funland Farm (T.C. Timber), 28 colorful wooden pieces, barn, silo, fences, animals and people for ages 2 and older.
- Wonderboard (Dowling

Magnets) variety sets of magnetic pieces, such as Junior Architect, Build a Bug and Zany Zoo. Ages 3 and older.

• Earl E. Bird (Early Years), multisensory toy made with all kinds of fabric, teething rings and crinkles. Ages birth and older.

—Source: The Gazette (Colorado Springs, Colo.)

Junior Musical Playhouse presents 'Schoolhouse Rock'

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — The Junior Musical Playhouse will present "School House Rock Live," at 7 p.m. Friday, Feb. 4, and Saturday, Feb. 5 at the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium.

JUMP Company's production of "Schoolhouse Rock Live," is directed by Jessie Hamilton with Dayna Anne Baird as musical director. The cast involves 64 children from

To do for families

the Magic Valley ages 7 to 18.

"Schoolhouse Rock" is based on a Saturday morning cartoon series in the 1970's, designed to teach children about a variety of educational topics.

Songs include, "Verbi 'That's What's Happening," "A Noun is a Person Place or Thing," and

"Interjections!"

Admission is \$6 per person. Tickets are available at Everybody's Business, The Leatherman, Kurt's Pharmacy and L.L. Millmark, all in Twin Falls, or from any cast member. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Proceeds from this production benefit JUMP Company's annual college scholarship program for Magic Valley seniors.

Upcoming

TWIN FALLS — Darrell Scott, the father of Rachel Joy Scott, a victim of the Columbine High School tragedy in Littleton, Colo., will speak at 7 p.m. on Feb. 25, at the College of Southern Idaho Fine Arts Center auditorium.

Scott will speak about the April 20, 1999 shootings at Columbine, including how this tragedy has impacted the lives of many people in negative and

positive ways, organizers say. Admission is free, and the public is invited to attend.

For more information, call 733-4667.

Every Sunday, To Do for Family lists family oriented events in south-central Idaho. To get an item listed in the calendar, send it to Features Department, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls 83303. Deadline is noon on Wednesday.

FAMILY LIFE

www.4Kids.org

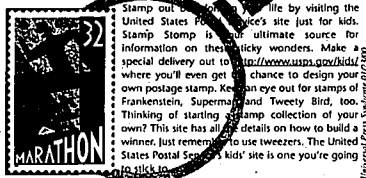
YOUR QUICKEST SHOT TO THE COOLEST SPOTS ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB



Dear Amy: Do you know any sites where I can find information on flags for a school report? —Kerry, Chicago

Dear Amy: Where can I find a good site to help me with synonyms? —Albert, Madison, Wis.

SPECIAL DELIVERY



A SITE FOR REAL PHONES

Hello! Pick up the phone! Get on the line with Brain Spin at http://www.commschool.com/

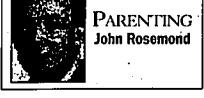
Be a 4Kids Detective

Visit these Web sites to find the answers, then go to http://www.4Kids.org/detectives/



Start toilet training at 18-30 months

I have addressed the issue of toilet training in previous columns and books. My advice has been to time the initiation of training to certain readiness signs...



The \$75 is for carpet and furniture cleaning. Feedback from parents who have used this method has been voluminous and has led me to revise my advice concerning readiness signs and timing.

Teens' first crushes are a clumsy rite of passage

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — As her youngest child was about to enter middle school, Donna Oas thought she was prepared. After all, she had been down this path before with her two sons.

"After the first of school, I asked her, 'Have you school, do you like your classes and teachers?'" Oas says. "Oh, it was OK, she says."

So Oas continued trying to extract some more information. "What was the best part?" "The boys. Mom, they are so cute," April tells her mother.

Vital Info Consider these statistics from the Sexuality Information and Education Council of the U.S., a nonprofit group that researches sexual behavior.

—Source: Dallas Morning News

longer disgusting dweebs. Usually girls start checking out boys earlier, but eventually they catch up to each other, experts advise.

Brace yourselves, parents, soon they'll be dating. It can be a scary prospect, but with the right blend of knowledge, communication and patience, you can help navigate the complicated world of teen social lives.

Courtship has changed a lot in the last 20 to 30 years, experts say. Noticeably absent are traditions like the Saturday night movie-and-dinner-date that generations of teen-age boys and girls stumbled through in the process of getting to know each other.

One too is the tradition of having an escort to go to a homecoming dance, holiday party or even the prom. Now it's acceptable, and for many preferable, to go with a friend or a group of friends.

Take Michelle Muller and Will Dowdy. After they met through a friend at church, they knew they wanted to get to know each other. So they arranged a group date.

Teens claim it's a good way for them to get to know each other because the group provides a safety net.

"If a guy came up to anyone I know and says 'Do you want to go out,'" the girl would think, "Oh my gosh, what am I going to say or do alone with him?" says Michelle, a high school junior, who has been steadily seeing Will, also a high school junior, for six months.

Even now, friends are still at the center of Will and Michelle's universe. They squeeze in at least a few minutes every day but at least one weekend evening is reserved for group time.

"We like being alone and going out with a group," says Will. "It's more fun and never gets boring."

Many parents say they are more comfortable with their children going out in large groups rather than one-on-one dating. If they are having fun with their friends, they don't have the desire to couple up and experiment with sex, some parents suggest.

"I think what is happening now is much healthier than the one-on-one dating that we did as teenagers," says Julie Crowley, a Dallas mother of two boys, ages 15 and 18. "There is a lot less pressure on the kids all the way around and they are free to have a good time."

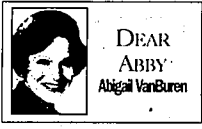
Incentive for organ donors should be to do the right thing

DEAR ABBY: I am not normally a person who would write to you, but I am prompted to do so as a result of the letter you printed relating to obtaining inheritance tax, estate tax or income tax incentives for people to become organ donors.

I am a lawyer who practices in the estate and tax field, and I thought that the proposition was interesting from that standpoint.

However, as a registered organ donor, I question both the proposition and your support of it. My questioning does not concern the need to get more organ donors, but it concerns the motivation of people to donate organs in return for tax relief.

I am concerned that our society needs to have "incentives" to do that which is right. Do we really need to have income tax deductions to support our favorite charities? Do we need



tax incentives to encourage people to employ persons otherwise unemployed? Will charitable giving collapse if, for some reason, charitable deductions were eliminated from the Internal Revenue Code?

I would hope that the answer to these questions would be no, so I am not in support of the person who suggests that we give incentives to encourage people to become organ donors. The incentive should be that you are doing the right thing for the right reason. There is no other incentive necessary.

—ALFRED K. HETTINGER, ALLENTOWN, PA.

DEAR MR. HETTINGER: The answer to all of your questions could well be "yes." And I agree with you that no incentive other than doing the right thing for the right reason should be necessary.

However, at this time 66,717 people are on organ-donor waiting lists, praying for a heart, a kidney or a liver that will save their lives. Last year, 4,800 people died waiting for that prayer to be answered. Is it more immoral for someone to die because there is a shortage of organs available, or to offer tax incentives to those who would otherwise bury their dear departed organs and all? To me, it seems like a terrible waste.

My philosophy coincides with that of the late Robert Test, who wrote the following:

To Remember Me At a certain moment a doctor will determine that my brain has ceased to function and that, for all intents and purposes, my life has stopped.

When that happens, do not attempt to instill artificial life into my body by the use of a machine. And don't call this my "deceased." Call it my "bed of life," and let my body be taken from it to help others lead fuller lives.

Give my sight to a man who has never seen a sunrise, a baby's face or love in the eyes of a woman.

Give my heart to a person whose own heart has caused nothing but endless days of pain.

