

Twin Falls, Idaho/95th year

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Rain or snow likely, windy, high 43. Chance of snow tonight, low 25.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY



Space dogs: People and their pooches dressed up as flying saucers, Martians and space-nauts for Saturday's Paw N' Pole affair in Sun Valley.

Page B1

Agreement: Local gun dealers doubt the effectiveness of a new gun agreement.

Page B1

MONEY

Labor on demand: A new temporary agency in Twin Falls dispatches—and pays—workers every day.

Page D1

FAMILY LIFE



Dealing with goblines: Every child has said it times, but sometimes childhood fears get out of hand.

Page E1

SPORTS

Great McQuay: A former CSI Golden Eagle guides Purdue University into the Sweet 16.

Page C1

OPINION

Whoa that! Everyone—including Forest Service leaders—knows Bill Clinton's roadless initiative is flawed, today's editorial says.

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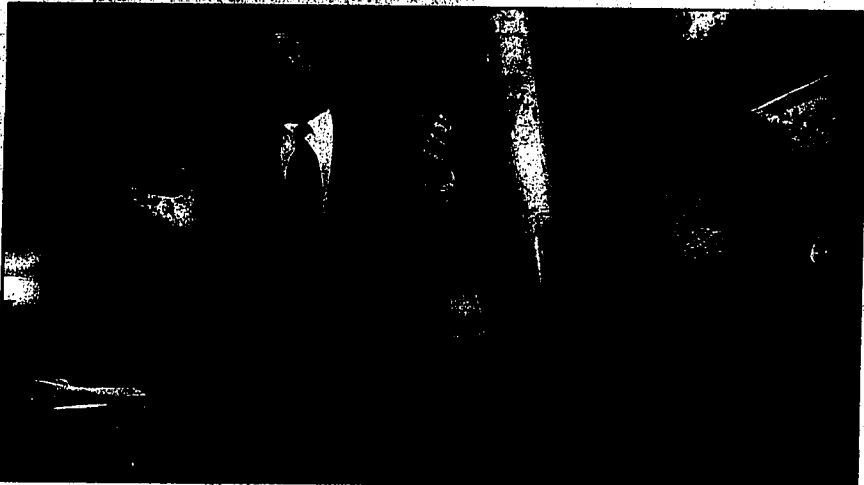
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Second time around



Gov. Dirk Kempthorne speaks with the Borah High School senior government class in his office, with his wife Patricia by his side.

Lawmakers give Kempthorne solid marks

By Michael Journe
Times-News writer

BOISE — Mediator, tour guide, policy-maker, policy analyst, lobbyist, public relations specialist, commander in chief. And, perhaps, easy target.

Plenty of hats are on the governor's hat rack. Each gets some wear almost every day.

Perhaps that's been the biggest adjustment Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has had to make since he returned to Boise from his six-year stint in Washington, D.C.

As a U.S. senator, Kempthorne was able to focus closely on a few areas of relatively narrow scope, through his membership on committees and subcommittees. But the slow pace of the federal legislative branch frustrated the former Boise mayor.

Some issues take years to iron out. "I get calls from former colleagues of mine still in Washington," Kempthorne said. "I ask how they're doing and they say, 'You know how I'm doing — the same as last year and the year before that and the year before that.'"

So, taking full advantage of the shift of power away from the federal level in recent years, Kempthorne ran for governor, an office where the breadth of scope on issues is much wider, since state and local government has more leverage on public policy than in the past.



Gov. Dirk Kempthorne meets with the board of directors and the CEO of the Rural Water Association.

A day on the job — A5

There are so many more issues as governor that I can be involved in," Kempthorne said. "I can debate it back in D.C., but here I can make it a reality."

He returned to the city where, as mayor for eight years, he was through "a lot of resurrection of downtown; he is given much of the credit for putting the city on its current successful track. It was during that period that Kempthorne

About the governor's job

started making his reputation as a consensus builder.

started making his reputation as a consensus builder.

Please see KEMPTHORNE, Page A5

Mayors smile on gun maker

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Department of Housing and Urban Development and the mayors of Atlanta, Detroit and Miami moved Saturday to see that their law enforcement agencies give preference to Smith & Wesson when buying guns and called on others to follow suit.

The preference would apply to "any gun makers that adopt a new code of responsible conduct," but — for the time being at least — that means Smith & Wesson.

The company signed an unprecedented agreement with the Clinton administration on Friday to, among other things, include safety locks with all of its handguns to make them more childproof.

In return, the agreement calls for federal, state and city lawsuits against the gun maker to be

Please see GUNS, Page A2

Burley doctor finds support

Area residents ask for lenient sentence

By Ruth Struher
Times-News writer

BURLEY — About 100 people have signed a petition supporting a lenient sentence for Charles Suits, indicating a support system that goes beyond the dozen character witnesses who spoke on his behalf during a trial on a drug possession charge.

It appears the loyalty of many of Suits' patients has not been affected by the criminal charges or a jury's guilty verdict.

One devotee, Mary Ellen Rasmussen, went so far as to place an ad in local newspapers, looking for those who would support a mitigated sentence for the doctor, who was found guilty last month on a charge of drug possession. He faces sentencing Friday.



Charles Suits

All but one of those signatures were those from Suits' patients, she said.

Rasmussen's own dedication originated about 10 years ago, when Suits diagnosed her husband's heart condition after other doctors were left baffled.

Frank Spencer, who had testified at Suits' trial, signed Rasmussen's petition to keep a doctor that has helped him and his wife through "a lot of close shaves" in the last 10 years.

Investigation continues — B1

even if she thought he was, that wouldn't affect her faithfulness.

"He would still be a good doctor," she said.

Only one piece of hate mail came as the result of Rasmussen's telephone petition, she said. She describes it as poorly written and unsigned, and something she didn't take seriously. It was lost among the throng of support she did receive.

"They just lauded him to the sky," she said.

Rasmussen submitted the petition Wednesday to District Judge Monte B. Carlson, who will sentence Suits after a Friday hearing.

PAYING UP

TF County starts drafting SIRCOMM contract for cities

By John T. Muddy
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Twin Falls County officials want everyone involved in an emergency 911 dispatch system to pay what they owe — but the county officials said they don't want to shut anybody off from getting emergency service and are willing to work out any problems with the 911 system.

Twin Falls County Commissioner Bill Brockman said county officials are drafting up a contract to be given to city leaders involved with the Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center — an emergency 911 system that covers fire, police and ambulance calls in Twin Falls, Gooding, Lincoln and Jerome counties.

The counties signed a formal contract guaranteeing payment when SIRCOMM was formed several years ago, but the cities and other parties involved with SIRCOMM never signed a contract, Brockman said.

So another contract, outlining the responsibilities of the cities and businesses involved with the system, is necessary, county officials say. Some cities and entities involved with the emergency system have yet to pay their due amounts.

"There's some people that haven't been paying. But there are some entities that are questioning why they should pay if nobody else is paying," Brockman said.

The contract is a way to show that the system is being run economically and that everyone is paying, Brockman added.

"If you are from Filer or Buhl and you sign the contract you know that everyone is supporting it," Brockman said. "It's a contract to establish the fact that everyone is agreeing to it."

And getting support hasn't been easy lately.

Twin Falls city leaders last week shot down an agreement with Twin Falls County for SIRCOMM.

The agreement, known as a memorandum of understanding, favors the counties' role as the 911 system's manager and what it expected from those involved.

City Council members ques-

Please see SIRCOMM, Page A2

Taiwanese defy China's threats in election

The Associated Press

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Chen Shui-bian, vilified by China as radical who would thrust Taiwan toward independence and war, won Taiwan's presidential election Saturday, trouncing the candidate of the party that has ruled this island for more than half a century.

Analysis — A13

Beijing deeply distrusts Chen because his Democratic Progressive Party favors Taiwan's move from de facto to formal independence and making the 51-year-old split with China permanent.

But the president-elect, who has spent his entire on independence to appeal to nervous voters, immediately pledged to seek dialogue with Beijing.

China's first response to Chen's win was to send a diplomat to see how he would handle relations. The election results "will not change the status of Taiwan as a part of China," the government said in a statement issued by state media.

China has repeatedly threatened to wage war to block formal independence by Taiwan, which it has considered a renegade province since Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists fled to the island after the Communist takeover of the mainland in 1949.

THE REGION

Carnas Prairie

High: 33 Low: 10
Snow likely today with chance tonight. Mostly cloudy Monday, chance of snow, high 38.

Treasure Valley

High: 45 Low: 24
Rain or snow likely today, chance tonight. Partly cloudy Monday, high 48.

Sawtooth Mountains/Wood River Valley

High: 32 Low: 10
Snow likely today with chance tonight. Mostly cloudy Monday, chance of snow, high 38.

Eastern Idaho

High: 40 Low: 27
Rain or snow likely today chance tonight. Mostly cloudy Monday, high 35.

Northern Idaho

High: 43 Low: 17
Mostly cloudy today with chance of rain or snow. Partly cloudy Monday, high 43.

Northern Utah

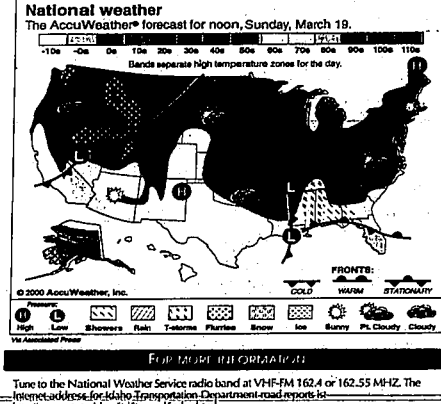
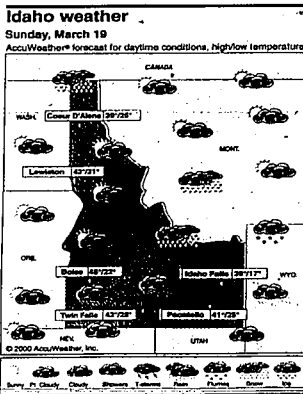
High: 53 Low: 23
Mostly cloudy, breezy with rain likely. Much color on Monday with snow possible.

Northern Nevada

High: 42 Low: 24
Mostly cloudy with chance of rain or snow. Partly cloudy on Monday.

MAGIC VALLEY FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
High: 43 Low: 25 Mostly cloudy with chance of rain or snow.	High: 45 Low: 27 Partly cloudy.	High: 50s Low: 30s Mostly sunny and warmer.	High: 60s Low: 30s Mostly sunny and warmer.	High: 50s Low: 30s Partly cloudy, chance of rain.



YESTERDAY'S WEATHER

Twin Falls	Precipitation
Yesterday: 55-28	Yesterday in Twin Falls: 0.57
Last year: 72-31	Month to date: 3.89
Normal: 53-28	Water year to date: 4.04
	Normal year to date: 5.75

Idaho Highs/Lows

City	Max	Min	Pcp	Idaho: High	degrees lower
Boise	54	27	0.00	57	3
Burley	55	27	0.00	68	13
Coeur d'Alene	45	34	0.00	58	13
Grangeville	m	m	m	Thermal, Calif. (Lw)	
Hagerman	m	27	m	58	11
Idaho Falls	45	20	0.00	Lake, N.Y. and	
Lewiston	51	30	0.03	Whitefish, N.H.	
Malta	m	27	m		
McCall	35	18	0.05		
Pocatello	49	21	0.00		
Salem	54	21	0.00		
Stanley	41	3	0.00		
Sun Valley	m	m	m		

Comfort factors

Noon humidity:	45%
Noon barometer:	30.23
Pollen and mold count:	
Pollen:	n/a
Mold:	n/a
Asthma & Allergy:	

The Nation

City	Max	Min	Pcp
Albuquerque	53	37	0.00
Anchorage	33	30	0.00
Atlanta	52	41	0.00
Boston	32	16	0.00
Chicago	63	26	0.00
Dallas	73	39	0.00
Denver	52	24	0.00
Des Moines	38	33	0.06
Detroit	40	23	0.00
Houston	78	53	0.02
Indianapolis	45	26	0.00
Kansas City	60	48	0.00
Las Vegas	72	51	0.00
Los Angeles	60	48	0.12
Memphis	68	40	0.00
Miami Beach	84	66	0.02
Minneapolis	36	23	0.00
Misswaukee	56	33	0.00
New Orleans	72	59	0.10
New York	50	32	0.00
Oklahoma City	48	41	0.00
Omaha	41	35	0.23
Phoenix	51	38	0.00
Pittsburgh	46	19	0.00
Portland, Me.	32	12	0.00
Portland, Ore.	50	42	0.13
Reno	68	33	0.00
Salt Lake City	48	31	0.14
San Francisco	67	49	0.00
Seattle	50	41	0.00
Spokane	42	31	0.06
Washington	58	63	0.00
Yuma	88	63	0.00

Canadian Cities

City	High	Low
Calgary	41	27
Montreal	28	12
Toronto	33	19
Vancouver	47	40

Concert benefits Vietnam vets

CLEARWATER, Fla. (AP) - Norman LaFontaine traveled hundreds of miles to listen Saturday to the blare of rock from a bygone era and relive memories of a war that divided the country.

VetRock 2000, an all-day concert by bands whose glory days were in the 1960s and 70s, kicked off a 31-city tour to raise money for a Vietnam veteran outreach groups.

Blood, Sweat & Tears, John Kay and Steppenwolf, The Animals II, The Guess Who, and the Lovin' Spoonful were among the performers.

LaFontaine, a Vietnam veteran, drove with his wife Johnelene from Milton, Fla.

"You bump into other vets; you find old friends sometimes and you associate with people with a similar experience," said LaFontaine, a former Marine Corps sergeant who served as crew chief and gunner of a medivac helicopter team in Vietnam in 1968-69.

Guns

Continued from A1

dropped and says no new suits will be filed seeking to hold them responsible for shootings committed with their guns.

"Any company that signs this agreement deserves our support and our business for acting responsibly," HUD Secretary Andrew Cuomo said. "It would be near lunacy to patronize a company more likely to be providing criminals guns when you are in the business of hiring police officers to fight the criminals."

Cuomo acknowledged that the nation's 3,200 public housing authorities are directly responsible for security and gun purchases and that his proposed regulation, which will have to undergo a lengthy period of public comment and congressional oversight, could be implemented only by threatening to withhold federal funds.

The proposal would encourage local housing authorities to apply the same requirement to private subcontractors that provide security under government contracts.

Cuomo noted that mayors and other local officials have more direct authority over gun purchases of the law enforcement agencies under their direction than he does over housing project guards.

Atlanta Mayor Bill Campbell, Detroit Mayor Dennis Archer and Miami-Dade County Mayor Alex Penelas joined Cuomo in urging local governments around the country to take similar steps and said they would act directly in their own jurisdictions.

Smith & Wesson spokesman Ken Jorjanson said he was pleasantly surprised by the announcement.

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Daniel Walock, circulation director

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Murder suspect takes hostages in Maryland

TV station airs pleas of relatives

DUNDALK, Md. (AP) - A heavily armed man suspected of killing four people remained holed up with at least three hostages in an apartment Saturday, as relatives and friends pleaded for him to come out.

The emotional appeals were aired live on local television stations in hopes that Joseph Palczynski would be watching.

"Joseph, for God's sake, please give yourself up," his grandmother, Marie Nardone, pleaded. "Don't hurt no more people."

Police said the apartment just east of Baltimore is that of the mother of Tracy Whitehead, the former girlfriend Palczynski is accused of briefly kidnapping.

Palczynski was holding hostage Whitehead's mother, Lynn, her brother, and the mother's boyfriend, police said.

Law officers converged on the building at about 9:30 p.m. Friday, and were negotiating with Palczynski by telephone. Authorities blocked off the area and evacuated residents from the block.

"We have a philosophy of surround and talk," said Baltimore County Police spokesman Bill Toohy said Saturday. "We're prepared to wait a good long time."

Television stations reported that Palczynski told negotiators he wanted to talk to Whitehead and wanted food delivered to the apartment. Toohy would not comment on the reports, or answer questions about whether officers had been stationed at the home during the more than week-long manhunt. Police also

would not disclose Whitehead's whereabouts.

The 31-year-old electrician had broken into another home earlier Friday, tied up the occupants and stole two long guns and a handgun, Toohy said.

Neighbor John Shifflett, who lives across the street, said Lynn Whitehead had just returned to her home after staying with relatives during the search for Palczynski.

"I don't think they should have come back. They should have stayed away longer," Shifflett said.

Palczynski has been on the run since March 7, when police say he kidnapped his girlfriend, killed the couple she was staying with and a neighbor. A fourth person was killed the next day by a stray bullet as Palczynski allegedly carjacked another vehicle, police said.

Whitehead escaped unharmed. As police continued negotiat-

ing with Palczynski, friends made repeated pleas on live television for him to release the hostages. Local TV stations also rebroadcast earlier pleas from his mother and Whitehead.

"This is a no-win situation, hon," said Ramona Contrino Faust, who identified herself as a friend and former neighbor of Palczynski for more than 25 years. "We've talked about this before. I think I know what you're going to do. I don't want you to do that, please."

Asked to elaborate, she said Whitehead had said that if he were facing a trial with returning to jail he would kill himself or make police shoot him.

Another televised appeal came from Palczynski's friend and former attorney, David Henninger.

"I'm here for you, Joe. I need you to come out," Henninger said. "I need you to release the hostages."

SIRCOMM

Continued from A1

tioned the necessity of the agreement, and questioned why it was necessary to sign a contract that wasn't legally binding.

City Attorney Fritz Wonderlich said the memorandum acted more as a good faith agreement.

"Then what's the point, if it's not a contract, just a gentleman's agreement?" Twin Falls Mayor Elaine Steele said.

City leaders asked the county officials, represented by Brockman at Monday's council meeting, to come back when a contract had been drafted.

Brockman said the contract, expected to be completed this week, will not change much from the agreement the county pushed at that council meeting.

The county is expecting the city's backing, when the paper-

work is ready.

"The city has been very supportive in the past and I think they will be in the future," Brockman said.

If a city or other entity doesn't sign the contract, the most likely option is to reduce service - or even cut it off all together. The county cannot continue to operate the system with reserve money, Brockman said.

But cutting back service is a last resort.

"We want to get everybody on board and find something that is agreeable with everybody," Brockman said.

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

Suits

Continued from A1

whether rehabilitation is a possibility.

"I think who you are as a person should carry weight with the court," he said.

But the court must also look at deterring future offenders, and appropriate punishment for wrongdoing, Smyser says.

"Some people just come out

sparkling, others don't," he said.

In determining the fate of a physician's license, the Idaho State Board of Medicine usually doesn't consider character testimony, said board executive director Darleene Thorsted. All testimony must be related to the

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SATURDAY, MARCH 18 NUMBERS
POWERBALL
12 30 39 43 46
POWERBALL NUMBER 10

SATURDAY, MARCH 18 NUMBERS
WILD CARD
4 8 15 18 30
WILD CARD QUEEN OF HEARTS

FRIDAY, MARCH 17 NUMBERS
FAST
7 11 21 23 27

WE'RE HAVING FUN NOW



Jennifer Bowden, foreground, crawls through the snow in February in pre-dawn Central Park as she participates in exercises led by a former navy SEAL instructor designed to give civilians a taste of commando training. During the day, Bowden works at a Wall Street investment banking firm.

Clinton to ask for nuclear restraint

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton embarked Saturday on a long-delayed journey to South Asia ready to caution India and Pakistan to curb their nuclear-weapons competition.

Clinton canceled an expected formal departure statement, "Corta Co," he shouted at well wishers as he walked from the White House to Marine 1, the presidential helicopter, his arm draped around the shoulders of his daughter, Chelsea, and his mother-in-law, Dorothy Rodham.

The first lady, Hillary Rodham Clinton, passed up the trip because of her campaign for the U.S. Senate in New York.

In discussing the trip with reporters Friday, Clinton said he will make clear to the governments of India and Pakistan "our view that a nuclear future is a dangerous future for them and for the world."

"We have a lot of things we can do together, a lot of mutual interests," Clinton said. "Obviously



Bill Clinton

what I hope to do first is to rekindle the relationship between the United States and India."