Give my blood to one teen-ager who has been pulled from the wreckage of his car, so that he might live to see his grandchildren play. Give my kidneys to one who

depends on a machine to exist from week to week.

Take my bones, every muscle, every fiber and nerve in my body, and find a way to make a crippled child walk.

Explore every corner of my brain. Take my cells, if necessary, and let them grow so that someday a speechless boy will shout at the track of a bat and a deaf girl will hear the sound of rain against her windows.

Burn what is left of me and scatter the ashes to the winds to help the flowers grow.

If you must bury something, let it be my faults, my weaknesses, and all my prejudice against my fellow man.

Give my sins to the devil. Give my soul to God. If, by chance, you wish to remember me, do it with a kind deed or word to someone who needs you. If you do all I have asked, I will live forever.

'Snow Falling on Cedars' is solid entertainment for mature audiences

The Orange County Register

"Snow Falling on Cedars" — Sun Valley Opera House.

Best For: Mature audiences. What it's about: It's 1954 and Ishmael Chambers (John Hawke) is the newspaper editor in a small-Pacific-Northwest town where postwar Japanese-Americans work and live alongside locals in a small community.

When one of the local fishermen is found dead in his own fishing net, Kazuo Miyamoto (Rick Yune) is accused of the murder and a trial tainted with prejudice and assumptions ensues. Ishmael's emotions and journalistic objectivity are clouded because the wife of the accused is his childhood sweetheart, Hatsue Miyamoto (Youki Kudoh), whom he still loves and would like to get back with.

The good: The visual style — used diluted colors combined with a constant snowy (and sometimes rainy) landscape that sets a mood and makes you pay attention. Flashbacks and events are out of sequence and person-



scenes. It's literally like watching a novel play out on screen and that alone will bore most kids and young teens.

Offensive language: A few scenes have some strong words.

Sex: A couple of scenes imply a teen-age couple kissing and fondling, but there is no nudity. A newly married couple undress for bed and kiss, but there's no nudity shown.

Violence: There are only a couple of brief war scenes that show a nude body on a beach, along with several bloody bodies; a bloody arm (after amputation) is briefly shown.

Parental advisory: This movie is too deep for older children or kids to understand, and too layered for young teens to appreciate.

The history lesson of how this country treated and treated Japanese-Americans during and after the war is poignantly told and a valuable lesson for a younger generation to understand.

Entertainment value: B

Get homework help from the Looney Bin

Since it is past the end of the school quarter, you have either gotten your report cards already or will be soon. If you want your grades to go up on your next report card, you might want to check out The Looney Bin.

The name may not sound like a homework page, but it definitely is. You can take a quiz to see how good your study habits are at home and school. You can also try to do what the quiz says to improve them. They have basic study tips for school so that you won't get behind, exam tips for older kids, and how to write better reports and essays.

Go hit the books!



Featured site Every week, Kids Online does a new website oriented toward kids. Today's site is http://www.geocities.com/Atlanta/

Nicole Ridgeway is a student at Perrine Elementary School. Write to her c/o crump@magicalvalley.com

Everything a fan needs to know. Find it in the SPORTS pages of The Times-News.

John Rosemond is a family psychologist. Questions of general interest may be sent to Affirmative Parenting, 9247 N. Meridian, Indianapolis, IN 46260 and at his Web site: http://www.rosemond.com/

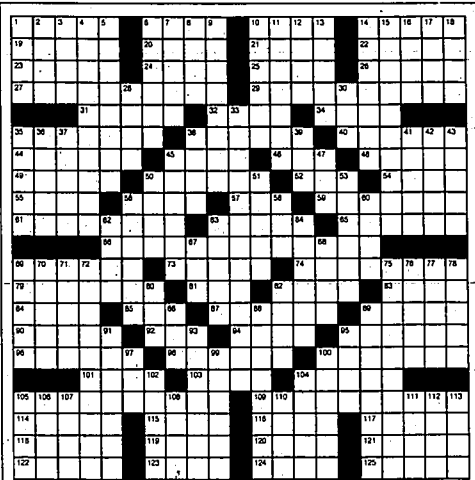
THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

COMMAND DECISIONS

By James E. Buell, Fort Washington, Maryland

- 1 Across
- 1 Houston baseball player
- 6 Unhearing
- 10 Puppy foot
- 14 Uplift
- 19 Encore broadcast
- 20 Parisian diva
- 21 Meditator
- 21 Resting on
- 22 Shilo of "Rocky"
- 23 Old hag
- 24 Large-mouth water pitcher
- 25 Utter indistinctly
- 26 Cronish blue shades
- 27 Establish speed
- 29 Assume control
- 30 Be the Day singer Buddy
- 32 Lingerie
- 34 Larger-than-life
- 35 Scrooge-like
- 38 Gave rise to
- 43 Whirl of poles
- 44 Port on the Black Sea
- 45 Impudence
- 46 Hens, for short
- 48 Cumming
- 49 Supple
- 50 Husband, e.g.
- 52 Hiatus
- 54 Keep in check
- 55 Dorothy's pup
- 56 WWII powers
- 57 Distress signal
- 59 Foods company, Punia
- 61 Staterooms
- 63 Room at the top
- 65 Nicaraguan
- 66 Exercise
- 69 Authority
- 70 Field role
- 73 Veered off course
- 74 Throbbing drums
- 75 in a way
- 79 In bed
- 81 exclamation
- 82 Indiana city
- 83 Depressed
- 84 Sift or Crawl, for example
- 85 Cover crop
- 86 Mechanical men
- 89 Remove moisture again
- 90 Be silent, typically
- 92 Strike sharply
- 94 Automobile
- 95 Sneer
- 95 Depressed
- 96 Move with a rushing sound
- 98 Lady of the house
- 100 Identify incorrectly
- 101 Penus
- 103 Evaluate
- 104 Penicillin
- 105 Provide direction
- 109 Bark commands
- 114 Love of "Dr. Strangelove" movies
- 115 Make reference to
- 116 Wading bird



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- 117 Haloos
- 118 French measure
- 119 Coyote
- 120 Took the bus
- 121 Publish
- 122 Try hard to
- 123 Lacking; suff.
- 124 Exploit
- 125 -foot oil
- DOWN
- 1 Trajectories
- 2 Withered
- 3 Swift pace
- 4 Make all decisions
- 5 Jarkwater
- 6 Profoundly
- 7 Ex-Bronco QB
- 8 Basinger's
- 9 Bright meator
- 10 Linchpin and ziti
- 11 Mackerel
- 12 "The Winds of War" author
- 13 Spandix frenzy
- 14 Engraving
- 15 Provide direction
- 16 Wing-shaped
- 17 Blows great
- 18 A kind of a small bell
- 19 Bark commands
- 20 Love of "Dr. Strangelove" movies
- 21 Money mgr.
- 23 Has full control
- 25 Sheds
- 26 Half-wit
- 27 Tussle
- 28 Machinery parts
- 29 Made a ditch
- 30 Love and salt-free, e.g.
- 32 Ness of the "Unouchables"
- 33 Medicinal bush
- 34 Gussiness
- 35 Turkish money
- 36 Skoff's comment
- 37 Gale of football
- 38 Half-wit
- 39 Nether fish
- 40 Decorative low
- 42 "The Must Be Crazy"
- 43 Eddie tuber
- 46 Member of the thrush family
- 49 Hold back
- 51 African flies
- 53 Pittsburgh players
- 55 Turkish money
- 57 Scoff's comment
- 59 Gale of football
- 100 Shot wide
- 102 Decorative transfer
- 104 Back of 45
- 105 Aladdin's
- 106 Possession
- 108 Ogler
- 109 Comic Johnson
- 110 Clean off
- 111 Haulboy
- 111 Sky bear
- 112 Of ships and sailors; abbr.
- 113 Sandra and Ruby

Knight Ridder News Service

ST. PAUL, Minn. — A woman's giving birth to triplets at age 54 without the aid of fertility drugs may have been an amazing feat, but it sent shudders through the hearts of many of the nation's 50 million baby boomers.

Many women approaching age 50 have grown comfortable in the knowledge that they no longer have to fear accidental pregnancy. Some women, many of whom have children already grown—even may be experiencing hot flashes and other menopausal side effects.

Then along comes the Yakima, Wash., grandmother Aracelia Garcia and her triplets. Countless women read the story with mouths agape.

"I think babies are always a blessing, but it would certainly be an interesting experience at that age," said Helen Flynn, a 51-year-old mother of three teen-agers from Mendota Heights, Minn. "I dearly enjoy my kids, but I'm on the downhill side of my life."

Dr. June La Vallée, 58, director of the Mature Women's Center at the University of Minnesota, was more blunt. "I'd be horrified," she said with a laugh.

So what's the story? It's Arcelia Garcia's remarkable pregnancy an indication that the length of fertility is increasing along with the human life span?

No, say experts such as Dr. Ted Napol, director of the Division of Reproductive Endocrinology at the University of Minnesota.

"Clearly, there have been prog-

nancies (in women) in their 50s, but they're very few and far between," Nagel said. "It's just a rare phenomenon. (This case is one of) reproduction at the extremes of life: it's pretty amazing, though."

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, more than 3.8 million babies were born in the United States during 1997. Of those, only 144 were born to women age 50 and over. And some of these pregnancies likely were the result of fertility drugs or some form of medical manipulation, such as in vitro fertilization.

The average age of menopause is 51, it has changed over years, and experts agree, there is no indication that it is changing now.

Women reach menopause when they have gone one full year without a menstrual period. "After that, you're home free," La Vallée said, referring to the possibility of becoming pregnant.

However, menopause can occur as early as 40 and as late as 60. "If a woman is still having periods, even if she's irregular, she's got to use contraception" if she wants to avoid becoming pregnant, La Vallée said.

News reports indicate that Garcia's menstrual periods were irregular at the time the triplets were conceived.

Ironically, while it's extremely rare for women in their 50s to have children without the fertility aids, it's not rare for older women to have multiple births.

"The older the women are when they have children, the greater the chance of having (multiple

births)," Nagel said. "As they get older, there's a higher rate over than one egg at a time."

Garcia gave birth to fraternal triplets, which means that she produced at least three eggs, all of which were fertilized. Obstetrics experts in the Twin Cities and Rochester, Minn., cannot recall a woman in her early 50s conceiving a child naturally. The oldest were in their mid-40s, and they were considered highly unusual cases.

However, the average age of new mothers appears to be increasing slightly, says Arlyne Shook, a nurse-manager at The Birth Place, the always-busy birthing center at Fairview University Medical Center's Riverside, Minn., campus.

"The average age of women getting married is higher than what it used to be, and the average age for women having their first child is higher," Shook said. "It's not unusual to see women in their upper 30s having their first children and then having subsequent children in their early 40s."

While some experts link this trend to a desire among some women to delay childbearing until after they've solidified their professional careers, Shook believes it is related to a better health-habits-of-women. She bases her observations on the lifestyles of her friends.

"Women are more health-conscious, more active, more concerned about their nutrition and I think, feel younger," Shook said. "And when you feel younger, you don't feel afraid of taking on the responsibility of this new child."

Nursing program helps young mothers

Knight Ridder News Service

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — When Angela Lukenbill and Abby Morley get together, it looks for all the world like nothing more than girl talk. With the kitchen of Morley's Northland home serving as a backdrop, their chit-chat ping-pongs from vibrating baby seats to recipes for chicken baked with cream of something sauce to the three fellows who currently are flattering 18-year-old Lukenbill with their attentions.

And while this relationship is clearly fun for them both, a deeper mission lies at its heart: to ensure that Lukenbill's daughter, Mackenzie, grows up healthy and safe; to cheer Lukenbill through enough schooling to provide for herself and her daughter; and to prevent a baby sibling joining little Mackenzie anytime soon.

Mentor Moms, it's called, and it seems to be working. It began as an initiative of the University of Columbia and has grown during the last few years to encompass mentors and proteges in 15 locations throughout Missouri.

Like Lynn Blinn Pike, an associate professor of human development and family studies

at the University of Missouri-Columbia, began a pilot project aimed at improving the health and well-being of very young mothers and their children. She called it Missouri Volunteer Resource Mothers. In the Columbia area, she recruited mature mothers and paired them with pregnant young women from about 13 to 22 years of age.

Over the course of the evaluation, she compared the results, comparing the young moms who had relationships with mentors to a control group who hadn't.

The results, she says, were impressive. Before the girls were paired with mentors, they scored "off the chart" for child-abuse potential, Pike said. But their scores showed "a significant reduction" after their mentorship had been completed, according to Pike.

She also evaluated the two groups for depression and social isolation at the beginning and the end of the pilot program. At the end of the program, the scores had dropped significantly.

The mentored group also breast-fed their babies for longer on average than the control group and took them to the hospital less frequently.

The mentoring project's effectiveness is also reflected in its robust expansion to 15 locations throughout Missouri. Independent social workers and agencies manage them, with some technical assistance from Pike.

Much of Pike's energy now goes toward helping establish new mentoring programs. A day-care provider who operates out of the Country Club Congregational Church in Brookside, Mo., hopes to launch a mentor program soon.

Bevly Best, who runs the center, known as Springboard, was a teen mother herself. She was fortunate enough to establish a close relationship with a social worker who, she says, "changed my life."

Best hopes to find a mentor — "a cheerleader and a conscience," as she defines them — for each of the young mothers, and maybe even each of the fathers, of the children she cares for.

Interest in Pike's mentor experiment has spread beyond Missouri. A program is being established in Illinois, and has received a grant for people in other states — Alabama, Nebraska, North Carolina and Hawaii to name a few.

Separation rarely heads off a divorce

Knight Ridder News Service

Here we go again. Yet another celebrity couple has taken off down that rocky road to Splitville.

Jane Fonda and Ted Turner had their spokespersons make the big announcement earlier this month: The two will temporarily separate after eight years as Atlanta's royal couple. No wonder you go to get to stay in their cushy apartment high atop the CNN Center in Atlanta. Maybe one of them will highlight it to their spread in Montana.

When celebrities say they're going to "separate," it means much the same that it does for ordinary James — and Joes — and it's not good.

We asked divorce lawyers if there's any hope that Jane and Ted can patch their obviously broken marriage, and no one was willing to bet their bar association membership on it. Once a couple, any couple, decides to separate, the lawyers tell us, divorce is often just a step away.

"Absence does not make the heart grow fonder, or Fonda in

this case," puns Joe Norton, a family law specialist in Olathe, Kan., a suburb of Kansas City. "I think it's kind of a way to ease into a divorce, a way to ease into telling the family what's going to happen."

"It's kind of eating the sandwich a bite at a time instead of putting the whole thing in your mouth all at once."

Turner/Fonda separation is a legal arrangement. Their spokesperson simply said they had reached a juncture where they each need some time to themselves.

Woman discovers it's never too late to express love to mother

"Regret for the things we did can be tempered by time; it is regret for the things we did not do that is inconsolable." — Sydney J. Harris

By Nanette Thorsen-Snipes

In this story by Nanette Thorsen-Snipes, a woman learns, at her dying mother's side, that it's never too late to say "I love you." Nanette has published more than 350 articles, columns and devotions. It is at twilight that I remember Mama best. I can still see her chasing fireflies, her skirt swishing behind her knees. As the fading sun slips behind Georgia pine trees, it leaves the sky blanketed with a sunburst of orange. A glow radiates from Mama's face, and laughter dances in her hazel eyes as she gathers fireflies in her hand and shows them to me.