The six-day trip marks the first presidential trip to India in 22 years and the first to Pakistan since 1969. Clinton also will be the first American president ever to visit Bangladesh, one of the world's poorest nations, the former eastern half of Pakistan, which gained independence in the 1971 India-Pakistan war.

Pakistan and India have given few if any indications they will heed Clinton's plea to step back from a nuclear-armed future and embrace nonproliferation. Both countries tested nuclear weapons in 1998. While both have said they plan no further tests, neither has moved to sign the international nuclear test-ban treaty.

The president's efforts to persuade the bickering subcontinental neighbors are handicapped by the Senate's vote last fall to reject U.S. participation in the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

"I want to do what I can to reduce tensions on the Indian subcontinent, to reduce the likelihood of weapons proliferation and the likelihood of conflict," the president said Friday. "And I want to do what I can to support the restoration of democratic rule in Pakistan and to continue our cooperation with them against terrorism."

Clinton also hopes to rekindle relations with India, the world's largest democracy, now that tensions generated by the Cold War with the former Soviet Union, India's friend, have cooled.

"We want to deepen ties between our governments, our private sectors, our scientists, our citizens," said Sandy Berger, Clinton's national security adviser.

Former Black Panther eludes manhunt

ATLANTA (AP) - Sympathetic admirers may be hiding Jamil Abdullah Al-Amin, the 1960s Black Panther activist wanted for allegedly killing one sheriff's deputy and wounding another, authorities said Saturday.

The 56-year-old former black militant known as H. Rap Brown has eluded authorities since Thursday night. The FBI has joined the national manhunt, issuing a federal fugitive warrant for his arrest.

Capt. David Chadd, chief spokesman for the Fulton County Sheriff's Department, said Saturday that it was "a distinct possibility" that Al-Amin was being harbored by friends.

"We will leave no stone unturned until we find this man," Chadd said.

Al-Amin is charged with murder and aggravated battery. Police say Al-Amin opened fire

Thursday night on two Fulton County deputies as they tried to arrest him for failing to appear in court on theft charges.

Deputy Ricky Kinchen, 35, died the next day. Alderman English, 28, who was shot in the chest, arms and legs, was hospitalized in good condition Saturday.

Al-Amin is a respected Islamic spiritual leader in Atlanta's West End. Neighbors say he organized summer games for youth and helped drug users kick their addictions.

ized in good condition Saturday.

Al-Amin is a respected Islamic spiritual leader in Atlanta's West End. Neighbors say he organized summer games for youth and helped drug users kick their addictions.

Homeowners with money worries may qualify for low-interest loans

Local lender loosens its requirements for homeowners who need money now.

Have you been turned down for a loan? Do you need more than \$10,000 for any reason? Are you paying more than 10% interest on any other loans or credit cards?

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High credit card debt? Less-than-per-

Report: Feds have begun a criminal investigation into Alaska Flight 261

SEATTLE (AP) - What began months ago as an inquiry into maintenance practices at an Alaska Airlines facility has become a criminal investigation into the deadly crash of Flight 261, The Seattle Times reported Saturday.

Citing unidentified sources, the newspaper said the FBI and Department of Transportation investigators have been questioning Alaska Airlines employees as part of an inquiry that has been under way for several weeks.

No criminal wrongdoing has been established in connection with the Jan. 31 crash off the coast of California that killed 88 people, the Times said.

The criminal investigation grew out of a 15-month-old inquiry into practices at Alaska's maintenance facility at Oakland, Calif., the Times said. In that inquiry, a grand jury in San Francisco is investigating whether supervisors signed for repairs that weren't done or that they weren't authorized to approve.

The Times said the FBI, which

usually plays an advisory role to the NTSB, is conducting a separate, parallel investigation - a course of action reserved for cases where there is evidence or suspicion of crime.

The newspaper cited three sources in two federal agencies as confirming the investigation.

FBI spokeswoman Roberta Burroughs in Seattle and Debbie Weierman in Washington, D.C., on Saturday would not confirm or deny the existence of any such investigation.

Alaska Airlines said it was not aware of a criminal probe.

"The FBI has been involved in the investigation of Flight 261 since the beginning," airline spokesman Jack Evans said Saturday. "Currently, we are unaware of any change in their role since the beginning. If there is a change in that role, we'll cooperate with them as we have been."

Earlier in the week, the airline said it put a top manager on leave while it investigates claims by 64 Seattle mechanics that they were

"pressured, threatened and intimidated" to cut corners on repairs.

Alaska Airlines said it had notified federal prosecutors and the National Transportation Safety Board of the claims. It also said it would immediately ground any planes found to be potentially unsafe. No such action had been deemed necessary as of Saturday, Evans said. The mechanics' complaints were contained in a letter delivered to the airline on Thursday. The airline and the federal Aviation Administration have begun interviewing the mechanics.

"We increased our oversight as soon as we found out about the letter," FAA spokeswoman Rebecca Trexler said Saturday.

NTSB Chairman Jim Hall said Friday that most major components of Flight 261's tail section have been recovered. He also said investigators had found no grease on a crucial portion of the jackscrew that helped control the movement of the jet's horizontal tail stabilizer, long a focus of the crash probe.

Investigators examine map light issue

NEW YORK (AP) - Investigators probing the 1998 crash of a Swissair plane off Nova Scotia say a pilot's map light in the cockpit ceiling of the MD-11 could have been a source of ignition, The New York Times reported Saturday.

Canadian investigators were sorting through the debris of Swissair Flight 111 to try to find the map light from that plane, Jim Harris, spokesman for the Canadian Transportation Safety Board, told the Times.

The cause of the crash that killed 129 people has yet to be determined.

Boeing, which makes the MD-11 model planes, is urging airlines using that type of aircraft to check the lights often until they can be replaced, and to install fire-resistant tape to protect insulation. The Federal Aviation Administration is considering whether to make such checks mandatory.

FAA spokeswoman Rebecca Trexler said the agency is examining the map light issue. "We are drafting an airworthiness directive. It will probably be similar to Boeing's service bulletin."

However, she declined to say when that directive would be

issued or what it would say.

There are no MD-11 planes registered in Canada, but the investigators found the possible problem while looking at such planes undergoing maintenance outside the country. This model were

made by McDonnell Douglas, which has been taken over by Boeing.

Harris said investigators haven't yet ruled out anything in determining what caused Swissair 111 to plunge into the ocean.

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 - Machinery, military supplies, food, pharmaceuticals
 - U.S. allows exports of Iranian carpets, food, medical supplies to Iran

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Iran and U.S.: The U.S. ended diplomatic relations with Iran during the 1979 hostage crisis. Recent events that have changed the relationship:

- 1997: Khatami calls for dialogue between Americans and Iranians
- 1998: U.S. allows exports of Iranian carpets, food, medical supplies to Iran
- 1999: U.S. allows exports of Iranian carpets, food, medical supplies to Iran
- 2000: U.S. allows import of Iranian caviar, dried fruits and nuts

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SOURCES: CIA FACTBOOK, Janet Mathews Information Services, The World Almanac

Iran relations divide former U.S. hostages

WASHINGTON (AP) — The highest ranking former American hostage held in Iran said Friday that the United States is extending to his former captors.

"It's the right thing to do," said Bruce Laing, chief of mission in Tehran. The U.S. Embassy was seized by militants in 1979. But enthusiasm is by no means unanimous following the announcement Friday that the Secretary of State Madeleine Albright called a "new relationship" with Iran.

"I wouldn't have anything to do with it," said Malcolm Kalb, the former ambassador to Iran, who along with Laing and 50 other hostages was held in Iran for 444 days.

Albright said the ban will be lifted on U.S. imports of Iranian nuts, caviar and carpets and invited Iran to work with the United States to stabilize the Persian Gulf and reverse more than two decades of estrangement.

"Iran lives in a dangerous neighborhood," Albright said. "We welcome efforts to make it less dangerous."

Laing, now president of the American Academy of Diplomacy in Washington, said he is curious to see how the Iranians will react, "what signal they give."

"This has to be a mutual process, and we haven't been going enough from them for the past years," he said. "The Iranians, who remains bitter about the 1983 terrorist bombing fatalities in Lebanon, said he believes Iran should first demonstrate

"major corrections in their international behavior," including ceasing to send arms "through Syria to attack Israel."

"Let them pay major sums of money to the 241 U.S. servicemen they killed at the Marine barracks and the embassy people they killed in Beirut — and then I'd be more than happy to eat their nuts, eat their caviar and lay on their rugs," Kalb said.

Others with long-held grievances against Iran agreed. "Former AP Middle East correspondent Terry Anderson, who holds Iran accountable for his seven years in captivity, said in a statement that Tehran should 'take responsibility for its acts and offer compensation to American victims' as a prerequisite to improved relations."

Stephen Flato of New Jersey, who blames Iran for the 1995 bombing in Gaza that killed his daughter, Alisa, said the Clinton administration is putting "carpets and pistachio nuts" before the fight against terrorism.

Flato, Anderson and three other hostages held with Anderson in Beirut — David Jacobsen, Joseph Cicippio and Frank Reed — all sued Iran in American courts under a 1996 law allowing Americans to seek damages from nations that sponsor terrorism.

In her announcement, made during a speech to the American-Iranian Council, a private group, Albright called the seizure of the Tehran embassy disgraceful and traumatic. She also criticized Iran as a supporter of terrorism, an opponent of Middle East peacemaking and as bent on acquiring weapons of mass destruction.

Clinton urged calm in oil cost

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans hoping for quick relief from high fuel prices should be patient, President Clinton said Friday, warning against "short-sighted and risky steps" to address the problem.

"There's no overnight solution," the president said in his weekly radio address as he announced a series of modest proposals.

Clinton directly addresses the impact of oil shortages and escalating oil prices, including \$2 a gallon — with the prospect of higher pump prices during the peak summer driving season. For now, Clinton refused to tap the government's emergency oil stockpile, despite appeals from lawmakers from both parties.

White House officials were expected to persuade oil exporting countries to increase production and ease a million-barrel-a-day global oil shortfall when they meet in London on Tuesday.

Clinton said that end, Energy Secretary Richardson was embarking on another round of diplomatic discussions Sunday, meeting with oil ministers from Nigeria, Indonesia, Algeria and the United Arab Emirates as well as other officials involved in the oil markets.

Clinton lamented that expensive oil and gasoline "are causing hardship for many Americans."

He added that "we also need a longer view" and he said he was optimistic more oil soon will be made available.

Congress, he said, should approve proposals to:

- Create an emergency 2-million-barrel heating oil reserve in the Northeast where supply disruptions caused prices to soar this winter.
- Offer tax incentives to promote conservation of energy-efficient fuels and more energy-efficient automobiles and homes.
- Provide modest tax breaks to

Presidential rivals keep up the pace

By Sandra Sobierski
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Texas Gov. George W. Bush pined for a "hibernation period" while Vice President Al Gore hoped to give his advertising budget a breather and convince voters he is indeed a reformer.

Both presidential rivals saw their plans muddled by nagging scandals, new headlines and old rivalries as the winter campaign pivoted straight toward fall.

Reform Party candidate Pat Buchanan, meanwhile, promised to file a complaint Monday with the Federal Elections Commission to force his way into the major parties' one-on-one fall debates.

Judging by the week past and week ahead, the general election campaign for president will be one of the most protracted, feisty and expensive in history.

Gore had \$3 million more to raise to meet the goal he set last year and also reach the maximum he legally can spend before the summer conventions.

The Democrat planned a fundraiser in Illinois on the eve of the state's Tuesday primary, to be followed by five more fund-raisers by week's end.

The vice president's busy week also includes opportunities to headline the Republican governor. In New York, Gore intends to harp on Bush policies allegedly harmful to minorities, aides said. On Thursday, Gore was returning to Houston for the second time in two weeks to raise cash for Democrats.

"The Gore campaign is going to make sure the American people know the record of Texas, and the governor is going to have to defend the indefensible," spokesman Chris Lehane said.

Bush planned to tweak Gore



Republican presidential candidate Texas Gov. George W. Bush speaks during the Sangamon County Lincoln Day luncheon Thursday in Springfield, Ill.

with a fund-raiser Friday in Bill Clinton's backyard, Little Rock, Ark. Bush, who drained his bankroll of an unprecedented \$60 million in his GOP primary fight with Arizona Sen. John McCain, aims to build up \$10 million by summer.

The candidates are showing few signs of letting up, but some professional polls worry about voter fatigue.

Both Gore and Bush "would be

well-served to ramp down a little in this period," GOP strategist Ed Gillespie said.

"People have to get to the grocery store and get their kids to baseball practice — a lot of things that don't involve figuring out who's going to be president eight months from now."

Neither candidate appeared to heed the advice, despite Bush's declaration, on the same night that he and Gore secured their

respective parties' nomination that he would ease up on campaigning for a while.

By shutting off Gore's small challenge for immediate debate and joint town-hall meetings, Bush said wishfully at midweek, "America is now going into hibernation period when it comes to politics."

But on Friday, it was Bush who fired first in the ad war with television spot on education that staked out a Republican claim to this vital issue.

A Voter.com/Battleground poll released Friday, while confirming that Gore had erased Bush's overall lead in the national race, put hard evidence behind the Bush strategy of claiming education. Among parents, Bush was leading Gore by 23 percentage points and was 15 points ahead among suburban white women.

"We're coming out of the primary better and stronger than Gore, and given the fact that he had a cakewalk (against Democrat Bill Bradley) and we had a battle, we think there's more good things to come," Bush spokesman Ari Fleischer said.

Bush's early ad salvo forced Gore to respond with his own and abandon budget-conscious plans to restrict advertising as long as possible. Unlike Bush, who declined federal matching funds and spending limits and can draw from a traditionally deep GOP reservoir, Gore must watch his bottom line and count on — for now — beating Bush with shoe leather.

Trying to claim higher ground on education, Gore was due to spend several hours at a Midwest school Friday, meeting with teachers and administrators, even teaching a civics class.

While gaining in the frequent trier department, Gore faces a flicker of ominous reminders of controversy inherited from his shared tenure with Clinton.

Judge ponders Reform Party leadership decision

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — The ousting of the Reform Party national chairman at a raucous meeting in Nashville last month didn't end the party's power struggle.

Deposed leader Jack Gargan mused to his followers Saturday in Las Vegas as a federal judge prepares to decide the victors in a contentious leadership squabble.

Before his removal — which he says was illegal — Gargan had called a national convention of party members for Las Vegas this weekend. The agenda includes selection of a site for the summer nominating convention and reconsideration of nominating rules.

But the gathering may be moot, depending on how U.S. District Judge Norman K. Moon rules next week in Lynchburg, Va. The judge will hear competing lawsuits beginning Wednesday to determine the legality of the Nashville meeting, where Pat Choate — Ross Perot's 1996 running mate — was named to replace Gargan.

"The trial is where it all comes down. That's for all the marbles," said Gargan.

The winning faction will gain access to \$12.5 million in federal funds for the presidential election and \$2.5 million for the nominating convention.

Choate is former chairman of Pat Buchanan's campaign for the Reform presidential nomination.

Under Choate, the party would maintain rules expected to be helpful to Buchanan's candidacy and would stage its nominating convention Aug. 10-13 in Long Beach, Calif.

Gargan wants to change the nominating rules to limit the primary to party members and petition-signers rather than allowing anyone to vote, and he opposes a rule that allows two-thirds of the nominating convention to override the primary vote.

Before he assumed office Jan.

1, Gargan angered outgoing national chairman Russell Vernoy of Dallas, a Perot aide and other leaders by promoting the rules changes and by siding with Minnesota Gov. Jesse Ventura's call to host this summer's convention in Minnesota.

Ventura has since left the Reform Party, blaming the escalating intraparty wars, and rejoined the Independence Party.

A third, "neutral" convention site is to be considered at the Las Vegas meeting.

Meanwhile, factional sniping has continued. Gargan charged that the other side tried to block the Las Vegas meeting by threatening the hotel, leaving planners to scramble for a new location.

Vernoy said the hotel was rightly informed that the federal court had issued a temporary restraining order requiring Gargan to deposit all Reform funds with the court, meaning the party's money is tied up until the leadership question is resolved.

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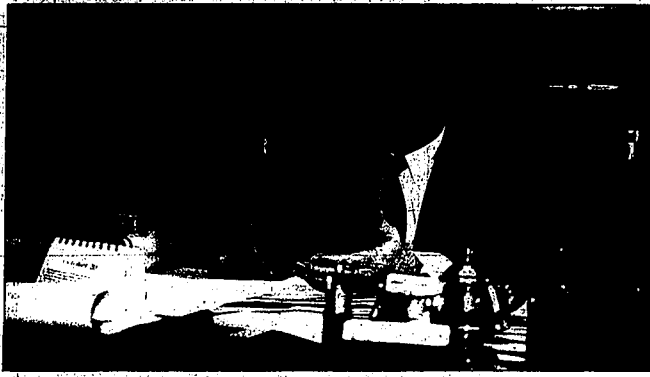
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Between meetings, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne sits at his desk in the Statehouse.

Kempthorne

Continued from A1

But in the 15 months since his inauguration, the governor's Washington, D.C. style of administration has drawn some criticism from legislators and lobby groups used to the more home styles of former Govs. Cecil Andrus and Phil Batt.

Some say he's aloof and inaccessible. Some complain that he spends too much time with groups such as the Girl Scouts and high school government classes, to the detriment of larger issues. Some say he's not willing to weigh in on controversial issues. And some get angry when he does — as evidenced last week, when he angered some lawmakers by coming out again for the cornerstone of a tax cut plan that had already passed the House.

"I've learned it is very easy to make people upset. I do that without even trying," Kempthorne said, with a wry grin, to the Idaho Press Club Thursday.

Kempthorne says his record on several issues shows his involvement.

For example, Kempthorne led a reading initiative package designed to improve the reading skills of Idaho school children; the state's crackdown on methamphetamine production; his involvement with the Rural Development Council; a bill that reorganizes the Idaho State Police; his efforts in fostering stronger

"I think that he's more accessible than any of the governors I've worked with."

— Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert

trade relations with Asia and Central America; and his involvement in the debate over Pacific Northwest salmon.

"That's not a passive role," Kempthorne said.

Legislative leaders agree that Kempthorne's critics may be off the mark. While most acknowledge the governor's first session was hampered by a shaky relationship with lawmakers, they say most governors have a tough time getting their feet on the ground in their first few months.

But this session, Kempthorne redoubled his efforts to foster dialogue with the Legislature. Daily lunches with a rotating guest list of lawmakers, and weekly meetings with leadership on the session's progress, have kept the dialogue flowing smoothly in both directions.

Veteran lawmakers have appreciated the efforts, and appreciate the difficulty of the job.

"It's a tough office to sit in," said Senate President Pro Tem

Robert Geddes, R-Soda Springs. "You get criticized from all directions."

Geddes said Batt may have put more emphasis on getting his own pet measures through the Legislature by heavy lobbying. Kempthorne, however, is more comfortable with letting the legislative process run its course, which from Geddes' point of view is a positive. It gives the House and Senate more leeway to hash out problems themselves.

Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, said those who say Kempthorne should be out front arguing for what he wants miss an important point: There are three branches of government with very specific duties.

"It's his job to make recommendations to us and it our job to listen to those recommendations and do what we feel is best," Cameron said. "Frankly, a lot of these decisions are ours to make."

As far as accessibility goes, legislators give the governor high marks.

"I think that he's more accessible than any of the governors I've worked with," said Cameron, who came to the Legislature when Andrus was governor. "Because of that he probably has a lot more demands on his time. You can't just back out on an appointment and let someone in who just dropped by."

A day in the life

BOISE — A day in the governor's office, on the second floor of Statehouse, can involve a variety of planned and impromptu events, meetings and briefings.

On Wednesday, while the Legislature worked on wrapping up its 2000 session, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne was busy with the ceremony and pomp, and the nuts and bolts that make up a governor's day:

9:45 a.m. Retirement party for Idaho State Police Col. Mike Fosbury

Kempthorne attended a punch-and-cookie reception for ISP's retiring second-in-command at the Department of Law Enforcement headquarters in Meridian.