Until I was about 5, Mama caught fireflies and put them — still blinking — into an empty mayonnaise jar. Later, she would tuck me into bed, and I'd pretend those pulsating little bugs were a nightlight. Sometimes, they seemed to be winking at me. Even at that young age, I was painfully aware that Mama never once told me she loved me.

Chicken Soup for the Soul

It troubled me that she never kissed me good-night, or at any other time for that matter. But I believed she cared. She just showed it in a unique way — through humor. I remember her humor being especially poignant as she battled terminal lung cancer. In 1980, the first inkling my husband and I had of trouble was the day that Mama began experiencing chest pains. After a few days of pain so severe that she had trouble talking, she let me drive her to the doctor.

Once in the examining room, Mama pulled the white paper gown over her head as she was instructed. She held the paper out for my inspection. "I hate these things," she said, a sparkle of mischief growing in her eyes. "I feel like an overgrown paper doll." Though deeply concerned,

I laughed out loud. That was Mama.

Later, the X-rays confirmed that there was a tumor in her left lung. I had hoped it wasn't malignant, but, after a biopsy, the results came back positive. The doctor gave her a year to live.

During that time, Mama had her hair cut by my husband. With my husband's help, she planted a small garden outside her mobile home on the south side of Atlanta. As soon as the sun blinked upon the horizon each morning, Mama dragged her knee-legged stool outside and sat among the green beans, tomatoes and cucumbers to weed the garden, which blossomed with life. After a half-hour in the blazing sun, perspiration beaded on her forehead and upper lip. She'd come inside, gasping for air.

Once, with a familiar twinkle in her eyes, she said, "You know, my breath keeps coming in short pants." Then she laughed. I know what she was imagining — puffs of air dressed in a pair of short pants.

In April 1991, Mama lay in a hospital bed, her strength battle almost at an end. One day after radiation therapy, the nurse wheeled Mama's gurney back into her room.

Although she was a shell of her former self, a smile twinkled in Mama's hazel eyes. "My mouth is so dry," she said. "I thought they'd have to shave my tongue." Not only did I laugh out loud, but the nurse smiled as well. Thankfully, Mama's humor made accepting her illness a little easier.

One day as I left the hospital room, I couldn't hold back the tears. I felt a comforting touch on my shoulder as I neared the nurses' station. I turned to see a nurse whose eyes showed deep concern. "Why can't you cry with your mother?" she asked. I shook my head trying to regain composure. "It's a shame," she went on, "every time you leave, your mother cries, too."

I wanted so much to let Mama know I cared, but it was impossible since I'd never received outward affection from her. I simply didn't know how to show her that I loved her. I turned to see a nurse whose eyes showed deep concern. "Why can't you cry with your mother?" she asked. I shook my head trying to regain composure. "It's a shame," she went on, "every time you leave, your mother cries, too."

As I pondered our lives together, questions formed in my mind: "Why can't I tell my mother that I love her? Was it because of the betrayal I felt when she left my father?"

Perhaps it was Mama's growing alcoholism. Maybe she just couldn't handle love and was incapable of giving it. I did not know. I only knew that the words "I love you" never came from her lips, and the same words remained stuck in my throat. I also grieved the fact that I could not kiss her.

With the rebirth of spring and the resurrection of the once-dormant azaleas and dogwoods, I found myself thinking of the Easter season and the sacrifice of God's son more than 2,000 years before. Although I was alienated from God during this season of sorrow, I remember pleading with him, "Please, not yet. I say goodbye to my mother before it's too late."

Every day, I brought my barely used Bible to Mama's room and curled up on a vinyl chair partially hidden behind the hospital bed. One evening, when the twilight shadows filled the room, I sat in my usual place silently reading from the Psalms. I don't know who the dark-haired nurse was who interrupted my thoughts, and she had no idea I was sitting there in the shadows. I held my breath as she walked up to Mama.

Watching in silence, I saw the nurse gently brush Mama's chest-

nut hair from her face. She held Mama's face in her hands in the most tender way. I knew she must be an angel sent by God because she did the one thing I couldn't: She leaned down and kissed Mama's forehead. As I gently inhaled, the woman tipped from the room.

The next day, doctors were forced to increase the dosage of morphine to ease Mama's pain. Through the veil of drugs, my eyes glazed, and I feared I had waited too late to say goodbye. Beneath the green oxygen mask, she struggled for every breath. I struggled with her. "She probably won't hear me," I thought, "but I have to tell her."

I picked up my mother's spindly hand and held it. I took a sharp breath, and for all the times I couldn't speak, I whispered, "Mama, I love you." For heartbeats in eternity, Mama's eyes cleared. She looked at me and a smile traced her lips. The presence of God in that room was inexplicable. It was as though God himself had reached me. The way fireflies wink at children on warm, summer nights.

To submit a story for future publication, send it to P.O. Box 30880, Santa Barbara, Calif. 93130.

COMMUNITY

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

Serving the Twin Falls area



Santa Claus visits a young resident of Valley House on Christmas Eve. Valley House, a homeless shelter, and Cactus Petes Resort Casino presented a holiday dinner and gifts to the Valley House residents.

Casino brings Christmas to Valley House residents

TWIN FALLS - Valley House of Twin Falls and Cactus Petes Resort Casino joined together Christmas Eve to present a holiday dinner and gifts to residents of the homeless shelter.

Casino employees volunteered to help serve food and assisted Santa in giving gifts to the children, Valley House and Cactus Petes representatives say. St. Nick arrived with presents for each of the children, ages 11 months to 17-years-old, who were staying at Valley House. After the children open their presents, Valley House residents sat down to a holiday meal prepared by Cactus Petes. As a special treat, the pastry chefs created a spectacular individualized gingerbread house for each child, coordinators say.

"As a community member, we are always mindful of those in need," says Dave Albrecht, Cactus Petes general manager. "Our goal is to help make the holidays brighter for those staying at Valley House. As they say at Valley House, 'It's not a handout, but a hand up.'"

Valley House resident manager Roger

Wyatt says "it is like a miracle" to have Cactus Petes provide the residents with the Christmas celebration.

Cactus Petes employees also visited Valley House on Thanksgiving Day to serve a traditional dinner with all the trimmings. Cactus Petes has delivered a weekly meal to the Valley House for the past two years and will continue to do so throughout 2000, the casino says.

Opened in 1995, the Valley House calls itself a refuge for the Magic Valley's homeless adults and children who are struggling to regain their independence. The only shelter of its kind in the surrounding area, the Valley House has provided secure bed space more than 41,000 times during the four and one-half years it has been open.

The average age of a Valley House resident is 8-years old, coordinators say. Fully half of the residents of Valley House are area families with children. The shelter provides safety, warmth and security while they search for jobs and decent, affordable housing, organizers say.

SCHOOL LUNCH

All schools serve milk with meals.

BUHL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Breakfast
Monday: Donuts.
Tuesday: Scrambled eggs and toast.
Wednesday: Biscuits and gravy.
Thursday: Egg and cheese McMuffin.
Friday: Cereal and toast.

Lunch
Monday: Burritos, salsa, spanish rice, celery sticks, peanut butter, fruit.
Tuesday: Grilled cheese sandwich, pickle spears, veggie soup, crackers, fruit.
Wednesday: Pepperoni pizza, french fries, breadsticks, pineapple.
Thursday: Tuna fish sandwich, chips, peaches, Rice Krispie treat.
Friday: Sloppy Joe, french fries, corn, cookie.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Lunch: Choice of white or chocolate milk each day.
Monday: Italian dunkers, green salad, assorted dressings, sliced apples, cookie.
Tuesday: Hearty ham and bean soup, honey corn bread, peanut butter, apricots, celery.
Wednesday: Salad bar, fruit, cinnamon roll.
Thursday: Italian sub sandwich; carrot sticks, fruit, chocolate chip cookie.
Friday: Super Bowl tailgate party, hot dog or chili dog, jojo potatoes, apple, brownie.

KIMBERLY SCHOOLS

Elementary school will be served main line each school day. Grade 5 will be offered salad bar on Tuesdays and grade 6 will be offered salad bar on Thursdays. Middle school and high school will be offered a choice of main line menu or chef salad each school day.

Lunch: Milk served every day.
Monday: Chicken patti, potatoes and gravy, mixed vegetables, spiced apples.
Tuesday: Corn dog, elementary; chicken wrap, high school; hash browns, baked beans, half a banana.
Wednesday: Roast turkey, potatoes and gravy, green beans, rolls, chocolate cake.
Thursday: Hamburger, french fries, celery sticks, fruit, Jell-O.
Friday: Chili, crackers, cinnamon breadsticks, peaches.

MAGIC VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Lunch: Choice of milk offered every day.
Monday: Steak fajitas, salsa sauce, french fries, chilled peas, blueberry muffin.
Tuesday: Hot Italian sub sandwich; sun chips, kiwi, cookie.
Wednesday: Breakfast for lunch, waffles, syrup, baked ham, hash brown potatoes, strawberries.
Thursday: Pepperoni hot pockets, sweet corn, orange slices, fruit juice bar.
Friday: Cheeseburger, lettuce and pickles, spudsters, sliced peaches, yogurt.

MURTAUGH SCHOOLS

Milk served with meals.
Monday: Hamburgers, chips, peas, orange wedges.

Tuesday: Spaghetti, cheese sticks, salad, brownie, chilled peas; malibu chicken sandwich, salad bar.
Wednesday: Tuna croissant sandwich, fries, mixed veggies, apricots.
Thursday: Turkey and noodles, bread, green beans, apples.
Friday: Turkey and cheese sandwich, soup, salad, fruit cocktail.

ST. EDWARD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Monday: Turkey gravy.
Tuesday: Bean and cheese burritos.
Wednesday: Tuna sandwich.
Thursday: Macaroni and cheese.
Friday: Shepherd's pie.

TWIN FALLS ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Breakfast menu
Monday: Cereal, apple juice, toast, peanut butter.
Tuesday: Ham, cheese, and egg sandwich, french fries.
Wednesday: Cereal, apple slices, cinnamon toast.
Thursday: Biscuits and gravy, strawberries.
Friday: Cereal, apple juice, toast, jelly.

Lunch: Junior highs have a choice of main line or second line menu. Salad bar, soup and sandwich bar, taco bar and potato bar available on alternate days.
Monday: Cheese barchetta, corn, fudge brownie, chilled peas; malibu chicken sandwich, salad bar.
Tuesday: Foot long hot dog, potato chips, fresh fruit, rice krispie cookie; deli sandwich, potato bar.
Wednesday: Pizza, tossed green salad, fresh fruit, pudding; taco bar.
Thursday: French dip sandwich, sun chips, fresh fruit, chocolate chip cookie; grilled chicken wrap, soup and sandwich bar.
Friday: Pig-in-a-blanket, french fries, fresh fruit, vanilla pudding, milk; cheeseburger, salad bar.

TWIN FALLS HIGH SCHOOL

Breakfast served every day.
Lunch: The high school has a choice of main line, hamburger bar and salad bar each day, taco bar on Wednesdays and potato bar on Fridays. Main line menu varies everyday.

School lunch menus are printed as a public service. To have the lunch menu (breakfast menu if desired) printed with the menus in Sunday's paper, send the menu to: The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303, or fax it to 734-5538, attention: Lunch Menu. Deadline is noon Wednesday for publication Sunday.

Buhl resident earns juris doctorate from University of Idaho

Randy Probasco, son of Marvin and Arhounie Probasco of Buhl, recently graduated with a doctorate of jurisprudence from the University of Idaho in Moscow.

Probasco was on the dean's list twice while attending law school and served for one year as the vice president of the Christian Legal Society; his family says.

Prior to attending the University of

Idaho, Probasco graduated from Buhl High School and completed his undergraduate work at the College of Southern Idaho and Boise State University.

He and his wife, Debbie, reside in Twin Falls while he studies for the Idaho



Randy Probasco

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

University of Washington names Twin Falls resident to dean's list

Luke Lezami of Twin Falls has been named to the dean's list at the University of Washington in Seattle, Wash.

Lezami was recognized for his high grade point average for the autumn quarter of 1999 and a notation will be placed on his university transcript.

Regional cancer center nurses earn oncology certification

Several nurses at the Southern Idaho Regional Cancer Center at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls have been awarded special status as certified oncology nurses.

The nurses who completed the certification include cancer center director Susan Courtney, Lydia Gilman, Nina Karel, Steve Loveless, Treina Triplett and

Sandy White.

Eighty-six percent of the nurses at the Southern Idaho Regional Cancer Center have completed certification for work with cancer patients, Magic Valley Regional says.

In addition to those nurses already certified, another nurse at the cancer center is also seeking certification, which will bring the number of certified oncology nurses at the center to 100 percent, the hospitals says.

Family celebrates woman's 80th birthday at open house

GOODING - Verna Albertson will be honored for her 80th birthday at an open house on Saturday.

Friends and relatives are invited to call from 2-4 p.m. at the senior citizen's center, 308 Senior Ave. in Gooding.

Verna Huffaker was born Jun. 14, 1920 in Rigby. Her family moved to Wendell that same year.

She married Arnold Albertson Sept. 29, 1937.

They resided in the Magic Valley all but three years of their married life when they moved to Long-Beach, Calif.

Arnold Albertson worked in shipyards during World War II to support the war effort, the family says.

Verna Albertson graduated from the Twin Falls Business College and worked 27 years for Southern Idaho Production Credit Association in Gooding.

An avid artist, she will display her paintings and Americana collection during the open house.

The open-house event is sponsored by her daughters, Eileen (Walter) Petersen of Burley and Janice Robertson of Orem, Utah.

Albertson has 11 grandchildren and 18 great-grandchildren.

Following the open house, a no-host dinner reunion for the Southern Idaho Production Credit Association employees will be held from 5-8 p.m. at the Lincoln Inn, 413 Main St. in Gooding.

Area soil and water conservation districts take orders for tree sale.

BURLEY - Area soil and water conservation districts are accepting orders for their annual tree sale.

Trees are available for homeowners, farmers and ranchers to use as windbreaks, shelter belts habitat projects and landscape plantings.

The tree seedlings come in 10-tree bundles priced at \$15 per bundle. Payment is required when ordering trees. The tree seedlings will arrive about April 12 and customers will be notified of their arrival.

The East Cassia District and the West Cassia District are offering hybrid poplar, red maple, sugar maple, Austrian pine, Colorado blue spruce, white spruce, Norway spruce, Siberian peashrub and purple lilac.

In addition to the types of trees the Cassia district is offering, the Minidoka District is offering quaking aspen, Lombardy poplar, thornless honey locust, blue Douglas fir, snowberry and Feking lilac.

To place an order for specific planting instructions or more information, call 678-1225 or stop by the office at 1361 E. 16th St.

Magic Valley Symphony League holds seventh annual card party

TWIN FALLS - Magic Valley bridge and pinocle players are invited to attend the Magic Valley Symphony League's seventh annual card party benefit on Friday at St. Edward's Parish Hall, 206 7th Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

The party starts at 12:30 p.m. when homemade desserts will be served, followed by the start of play.