Following the cadences of the ISP's current crop of cadets, Kempthorne congratulated a tearful Fosbury for his 29 years in an ISP uniform.

"For those young people who aspire to wear the uniform," said Kempthorne, indicating the cadets who had just entertained the crowd with the ISP's marching song, "there is no better role model than Mike Fosbury."

Kempthorne presented Fosbury with a certificate of appreciation for his service and watched as colleagues heaped gifts and commendations on the table behind Fosbury. One gift was a five-point star badge.

"It was good to see that badge in his hands," Kempthorne said later. "I've given that badge to widows."

Kempthorne praised Fosbury for his work with the governor's office on an ISP reorganization bill, which passed the House earlier this session by a 68-2 vote.

Fosbury returned some of the compliments to Kempthorne. "You've always had a vision. Your expectations are high. Your support for the men and women of the Idaho State Police is incredible."

10:30 a.m. Visit with ISP cadets.

After leaving Fosbury's gathering, the governor took a few minutes to visit the 30 cadets who entertained the reception crowd with the marching song.

"Seeing you and listening to you is inspiring," Kempthorne said.

Kempthorne later said the song the cadets sang had always been a standard at the ISP's academy graduation. But it had been discontinued a few years back. Upon inquiry, the governor found out questions had been raised about the political correctness of some of the song's lyrics.

"So I told them to change the words. That's the first time I've heard the new version," Kempthorne said.

Kempthorne encouraged the class to keep up their hard work.

"All of this that you're going

through is absolutely worth it — we need you," he told them.

11:00 a.m. A stop at McDonald's

There's a running joke among the governor's staff about his penchant for McDonald's hamburgers — especially for the restaurant's Wednesday burger sale.

"He only seems to have any money on Wednesday," said Gary Smith, the governor's director of governmental affairs, as Kempthorne paid for sack of burgers.

After getting his hamburgers and shaking a few hands, the governor climbed back in the driver's seat of his state-owned Suburban and pointed the vehicle toward the Statehouse.

"There's nothing like Mickey D's and oldies tunes on the radio," Kempthorne said with a snicker.

11:30 a.m. Meeting with Canyon County officials

One of the governor's duties is to fill vacancies on local governing bodies left by people who resign or cannot finish their term. In the past four months, for example, Kempthorne has appointed two of Twin Falls County's three commissioners.

"When such an opening occurs, the county's central committee nominates three candidates and ranks them. The governor chooses a replacement from the list."

Canyon County Sheriff George Nourse and Prosecutor Dave Young met with the governor to give him results of a poll of the county's elected officials, endorsing the commission's top choice to fill a county commission vacancy.

Noon Lunch with legislators

As part of his effort to foster a stronger relationship between his office and the Legislature, Kempthorne holds daily lunches with a group of legislators. The guest list changes each day, depending on what is happening in the Legislature.

Several Magic Valley legislators were on the guest list Wednesday.

But Wednesday, House members deliberated well into the lunch hour on a \$2 million spending plan for Kempthorne's office, which degenerated into an argument about the merits of the Kempthorne's Parents as Teachers program and how he has gone about pursuing it. The debate on the House floor left attendance at the governor's lunch sparse.

During the debate, some conservative lawmakers showed their displeasure with Kempthorne, who had finally come out a day earlier against the core of a \$41 million House-passed tax cut plan.

The tension was so great on the floor that First Lady Patricia

Kempthorne and the governor's chief of staff, legislative liaison and policy director all gathered outside the House chambers in an attempt to quell the debate.

1:30 p.m. Meeting with mining companies

An early afternoon closed door meeting with the CEOs of North Idaho's most prominent mining companies addressed finding an Idaho-based solution for the cleanup of the Coeur d'Alene basin.

The meeting was an extension of the governor's continued efforts to forge an agreement between northern Idaho's tribes, the Environmental Protection Agency and industry representatives to clean up the basin. A goal is to get the cleanup done, so the EPA does not expand the existing Superfund site.

3:30 p.m. Meeting with Rural Water Association directors

Kempthorne spent just under 30 minutes with the board of directors of the Rural Water Association and its executive director.

The governor discussed the importance of clean drinking water and the association's grass roots efforts to keep Idaho's water sources clean.

"We are so fortunate in this country to be able to turn on the tap and get clean water," Kempthorne told the group of about 50 in his office.

Kempthorne said legislation to establish source water protection was working, but needed "a little tweaking." To facilitate that and establish upstream management practices, Kempthorne promised the group that he would work on starting a pilot project in one of the Snake River tributary valleys — possibly the Big Wood River Valley in Blaine County.

4 p.m. Meeting with Borah High School government class

After wrapping up a mock legislative session, seniors from Borah High School visited the governor's office.

After fielding a few questions and talking briefly about the path that took him to the governor's office, Kempthorne showed the students his boxing gloves autographed by boxing greats Muhammad Ali and Archie Moore. Kempthorne read a brief message left on the gloves by Ali: "Service to others is the rent you pay for your room here on Earth."

4:30 p.m. Meeting with legislative leadership

After visiting with the Borah seniors, Kempthorne welcomed legislative leadership into his office for a weekly meeting. Many legislators attributed their stronger ties with Kempthorne and his office to the meetings.

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J.B. Davis of Goodfowl, Va., holds the 53-pound citation striped bass he caught in Leesville Lake Friday in Bedford County, Va. The fish is a new state record.

U.N. will issue condoms to peace troops in Africa

The Washington Post

UNITED NATIONS - Worried by the threat of AIDS among U.N. peacekeepers, the United Nations has decided to distribute a condom a day to each of the 16,000 male troops it plans to send to Congo and Sierra Leone this year.

The decision is the closest the United Nations has ever come to acknowledging one of the dirty secrets of peacekeeping: that U.N. troops around the world frequent brothels and are in danger of contracting the HIV virus that causes AIDS, as well as providing a market for prostitution and the trafficking of women.

The deployment of relatively highly paid soldiers to impoverished countries has turned U.N. bases from the Balkans to Mozambique into magnets for brothels, ranging from tents and wooden hovels to permanent structures, some with dozens of women, according to U.S. and U.N. officials.

The United Nations makes no attempt to police or punish soldiers who visit prostitutes, leaving it to the peacekeepers' own governments to monitor their morals.

"The U.N. does not have a policy saying, 'Don't go to a brothel or you will be repatriated,'" said one U.N. official, speaking on condition of anonymity. "If brothels are locally accepted, then the United Nations has no reason to

enforce anything on off-duty peacekeepers.

The issue is sensitive not only because it involves sexual mores, but also because diplomats fear that if peacekeepers are seen to be at risk of contracting AIDS, countries may hesitate to contribute troops, and if they are seen as spreading AIDS, war-torn countries may hesitate to accept them.

The decision to distribute condoms to peacekeepers in high-risk countries came after weeks of pressure by Richard C. Holbrooke, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

On Feb. 28, Holbrooke told a meeting of U.N. diplomats on social issues that the United States would not support any future peacekeeping operations that failed to address the threat of HIV infection. "The Security Council must recognize that deployed peacekeepers are at special risk to both contract and spread HIV, and should insist the peacekeepers are educated about AIDS," Holbrooke said.

Both the U.N. mission in Bosnia and the NATO peacekeeping effort in Kosovo have contributed to the trafficking of women from the former Soviet Union and Central Europe to work in forced prostitution, according to Ann Jordan, an expert on the sexual slave trade at the Washington-based International Human Rights Law Group.

Large cache of weapons stuns federal agents

The Seattle Times

BOTHELL, Wash. - Even veteran federal agents marveled as they moved through a rundown house in the Seattle suburbs, at every turn finding loaded guns and military weapons, some pointing out windows, ready to fire.

"It was the most machine guns I've seen in my 24-year career," said Special Agent John Ross of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms. "It's unbelievable to me that one person could have this many weapons in his home."

Now, with Stephen Clifford Ferguson, 52, in jail and more

than 60 weapons and 50,000 rounds of ammunition in a federal evidence locker, agents said they are investigating why the scuffy, portlanded man neighbors knew as a loner was operating what appeared to be a machine-gun factory.

The man's house happened to be across the street from a Catholic elementary school.

Sunday's bust, after a chance discovery, may be "the tip of the iceberg" in an underground network of gunrunners, agents said.

"We assume he has been collecting and assembling these for quite awhile, and we assume some of them may now be out

there in the public," ATF Agent Tony Won said.

"It looks like he had a business of assembling firearms to sell."

Ferguson was being held in the King County Jail with bail set at \$100,000. If convicted, he could face a minimum of 10 years in prison, Ross said.

Police also discovered marijuana plants in the home.

The guns were discovered when a next-door neighbor, Leanne Petrauskas, spotted Ferguson about 6 p.m. Sunday dragging his unconscious housemate down the front stairs of his house toward a truck.

Ferguson came to Petrauskas' door and asked her to help load the sick man into the truck.

Instead, she called 911.

"He looked dead; he was just laying there with his eyes open," Petrauskas said of the housemate.

The ill man was in critical but stable condition Wednesday at Evergreen Hospital Medical Center in nearby Kirkland. Police said he has hepatitis.

King County sheriff's deputies arrested and said they could smell marijuana.

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NATION

Testing students, scoring teachers

Method gauges student progress between grades

The Washington Post

Glenda Russell was handed a piece of paper that said she was just an average teacher. But that was not how she saw herself.

Like thousands of her Tennessee colleagues, she complained bitterly about the man who had come up with the formula being used to evaluate her — a professor in an ivy-covered town, she said, cranking out numbers that had nothing to do with reality.

Then, just to be sure, she asked the instruction specialist to observe her work. The specialist saw that Russell introduced material well to her fifth-grade math students but did not review enough. Russell altered her approach, spending every Monday going over the previous week's lessons.

The next year, her students had an average gain in 38 points on a standardized math test, almost twice as big a jump as the year before. The year after that, the scores increased 40 points, then 52 points, then 56. "He was right," she said of the professor, whose formula had classified her as average. "I had been teaching for 20 years and I had leveled off."

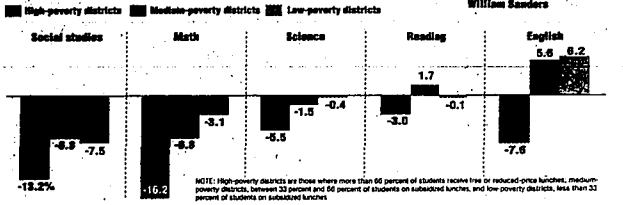
The University of Tennessee professor who won Russell's grudging words of praise is William L. Sanders, whose system of assessing schools and teachers based on their students' test-score gains was adopted by the state in 1992 and is being used in every Tennessee school district.

Russell, 53, has retired from the classroom in order to show other teachers how to give the same results she did. She said she still

A Fairer Way to Rate Schools?

Educators long have argued that schools with large numbers of poor students do worse on standardized tests because of factors beyond a teacher's control. Instead of comparing schools' raw test scores, University of Tennessee Prof. William L. Sanders has developed a system that assesses schools—and teachers—based on how much their students' scores rose or fell over the previous year. A Washington Post analysis of 1997 standardized test scores from every Tennessee school district—data provided by Sanders' office—shows that districts with high student poverty still lag behind when that yardstick is used.

Percent above or below the average test-score gain for the nation:



NOTE: High-poverty districts are those where more than 60 percent of students receive free or reduced-price lunches, medium-poverty districts, between 35 percent and 60 percent of students on subsidized lunches, and low-poverty districts, less than 35 percent of students on subsidized lunches.

William Sanders

hears some of them call Sanders "a lot of names that I will not repeat on the phone."

The debate over Sanders' approach has spread far beyond Tennessee's borders. Lawmakers and school officials across the country have seized on his research as they strive to meet public demands for greater school accountability.

The impact of Sanders' work is "absolutely extraordinary," said Willis D. Hawley, a professor of education and policy affairs at the University of Maryland. "He is spending all his time on the road talking to state legislators about his findings."

Before Sanders developed his rating system, the issue of how to measure the effectiveness of a teacher or a school had produced a kind of stalemate. Parents and politicians pointed to schools with low test scores and blamed the teachers and principals. The educators' defense was that their schools had large numbers of low-income students whose home environment was a drag on their academic work. Both sides were often right.

Sanders, however, focuses not on one set of test results but on how the scores change over time. He contends that by looking at a

student's test-score gain or loss from the previous year, one isolates the role played by the classroom teacher — the teacher's "value-added effect," as he calls it.

His argument that an effective teacher can produce improvement in any student, low-income or affluent, has helped force a fundamental rethinking of policy in many school districts.

Paying for preschool grows in popularity across country

Combined wire reports

ATLANTA — Lisa Fair, a top executive in consulting firm Arthur Andersen's tax division, was pleased to learn that Georgia was rolling out a pioneering plan to provide free preschool to 4-year-olds from low-income families. "I feel like you should give each kid some equal opportunity," said the mother of three.

Her interest soared, though, when she learned a few years ago that the program was being expanded to all families, regardless of income, paid for with proceeds from a state lottery. Her daughter, Rachel, 4, now attends a free 6 1/2-hour program daily, where she has learned her ABCs, plays in the sandbox and does simple science experiments.

"I'm really blown away," said Fair, 38, as Rachel and her classmates excitedly shouted out answers to questions about the stars and planets one day recently. "I believe so much that this is the right answer to quick-start our educational system. We haven't done everything in Georgia we should — by far — but this program is so valuable."

Georgia's ambitious undertaking — more than 70 percent of the state's 4-year-olds are now enrolled — is but one indicator of the growing interest among states to offer extensive preschool pro-

grams to better prepare youngsters for the demands of kindergarten and beyond.

The preschool movement is spreading across the country, much as the kindergarten concept caught fire in the United States at the turn of the century.

Forty-two states now offer free or subsidized preschool, and enrollment has swelled to 750,000 children, according to a recent study by the Children's Defense Fund, an advocacy group.

In Idaho, Head Start for economically disadvantaged youngsters and public school preschool for special education students are the extent of publicly funded preschool programs. Support for state involvement in preschool programs could be hard won in Idaho, a state that doesn't require kindergarten.

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has called early childhood education a long-term strategy for improving Idaho's dismal record on child abuse, second-place national standing for the highest number of single-parent families, and a youth property crime rate that far exceeds the national average.

While many of government-funded programs in other states are aimed at poor children, a few states are following Georgia's lead, opening them to all children, regardless of income or neighborhood.

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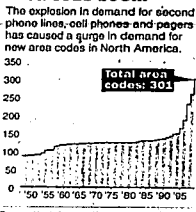
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NATION

Area code boom



Source: North America Numbering Plan Administration

FCC looks to cut off problem with area codes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Calling a neighbor down the block used to be a seven-digit endeavor. But in more and more cities, it's become an 11-digit ordeal as area codes multiply to cope with the explosion in technology — the separate lines for computers, cell phones, faxes and pagers. And with the country running out of eligible area codes, those numbers could get even longer.

To ease the pressure for new area codes, the Federal Communications Commission has

adopted rules to free up unused numbers that phone companies hold in reserve. The FCC's action also dismantles a monopoly era system for allocating digits, taking into account new local phone competition and burgeoning demand for telecommunications services.

"Around the country, people are plugging into the network and using it more," said FCC Chairman Bill Kennard. While that's a good thing, he said, it means that outdated methods for

distributing numbers must be changed. Some projections forecast that the country could run out of area codes within the next eight to 10 years, requiring callers to punch in more numbers than they do now. And each area code change forces people to learn new dialing patterns, and many must upgrade equipment and reprint business cards, stationery and advertising. Alarm companies also must reprogram autodialing equipment.

In its most sweeping action,

the commission laid out a decades-old system of allocating numbers to local carriers in blocks of 10,000 for every billing region they wish to serve, replacing that with a 1,000-number system.

The problem with the old system was that if a carrier had only 100 customers in a given region, the remaining 9,900 numbers of the block were held up, unavailable for users elsewhere.

The commission laid out

Friday a national plan to shift to giving local phone companies 1,000 numbers at a time, a system that will apply to wireless companies by 2002 as well.

Others measure the FCC's adopted include taking back those numbers that carriers are holding but not using.

So they can't hoard numbers in the future, phone companies will also have to show their actual demand for new numbers, rather than their projected need, before they are given new ones.

Prosecutors plan to file more charges

NEW YORK (AP) — Prosecutors plan to rewrite an indictment to add charges against a man accused of aiding a plan to smuggle explosives into the United States from Canada.

Assistant U.S. Attorney David Kelly did not describe the nature of the new charges against Abdul Ghani Meskini, 31, of New York.

Meskini pleaded innocent in January to charges of providing and concealing support for Ahmed Ressaam, an Algerian national accused of trying to sneak explosives into the United States just before the New Year.

Kelly told U.S. District Judge John F. Keenan on Friday that the new charges would stem from evidence already collected in the case.

Meskini has been held without bail since his December arrest in Brooklyn. No trial date has been set.

Ressaam was arrested Dec. 14 after allegedly trying to smuggle timing devices and a powerful demolition explosive into Washington from Canada. The arrest came amid heightened security aimed at making sure terrorism did not mar millennium celebrations.

Ressaam, who has pleaded innocent to nine charges, including possessing and transporting explosives with the intent to cause damage or injury, had Meskini's phone number in his pocket when he was arrested.

Another alleged accomplice, Mokhtar Haouari, 31, remains in Montreal as the United States seeks to extradite him to be tried in New York.

Virginia crash claims five

SPRINGFIELD, Va. (AP) — Five people died Saturday in a crash at the heavily traveled interchange of Interstates 95, 495 and 395 just outside Washington, D.C., Virginia state police said.

A dump truck heading north on Interstate 95 collided with another vehicle, veered through a guardrail and landed on top of two vehicles heading south, said state police spokeswoman Lucy Caldwell.

Three people were killed in one vehicle and two people were killed in the second vehicle, she said. Several people were reported injured.

Interstate 95, the East Coast's major north-south artery, was closed in both directions at the Springfield interchange with backups for miles in both directions.

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Descendant of Sacajawea discusses her role at conference

Rose Ann Abrahamson of Fort Fall, Idaho, signs 'America the Beautiful' at a ceremony in Great Falls, Mont., in this 1988 file photo.
Abrahamson, a Sacajawea descendant, has taught her tribe's culture and perception of Lewis and Clark the tribal way.



LEWISTON (AP) — A Sacajawea descendant has taught her tribe's culture and perception of Lewis and Clark the tribal way.

Rose Ann Abrahamson, a Lemhi-Shoshone, asked participants at Passages 2000, a recent conference on the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial at Lewiston, to pick up their chairs and form a circle.

Abrahamson, who was raised in Salmon, where Sacajawea was born, was eager to educate people about their shared culture.

There are many Shoshone tribes, she said, with distinct languages and cultures. "We are Lemhi-Shoshone. Never use the generic term Shoshone."
Joanne Price of Umanilla, Ore., frantically scribbled down notes on her stationery. She and her

husband, John, didn't come as business representatives.

They came merely to learn and share their insights with their children and grandchildren, who trekked the Oregon Trail with them. They loved sleeping outdoors and walking the trail — even the teenagers — said Joanne Price, who hopes the Lewis and Clark Trail will offer similar activities.

"It's more than the dollars and the tourism. It's preserving our heritage."

Another part of Abrahamson's heritage includes traditions. Pointing at the moon, she said, means having to bite your finger until it hurts. Tradition has it that if you don't, you'll slam your finger in the door. She explained the symbolism of the way she wears her hair, touching her long, shiny

black hair twisted with bright yellow cloth. Each twist of her braids stands for a family member, from her sister to her grandfather.

Abrahamson told how Sacajawea used the skills she learned from her family, the Lemhi-Shoshone people, to help Lewis and Clark. Sacajawea, who was 12 when she arrived with the explorers, taught them to give her elders honor by putting red rock paint on their faces.

"The white men didn't write what Sacajawea did to help them. They wrote their own accomplishments in their journals," said Abrahamson, standing in the middle of the circle, adorned with traditional clothing from her moccasins to her shell earrings.