Door prizes will be awarded and a raffle will be held.

Prizes include a hand-woven garment by weaver Gloria Hahn, wooden artwork by woodcarver Art Hoag, a hand-painted box by Jan Ciele, and an overnight stay and a \$50 ticket for the Gala Room from Cactus Petes.

Admission is \$5 per person. All proceeds from this event will go toward support of the Magic Valley Symphony.

Reservations are required by Wednesday.

For more information or reservations, call Dottie Miller at 733-7789.

Buttons 'N Bows hosts plus level dance at Anderson Camp

EDEN - The Buttons 'N Bows group hosts a dance at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday at Anderson Camp in Eden.

The dance will be plus-level dancing only. Dancers are invited to attend.

For more information, call 324-3080.

Cooperative Extension System hosts osteoporosis seminar

TWIN FALLS - A free Osteoporosis Prevention and Treatment workshop series will be held by the University of Idaho Cooperative Extension System.

The workshops will be held from 4-5 p.m. this Tuesday and on Feb. 1 and Feb. 8 at the Twin Falls County Extension Office Building at 246 Third Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Osteoporosis, or porous bones, is a condition characterized by low bone mass. Osteoporosis develops gradually, often with no warning signs, until bones become so fragile that they break. One out of every two women and one out of

every eight men over the age of 50 have osteoporosis, the extension services says. Currently, 10 million Americans have the disease.

A diet rich in calcium and vitamin D, along with regular weight bearing exercise and a healthy lifestyle are the best strategies for building strong bones, says Rhea Lanting with the extension service.

Sessions will discuss how food and fitness can prevent osteoporosis from developing, why a body needs calcium, a supermarket hunt for calcium and how to develop menus and recipes high in calcium.

For more information or to pre-register, call the Twin Falls County Extension Office at 734-9590.

Organizers schedule Aberdeen School reunion this summer

ABERDEEN - The Aberdeen All School Reunion will be held at 6 p.m. June 24 in the Aberdeen High School Gym.

The Aberdeen Chamber of Commerce "Aberdeen Daze" is also scheduled June 24, starting with a free breakfast from 6-10 a.m. in the City Park and other activities will be held throughout the day.

Aberdeen alumni are urged by the reunion committee to alert classmates and families about the reunion and community events.

Aberdeen classes planning a special dinner or celebration are asked to call Jay Beck at 397-4414.

Pat Marcantonio

Joey Bryant

We want your news

If it's news to you, we want to hear about it.

- Community meetings.
- Celebrations
- Social events
- Reunions
- Individual achievements.
- Your kids and their activities.

Deadlines

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

Please send your news and photos to:

<p>Community Editor Pat Marcantonio The Times-News P.O. Box 548 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303 733-0931, Ext. 288</p>	<p>Your Mini-Casala Contact: Joey Bryant The Times-News 325 1/2 E. 8th St. N. Burley, Idaho 83318 877-4042</p>
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Fax: 877-4543 or 734-5538
Email: patm@magvalley.com

ENGAGEMENTS

BUHLER-FLICKNER

TWIN FALLS - Larry H. and Corene Buhler of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Tashina M. Buhler, to Nicholas William Flickner, son of Kurt L. and Doris Flickner of Mariposa Hill, Calif. Buhler is a 1999 graduate of

Twin Falls High School, and is in the Air Force stationed at Altus Air Force Base, Okla.

Flickner is in the Air Force stationed at Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany.

The wedding is planned for Feb. 12 at the White House in Twin Falls.

EDSON-ZUNDEL

BOISE - Tara Edson and Tyler Zundel were married Sept. 25, 1999, at the Idaho Botanical Gardens in Boise.

Officiating was Judge David E. Day.

The bride is the daughter of Karen and Rick Kernell and William P. Edson, all of Twin Falls.

Parents of the bridegroom are Danny and Penny Zundel of Rigby.

Rachel Edson, sister of the bride, served as the bride's maid of honor.

Danny Zundel, father of the groom, served as best man.

A reception was held at the gardens following the ceremony.

The bride is a graduate of Twin Falls High School and Boise State



Tyler and Tara Zundel

University. She is employed at Micron Technology in Boise.

The bridegroom is a graduate of the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. He is employed at the Idaho Transportation Department.

The newlyweds reside in Boise.

THE STRUCHENS

TWIN FALLS - Frederick and Ruth Struchen of Twin Falls were honored for their 50th wedding anniversary Jan. 14 at a private celebration at North's Chuck Wagon.

The couple was married Jan. 14, 1950, in Hailey.

They resided in Shoshone for 25 years, where he owned a dairy farm and she taught elementary school. For the past 25 years, they have lived in Twin Falls. She owned and operated the 3R's Kindergarten and Pre-school. He worked for West One Bank among other jobs until their retirement.

The event was hosted by their five children and their spouses, Robert and Louise Scharnhorst of Kimberly; John and Ann Croy of Boise; and Ken and Pat Struchen, John Struchen and Paul Struchen, all of Twin Falls.

The couple has 10 grandchildren and one great-granddaughter.

Best wishes can be sent to the



Frederick and Ruth Struchen



Struchens at 292 Elm St. N., Twin Falls, ID 83301.

ROBBINS-BULL

BUHL - Gary R. Robbins of Glen Harbor, Wash., and JoAnn Robbins of Hailey announce the engagement of their daughter, Kimberly Dawn Robbins, to Lawrence Dale Bull, son of Anthony and Beth Bull of Woodbury.

Robbins is a graduate of the University of Washington, Seattle. She is self-employed as a bookkeeper in Buhl.

Bull is employed as a representative for ABE Global.

The wedding is planned



Kimberly Robbins and Lawrence Bull for May 7.

CHAMBERS-CORNETT

JEROME - Cheri Chambers and David Bingham of Jerome announce the engagement of their daughter, Stacy Lynn Chambers, to Kelby Wayne Cornett, son of Jack and Joy Cornett of Twin Falls.

Chambers is a graduate of Amos Alonzo Szaug High School in Stockton, Calif. She is employed at Action Answering in Twin Falls.

Cornett is a graduate of Mesa Verde High School in Citrus Heights, Calif. He is employed by the Jerome County Sheriff's



Stacy Chambers and Kelly Cornett

Office in Jerome. The wedding is planned for June 24.

MARSH-JOY

TWIN FALLS - David and Wendy Marsh of Twin Falls announce the engagement of their daughter, Heather Marie Marsh, to Steven Ray Joy, son of Steven and Margaret Joy of Moses Lake, Wash.

Marsh is a 1999 graduate of Twin Falls High School. She is employed at Fred Meyer in Twin Falls.

Joy is a 1999 graduate of Moses Lake High School in Moses Lake, Wash. He is employed at WinCo Foods in Twin Falls.

The wedding is planned for



Heather Marsh and Steven Joy

July 8 at the Immanuel Lutheran Church in Twin Falls.

GUIDA-BROCK

TWIN FALLS - Dr. Kimberley F. Guida and William E. Brock will be married Aug. 27 at Harkness Memorial State Park in Connecticut.

Guida, daughter of Suzanne and Alexander Guida, grew up in East Lyme, Conn., and is a graduate of Dartmouth College and the University of Connecticut School of Medicine. She is a family practice physician with Family Health Services in Buhl.

Brock, son of John and Isabelle Brock, grew up in Pebble Beach, Calif., and is a graduate of the California Polytechnic State



Kimberley Guida and William Brock University in San Luis Obispo. He is Opinion page editor and Outdoors editor of The Times-News.

ANNIVERSARIES

THE HARRISONS



Hawley and Emma Harrison

HEYBURN - Mr. and Mrs. Hawley A. Harrison of Heyburn will be honored at an open house Saturday for their 50th wedding anniversary.