Tribes generate money for attorney general's campaign

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Indian tribes have given at least \$191,500 to the campaign of Attorney General Bill Lockyer — the official responsible for enforcing their casino compacts with the state — and more money could be on the way.

One tribe is holding a golf tournament next month that could generate up to \$25,000 a contributor for California's top law enforcement official.

The April 3 event at the Del Mar Country Club offers those who give \$5,000 to \$25,000 a chance to play with San Francisco 49ers' wide receiver J.J. Stokes, former Oakland A's pitcher Vida Blue or other "special guests."

The event is sponsored by the Barona Band of Mission Indians, one of about 10 tribes that are major donors to state candidates.

Since 1998, the tribes have given more than \$100 million to candidates and ballot measures, including a successful March 7 proposition that could result in a major increase in casino gambling in California.

Lockyer has received \$191,500 from a total of eight tribes since the start of 1998, when he was running for attorney general. The contributions included \$30,000 from the Barona tribe. He received \$30,000 from

Inland Entertainment Corp., which has a contract with the Shoshone tribe to help run and market its San Diego area casino.

The attorney general, the state's top law enforcement officer, is responsible for making sure that tribes with casinos abide by gambling compacts Gov. Gray Davis signed with tribal leaders last year.

Among other things, the office's Division of Gambling Control is charged with reviewing casino plans, including the suitability of casino investors and key employees.

If the division finds problems with employees or investors — for example, allegations of financial wrongdoing — it can recommend that the tribe refrain from doing business with them.

If the tribe disregards the recommendations, the attorney general can take the dispute to a federal arbitrator, and either party can challenge the arbitrator's finding in federal court, Lockyer spokesman Nathan Barankin said Wednesday.

The attorney general's office also inspects casinos to make sure they are not operating an illegal number of slot machines, allowing minors in areas where alcoholic beverages are served or maintaining inadequate security.

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Judge bans antler hunter from forest

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — A federal magistrate judge banned an antler hunter from the Bridger-Teton National Forest for a year for trespassing on wildlife winter range.

David Jones of Idaho Falls pleaded guilty Monday to the charge stemming from his wanderings the day before. He was fined \$1,500, with \$1,350 suspended, out of a maximum possible fine of \$5,000.

Jones, 24, admitted to U.S. Magistrate Tim Bommer that he had been convicted of a winter range violation in Montana and that he served 30 days in jail for breaking various Yellowstone National Park rules.

Bridger-Teton lawman Shane Wasem called Jones an "avid antler hunter" who may have been scouting elk herds in the forest to see where the animals would shed their antlers.

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WEST

Speed trap rage becomes fight over rights



Alan Dayton stands where he was arrested recently for holding a sign warning motorists to slow down because of a speed trap ahead in Ogden, Utah. The city erected a speed limit sign a few days after the judge threw out several charges against him.

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - This could be called a case of speed trap rage, or maybe a tale of a regular guy getting back at The Man. That is if Alan Dayton were a different kind of guy. If the 31-year-old were not an attorney and a politically connected adviser for a Salt Lake County commissioner.

"What this really is is a story about what can happen when two guys get bored after a golf game and stumble into a free speech squabble that anyone who has ever driven through a speed trap can appreciate."

On Aug. 28, Dayton and his younger brother, Matt, decided to have some fun with a speed trap that had become a regular sight down the road from their parents' house in Ogden.

The two decided to make a sign out of poster board that read: Radar Trap, 25 mph.

"It was actually my idea," Matt Dayton, 25, said. "I just noticed that last couple weeks the cops were staking out the road. They were there every day handing out tickets like crazy."

The speed trap became a topic of conversation, and eventually the idea was hatched, Matt Dayton said.

"We were just having fun. It's a Saturday afternoon, and we were having a few laughs," he said.

The brothers took turns holding up the sign. Motorists were honking and signaling their approval with thumbs up, Matt Dayton

said. The arrival of the first patrol car ended that fun about 20 minutes after it started. And a few minutes after that, both the police and Dayton agree, Alan Dayton was unconscious on the ground. Depending on which side is talking, Dayton either started a scuffle with police and resisted arrest or was manhandled by an angry officer.

In police reports, the two officers on the scene describe a combative Alan Dayton who refused to put his sign down. Officer Bob Hanselman wrote in his police report, "I managed to get Dayton in a headlock and after several seconds he stopped struggling. I put Dayton face down on the grass and handcuffed him. After handcuffing Dayton I noticed that he appeared to be semiconscious and he began shaking. This lasted 5-10 seconds, and Dayton was alert and conscious after that."

Whatever the case, the Ogden Police Department got more than they bargained for when Dayton decided to warn motorists of a speed trap.

They got a fight. Dayton was arrested and charged of obstruction of justice, resisting arrest and disorderly conduct.

"I had only the sign, they searched me and found a golf ball and two tees in pockets," Alan Dayton said. Dayton refused the prosecution's offer of a plea bargain, which would have meant

finer of about \$2,750. Instead, he paid his attorneys more than \$10,000 to defend him. A judge threw out all the charges against Dayton during a Feb. 25 hearing. In his ruling, Judge Michael Glassman said there was no evidence that those driving by Dayton were violating the law, that Dayton had a right to be where he was and holding the sign. The resisting arrest charge

was tossed out because Glassman reasoned that to resist, a person must be lawfully arrested for a crime. And that, he ruled, did not occur.

His attorney and friend single law school, Jere Renner, plans to sue the city of Ogden and the police for civil rights violations, assault, malicious prosecution, illegal search and seizure and slander.

High-speed chase ends in manslaughter charge for teen

FARMINGTON, Utah (AP) - A teen-ager who led police on a high-speed chase that resulted in the death of an uninvolved driver has been charged with manslaughter.

Fernando Leal, who turned 18 Tuesday, was initially charged as an adult with theft by receiving stolen property and illegal possession of a controlled substance.

After reviewing the case, prosecutors added charges of manslaughter, a second-degree felony, and aggravated assault, a third-degree felony, on March 10.

Steve Green, 52, died after the Feb. 20 crash at a busy Layton intersection, where police were chasing Leal. Leal ran a red light in a stolen truck and slammed into Green's car, authorities said.

A police investigation concluded that Layton police officers acted within the guidelines of acceptable pursuit policy.

The chase began in Clearfield where an officer attempted to stop the truck for speeding and reckless driving. The driver refused to pull over and a check on the plate revealed the truck was stolen. Officers also had information the driver might be armed.

The chase lasted seven minutes and involved four police agencies. On the initial pass through Layton, a number of Layton officers pulled out of traffic to get out of the way, which is in compliance with policy, said Layton Police Lt. Steve Brown.

Brown said the policy mandates officers do not get involved in an chase unless their pursuit unless requested.

The second time the driver entered the city, Clearfield officers asked Layton officers to help, prompting the involvement of one Layton officer and a sergeant.

Utah mayor lands in hospital

SPRINGVILLE, Utah (AP) - Mayor Hal Wing sustained serious injuries this week after crashing his dirt bike.

Springville officials say Wing, 59, crashed Tuesday while riding the off-road motorcycle he recently purchased.

He reportedly suffered six cracked ribs, a separated shoulder, a bruised kidney and a cracked vertebrae.

Wing was hospitalized for 24 hours following the accident and again Thursday evening after experiencing severe pain and having difficulty breathing.

The injuries are not considered life-threatening.

Wing, who has been an avid and competitive motocross rider for years, was riding with his son.

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DUELING VIOLINS



April Lott, 14, left, and Chad Gupill, 15, both of Kennewick, Wash., practice their violin number during the regional Solo and Ensemble Festival Friday at Pasco, Wash. About 400 high school musicians participated in the day-long classical music event.

Preliminary plan would change Idaho exiting standards plans

BOISE (AP) — A preliminary plan being considered by the Idaho Department of Education will delay by three years high school graduation standards and reduce the number of subjects students would be tested on by more than half.

The plan, drafted by Deputy Superintendent Bob West, follows a decision by the Legislature's budget writers to cut funding to develop testing for standards from \$1 million to \$500,000 this year. West's suggestion has not been voted on by the state Board of Education or the state Exiting Standards Commission. But it represents a change from the initial idea in 1997 of drafting high school standards in language, math, science, social studies and health, and holding seniors accountable for meeting them beginning in 2005.

Exiting Standards commissioners said they are optimistic that the push to implement standards will not lose momentum. "This wouldn't be a serious derailment," said Larry Andrews,

Exiting Standards Commission chairman. "It would be a mid-course correction."

The commission had recommended developing statewide tests in 11th grade for language and math and working with districts to develop local evaluations in science, social studies and health. Concerns that the state is rushing too fast into tests that determine whether students graduate, and a decision by lawmakers to cut test development funds, is likely to cause a change.

"People are worried about kids failing and not graduating," Andrews said.

The plan outlined by West would develop testing only in math and language. And the emphasis would be on tests for students in fourth and eighth grades over the next two years.

An 11th-grade evaluation, in which students would demonstrate what they know and able to do before getting a diploma, would be developed in 2003 and put into effect in 2008.


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Dr. Alan Fox

Rally prompts fear of violence by extremists

LIBBY, Mont. (AP) — The anti-federal government protest rally that's planned here on Tax Day — April 15 — is causing concern that extremists from both the right and the left will trigger violence. The postmaster is considering closing the post office for the day, the sheriff's office is beefing up security. And a nationally known speaker on hate groups is moving his appearance to another town.

"Our deputies are going to be highly visible," said Lincoln County Undersheriff Jerry Rust. "We're working with the group (of rally organizers), and I believe their wish is to be nonviolent and not to break any laws. But there's always an element that comes along and can cause problems. That's what we're gearing up for."

Organizers have predicted a turnout of 2,000 to 3,000 in this town of 2,750 in extreme northwestern Montana.

Postmaster Dan Stephens noted that announcements for the rally have included calls for "forceful civil disobedience" against United Nations policies and "the Clinton environmental regime's war on the West."

The rally is to include a parade and demonstrations such as torching the United Nations flag and stacks of federal tax forms. Stephens said, the generalized anger at federal authorities is misplaced, and he fears it might spill over to his postal employees. He is talking with bosses in Billings about how to safeguard his people.

"We've talked about closing the doors for the day, and I'm not

saying that won't happen," he said.

Mark Potok, of the Southern Poverty Law Center in Atlanta, had been invited to speak on April 15 in Libby about hate groups, but the talk has been moved to Pablo. He also will speak in Great Falls and Kalkspeak.

Some local business owners "are worried that this rally might turn into something that can't be controlled," Stephens said. "I think the people who put this together didn't realize how far-reaching this rally might be. For some of these extreme anti-government groups, it's just a weekend-long trip."

Even one organizer of the rally, state Rep. Scott Orr, R-Libby, is concerned.

"One of the things we're afraid of is the extreme left wing, the guys who started the violence in Seattle," he said. "Another thing we're worried about is the far right wing, like the Aryan Nations over in Idaho. We don't want violence from either side."

The Rev. Les Nelson of Christ Lutheran Church wonders why Orr invited the trouble.

"This rally has no focused point," he said. "It's an appeal to anybody and everybody who has a gripe against the government. And I don't see what they hope to accomplish."

David Latham, editor of the Montanan newspaper, has advocated that all Libby businesses close their doors on April 15, forcing rally participants to go without food, gasoline, even a public restroom.

Conservation group criticizes endangered species plan

MISSOULA, Mont. (AP) — A conservation group is criticizing Plum Creek Timber Co.'s plan for protecting fish habitat on property it owns in three states, saying it lacks specifics and is self-serving. The habitat conservation plan was developed to preserve fish habitat on 1.7 million acres of timber land in Montana, Idaho and Washington.

Allowed under the Endangered Species Act, habitat conservation plans are intended to mitigate to the "maximum extent practicable" the take of an endangered species — in Plum Creek's case, bull trout and 16 other species of native fish. Private landowners who voluntarily write a habitat conservation plan can, if the plan is approved, receive an incidental take permit allowing some loss of an endangered species or its habitat. Without the permit, it is illegal to engage in any activity that

takes a protected species. The Montana Council of Trout Unlimited on Friday criticized the plan for not specifying how many fish or how much critical habitat is already being lost because of logging on Plum Creek land. Nor does it say how many fish or how much habitat will be saved by the plan. The plan would also insulate Plum Creek from environmental lawsuits for 30 years, said Montana Trout Unlimited executive director Bruce Farling.

Plum Creek is the largest private owner of bull trout habitat, a native char listed as threatened.

"We believe that we have offered a pretty comprehensive array of conservation commitments, and believe they will provide protection for native fish and a measure of reliability for us," said Kris Buckes of Plum Creek.

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WORLD

Grisly images dominate tribunal

The Washington Post

THE HAGUE, Netherlands — The opening scenes of a 21st-century war crimes trial follow a winding rural road through the soft green hills of eastern Bosnia.

A video camera, pointed from a helicopter, noses off the road and lingers on a school and gymnasium. This, a voice explains, is where on one terrifying night in mid-July 1995, hundreds of captured Muslim men and boys were delivered and penned up for the last time. The camera shifts to a parking area nearby. This is the spot where a witness saw Bosnian Serb soldiers methodically march down a bus load of civilians that same night.

The individual allegedly responsible for this, and much more yet to be unfolded by prosecutors, sits on one side of the brightly lit courtroom, alone with his U.N. guard.

Radislav Krstic, 52, is the Bosnian Serb army general accused of organizing the week-long genocide of at least 7,000 Muslim civilians driven from the now-notorious United Nations "safe haven" of Srebrenica.

The visual evidence accumulates in the courtroom without comment: maps, video footage, satellite imagery and photographs. The narration by Jean-Rene Ruez, a young French investigator here at the U.N. War Crimes Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, is minimal, matter-of-fact.

Krstic is reliving that week of killing, village by village, grave by grave — or, as his defense lawyers contend, seeing it for the first time. Like nearly everyone else in the courtroom, he watches the images on a video monitor before him. Only the occasional tic is evident on his face.

Krstic's trial at the U.N. tribunal, which opened Monday, is exceptional for several reasons.

While tens of thousands of people died in four years of warfare and ethnic cleansing in Croatia and Bosnia, the carefully planned extermination that week of virtually the entire Muslim population of Srebrenica, a Muslim-majority town, is considered the worst atrocity in Europe since World War II.

After years of trying more junior officers and foot soldiers — and only a handful of them at that — the tribunal is judging its most senior military officer to date. Among other counts in the indictment is genocide — the deliberate liquidation of an ethnic group. If the prosecution succeeds, this will be the Yugoslavian tribunal's first genocide conviction.

The high-tech assets the prosecution is using to make its case before the three judges — Almiro Rodrigues of Portugal, Fouad Riad of Egypt and Wald, who recently retired from the federal appellate bench in Washington — represent the Yugoslavia tribunal in full gear, moving into maturity after seven years.

It has been 10 months since the tribunal issued its first, historic criminal indictment against a sitting chief of state, Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia, for atrocities in Kosovo province that triggered last year's U.S.-led NATO air campaign. Arrests have continued, investigations opened, trials concluded.

On March 3, the tribunal handed down its stiffest sentence yet — 45 years to a Bosnian Croat general. Another Bosnian war trial that will begin next week could establish in international jurisprudence the precept that rape can be a crime against humanity.

Disaster aid gets a helping hand from media coverage

MAPUTO, Mozambique — A picture is worth a thousand words — and in the case of Mozambique's devastating floods, it was worth a lot more than that.

With much of the country wrecked by the worst flooding on record, at least 1,400 aid workers, 1,000 soldiers and 53 aircraft from seven foreign armies descended on the southeast African nation this month. But aid officials say the massive operation, which has saved lives and appears to have prevented a predicted cholera epidemic, is not a sign of new interest in Africa. They believe it was spurred on largely by intense media coverage of the floods — and they say equating this outpouring of aid in a future African disaster will depend mainly on whether cameras are there to record it.

Meanwhile, despite a massive multinational effort to distribute food to victims, thousands of people are going hungry, aid workers said. An estimated 300,000 people, driven from their homes by the worst floods on record in this southeast African nation, are housed in aid camps in central and southern Mozambique. Despite hitches and logistical problems, most of them receive at least one meal a day. However, thousands of others whose homes were spared or who returned to their villages as flood waters receded also need food aid, said Abby Spring of the U.N. World Food Program.

World in brief



Peter Ndoro shows a small bird he has caught Saturday in Mوهobeeon, an area about 74 miles north of Maputo that has been turned into an island by the floodwaters. His family is one of the several trapped on the island for the past ten days and are existing on the rotting remains of their corn crops as well as fish and small birds.

A year ago have once again been postponed. A spate of attacks on election offices have sharpened doubts about the police's ability to fight increasing street violence. The remnants of a U.N. force deployed in 1995 flew home last week, leaving Haiti's security in the hands of local authorities — which a recent U.S. State Department report describe as "an immature force that is still grappling with problems of corruption and human

rights abusers," as well as narcotics traffickers. President Clinton sent 20,000 American troops to Haiti in 1994 to oust the country's military dictatorship after thousands of Haitians risked their lives in rickety boats to flee the Caribbean island and reach U.S. shores.

The operation restored President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, the first democratically elected leader since the founding of the Haitian republic in 1804.

Uganda cult church burns, kills at least 235 followers

KAMPALA, Uganda — At least 235 followers of a doomsday cult burned to death in a church fire in a remote part of southwestern Uganda, authorities said Saturday. It was unclear whether sect leader Joseph Kibwetere died in the fire in the small trading center of Kanungu, 217 miles from Uganda's capital, Kampala, and near the Congolese border. He had predicted the world would end Dec. 31 but changed it to Dec. 31, 2000, after nothing happened, said the independent newspaper The Monitor in its Sunday edition. A police officer, who spoke on conditions of anonymity, said preliminary reports indicated Kibwetere lured his followers inside the church and then set it ablaze.

Last year, police evicted about 1,000 members of a similar sect from a camp northwest of Kampala, accusing the members of crimes that included defilement of minors, rape, abduction and theft.

Milosevic carries on with closing independent media

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — In an ongoing crackdown against independent media, President Slobodan Milosevic's government seized transmission equip-

ment owned by a major regional television station, sharply limiting its broadcast range.

Four men from the Telecommunications Ministry late Friday removed the main transmitter of Radio Television Krajevo, operated by the opposition-run municipal government

of Krajevo, a town 70 miles south of Belgrade, said the station's editor, Violeta Simovic.

It was the seventh move in the past week to close or restrict operations of broadcasters who support opponents of Milosevic's government.

— compiled from wire reports

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Money could be the tie that binds: China, Taiwan talks war and peace

By Dick Beveridge
The Associated Press

Analysis

TAIPEI, Taiwan — So much talk of war or peace between China and Taiwan may obscure a crucial reality: Their economies are becoming more closely intertwined in a process that seems unlikely to unravel.

The frequently bitter rivals may seem to disagree on almost everything, but one common concern — money — has forged their closest ties and it may help preserve the peace across the Taiwan Strait no matter how harsh the rhetoric gets.

Before Taiwanese voted for a new president on Saturday, Beijing

had been warning that if they chose pro-independence party candidate Chen Shui-bian, the consequence could be war.

Taipei stock prices tanked last week on fears of a resulting economic calamity, and the government is estimated to have spent more than \$3 billion propping them up. But Chen claimed victory Saturday night with a call for reconciliation that might lift everybody's fortunes.

Not only did Chen immediately say he wants friendlier ties with China, he suggested a possible new

opening — direct shipping and air links — that could benefit businesses and boost goodwill on both sides of the Taiwan Strait.

People and goods traveling between Taiwan and mainland China now must pass through another point — often Hong Kong — because of a Taiwanese ban on direct travel that wastes time and money.

Relations between China and Taiwan have been tense since they separated amid civil war in 1949, with Mao Tse-tung's Communists taking the mainland and Gen. Chiang Kai-shek's Nationalists retreating to a power base on Taiwan. Beijing demands that Tai-

wan reunify with the mainland at some point — by force if necessary. Taiwan has refused China's terms. And by electing Chen, whose party advocates a formal split with China, the Taiwanese can be seen as moving toward independence — which Beijing said would provoke a war.

Despite the often-ugly words, Taiwan and China are drawing ever closer economically. Since Taiwan let its investors put money into China a decade ago, they are believed to have pumped in at least \$30 billion.

Last year, China cut a necessary trade deal with Washington after years of hard talks. But any violent

attacks on Taiwan could inflame international opinion and harm China's chances.

After Chen won election, Beijing backed off its earlier saber-rattling and hinted it would take a wait-and-see attitude toward what he does.

But Beijing does not like its authority questioned, and in terms of reclaiming real estate, China has been on a roll.

China got Hong Kong back from Britain in 1997, and late last year, Portugal handed over the tiny gambling enclave of Macau — ending what China viewed as centuries of humiliation with Europeans governing its territory. Chi-

nese President Jiang Zemin has made it clear Taiwan is next.

There is another practical consideration Beijing would weigh before picking a fight with Taiwan — whether it has the military might to seize the island.

China has a huge army and nuclear weapons, and its missiles are considered the biggest threat to Taiwan. But it may lack the necessary air and sea power to mount an effective invasion of well-defended Taiwan.

The United States also says it would take any attack seriously — which many people take to mean Washington would come to the rescue if Taiwan is attacked.

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EDITORIAL

Everyone knows Clinton's roadless initiative is flawed

Bill Clinton's plan to declare 40 million acres of national forest land off-limits to road building is accumulating enemies in all of the wrong places.

Motorized vehicle groups are against it. Western politicians are against it. Now, even ranking members of the U.S. Forest Service are against it.

"I have never been so concerned about where an agency initiative will lead," wrote James Caswell, Idaho's Clearwater National Forest supervisor, in a recent memo to his boss, Forest Service Chief Mike Dombeck. "The track and approach we are on is just flat wrong."

Caswell has been with the agency 20 years, so this isn't criticism from a summer intern. Nor is Caswell the only critic. In public hearings on the issue, the overwhelming majority of those testifying were against Clinton's proposal, he said.

"I have never experienced such public disbelief and animosity directed toward any policy proposal as this one," Caswell told his chief. "It is important for you to understand that people here are walking on edge. There WILL be civil disobedience and possibly worse. The local people are that scared, threatened and frustrated."

Though he's now retired, Dave Jolly, former regional forester for the agency's Northern Region, also had hard words for the Forest Service chief.

"I find your proposal to restrict access to the remaining inventoried roadless areas both disturbing and unnecessary," Jolly wrote. "Your pro-

posal would put a large part of these lands substantially beyond the reach of an aging population."

Other Forest Service leaders complain that Clinton's proposal - which the Forest Service has been directed to develop - is siphoning money and resources away from other obligations.

Each of these criticisms is a warning flag. Taken together, they should be an unmistakable sign that Clinton's proposal is fatally flawed.

We don't object to granting protection to worthy tracts of Forest Service land. There is a process for that, and the process is supposed to start with the people. When enough people want an area protected, they go to their elected leaders and make their case. If the politicians are convinced, the proposal becomes a bill, Congress enacts it and the president signs it.

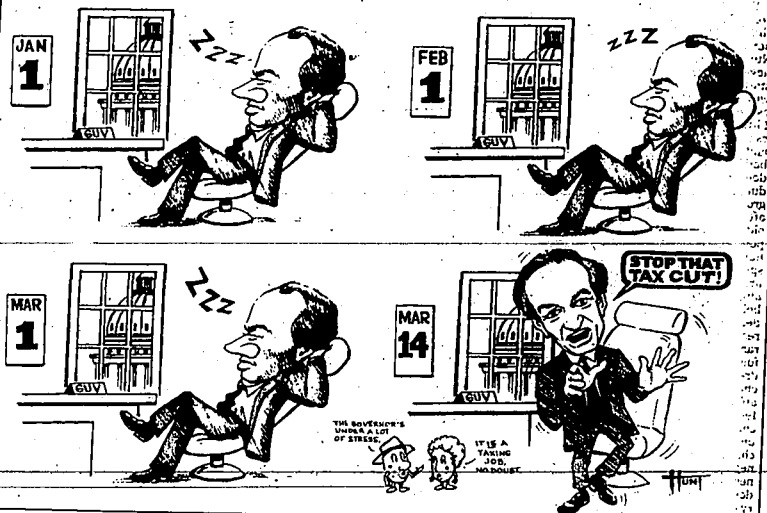
It's supposed to be a bottom-up process.

Clinton's top-down approach is simply a ploy to burnish his image and leave a better legacy than womanizing in the White House. With the environmental lobby whispering in his ear, Clinton fancies himself the next Teddy Roosevelt.

The old Rough Rider was a true conservationist who created the U.S. Forest Service. Clinton is merely a political opportunist.

Dombeck would be wise to heed the warnings of top lieutenants in the Forest Service who see trouble ahead.

With the environmental lobby whispering in his ear, Clinton fancies himself the next Teddy Roosevelt. The old Rough Rider was a true conservationist who created the U.S. Forest Service. Clinton is merely a political opportunist.



Honesty is not optional in politics



DAVID S. BRODER

The moral dimensions of politics - the interlocked questions of trust, candor, hypocrisy, and religious influence - are playing a larger role this year than they have in the quarter-century since Jimmy Carter, the born-again Baptist who promised "I will never lie to you," began running for president.

In the primaries, we have seen unusually blunt charges of religious bias, direct challenges to the credibility of the party nominees and widespread concern about what the public sees as pervasive dishonesty in the nation's capital.

All of that made me very curious to meet the most unusual congressional intern I have ever encountered - the Right Rev. M. Thomas Shaw, Episcopal bishop of Massachusetts. He is spending a month on the staff of Republican Rep. Amo Houghton of New York, sitting in on almost all the congressman's meetings here and in his home district, seeking to inform himself on how government works and how his church can better fulfill its own social mission in areas from feeding programs to child health to Third World debt relief.

about Congress - the policy arguments, the partisan disputes - and what I've seen. There's a tremendous emphasis on helping individual people solve problems. And that's why the people up here are in their jobs. It's not just about winning elections. They really want to help people.

On Feb. 25, after spending two days with Houghton in his district in southwestern New York, Bishop Shaw e-mailed home to his colleagues and parishioners that he was struck by "how much the congressman's work is like the work (Bishop Barbara Harris) and I do. Every weekend, she and I are out in parishes, just as he is out in his district. He's listening, we're listening. We all three ask and answer questions, we probe to see how we can build up our communities - the congressman in the towns and cities of his district, Barbara and I in our local community of faith. ... Public service and church ministry are so critical to our common life."

By coincidence, on the same day I met with the bishop I finished reading a fine new book by Connecticut Democratic Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman (with Michael D'Orso) called "In Praise of Public Life." Lieberman, an observant Orthodox Jew, attempts, in this small, personal testament, to rebut the legions of critics for whom the term "professional politician" is a damning descriptor.

Clinton to account for his misbehavior, confronts with candor the ethical dilemmas that are inherent in his chosen field. His statement of the case is one I think the bishop would applaud.

"Although public figures may face the same everyday pressures as the people we represent, we are not, and should not be, judged by the same standards. More: We are public officials, not private citizens. Everything we do can become public and therefore has serious consequences for the community."

"We are - whether we like it or not - role models. We have voluntarily entered a contract with the voters that is based on trust. If we violate that trust, our government, our democracy suffers. So the first question a public figure must always ask himself when making a decision about his personal behavior or actions, about whether to take an opportunity, is not just 'Is it legal?' but 'Is it right?'"

"During the past several years, the American people have watched too many public figures in both parties try to make distinctions between whether something is legal and whether it is right. The consequences for our politics have been disastrous because the people correctly see these as attempts to rationalize behavior that is wrong, and they turn away disgusted."

Both Bishop Shaw and Sen. Lieberman are right to remind us that public service is an honorable calling. But honesty is not a mere virtue in a public servant. It is the fundamental requirement of his role. The public cannot - and never should - accept less.

David S. Broder is a Washington Post columnist.

LETTERS

Let resources work for schools

Please, former Gov. John Evans, Con Paul, Dennis Moore, Jerry Crozier, Maxine Bell and others, think of the reality of getting Idaho's resources working for our schools.

First, our government land, whether federal or state. How many acres do we have, compared to other states? Some have none. They get going land-tax rates for all their land.

Second, let us think of this: Some people are working at minimum-wage rates. Let us look at someone living alone supporting a child on 60 cents to 70 cents per pound will make plenty of money on government grazing with the subsidy that comes with it; \$1.35 per unit today for a cow and calf of government land in Idaho is a disgrace to those who don't stand up for a change. Please quit condemning the taxpayers for trying to keep higher taxes on their homes and farms.

Stand up for what belongs to us and remember a child is more important than a calf. Take a good sight-seeing drive across our range land. If the fees aren't raised, sell the land to people who will pay a better tax rate and the schools will have plenty of money.

WYLAN CANTRELL
Buhl

storms into the act like an old setting hen to protect her little chick. Perhaps Mr. Turley's more force than necessary, but the jury is still out on that issue. Mother, just stop and think it through, if your son had picked up his skateboard and left quietly, there would not have been an incident. Instead he had to mesh off.

There seems to be a concept prevalent in some of the younger generation that they can exercise their freedom of speech in vulgar verbal assaults with impunity. When this attitude is coupled with other factors, I can guarantee that some attitude adjustment is inevitable. I am inclined to believe Mr. Turley's account of the event. It is incredible how much these youngsters can omit when relating their story to mom! Your mother will not lie to you, but is he telling you all the truth? Just think about your own childhood a minute before you answer the question.

The children have to grow up and learn to accept the consequences of their actions. The sooner they learn there are times when they must keep their mouths shut and go quietly, they will have learned one of the greater lessons that life has to teach. This axiom is especially true should you be in the wrong.

I would take the Lynwood Mall to task for firing their security in an attempt to disassociate themselves from any unpleasantness resulting from their policies. Everyone wants to hold your credit while you get the bloody nose.

I should think you might at least give Mr. Turley the benefit of the doubt. He was only trying to do his job. What you are doing is letting a foul-mouthed vocal minority dictate what the majority (albeit a silent majority) has to abide by. Now you're going to kiss it and make it well by donating to a skate park. Sounds more like something you see to blackmail or extortion to this observer.

RAYMOND G. CLARK
Jerome

Will proponents turn power off?

I have a few questions about the proposed breaching of the Snake River dams.

How many dams are there on the Columbia? How many miles of slack water do the four Snake River dams create? How many miles of slack water do the Columbia River dams create? I don't know the exact answers to these questions, and I have not seen the dams in question. However, I have seen some of the Columbia River dams and the slack water created by them. I find it hard to believe that if the Snake River dams are as small and insignificant as the breaching proponents claim that their removal will have any paper just effect on the salmon. It is just possible that the reason that the Snake River dams are the ones slated to be breached has more to do with the relative size of the respective congressional delegations than the effect on the salmon?

As to the claimed benefit of "increased income from sport fishing" offsetting the losses from the breaching, if anyone really believes that, I have a pineapple plantation just north of the bridge for sale. Come see me.

I also question the proponents' claim that we will suffer no increase in power rates as a result. It seems to me I read rates as a result. It seems to me I read an article in this paper just a short time ago saying that our power-generating capacity exceeds our power-generating capacity increases, and that power shortages were a real possibility in the near future. I believe that about 6 percent of Idaho Power's generating capacity is from these dams. Won't breaching make that problem 6 percent worse? I

assume that the breaching proponents have all contacted Idaho Power and offered to have their power shut off to alleviate any possible shortages or rate increases that result. If not, why not? They are so sure that there is no downside to breaching, let them put their jobs and pocketbook on the line and leave the rest of us alone.

Each of you contact someone whose job is threatened by breaching and offer them your job if all the promised "sport fishing dollars" fail to even them another way to feed their families. After all, if you're right, you have nothing to lose.

A. WAYNE FRANSDEN
Twin Falls

Legal system reeks of injustice

Equal justice for all and freedom from an oppressive government are ideals aspired to when our forefathers wrote the Constitution. A government by the people, for the people, but a funny thing happened along the way. Systems set up to serve and protect the public became self-serving tyrants.

The criminal justice system, the most powerful system in any community, employs thousands of individuals in the Magic Valley. Their wages are paid by our tax dollars and money made from fines and court costs. The truly desperate, repeat offenders progressing in the downward spiral rarely have any money. Jail time is free room and board. Meanwhile, working-class America is targeted for stopa arrests (dog barking, speeding, parking, concealed weapons, pocket knives, borderline DUIs, etc.),

becoming the mainstay of profligate ornament (money) necessary to grease the wheels of justice (justice). On the other hand, petty thieves and junkies steal our livelihoods away while we're at work; pervers and creeps harass us at home. The police do nothing because there's no money in it (or it's one of their own buddies). If you try to defend yourself, you'll likely be arrested.

There are so many laws on the books, they can't even be enforced, with a ready number of legislators proposing even more. The result is law-abiding citizens who voluntarily comply, have less freedom, but those who know the system (cops, criminals, attorneys, judges, etc.) can commit heinous acts and get away with it.

The legal system has become an unending maze to the ordinary person and a bottomless pit for tax dollars. But, the real obscenity in today's world seems to be the hideous, horrific and inhumane illegal offenses that those within the system can commit and the monumental efforts by those same to minimize and cover it up with little or no legal consequences. And of the thousands with knowledge of illegal, immoral and unethical acts, not one has the moral fiber to step forward voluntarily on behalf of those victimized, because it doesn't benefit the system. They are invested in it.

So the question is, "Who is more a threat to a free society, those within the system or the criminal element?"
CHERI MARTIN
Jerome

The Times-News

Stephen Hartgen, Managing Editor; Mike Smit, Advertising Director

The members of the editorial board and writers of editorials are Stephen Hartgen, William Brock, Clark Walworth, Steve Crump, Kevin Richard and Dan Fields.

LETTERS

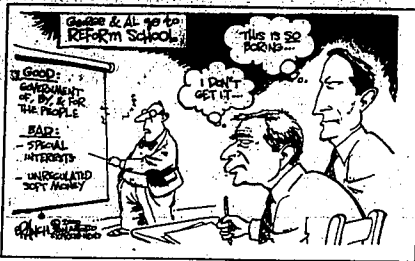
Kids must accept consequences

Sounds like the same old story as reported in The Times-News regarding Mr. Turley's confrontation in the Lynwood Mall. The results are predictable. After the affair is over, mother

LETTERS

Early years prove important

Yet again, the news headlines are filled with children killing children. Robin Kinn-Morse, in her book, "Ghosts From the Nursery," talks about the newest brain research which is starting to provide us answers to why we have such disasters such as the school massacre in Littleton, Colo. "While the causes of violence are highly complex and multi-faceted, a growing body of scientific knowledge demonstrates that maltreatment during the nine months of fetal growth and the first 24 months after birth often leads to violent older children and adults. The violence accumulating in the human community from widespread maltreatment of babies are only in part the toxins we already recognize - drugs, alcohol and tobacco. The last three decades have provided us with research that brings to light a range of more subtle toxins profoundly influencing our children's earliest development: chronic stress or neglect, which affects the development of the fetal or early infant brain; early child abuse and neglect, which undermines focused learning; chronic parental depression; neglect or lack of the stimulation necessary for normal brain development; early loss of primary relationships or breaks in caregiving. These are the precursors of the growing epidemic of violence now contaminating the lives of the 11,770 Idaho children that were abused or neglected in 1999. Children like the 10-year-old boy whose father used a scouring pad to peel off large patches of his skin in an attempt to remove and hide the multiple bruises on his face, back and chest. Or the 3-month-old infant whose intoxicated mother bit her child, leaving severe tooth marks on the baby's arm. Or the 8-year-old girl who was asked how she got the half-dollar-sized bruises under her eye; she replied, "Mommy kicked me in the face because I didn't pick up my puzzle pieces fast enough. I tried to tell her that my brother made the mess, but she didn't believe me."



oner in Idaho. The prison industry is a growth industry. In 1997, the U.S. Department of Justice released the results of a new study that showed that if our present rates of incarceration continue, one out of every 20 babies born in the United States today will spend some part of their adult lives in state or federal prison. You and I will be supporting many more prisoners' care in the near future if we continue to ignore the causes of violence. However, an investment of about \$2,500 per year in the early years of an Idaho child will keep many of these children from becoming part of the prison system and from becoming a threat to other children. There are many good people in Idaho making a difference in the lives of children. The Early Years Conference held in Boise this past fall was a sell-out with more than 400 participants. These good people need our help. The Idaho Children's Trust Fund's sole mission is to prevent child abuse in Idaho and sends grant funds to worthy programs statewide. You have an opportunity to use the check off for the Children's Trust Fund and send funds to prevention efforts. Fellow Idahoans, it's up

to all of us to invest in our children.
KIKI TIDWELL
Regional Panelist
Idaho Children's Trust Fund
Halley

Huntley is an honorable man
To The Times-News editorial board:
Once again in a sneering editorial, The Times-News has attacked Robert Huntley personally for his role in the lawsuit regarding school funding.

Whatever the merits of the case regarding the Legislature's constitutional obligation to educate children, these attacks on Mr. Huntley, an honorable man, are unjustified. He is a lawyer, advocating a cause. There is a pattern with these editorials. There is a meanness, a lack of respect for others that we see commonly in the editorials of this newspaper. Your unrelenting attack of a personal nature on teachers has been going on for years. Lawyers are referred to as "greedy" and their clients are "money hungry" in sweeping indictments of well-meaning people doing their jobs or trying to seek justice in the courts. It is possible to discuss issues without this. A monopoly news-

paper has the moral responsibility to use its power with respect, humanity and common decency.
KENNETH L. PEDERSEN
Twin Falls

Parents do the pampering

Referring to the article in The Times-News on Page 1, dated March 2, "Coroner could face charges," I have a few random thoughts and questions. What is a zero-tolerance policy if one can't enforce it? And if the Lynwood Mall's new zero-tolerance policy was to take the skateboarder to the manager's office, then why is that now found to be illegal? And as stated in the first line of the article, the zero-tolerance policy is supposed to be tough. The paper stated that Mrs. Loden might file a civil law suit. Why are people so "sue happy"? The area is clearly marked "No Skateboarding Allowed." The boys were skateboarding anyway, got caught and resisted. They are kids. They made a mistake, but to possibly sue in a civil action? What are our youth learning when we as parents don't take a stand for the laws and rules and enforce them? I have no reason to believe

whatsoever that the boys were "scum bags," but rules are rules. Or are they? We can't pamper our children when they do wrong or they will never learn to obey, respect and honor the laws or rights of others.

Mrs. Loden said in the article, "I think if Mr. Turley had handled it in the right manner, none of this would have happened." I say "if" the boys had respected the posted signs at the mall of no skateboarding, "then" this would have never happened. She seems to be taking all of the responsibility from the boys and is giving it all to Mr. Turley. Mr. Turley may have been a little too aggressive in subduing them and offended the boys and their mothers, but he was doing the job he was hired to do. Let it end there. One incident like this and the Lynwood Mall cancels its contract with Gem State Security? Where is the backbone in that? I am sorry everyone was so embarrassed, but just where "are" the boundaries? Is there a zero-tolerance

policy or not? If not, someone should have told Mr. Turley.