Friends and relatives are invited to call from 2 to 5 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 2262 Hiland Ave. in Burley.

Harrison and Emma Jean Meares were married Jan. 27,



1950, in Clarendon, Texas.

The event is hosted by their children, Carolyn Merrick of Twin Falls, Clay (Terri) Harrison of Heyburn, Lee (Michelle) Harrison of Chandler, Ariz., Pat Harrison of Twin Falls, Cliff Harrison of Amarillo, Texas, and Mark (Lori) Harrison of Paul.

They have nine grandchildren.

THE FOUKALS



Steve and Adella Foukal

TWIN FALLS - Mr. and Mrs. Steve Foukal of Twin Falls celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on Jan. 15 in Jackpot and on Jan. 16 in Twin Falls with family and friends.

Foukal and Adella Kacin were married Jan. 16, 1940, at the Methodist Church in Buhl.

He is retired from farming and carpentry.

She is semi-retired and works during the corn-pack season at Seneca.

The children are Doris (Phil) Edwards of Omaha; Neb., Ron (Elaine) Foukal of Jerome, Betty (Don) McGuire of Grand Junction, Colo., Darlene (Bob) Wright of Boise and David (Shelly) Foukal of Filo.

The couple has nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.



WEDDING

SCHWARZ-YOST

EDEN - Xavria Schwarz and Keith Yost were married Aug. 7, 1998, at the Trinity Lutheran Church in Eden.

Officiating was the Rev. Art Rasch from their home congregation of Bethlehem Lutheran in Kennewick, Wash.

Michael Debeloy, the bride's godson, and Brooke and Ben Schuldheisz, friends of the bride and groom, served as scripture readers. Grandmother Mary Schwarz shared an additional reading.

Anna Schwarz, aunt of the bride, was the organist. Leilani Anderson, college friend of the bride, was the soloist. Other music performed included the Anstis, Kelly Ebel, college friend of the bride.

The bride is the daughter of Nina Schwarz of Twin Falls and Russell Schwarz of Eden.

Parents of the groom are Joline Nelson of Boise and Joe Yost of Murtaugh.

Mandy and Lindi Schwarz, sisters of the bride, served as the bride's maids of honor. Other attendants included Ian Aberg and Steve Bachman, college friends of the groom, Kevin Yost, brother of the groom, and Kristen Furman, sister of the groom.

Parker and Seth Champlin, cousins of the bride, and Kohl Furman, nephew of the groom, served as young attendants. Mercy Tucker, Amanda



Keith Xavria Yost

Pennington and Karena Koltz, high school friends of the bride and groom, attended the guest book. Krystal and Blake Packer, cousins of the bride, served as acolytes.

Special guests included grandparents of the bride, Mary Schwarz of Eden and Oscar and June Myers of Twin Falls and grandmother of the groom, Laura Bridwell of Twin Falls.

A reception was held following the reception at the home of grandmother Mary Schwarz. Food and special preparations were done by Cindy Morrison and Toni Champlin, aunts of the bride, and Susan Schwarz, stepmother of the bride.

The bride is a graduate of Valley High School and Concorde University in Irvine, Calif. She is employed at Bethlehem Lutheran School as a fourth-grade teacher and principal intern for completion of her master's degree in administration.

The groom is a graduate of Valley High School and Boise State University. He is employed at Columbia Colstor as a human resource coordinator.

The bridal gift of pearls

NEW YORK (AP) - Cultured pearls are as traditional for the wedding as diamonds are for the engagement. But today's bride is looking beyond tradition.

She already may have a strand of 7mm pearls - as a gift to herself, an inheritance or part of a divorce settlement.

"The greater thing about a strand of pearls is that it's classic; time-less, something that can be worn every day," says Melyvn Kirtley, general manager and regional vice president of Tiffany & Co. in New York City.

But there are a lot of other options, from funky to high fashion. The pearls range from imperfect to flawless in shape and luster, and prices are based on quality, size and setting design.

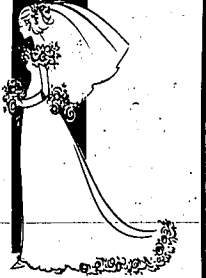
Tahitian pearls are distinctive for their color, ranging from black and gray to pistachio and yellow. The Tamara Comoli Collection had a 9mm cream drop accented with a 36 carat diamond.

Ella Gafter designs in Italy while her daughter, Talia, takes care of business at the Ellagrem salon in New York. The designer says her pendant have been "successful with husbands. Men are more open to change than women."

Magic Valley Wedding Planning Directory

A wedding is one of the single most important events in a person's life...the following businesses can help make it a memorable occasion.

- AUTOMOBILES**
 - Thetis Motors
701 Main Ave. E.
Twin Falls 733-7700
- CATERING**
 - El Sombro
153 W. Main
Jerome 324-7238
 - Homestyle Direct & Intermountain Chair & Table Catering & Rentals
Twin Falls 735-0921
 - Uptown Bistro
117 Main Ave. E.
Twin Falls 733-0900
 - Weston Plaza
1350 Blue Lakes Blvd.
Twin Falls 733-0605
- FLORAL**
 - Every Blooming Thing
266 Blue Lakes Blvd.,
Twin Falls 733-8322
 - Buds & Blooms
1220 Kimberly Rd.
Twin Falls 732-5313
888-322-5313
- FORMAL WEAR/ BRIDE & GROOM**
 - Hart's Tux and Gowns
1301 Filer Ave. E.
Twin Falls 734-8393
 - Sweetheart Manor
Overland & 42nd St.
Burley 678-8692
- PERSONALIZED HAIR DESIGN & MAKEUP**
 - Marilyn Mills
Transformations Unlimited
537 Main Ave. E.
Twin Falls 734-8380
- SHOES**
 - Hudson's Shoes
148 Main Ave. S
Twin Falls 733-4750
1239 Filer Ave.
Twin Falls 733-6280
- JEWELRY**
 - Boyer Jewelry
1838 Addison Ave. E.
Twin Falls 733-4552
- SEWING MACHINES**
 - Twin Falls Sewing Center
157 Main Ave. W.
Twin Falls 733-3344
- PHOTOGRAPHY**
 - Allens Photo
105 E. Main
Jerome 324-2486
 - Pomerelle Portrait Design Studios
119 2nd Ave. West
Twin Falls 734-9969
616 Commercial St.
Elko, NV 753-0929
- VIDEOGRAPHY**
 - Millennium Productions
P.O. Box 5770
Twin Falls 1-877-735-9987
 - Soundworks Video & Audio Productions
818 10th Ave. E.
Jerome 324-2593
- WEDDING DRESSES & ACCESSORIES**
 - Wedding & Rental Shop
210 S. Main
Twin Falls 733-8838
- WEDDING FACILITIES**
 - The Burley Inn
800 N. Overland Ave.
Burley 678-3501
 - Sweetheart Manor
Overland & 42nd St.
Burley 678-8692
- WEDDINGS & RECEPTIONS**
 - The Ballroom
Special Events-Catering 50-450 People
Twin Falls 733-5313
- WEDDING TABLES**
 - Homestyle Direct & Intermountain Chair & Table Catering & Rentals
Twin Falls 733-6621



Phone 733-0931, ext. 219 to include your business in this directory.

SENIORS

The case for the caution sign

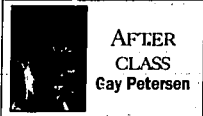
As we travel the highways, streets and back roads of this country we constantly find stop signs and roadside directions - signs and arrows indicating when to stop, when to go and which path to follow in order to reach our goal. If we consistently follow directions we generally arrive at our goal in the shortest amount of time with the least amount of difficulty.