It is my hope that no more will come of this and that all parties will have learned something valuable in this sticky situation, and those involved can and will come to equitable terms.
MARGARET WILCOX
Jerome

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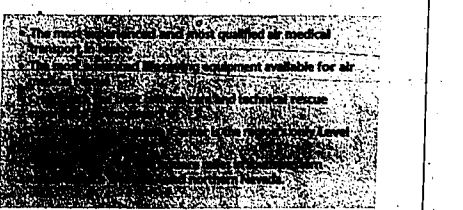
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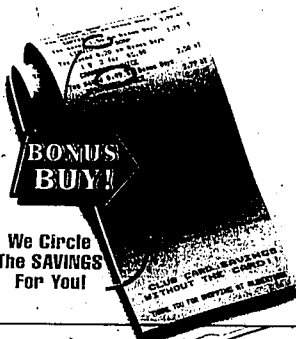
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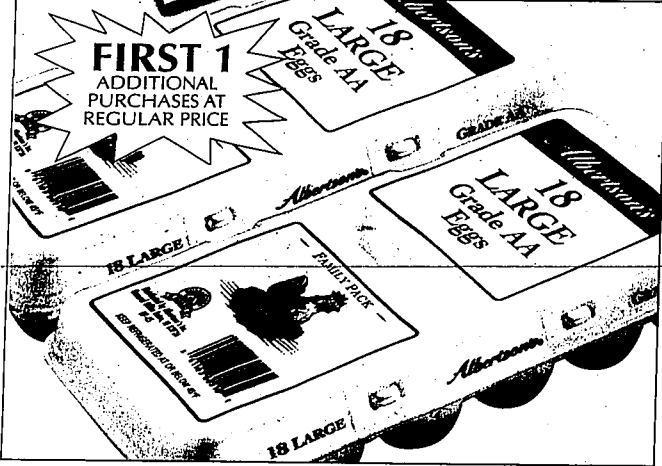
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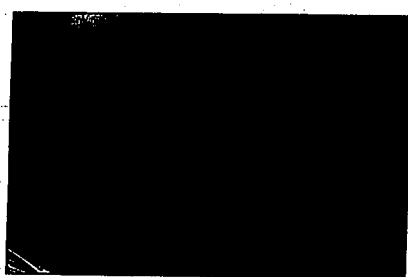
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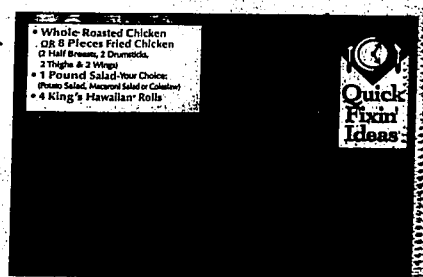
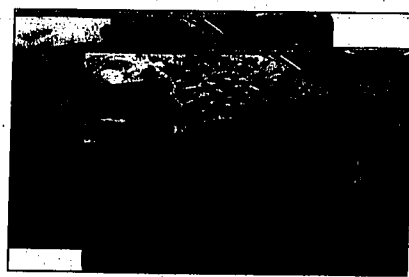
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Slow eggheads at large in Bracketville

There are giant steel springs beneath the basketball floor of Maples Pavilion - the gymnasium at Stanford University. To understand why, you'd need to have watched the national basketball team on which I played.

When we'd sky for a rebound, we'd catch so much air that you could almost slip a sheet of paper between the soles of our sneakers and the floor.

Nobody, you see, went to Stanford to play basketball. That's why the school's recent brush with on-court controversies undermines the many gravitationally challenged alumni such as myself.

The Cardinal went into this weekend's first round of the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament seeded No. 1 in the South Region.

That's a little like hearing the Jamaican national anthem played at the Winter Olympics; it's just against God's plan.

Until Stanford made it to the Final Four two years ago, aeronautical engineering was never practiced outside the physics lab. I once saw a 6-1 UCLA guard dunk over Stanford center Rich Kelley.



Kelley stood 7 feet tall - and under the basket at the time.

That was pretty much the natural order of things. At Stanford, basketball was a funky, off-season conditioning exercise for slow-footed gentlemen's sports such as beer-drinking - played in the static, stately manner that befits lost causes.

How lost? I once watched Stanford score a basket for the opposing team, while trying to inbound the ball.

Then University of Montana coach Mike Montgomery was hired and set out to re-educate the team. The program has been to the NCAA tournament for six years now, and is actually ranked No. 1 in the nation for a while this season.

All of which is puzzling, largely because Stanford athletes clearly haven't gotten much quicker. It's as if Stone Cold Steve Austin kept winning the Olympic 100-meter dash.

Eventually, I'm convinced, equilibrium will be restored to the universe. Montgomery will be hired away by the Toronto Raptors, and Stanford will once again dominate the Pac-10 academic team.

And I know this because there's precedent.

In the years before World War II, there was a guy named Hank Luisetti who played at Stanford. Basketball was a much more serious in those days, practiced by lumber-jacked ethnics from Eastern and Southern Europe, most of whom had the shooting touch of Babe the Blue.

It was a game that produced statistics. Figures was considered a shootout; mostly the players passed the ball back and forth until someone got open - and you REALLY had to be open for a two-handed set shot.

That shot involved planting both feet and pushing the ball - with both hands - toward the basket. Usually, you missed.

Luisetti, demented among demented, scored a lot more points if he shot the ball with one hand - and did it on the run.

Turned out to be a revolutionary innovation. Luisetti became the first college player ever to score 50 points in a game.

So, of course, everybody was taking the one-hand running shot. It was a basketball staple until Oscar Robertson figured out how to actually shoot the ball while in the air, and Julius Erving mastered dunking it.

Yet those were tactics that required great athleticism, which was abundant among postwar Stanford undergraduates.

So Luisetti's one-handed running shot suited us just fine, never mind if Stanford once lost 21 straight games to UCLA. It was better than noble gamblers - slow, predictable and futile.

And yet at the end of one game last year, I watched Stanford guard Chris Weems take a pass at mid-court, near 180 degrees in mid-air, and sink a basket from 45 feet. The opposing team was on the bus and the officials hauled in their jammies before he even touched the floor.

That trick basket? It's easy, says Rich Kelley. Just wouldn't understand.

Times-News features editor Steve Crump writes his nose while shooting a free throw.

Developers plan hotel survey

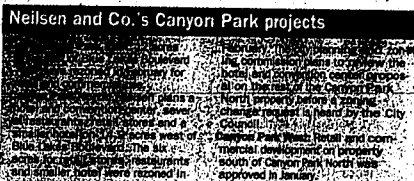
Market study could influence proposed project's design

By John T. Huddy
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Developers proposing a hotel and convention center on the Snake River Canyon rim say they're ready to move forward on a market study that could help shape the project.

The study had been delayed while developers lined up retail and restaurant tenants for another section of the project. Ken Edmunds, a Twin Falls consultant to Craig H. Neilsen and Co., said they'll resume work on a market study this week.

The market study is designed to learn what local people and visitors would be likely to pay



Neilsen and Co.'s Canyon Park projects

for lodging and convention facilities in Twin Falls. The survey results could influence the project's design, Edmunds said.

Part of the market study will involve asking associations and groups from around the state how and when they might use a convention center, Edmunds said.

"That's probably the key thing we're working on right now," Edmunds said.

Edmunds predicted the study

would be finished in three to four months, but he made no promises.

"I have to be planned down on a date," Edmunds said. "We may find the meeting planners may have a whole different direction they want to go in."

While the Neilsen team works on the study, members of the recently formed citizens design review committee are waiting for the go-ahead to review the project's plans.

"We're just waiting for it (study) to be done and then we'll talk," said Tom Mikosell, a committee member and former city councilman. "We haven't met yet."

The committee was formed to help the planning and zoning commission review the structure and aesthetics of Neilsen's proposal. The planning commission then will make recommendations to the City Council, which ultimately approves or denies the developer's request.

City officials already have approved aspects of Neilsen's Canyon Park project, including some commercial development. The hotel and convention center awaits city review, after Neilsen finishes the market study and submits a design.

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

Crash on I-84 kills Paul man

The Times-News

JEROME - A one-car rollover on Interstate 84 Saturday morning killed a Paul man and left another man in the hospital.

The crash occurred at 2:15 a.m. about four miles east of the Twin Falls exit when driver Jon J. Zenke drifted into the median, overcorrected and rolled his 1979 Honda Civic, the Idaho State Police said.

Zenke, 39, died at the scene. His passenger, 44-year-old Dwayne C. Gutzman of Paul, was partially ejected but suffered minor injuries, the ISP said.

Gutzman was listed in fair condition Saturday afternoon at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center.

Neither person was wearing a seat belt, the ISP said.

TRAILING SPACE CREATURES



Joann Levy and Barkley the space dog hit the snowhow trail at Saturday's Paw N' Pole event in Sun Valley.

Wacky races benefit animal shelter

By Karen Bossack
Times-News correspondent

SUN VALLEY - If you thought you saw some unidentified flying objects flying around the ski trails outside the Sun Valley Gun Club Saturday, you thought right.

Even Rosie, the Jetsons' maid, was schussing along the tracks at warp speed - all in the name of man's best friend.

More than 120 people and pooches dressed as flying saucers, Martians and space-nauts pawed and poled their way around Sun Valley's cross-country ski trails Saturday as part of the 15th annual Paw N' Pole affair.

The races and relays, all in fun to benefit the Animal Shelter of the Wood River Valley, sport a

Paw N' Pole winners

Adult 4-kilometer ski race: Glenn Harris and Thelma, Mike Walter and Kirby and Matt DeCarully and Libby.
Adult 2-km. ski race: Molly Goodyear and Kirby, Doran Key and Sophie and Peter, Coley Harris and Thelma/Boo.
Adult 1/2-km. snowhow race: Dorian Key and Sophie, Sue Hyler and Gemla and Katherine Weekes and Orter and Junior.

Kids 2-km. ski race: David Vanderpool and Heral, Max Hamlin and Poppy and Robbie Hamlin and Poppy.
Kids 1/2-km. snowhow race: Steve Hays and Thelma, Samantha Tait and Otto and Adlene Maklow and Gator.
Kids 1/2-km. ski race: Malli Noyes and Lizzie, Chelsea Vanderpool and Harrah and Austin Fox and Gretta.

different theme each year, ranging from the Wild West to Hollywood to a Canine Circus. This year's theme was "X-Country Millennium - Paw N' Pole Goes into the Future," and some people went out of this world to dress up for the affair.

Angela Hansen, of Ketchum,

spotted a dog costume that made her look exactly like her Bernese mountain dog Stouf, even down to Stouf's droopy ears and reddish brown paw markings. On top of the puppy outfit, she draped Styrofoam planets around her neck and on her head.

"We're Bernese galaxy dogs today," she said.

Betsy Pomeroy of Ketchum didn't let her 75 years or two recent illnesses stop her as she ventured on her 2000 skate ski odyssey with her two chocolate labs.

Joann Levy, of Sun Valley, looked every bit the astronaut with dryer tubing encasing her arms under her white ski suit and a bubble space helmet on her head. Her black lab sported a NASA water balloon space shuttle on his back.

Ketchum resident Kathy Brown and her part-Bernese dog Moose wore flying saucers nicknamed the USS Centipede around their waists, their landing gear made of pot pie tins. And Gloria Marates sported an

PLEASE SEE RACES, Page B3

Board investigation into Suits will take months

By Ruth Stroeter
Times-News writer

BOISE - It took more than a year for the dog possession charge against Dr. Charles Suits' trial to commence. Now, it could be September, or later, before a state board decides the fate of his license to practice.

That's due to the Idaho State Board of Medicine's own lengthy investigative process, which began when charges were filed against Suits in December 1998.

The board and local law enforcement officials shared information during that time, board executive director

Darlene Thorsted said. After Suits' conviction, the board filed its complaint.

It doesn't take a felony conviction for the board to file a complaint against a physician, board officials say. In cases when the board decides to investigate, a complaint can be filed regardless of whether a doctor faces a criminal charge, Thorsted said.

When the court dropped a charge of conspiracy to deliver a controlled substance in September 1999, the board continued its investigation of that charge and filed its own complaint. In a procedure similar to a civil suit, Thorsted said.

"Our level of proof is the pre-

ponderance of evidence, not (proof) beyond a reasonable doubt," Thorsted said.

Following an investigation, the board makes a determination for probable cause and then issues a formal complaint, Thorsted said. The issue goes to a hearing and the hearing officer - usually an attorney hired by the board - hears testimony from each side and then presents his findings and his recommendation to the disciplinary board.

Several months elapse between the hearing and the disciplinary board's decision, due to the involved legal process, similar to that which elapsed while Suits awaited

trial.

"Due process is very time-consuming," Thorsted said. "(But) that's a constitutional right for all of us."

If the board of medicine finds a doctor guilty of misconduct, that person has 14 days to ask the board to reconsider and can also appeal the decision to District Court.

Thorsted could not comment specifically on the severity of the charges Suits faces, and how his ability to practice medicine safely could be compromised, because of the due process to which he is entitled.

"We cannot make any judgement or bias," she said.

Gun deal triggers response

Several local dealers doubt effectiveness of recent agreement

By Brian Haynes
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - President Clinton says an agreement between the federal government and gun-making giant Smith & Wesson to put trigger locks on guns and take other steps will save lives. But several local gun dealers questioned whether the agreement will do what it's supposed to do.

"I think it's ludicrous," said Randy Ostrom of Magic Valley Pawn and Loan. "It's an absolutely worthless agreement that will have absolutely no effect at all."

Under the agreement Smith & Wesson will put trigger locks on all guns and develop "smart gun" technology and child-resistant triggers. It will also deny guns to buyers who don't clear a background check or who don't have proof of taking a gun-safety class.

For its part, the government agreed not to sue the company for gun-related violence.

Ostrom said instead of passing new restrictions, the government should enforce the many laws already on the books. "The agreement by Smith & Wesson will either force other gun makers to follow suit or drop out of the business, Ostrom said.

"No matter what they do people are still going to die" because of gun-related accidents, Ostrom said. "Even a Democrat can't outlaw that." Floyd Hazen of Blue Lakes Sporting Goods said he doesn't like the gun-safety class requirement.

"That is something that trends on my freedom a bit," he said. "I'm not sure that will accomplish anything."

Ryan Horsley of Red's Trading Post said, "All it's doing is punishing honest gun owners."

But the agreement wasn't all bad, he said.

He supports the background checks, but the government should close loopholes that allow friends and family of criminals to buy guns or for criminals to buy guns at places such as garage sales, Horsley said.

Enforcing current laws would go a long way toward keeping guns away from children and out of the hands of criminals, he said.

"We're trying to do our part," he said. "I just wish the government would do their part and enforce these laws."

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

MAGIC VALLEY

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TWIN FALLS



Emma Annis
Emma Annis, 90, of Twin Falls, died Thursday, March 16, 2000, at her home of a sudden illness.

She was born January 6, 1920, in Paul, Idaho, the daughter of Walter and Rosalia Marsh. She was raised in the Paul area, attending Pioneer grade school and graduating from Rupert High School. She later attended Albion

Normal School, where she received her Life Teaching Certificate. On March 21, 1943, she married Howard Annis in Rupert. He preceded her in death in December

1964. Emma was a 50 year member of the Filir Order of Eastern Star, Chapter 40, as well as a member of the PEO Sisterhood, Chapter 4H, and was a member of the Filir United Methodist Church, where she was active in the United Methodist Women's Friendship Circle. She spent many years caring for Howard and her family and was a devoted wife and mother. She loved spending time with her grandchildren.

Emma is survived by her children, Larry (Karen) Annis of Scottsdale, AZ, Stova (Mary) Annis of Meridian, David (Kathie) Annis of Boise, and Kris (Sian) Ferlic of Twin Falls; 4 granddaughters, Jenni and Erin Ferlic and Adrienne and Daniello Annis; 1 brother, Ralph Marsh of Burley; and 2 sisters, Mildred Nelson and Mary Meyers, both of Boise. She was preceded in death by her parents and her husband.

Funeral services for Emma will be held at 2 p.m. Tuesday, March 21, 2000, at White Mortuary Chapel with Rev. Sandra Kintrow officiating. Burial will follow at Sunset Memorial Park. The family suggests memorials be given to the Filir United Methodist Church, 5th and Union, Box 10, 83328, or to the donor's choice.

Walter J. Dewey

Walter John Dewey, 77, of Twin Falls, died Friday, March 17, 2000, at Twin Falls Clinic and Hospital. He was born April 5, 1922, in Peetz, Colorado, the son of John and Amanda Dewey. He was raised in Colorado and Nebraska. He later served during WW II in the Army from 1942-1945. After his discharge from the service, he married Mary Helen Anderson in St. Frances, Kansas, on May 16, 1946. In 1959, he moved his family to Kimberly where he worked as a mechanic for Heston and Ford Tractor. After his retirement in 1984 from there, he went to work for the next 11 years for the U.S. Forest Service. He enjoyed hunting and fishing. He loved his family very much and doing things for them.

Walter is survived by his wife, Helen of Kimberly; children, Ronald Saylor of Hanson, Ronald Dewey of Camarillo, CA, John Lee Dewey and Don Dewey of Blackfoot, Gary Dewey of Burley, Linda DeVries of Kimberly and Kathy Myers of Jerome; 16 grandchildren; 5 great-grandchildren; and 3 sisters, Varda Martin of Callaway, NE, Jannia Hochstein of Mesa, AZ, and Ivra Britain of Longton, KS. He was preceded in death by his parents, 4 sisters and 4 brothers.

At Walter's request, no services will be held. Cremation will take place under the direction of White Mortuary and Crematory, Twin Falls.

BUHL



Raymond Earben Uptain

Raymond E. Uptain, age 74, of Buhl, passed away this morning on Thursday, March 16, 2000, at the Boise Veterans Administration Hospital as a result of a stroke.

Raymond was born January 11, 1926, in Lewis, Colorado, the son of Earben and Doris Kennedy Uptain. During a family journey toward Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, in 1938, the family camped overnight at Buhl. Because of a fire that evening and the kind-

ness of the Buhl people, Earben was given work and housing and so stayed at Buhl the rest of his life. Raymond attended Fairview and Buhl Schools. Raymond was a twenty year Navy man, joining the U.S. Navy during World War II at the age of 17. He was trained in San Diego, Calif., and Farragut, Idaho. He served on the U.S.S. Dixie, U.S.S. Helena and the U.S.S. Bausell with his home base in San Diego, Calif., and Bremerton, Washington. He served in the Pacific except the last few years when he was stationed in Norfolk, Virginia. His rating was Electrician 1st Class. He was known as "Snuff" to all his Navy buddies and brothers.

Raymond married Miriam Sobotka, September 1960 in Buhl. He enjoyed fishing and ice fishing with his brother, Clinton. He loved to go to the lake with his wife, Miriam. He enjoyed Mintoqua Lake, C.M. J. Strike Dam, Minicoke Dam, Coray Lake and the Wood River area.

Survivors include his wife, Miriam Uptain of Buhl; mother, Doris Uptain (Shirley) Uptain; three brothers, Clinton (Shirley) Uptain and Roy (Lynette) Uptain, both of Buhl, and Samuel (Patsy) Uptain of Squaw Valley, California; two sisters, Louise (Rene) Burkhalter of Buhl and Thelma (Lyle) Hestley of Porterville, California; stepchildren, Pat and Ephraim Dutt, Carol Myran, Ruth and Dayle Throckmorton, Joannie and Randy Tillet, Larry and Bev Runyan, Kenneth and Jane Runyan, and Charles and Jacqueline Runyan; ten step grandchildren; 28 step great-grandchildren; 7 step great-great-grandchildren; and numerous nieces, nephews and grandnieces preceded in death by his father, Earben and a brother, Jerry.

Funeral services will be at 2 p.m. Wednesday, March 22, 2000, at Farmer Funeral Chapel in Buhl. Interment will be in West End cemetery. Viewing will be from 5-7 p.m. Tuesday at the funeral chapel. For those who desire, contributions may be made to any charity of choice.

John F. Muirhead

John Fletcher Muirhead, 77, passed away March 16, 2000, at his home in Buhl. God saw that he was getting tired and a cure was not to be. So He put His arms around him and whispered, "Come with Me." With Tearful eyes, a determined spirit was at rest. God only takes our hearts to prove to us. He only broke the bast.

John was born July 10, 1922, in Summit, Neb., to John D. and Bertha Lagerberg Muirhead. He grew up in Steamboat Springs, Co. When he was 16 years old, he moved with his family to Buhl at the start of the armed forces during World War II in the Pacific. While on lurlough, he met Joan Beach and they were married on June 6, 1947. They were blessed with three children. He enjoyed working on the ranch and hauling wood. His biggest love was his family and they will miss him a lot.

He is survived by his wife, Joan; daughter, Pam (Jim) Downes; son, John (Linda) Muirhead; 3 granddaughters, Kalia (John) Odum, Kristina (Sunny) Muirhead; 2 sisters, Helen Osterhout of Washington and Jane Frevick of Tucson, Az.; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his daughter, Julie Ann; his parents; and sister, Eleanor Tolson.

His wishes were to be cremated with no services. Memorial donations may be made in John's name to the Lutheran Church and the Post Office, Twin Falls, ID 83301. A special thank you to Pam from Hospicio.

BURLEY



Ruth A. Hossfeld

Ruth Alene Hinz Hossfeld, 69-year-old Burley resident, died Thursday, March 16, 2000, at the Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley.

She was born on March 6, 1931, in Horton, Kansas, the daughter of Jerry H. and Esther Schmitt Hinz. She graduated from Powhattan High School in Powhattan, Kansas. Ruth married Louis W. Hossfeld on June 5, 1949, in Powhattan, Kansas. Following their marriage, she worked on the family farm and other various jobs until 1974, when she moved to Burley. She worked at Sow City Fabrics for ten years and was a city of Burley for eight years. She retired in 1994. She was a member of the Lutheran Church and a past member of the American Legion Auxiliary in Powhattan, Kansas. Ruth had many

hobbies including sewing, bowling, various crafts, gardening, fishing, camping, and most of all she loved spending time with her family. She will be greatly missed.

Survivors include her husband, Louis of Burley; four sons, Bruce (Connie) Hossfeld of Paul, Vaughn (Jayne) Hossfeld of Burley, Kevin (Traci) Hossfeld and Kirk (Kelly) Hossfeld, all of Boise; a brother, Harry Lyle Hinz of Hlawatha, Kansas; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren. She was preceded in death by her parents and one sister. Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 21, 2000, at the Zion Lutheran Church, 2410 Hurley Avenue in Burley, with the Reverend L. G. Miltzner officiating. Friends may call at the Payne Mortuary, 221 West Main Street in Burley, Tuesday from 6 to 8 p.m. and at the church from 10 to 10:45 a.m. prior to the funeral on Wednesday.

HEYBURN



Arthur R. White

Arthur Richard White, 84-year-old Heyburn resident, died Thursday, March 16, 2000, at the home of his daughter in Burley. He was born January 20, 1916, in Braggs, Oklahoma, the son of James Franklin and May White. He moved to California as a small child along with his father and two sisters. He served in the U.S. Air Force in 1942. He married Wilma Foster on January 19, 1941, in Reno, Nevada. They made their home in Marysville, California, before moving to Idaho in 1970.

He is survived by his son, Ron (Janet) White of Moses Lake; daughter, Brenda (Kennel) Staker, of Burley; 10 grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Wilma White, of 54 years; parents; 2 sisters; and 1 daughter, Boty (White) Eppers.

Graveside services will be conducted at 2 p.m. Monday, March 20, 2000, at the Rupert Crematory with Military Rites by the local veterans. Arrangements are under the direction of Hanson Mortuary Chapel.

MALTA



Thomas Gay Teeter

Gay Teeter, 58-year-old Malta resident, died Friday, March 17, 2000, in Albion.

He was born on May 29, 1941, at Brigham City, Utah, the son of Thomas Roy Emer and Mary Elizabeth Hurd Teeter. He spent his earlier years in the Yost, Utah, and Malta areas. He met and married Carolyn Stephens on December 29, 1960. They had eight children and lived in the Malta area throughout their marriage. Their marriage was later solemnized in the Logan LDS Temple. He worked in farming for Cing Tobin for the first few years of their married life and later worked as a farm manager for Hiram Farms for many years. He then ran the gas station in Malta for a few years. He enjoyed living and later worked on including construction, fencing, custom farming, and farm hand to many area farmers in his later years, he was self employed. Gay especially loved family reunions, working with cub scouts, fishing, hunting and he loved going to church in Albion.

Survivors include his wife, Carolyn Teeter of Malta; five daughters, Gaylynn (Nick) Telford of Heyburn, Cindy Leebetter and Sandy (Richard) De La Torre, all of Moses Lake Washington, Jennifer Teeter and Stacey Teeter, both of Malta; two sons, Randall (Janet) Teeter and Heyburn and Tyrell Teeter of Malta; his father, Thomas Roy Emer Teeter of Malta; three brothers, Terry Teeter, Ma. Clair Teeter and Ricky Teeter, both of Elba; six sisters, Tamara Worthington of Burley, Pauline Erickson of Almo, Linda Hamilton of Blackfoot, Coralee

John L. Howe of Twin Falls, memorial service at 3 p.m. today at the Grace Baptist Church (Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls).

Zoe Sierra Babbel of Omaha, Neb., graveside service at noon Monday at Sunset Memorial Park in Twin Falls; friends may call from 10:45-11:30 a.m. before the service Monday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls.

Ethel Lavina (Matson) Sparks Glenn of Twin Falls, service at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the LDS Stake Center on Maurice Street in Twin Falls; viewing will be from 6-8 p.m. Monday at White Mortuary in Twin Falls and one hour before the funeral Tuesday at the church.

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HOSPITALS

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

Admitted: Cassandra Kirey and Tyler Martinez, both of Twin Falls. Released: Kolton Hinton of Kimberly; Marvin Holmes of Gooding; Archie Umphenour of Twin Falls; and Leon Menke of Elko, Nev.

DEATH NOTICE

Robert Harkness

BURLEY - Robert Harkness, 46, of Burley, died Saturday, March 18, 2000, at Parke View Care Center in Burley. Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel.

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Se Habla Español

State senator sues former employee

DARLINGTON (AP) — Once a defendant, Clint Stennett is fighting back against a former employee who worked at the state senator's ranch.

Joe Bridges was a foreman and manager two years ago at Stennett's ranch located at the base of the Big Lost River range. He is suing his former boss to collect what he claims are wages earned but not paid.

The suit initially was filed in Butte County but two weeks ago was granted a change of venue as requested by Stennett's attorney Ned Williamson. The suit has been moved to Fifth District Court in Blaine County.

Last month Stennett answered allegations detailed by Bridges, denying any shortage of Bridges' \$2,000 monthly. Stennett also denied not paying Bridges for nearly \$900 for building and repairing a fence.

"I have employed many, many people over the years and never had any unresolved issues before," Stennett said last week. "So this troubles me because it is a specious claim."

The only allegations Stennett admitted to are that Bridges began work in 1998 and that he did in fact build a fence, albeit, "a substandard fence," Stennett said.

Stennett has filed a countersuit against Bridges and another employee Becki Perrine. The countersuit states that Bridges was terminated at the end of October 1998, while Perrine quit in mid-October. Bridges claims he worked until January 1999, while his salary ceased in October.

Court denies request to dismiss conviction

POCATELLO (AP) — U.S. District Judge Lynn Winnill has denied a motion from a Soda Springs industrialist to dismiss a conviction for knowingly endangering an employee and set a sentencing date for April 28.

Alan Elias' attorney, Craig Jorgenson, moved to dismiss based on the court's lack of jurisdiction about the proposed skatepark being planned for East Park. Nearly 20 young people showed up at the council meeting the night the issue was discussed.

"I'm getting excited about how willing youth are to serve," Masoner said. "They are seeing some things that need to happen. It is a great opportunity, which will be valuable to them later on."

Times-News staff writer Lorraine Cavener can be reached at the Mini-Cassia Bureau in Burley at 677-4042 or by e-mail at lcavener@magicalvalley.com

Elias was convicted in May 1999 of knowingly endangering employee Scott Dominguez's life three years earlier.

In August 1996, Elias, former owner of Evergreen Resources Inc., was charged with sending Dominguez into an 11-foot-high, 36-foot-long, 25,000-gallon tank holding sludge containing phosphoric acid and cyanide, a combination that creates deadly hydrogen cyanide gas.

The tank was owned by Evergreen Resources, a company based in Soda Springs, that was processing almost 900,000 tons of calcine waste from a nearby phosphorous plant.

Forest officials review land swap comments

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — Targhee National Forest officials are sifting through more than 4,000 comments from the public on a controversial proposal to trade forest land for a ski resort.

Forest Supervisor Jerry Reese said an environmental study of the swap with Grand Targhee Ski Resort will be changed in response to the comments. The final environmental impact statement is due for release in June.

"We're moving along steadily ... but there's a lot of information to wade through that we have to deal with," Reese said.

Grand Targhee Ski Resort operates in the forest on the western slope of the Teton Range and has an option to buy about 385 acres of private land in Squirrel Meadows, one of the forest's largest private inholdings.

Ski area officials have said trading the land for 195 acres of national forest land at the base of the ski area would put Grand Targhee in a better position to finance expansion, including new lifts and more lodging.

The Forest Service's preferred plan would create a new town with almost 1,000 new housing units and a retail and commercial center.

Watersheds Project files for quail

HAILLEY (AP) — The Idaho Watersheds Project and several other parties have filed a petition with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list the mountain quail under the Endangered Species Act.

The Committee for Idaho's High Desert, the Spokane Audubon Society and Rob Kavanaugh, from Olympia, Wash., also filed.

Project leaders say the mountain quail is the only quail native to Idaho, northern Nevada, Washington and Oregon. They further say the bird has disappeared from all portions of these states' interior landscapes.

The petition proposes listing the mountain quail east of the Cascade Crest in Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Reno and Nevada as a Distinct Population Segment. Mountain quail survival in these areas is tied to riparian shrub thickets and sagebrush, and their numbers have diminished.

"The loss of mountain quail from the rugged canyons and foothills of Idaho is inexcusable," said Katie Fire, Idaho Watersheds Project biologist. "Agencies have known for decades that these populations were disappearing, yet they have failed to act."



Jamie Chapburn, left, a senior at Decio High School and chairman of the Youth Advisory Committee, facilitates a meeting with Adria Masoner of the South Central District Health Department.

Mini-Cassia projects get teens involved

BURLEY — Young people in Mini-Cassia would like to improve their relationships with adults.

The results of a recent survey sponsored by HealthNet showed that 23 percent of Minidoka County's young people and 29 percent of Cassia County's young people do not think they are valued by adults. In an effort to improve the relationship between the generations, HealthNet has put together a Youth Advisory Committee made up of more than 40 young people from the two counties, said Adria Masoner of the South Central District Health Department.

The ideas that come out of the committee will be used by HealthNet in future projects, Masoner said.

The youth committee is also busy with community projects and recently began helping out with Relay For Life, a fund-raiser for the American Cancer Society. The teens are forming their own team for the relay.

"It is exciting to see these kids have input in the community," Masoner said.

And the teens are excited to be involved.

"I think it's good they are including us and inviting all the schools," said Robert Kabel, a Minico High School senior.

HealthNet is also sponsoring a talk show every Friday on a local radio station. Young people are often guests on the show and are telling how assets play a role in their lives, said Tammy Hanks, Mini-Cassia HealthNet facilitator.

The teens are also helping out with a seat belt program sponsored by the Cassia and Minidoka County sheriff's departments, Hanks said. The young people are learning about seat belt safety and "will go into the community partnered with police to teach their peers and adults, as well as children in elementary classrooms," she said.

The Burley City Council is also getting into the act. Masoner, a council member, said the council plans to involve young people on all the committees that advise the council. The council recently asked for input from Burley teens about the proposed skatepark being planned for East Park. Nearly 20 young people showed up at the council meeting the night the issue was discussed.

BSU to house center for international scientific group

BOISE (AP) — Boise State University has established an international research center designed to promote statistical methods in science and engineering.

A \$1 million donation will support the center.

The State Board of Education last week approved creation of the Edwin T. Jaynes International Center for Bayesian Methods and Maximum Entropy. Boise State's College of Engineering will house the center, set to be the first of its kind in the world.

Bayesian statistics attempt to apply Bayes' theorem — which allows one to calculate odds and other statistics when new information is developed — to practical problems. Areas of application range from signal processing to thermodynamics.

Maximum entropy is a theoretical method used to develop data when little information is available. Image enhancement of unclear astronomical and medical images can be clarified using these methods.

John Parker Burg, a retired scientist from Cupertino, Calif., donated the \$1 million. Burg earned a Ph.D. from Stanford University in geophysics and has been involved in oil seismic exploration.

The center will help pay for an annual international conference on Bayesian methods. Boise State hosted MaxEnt '99. The 19th Annual Conference on Bayesian Methods and Maximum Entropy last summer. The university also hosted the association's 1997 meeting.

An additional \$20,000 in gifts also will help go to establish the center. Funds will be generated by income from gifts to the Boise State University Foundation in the center's name.

The late Edwin Jaynes was a pioneer in expanding Bayesian and maximum entropy methods to a range of sciences. He was a physicist at Washington University in St. Louis.

The center also will establish a Web site, a speakers' series and an award to honor standouts in the field of Bayesian theory.

Races

Continued from B1

alien-looking plastic vase covered with dog biscuits turned upside down on her head and futuristic-looking eyegear made of forks, spoons and springy steel.

Ten-year-old Lucas King, of Hailley, and his golden retriever Rider came dressed for the affair with jet packs on their backs — actually wine bottles covered with aluminum foil that sparkled in the sun as they blasted off.

Some skiers barely exerted themselves, letting their dogs pull them along the ski tracks — even on uphill portions of the trail. Others like Kara Rondani, of Hailley, found themselves literally flying through the air only to come to an abrupt stop when their dogs stopped to sniff other dogs or to have their mark in the middle of their intergalactic journey.

Jen Douglas, dressed as Rosie the Jetson, maid in a "space age titanium" outfit made of cardboard, a cylindrical headpiece and pipe cleaners, didn't move quite as fast as the other space age contraptions buzzing past her. But, then, robots aren't supposed to be fast. She crashed as she was ready to re-enter the gun club's orbit when she got tangled with her dog's leash.

"I couldn't see out of my headgear to get back up. But it was fun and for a good cause," she said. "I'm surprised my tummy and buttons didn't come off in the crash. I owe that to the power of duct tape."

Faw N' Pole was started by Ketchum resident Bobby Noyes, who got the idea while cross-country skiing with his Lab

Springer named Nike. The affair netted \$284 the first year. Last year it raised more than \$14,000 for the Animal Shelter of the Wood River Valley. And it has spawned similar events in such snow country towns as Breckenridge.

"It's an event where expert skiers and children both can have a good time," said organizer Nancy Smith. "No one takes themselves seriously. They're all in costume and having a good time."

In between relays and anti-gravity races, pets posed for campy canine pet tricks, such as prying apart their masters' rubbed their tummies. And Mikey Probst, a former Olympic cross-country skier from Germany, gave a ski-joring demonstration, showing how two huskies could pull her on skis around the cross-country course.

Ross Hoyal of Tacoma, Wash., said she would have to return to next year's Paw N' Pole with her 85-pound dalmation.

"He would love this. But I'll need to brush up on my cross-country skills between now and then," she said.

Times-News correspondent Karen Bossick can be reached in Hailley at 578-2111.

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MAGIC VALLEY

Buhl teacher wins award

Loretta Burkhardt
Times-News correspondent

BUHL - Teacher Lana Phillips is dedicated to giving children the best start in life. And that dedication is one reason the West End Head Start family educator has been named Teacher of the Year by the National Head Start Association.

Phillips was nominated for the award by WEHS Supervisor Judy Widener. Phillips is the first teacher from Idaho to ever win the national Head Start Teacher of the Year award, Widener said.

Phillips, who began working as a volunteer in the WEHS program 11 years ago, received \$500 and will also receive a commemorative plaque and an expensive education trip to Reggio Emilia, Italy, where, according to a brochure, the early childhood programs have captured the attention of the world.

Nominations for the award were judged on training, qualifications, credentials and special contributions.

"She has made so many special contributions to this program," Widener said. Phillips credits her desire to help others to her 24-year-old daughter, Jaimi, who is developmentally challenged.

She said her work with children has brought her many rewards.

"I receive rewards and am rewarded daily by the children and their families," Phillips said. Phillips has taught her students a variety of things, including puppetry, dance and Spanish as a Second Language.

"I'm happy to be able to use the (second language) because I know how much it helps the families...and I don't know of anything greater than the family



West End Head Start teacher Lana Phillips has been named 'Teacher of the Year' by the National Head Start Association.

unit," Phillips said. South Central Head Start Director Donna Suhr said Phillips is very good at finding new teaching methods and applying them in her classroom. "When she decided to improve her classroom environment, she built a model, gathered volun-

teers and put together her dream of what a classroom can be," Suhr said. "She's a committed person, and we all feel her excitement."

Times-News correspondent Loretta Burkhardt can be reached in Buhl at 543-6683.

The Times-News

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

Misdemeanor sentences Twin Falls County

William Robert Murray, 30, 1335 Fifth Ave. E., Twin Falls driving without privilege; pleaded guilty; \$200 fine; 30 days' jail time; suspended; 12 months' probation; Magistrate Judge John McManis.
Lulu Ann Cooper, 20, 533 Quince St., Twin Falls unauthorized possession of prescription; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine, with \$200 suspended; 30 days' jail time; suspended; 12 months' probation; Magistrate Judge John McManis.
Billy Duane Johnson, 27, 2540 E. 3300 N., Twin Falls court 1, battery; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine, suspended; 30 days' jail time, with 35 days' suspended; 24 months' probation; court 2, battery; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine, suspended; 180 days' jail time, with 35 days' suspended; 24 months' probation; Magistrate Judge John McManis.
Michael E. Sent, 15, 276 N. 200 W., Jerome possession of mutilated, revoked driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$20 fine; \$63.00 court costs; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.
Trevia Lewis Clark, 21, 136 10th Ave. E., Twin Falls driving without privilege; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine, with 8 days' suspended; 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.
Sarah A. McLennan, 18, 422 12 1/2th Ave. E., Twin Falls driving without privilege; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine, with 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.
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Rita Agundez, 17, 145 First Ave. E., Jerome driving without privilege; pleaded guilty; 30 days' detention, suspended; six months' probation; 25 hours community service; no association with anyone else on probation; no drug, alcohol or any other intoxicating substance; Magistrate Judge John Verin.
Andrew Livly, 16, 1529 N. 1700 E., Buhl battery; pleaded guilty; 90 days' detention, 10 days' probation; 80 hours community service; submit to search and seizure; no association with anyone else on probation; no drug, alcohol or any other intoxicating substance; Magistrate Judge John Verin.
Rafaela Haddock, 18, 423 Sixth St. N., Twin Falls possession of controlled substance; pleaded guilty; \$63.00 court costs, 20 days' discretionary, 170 days' suspended; six months' probation; 30 hours community service; submit to search and seizure; no association with anyone else on probation; no drug, alcohol or any other intoxicating substance; Magistrate Judge John Verin.

City of Twin Falls

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Sarah A. McLennan, 18, 422 12 1/2th Ave. E., Twin Falls driving without privilege; pleaded guilty; \$300 fine, with 180 days' driving privileges suspended; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.
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City of Twin Falls

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Rita Agundez, 17, 145 First Ave. E., Jerome driving without privilege; pleaded guilty; 30 days' detention, suspended; six months' probation; 25 hours community service; no association with anyone else on probation; no drug, alcohol or any other intoxicating substance; Magistrate Judge John Verin.
Andrew Livly, 16, 1529 N. 1700 E., Buhl battery; pleaded guilty; 90 days' detention, 10 days' probation; 80 hours community service; submit to search and seizure; no association with anyone else on probation; no drug, alcohol or any other intoxicating substance; Magistrate Judge John Verin.
Rafaela Haddock, 18, 423 Sixth St. N., Twin Falls possession of controlled substance; pleaded guilty; \$63.00 court costs, 20 days' discretionary, 170 days' suspended; six months' probation; 30 hours community service; submit to search and seizure; no association with anyone else on probation; no drug, alcohol or any other intoxicating substance; Magistrate Judge John Verin.