Of course there are those among us who refuse to follow directions or believe that THEY know more than the directions indicate. These people have a tendency to lose their way and, perhaps, never even arrive at the goal they have set.

Life has often been compared to a road, but in life the stop signs

and directions are not so obvious, and so we often get to a crossroads and become confused as to what our next step should be. We stop, we look both ways, yet still we sometimes proceed directly into the path of danger. Even if we seem to know the proper thing to do we still may choose wrongly, making the path much more difficult and sometimes changing our goal forever.

The road is especially difficult for young people who do not have the benefit of accumulated



AFTER CLASS
Gay Petersen

knowledge. Yet even those of us who are older still make mistakes, still choose wrongly, still fail in our quest toward a goal.

So what can we do? Should we be so afraid of making a mistake that we refuse to even try? Should we just rush headlong toward our goal regardless of the warning signs along the way? Or should we proceed with caution, looking both ways, continuing on, making an occasional mistake, but back tracking until we once again find our way?

The third suggestion would be my preference. And, using what we have learned, we should also help smooth the path for young people who can benefit by our experience. Not that they sometimes want to. Young people, like we ourselves once were, have a tendency to believe they are invincible, and also that they know a great deal more about life than do their elders.

We can only try to teach them.

about directions and stop signs and hope that when they reach these signs we will have given them enough information that they will at least look both ways before proceeding.

We can help them through their mistakes, and, most of all, we can lead by example, living our lives using the moral equivalent of stop signs and directions to give our young people the proper path to follow. And we must not be afraid to act as road blocks from time to time when we know that the path chosen by our children or grandchildren will lead to nothing but trouble. As I have said before, children, in

reality, appreciate good discipline because it makes them know we care.

And so let us proceed - always having a goal in mind, always reaching toward that goal, always striving to follow the road signs set before us, using caution and common sense, and let us pass these ideas on to our children so that they too will pursue satisfying life goals and reach those goals in happiness and safety.

Gay Petersen is a retired teacher who lives in Wendell. Write to her at gpetersen@quagclinic.com

Threats put father's care in jeopardy

Q. After a stroke that left him unable to care for himself and because his 80-year-old mother was unable to care for him, my father was discharged from the hospital to a nursing home for rehabilitation.

We were told that his stay there would be paid for by Medicare for at least 100 days, but after only 45 days we were told that he would never get any better, that there was a bed available for him, and we had to make arrangements to pay for his care.

My parents are by no means rich. There is a home worth about \$60,000 and about \$75,000 in savings. We were told by the administrator that we had to agree to pay the nursing home for a year in order to get the bed. This would have left my mother with less than \$25,000 to take care of herself for the rest of her life.

When we asked about Medicaid, we were told that there were no Medicaid beds and that if we did not agree to pay, we could come and pick up Dad and take him home or they would transfer him to a facility 150 miles away. What can we do?

A. First of all, do not voluntarily remove your father from the facility. The nursing home cannot transfer or discharge your father unless: 1) Your father's welfare requires the transfer because the facility cannot provide the services necessary for him; 2) Your father's health has improved to the extent that he no longer needs the nursing home care; 3) Your father is endangering the health or safety of other residents in the facility; 4) Your father has failed



NEXT STEPS
Jan Collins and Jan Warner

In addition, the nursing home cannot discriminate in its policies and practices regarding transfer, discharge and providing services based on a resident's source of payment, and cannot require any third person, including your mother, to sign a third-party guarantee of payment to the facility as a condition of admission, or continued stay in the facility.

Although the nursing home might require a person with legal access to your father's available

income and assets, through a power of attorney or otherwise, to sign a contract to pay for his care, there can be no personal liability placed on the person signing the contract.

And lastly, the facility can neither require your father to waive his rights to Medicaid nor require oral or written assurance that he will not apply for Medicaid benefits.

To threaten to discharge your father because you ask about Medicaid or to transfer him to a far away facility so your mother cannot visit with him easily is, in our view, a violation of both the spirit and letter of the law. In fact, it might well amount to a violation of the venerable adult law in your state.

Taking the NextStep: Document the threats. Call your Department of Health and Human Services immediately to make a report. Hire a qualified elder law attorney immediately. We also suggest that you require the facility to provide you with written notice of the intent to transfer or discharge your father along with the reasons as required by law. You are entitled to an administrative hearing on these issues, and we suggest that the state agency which licenses this facility be invited to the hearing.

Jan Collins is a writer and editor. Jan Warner is a matrimonial, tax and elder-law attorney. Both are based in Columbia, S.C. Please send all questions to: Box 1704, Columbia, S.C. 29211, or email to [janwarner\(at\)nextsteps.net](mailto:janwarner(at)nextsteps.net).

Teacher might not qualify for benefits

Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service

Q. My wife is a retired teacher and receives a Maryland state pension. She does not qualify for Social Security benefits. Will she qualify for Social Security spouse's benefits when I retire at age 65?

A. Probably not. Although your wife would be entitled to a spouse benefit, she probably will not receive it because she is also enti-

Social Security Q&A

led to a pension based on her employment that is not covered under Social Security. When a person receives a federal, state or local government pension where he or she did not pay Social Security taxes, the Social Security benefit is subject to a "government pension offset."

For example: If you receive a

Social Security benefit of \$600 per month, your wife is potentially eligible for a wife's benefit of up to 50 percent of yours, or \$300. If your wife receives a state pension of \$800 per month, the pension offset would reduce her spouse's benefit by two-thirds of the amount of her state pension. Since her spouse benefit would be less than two-thirds of her state pension, her spouse benefit would be reduced to zero.

Seniors outdo younger people on mental test, study shows

The Washington Post

Although many people believe cognitive skills deteriorate with age, older adults can perform certain mental tasks better than

young people, researchers say. Todd Braver and his wife, Deanna Barch, assistant professors of psychology at Washington University in St. Louis, tested 175 people aged 18 to 39 years and 81

people 65 to 85 years old. Each was asked to watch a computer screen on which letters appear one at a time. Older people had a comparable reaction time, but made fewer errors, the researchers found.

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In 1988 the AARP lobbied congress for a program that would allow a senior to access cash from the equity in their home without having to repay the loan until death, moving from the house, or sale of the house. Congress passed the Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) Program, more commonly referred to as the FHA Reverse Mortgage. The program provides flexibility in receiving cash from the equity in the home. Monthly payments are available; so are immediate lump sums. For those with no immediate cash needs, a line of credit can be set up. Amounts received by the senior accumulate interest at reasonable rates. Ideally, the loan would be paid back upon the death of both spouses. This would probably occur from the sale of the house by the heirs. The heirs would keep any of the sale's proceeds left over after paying off the loan.

Information courtesy: Chuck Byler, Norwest Mortgage

January Bath Safety Month

Don't forget these easy but important steps:

- All bath mats should have rubber backing.
- Install non-slip surface in tubs & showers.
- Install grab bars next to, and in, tubs and showers.
- Provide adequate lighting. (An 85-year-old needs much more light to see clearly than a younger person.)
- Keep all electrical appliances away from water sources like sinks and tubs.

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HEALTHY CHEF

BUTTER COOKIES

Ingredients:

- 1 C. butter
- 3 tablets saccharin (1/4 grain each)
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 1/2 C. pastry flour
- 1 tsp. vanilla

DIRECTIONS:
Cream the butter. Add the beaten egg and mix well. Add sifted flour and blend thoroughly. Add vanilla and saccharin tablets which have been dissolved in a small amount of water. Mix well.

Form into a long roll. 16 1/2 inches long. Wrap in wax paper and set in the refrigerator overnight. Slice 1/4 inch thick, lay cookies on sheet and sprinkle with cinnamon.

Bake in oven 350° F., 8-10 minutes or until brown.

YIELD: 5 dozen cookies