FOR THE RECORD

The Times-News

BURLEY - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Cassia County included:

Cassia County

Drunk-driving sentences

Kelsey M. Bradshaw, 18, 3595 N. Five Mile #K103, Boise; under age 21 misdemeanor; \$421 fine with \$300 suspended; \$78.50 court costs, \$25 defender fees, one year's probation, one year's driver's license suspended; Magistrate Judge Roy C. Holloway.
Mario Deleon Jr., 18, 730 14th St., Heyburn; under age 21 misdemeanor; \$750 fine with \$228.50 suspended; \$78.50 court costs, 30 days' jail with 28 suspended, one year's probation, six months' driver's license suspended, time credited; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.
Samuel Rangil Garcia, 43, 422 E. Idaho St., Pauli; misdemeanor; \$146.50 fine, \$78.50 court costs, 30 days' jail with 28 suspended, six months' probation, 180 days' driver's license suspended, time credited; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.
Roberto Orozco Hurtado, 30, 506 Arizona, Gooding; felony; pleaded guilty; one year's driver's license suspended; District Judge M. Carlson.

Felony dismissals

Laura Nicole Zecher, 32, 400 W. 13th St. #3, Burley; burglary; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.
Billy Mack Daniel, 31, 7 N. 300 W. #5, Burley; one count manufacture or delivery of a controlled substance when children are present and one count drug stamp tax violation; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.
Araceli Hernandez, 23, 2211 21st St., Heyburn; two counts felony; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.
Abel Ortega, 25, 1535 Miller Ave., Burley; enhanced use of deadly weapon to commit a felony; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.
Adam James Smith, 23, 3600 N. 3017 E.,

Twin Falls; two counts delivery of controlled substance; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.

Felony sentences

Billy Mack Daniel, 31, 7 N. 300 W. #5, Burley; manufacture controlled substance; pleaded guilty to disposition given; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.
Debra E. Day, 45, 240 E. Fifth St., Burley; acquitted on two counts delivery of controlled substance and found guilty on one count delivery of controlled substance; \$228.90 restitution due victims, \$88.50 court costs, 18 months' indeterminate penitentiary time, no credit for time served; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.
Antonio Alvarado Jr., 29, 519 Miller Ave., Burley; burglary; \$88.50 court costs, 12 months' indeterminate penitentiary time, 24 months' probation, 120 days' retained jurisdiction, no credit; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.
Ruben Beltrame, 32, 727 Oakley Ave., Burley; possession of controlled substance; \$88.50 court costs, \$600 defender fees, seven days' jail, 30 months' probation, time credited, work release, withheld judgment; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.
Mario Deleon Jr., 18, 730 14th St., Heyburn; flee or attempt to elude a police officer; \$88.50 court costs, \$600 defender fees, 36 months' probation; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.
Heriberto Salazar Herrera, 37, 757 Normal Ave. #6, Burley; possession of controlled substance; \$88.50 court costs, \$600 defender fees, 30 days' jail, 30 months' probation, 180 days' driver's license suspended, time credited; Magistrate Judge Roy C. Holloway.
Abel Ortega, 25, 1535 Miller Ave., Burley; aggravated battery; \$88.50 court costs, two days' jail, time credited, work

release, withheld judgment; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.

Adam James Smith, 23, 3600 N. 3017 E.,

Dismissal; disposition given; District Judge Monte B. Carlson.

Mindoka County

RUPERT - Recent activity in 5th District Court in Mindoka County included:

Drunk-driving dismissals

Glen Wayne Turner, 47, 124 E. 17th St., Rupert; excessive felony; District Judge J. William Hart.

Drunk-driving sentences

Shawn D. Robinson, 20, Route 2 Box 203, Rupert; misdemeanor; withheld judgment; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.
Aaron Weber Swanson, 28, S.E. Cherry Lane, Rupert; misdemeanor amended to inattentive/careless driving; \$150 fine, \$63.50 court costs, 10 days' jail, suspended, one year's probation; Magistrate Judge Michael R. Crabtree.

Felony dismissals

Kimber Jay Maxson, 23, 600 S. 346 W., Heyburn; possession of controlled substance; Magistrate Judge Roy C. Holloway.

Felony sentences

Antonio Aguilar, 22, Route 4 Box 306, Rupert; failure to stop and render aid at injury accident/leaving scene of accident; \$88.50 court costs, 365 days' jail, five years' probation, five years' indeterminate penitentiary time, suspended, time credited; District Judge J. William Hart.
Jeremiah Louis Dillon, 20, 2368 First Ave., Twin Falls; possession of forged check; \$88.50 court costs, \$250 defender fees, two years' indeterminate penitentiary time, retained sentence, time credited; District Judge J. William Hart.

The Times-News

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

Misdemeanor dismissals

Christine Lee Davis, 41, 50 Clinton Lane, Twin Falls; disturbing the peace; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumback.
Kathrin M. Turner, 17, 362 Van Buren, Twin Falls; disturbing the peace; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumback.
Denny R. Casillas, 23, 1094 Pinewood Circle, Twin Falls; driving without privilege; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumback.
Michael J. Chavez-Gutierrez, 41, 226 Washington St. N., No. 1, Twin Falls; retaining or obstructing a prisoner by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumback.
James Dean Williams, 20, 340 Gardner, Twin Falls; retaining or obstructing a prisoner by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumback.
Thomas W. O'Leary, 21, 1245 W. Way, Twin Falls; driving under the influence; dismissed by prosecutor; Magistrate Judge Charles Brumback.
Thomas A. Bell, 21, 1976 Laura Circle, Twin Falls; reckless driving; amended to inattentive/careless driving; pleaded guilty; \$63.50 court costs, 30 days' jail, suspended; six months' probation; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.
Jose Luis Chavez-Gutierrez, 41, 226 Washington St. N., No. 1, Twin Falls; discharge of a firearm in city limits; pleaded guilty; \$10 fine, \$63.50 court costs, 30 days' jail, suspended; six months' probation; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.
Joan C. Richards, 24, 2140 Elizabeth, Apt. No. 111 C, Twin Falls; driving while driving with expired license; pleaded guilty; \$75 fine; \$63.50 court costs; court 2, failure to appear for misdemeanor; pleaded guilty; \$50 fine; \$63.50 court costs; 30 days' jail, suspended; six months' probation; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.
Troy Lee McFarlin, 37, 146 Ardubawn Ave. W., No. 45, Twin Falls; driving without privilege; amended to failure to purchase/valid driver's license; pleaded guilty; \$10 fine, \$63.50 court costs; five days' jail, suspended; six months' probation; Magistrate Judge Michael Redman.

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Get into the outdoors
Every Thursday in the Outdoors section, The Times-News guides Magic Valley residents to recreational opportunities.

Happy Birthday
Helen Henderson
Join us for Helen's Birthday Celebration, to be held at Cavanaugh's, 1357 Blue Lakes Blvd N on Sunday, March 19, 1 pm to 4 pm

It's time you saw a new sinus center.

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The Sinus Center - Idaho
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DOCTOR CLOSING PRACTICE
Dr. Mary Groda-Lewis will close her medical practice at 224 Martin St., Twin Falls, on Friday, April 28, 2000.
Dr. Mary has been a family doctor in the Magic Valley for nearly 13 years.
'With mixed emotions, I leave,' she said. 'I will miss my patients tremendously. On the other hand, I look forward to a less stressful life.
The hospital is seeking a new physician to take over the practice. Until that time, a temporary doctor will be seeing patients after Dr. Mary leaves.
Patients can request records be sent to the doctor of their choice. Dr. Mary will continue to see patients until April 28.

Protective Life Corporation is offering the above securities to the public on or around March 20, 2000.
Anticipated features:
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8.15 - 8.35% due October 1, 2030
■ Expected to be rated by Standard & Poor's and Moody's.
Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P. is pleased to be the lead managing underwriter for this offering. For further information and a copy of the prospectus, call or stop by today.

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Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P. is pleased to be the lead managing underwriter for this offering. For further information and a copy of the prospectus, call or stop by today.
These notes are being issued off a shelf registration and are offered only by the prospectus. This ad shall not constitute an offer to sell or the solicitation of an offer to buy nor shall there be any sale of these securities in any state in which such offer, solicitation or sale would be unlawful prior to registration or qualification under the securities laws of any state.

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IDAHO/WEST

NASA workshop gives teachers tools

By Barb Nelwert
Times-News writer

HAILEY - Time to put on your thinking cap.

What type of candy does the following describe? The outside of the sample consists of a thin, medium brown layer with wavy ripple marks on the bottom. The inside has a bottom layer that is dense and dark buff while the top layer is shiny, smooth and medium tan. The correct answer? A Milky Way.

And to test your own descriptive prowess, try describing in geologic field note style - without using food terms - a side view of a Snickers Bar. Not so easy as it sounds.

The edible "rock" activity is just one of 19 lessons teachers can use with their students to explore the mysteries of meteorites and their connection to space. The candy is used in a scientific context to show students the importance of observation, teamwork and communication skills.

The beauty of the lesson, designed by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), is that students "get excited about candy" and "will eagerly participate" in the lesson.

Thor, an eighth-grade earth science teacher at Wood River Middle School.

It's a great activity. It's really going to get the kids' attention," predicted Hemingway Elementary School technology teacher Terry Thode.

Thor and Thode were two of the nine County science, math and English teachers who attended an all-day "Lunar Science" workshop in Hailey. Tom Gates,



Teachers Valerie Thor and Stephen Poklemba learned what candy bars and meteorites have in common at a "Lunar Science" workshop Friday in Hailey. Teachers from Blaine County schools learned some innovative teaching techniques from Tom Gates, an aerospace educator from the NASA Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, Calif.

an aerospace educator from the NASA Ames Research Center in Moffett Field, Calif., presented workshops for students on Wednesday and Thursday before conducting the teacher workshops.

Students and their teachers got to examine small samples of meteorites and some of the 842 pounds of moon rocks that have been retrieved from the moon's surface. From the study of these samples, scientists have discovered that moon rocks are made up of a lot of the same materials found on Earth. Encased in a

plastic-molded disk to prevent corrosion, the moon samples are chemically the same as rocks and minerals found on Earth.

The lunar samples revealed breccia, basalt, anorthosite and finely ground soils from three different regions of the moon. The meteorite samples contained iron, achondrite, chondrites and stony-iron.

Teaching students about the moon - the gateway to the solar system - serves as a means to

educate students about the development of the solar system, Gates said. Meteorites are particularly important because they are a fundamental part of how star systems are formed, he said.

The 17 teachers attending the workshop became certified to receive loans of samples for classroom use, and several said they plan to take NASA up on their offer.

Times-News correspondent Barb Nelwert can be reached in Hailey at 788-2925 or urrtconnection@sunvalley.net.

Meth lab cleanups exhaust funding

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - Clandestine methamphetamine labs are doing a booming business, and Idaho and federal authorities are running out of money to clean up chemicals left at the busted toxic sites.

Money from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency that normally pays for lab cleanup across the country has dried up.

That is because of the growing number of labs across the United States, said Mark Thomas, resident agent-in-charge of the DEA's Spokane office.

"It was costing a lot of money," he said.

The Idaho State Police have identified more than \$100,000 that will be used to help pay for cleanups until a long-term funding source is identified, Maj. Dan Charboneau said. State officials are looking at federal funds, state

money and grants. "We're kicking over all these rocks to find money," he said. "Right now we have not settled on one single thing. Everything right now is on the table."

There is a possibility of funding money from Byrne grants: state grants used to help pay for various criminal justice programs. There also is talk of seeking money from other DEA programs.

"We are not out of business. We will continue to do this," Charboneau said.

The \$100,000 will help pay for about 25 to 30 medium to small lab cleanups, State Police Capt. Wayne Longo said.

So far this year, police have busted 20 labs in northern Idaho alone. There were six busts last week in the whole state, bringing Idaho's total to 37 this year.

Hatch seeks more cleanup money

OGDEN: Utah (AP) - With federal funds allotted for cleaning up meth labs now exhausted, Sen. Orrin Hatch wants an additional \$1.1 million for the toxic duty in Utah.

The \$6 million set aside by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration several years ago has already been spent, said Donald B. Hendricks, a federal agent in charge at the DEA in Salt Lake City.

Typical methamphetamine labs cost \$3,000 to \$6,000 to clean

up because of the toxic waste that making meth leaves behind, he said.

In Utah there are about 250 busted a year, bringing the total dollar amount for cleaning up the labs to about \$1 million annually.

Several states, such as California, don't rely entirely on federal funding because they have internal funding sources for cleanups.

"In Utah we don't have a funding mechanism for lab cleanups right now," he said.

Freight trains continue to go off rails along Kootenai, Moyie rivers

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - Boundary County officials are alarmed by the number of freight train derailments taking place along river courses in the Panhandle.

The second derailment in two weeks sent them racing to react to a possible hazardous spill on Thursday. But unlike last summer's derailment along the Kootenai River, the two recent accidents luckily did not involve any toxic materials.

The tanker cars are placarded and identified, but there's an extreme amount of hazardous materials in boxcars that aren't required to be registered," said Bob Graham, county emergency

incident commander. With both the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway and Union Pacific lines following waterways, "we're getting concerned about accidents putting hazardous materials in our watercourses, both from a fisheries standpoint and the fact that a lot of those waters are used domestically," Graham said.

A Burlington train traveling from Aberdeen, S.D., to Kalama, Wash., derailed Thursday about two miles east of the Moyie River, spilling cars filled with corn down the banks of the Kootenai River. No one was injured and there was no environmental damage reported.

Environmentalists see chance to cut logging

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Northwest Forest Plan was supposed to settle the fight over the threatened northern spotted owl by sharply curtailing logging on federal lands in western Washington state, western Oregon and northern California.

But those old fights are back again.

The Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management are crafting the final amendment to the Northwest Forest Plan since the document was approved in 1994.

With the plan on the operating table, environmentalists see a chance to win some of the concessions they failed to get six years ago.

They want to ban logging in 1 million acres of 80-year-old - or older - forests.

"We know more now than then the time the plan was put in place," says Randi Spivak, president of American Lands Alliance in Portland, Ore. "The standing value of these forests has increased to a value of cutting them down into 2-by-4s."

Environmentalists have generated about 4,500 postcards to the

Forest Service and BLM asking the officials to scrap a proposed draft amendment to the Northwest Forest Plan.

They want the agencies to write a new document that has a logging ban as an option.

But that is not likely, said Agriculture Undersecretary Jim Lyons, who oversees the Forest Service.

"The problem is that issue is a different issue and outside the scope of what we're trying to do here," Lyons said. "We recognize there is growing interest in that (logging ban), but I don't believe this is the appropriate venue."

Agency officials in December proposed the 492-page amendment to the more than 1,000 pages of the Northwest Forest Plan to detail how they will meet a plan requirement to conduct surveys for mollusks, fungi and other rare species.

They began work on the amendment last year after environmentalists sued them for failing to adequately conduct the surveys.

The lawsuit was settled in December.

The amendment offers four alternatives - the status quo or three different approaches to getting the surveys done.

No alternatives suggest a ban of logging in older forests, which would bring annual harvests under the Northwest Forest Plan to about 100 million board feet per year.

The alternative that reduces logging the most would allow about 505 million board feet of harvest. The most generous logging option under the amendment would yield 770 million board feet.

But 12 Democratic House members from Washington, Oregon and California urged Clinton's environmental adviser, George Frampton, to consider adding a no-logging-in-older-forests option to the amendment.

"It makes sense to look at an option of saving what little old growth we have," said Rep. David Wu, D-Ore., who along with Rep. Adam Smith, D-Wash., was a lead signor of a letter to Frampton in early March.

Five timber industry groups shot back with a letter to Smith

and Wu on Monday, saying the groups also favor scrapping the proposed amendment.

But they want to replace it with an amendment that would bring a more steady supply of timber to the region.

"There's a lot of companies that still depend on that volume," said Frank Gladys, president of the Independent Forest Products Association in Portland.

The Northwest Forest Plan covers 24 million acres of BLM and Forest Service lands but allows logging as a prime use in just 4 million of those acres.

With the onset of the plan, endangered species designations and other factors, logging has fallen by 80 percent in the last decade.

In 1999, mostly due to the species survey lawsuit by environmentalists, logging dropped to just 287 million board feet on Northwest Forest Plan lands - the lowest logging level in decades.

Despite gaining the upper hand, environmentalists are irked that a fourth of the public lands designated for logging have older trees.

Judge sentences day-care operator

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - A day-care operator charged with child abuse for allowing a 15-month-old child to be bitten and kicked by another child has been fined \$50 by a justice court judge.

Nansi L. Kunz, 56, of South Salt Lake, pleaded no contest this week to class B misdemeanor child abuse.

Defense attorney Loni DeLand said the plea will be held in abeyance for one year and then dismissed.

In addition to the fine, the judge ordered Kunz to complete a day-care training program and Red Cross first-aid and CPR classes before she may reapply for a state day-care license.

Kunz lost her state license last

October after the mother of the injured child initiated an investigation by bringing the toddler to police.

The child had "numerous bite and kick marks," said South Salt Lake Assistant Police Chief Beau Babka.

During a subsequent police raid on the home, eight children were found on the premises. Police said Kunz was licensed to care for only six. She also did not have a city business license.

Child abuse charges against Kunz claimed she was reckless in her supervision of the children. Before this incident, police had never been called to Kunz's home, nor had any parent complained about the quality of child

care, police said.

Kunz said she had not decided whether she wants to reopen the home day care she operated for seven years.

"It's a possibility, but not for right now," she said.

Fire cuts power in New Mexico

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) - A grass fire that burned a power line knocked out electricity to nearly 550,000 New Mexico customers for up to two hours Saturday, snarling traffic in Albuquerque, shutting down radio and television stations and forcing the state high school basketball tournament to halt play.

Candy Hurst, an adoption supervisor with the state Department of Children, Youth and Families, was in her downtown Albuquerque office building during the blackout.

"I had to use my video camera light to get down seven flights of stairs," she said.

The fire in the Four Corners area burned a transmission line, which caused two power plants to shut down, utility officials said. People lost power from anywhere from 40 minutes to two hours.

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Historic trolley: Boise Interurban tied entire valley together

BOISE (AP) — "Our family lived about three miles out, near Collister. Max and I came in on the Interurban," wrote Howard Sarvis, Boise High School class of 1917, in a speech delivered at a 1985 reunion.

"How well I remember the tool of the whistles on those cars, the fantastic rattle of the trolley wheel on the frosty wire of a winter morning, the pause at the old Soldiers Home, where a few of the Civil War boys usually loaded on for an early start of a day on the town, with their rumpled blue uniforms,

black hats and white beards — the same ones often returning with us in the late afternoon, augmented, perhaps, by a few more of their comrades — and a peculiar odor reminiscent of the cool sourness of the saloons in the town."

The trolley system that ran in a loop between Boise and Caldwell folded in 1928, but its colorful history will be detailed in a book being created by Boise State University public history students.

Under the guidance of Nicholas Casmer, assistant professor of environ-

mental history, the students are sifting through archives, interviewing people and gathering photos of the trolley system, which ran between 1891 and 1928.

It was known in the community as the "Interurban."

Nampa resident Violet Connell, 83, is sharing her memories of the system with the students. She remembers riding the trolley with her family, which was among the first homesteaders in Marsing.

They would travel in a horse-drawn buggy from their home to the Snake

River, where they rang a bell for a ferry to take them across the river and on to Sunny Slope. From there, they would take the Interurban to Caldwell for a meal and some shopping.

"It would take us all day," Connell said.

While many Boise residents depended on the Interurban to get to jobs, shopping and doctor's appointments, rural dairy farmers and fruit growers relied on the trolley's freight cars to deliver their products to market, Casmer said.

The privately run Interurban was operated under several names: Boise Trolley, Boise Light Rail and Boise Valley Traction. In its heyday, the line covered 68 miles.

It ultimately ended up in the hands of Idaho Power Co., which sold appliances in the downtown station at Capitol Boulevard and Bannock Street. The Boise system eventually merged with its competitor, Caldwell Traction Co., expanding service to the west.

When it folded in 1928, it was known as Boise Interurban Railway Co.

There's no engine to rev in this roadster

Idaho high school engineering students build electric car

SANDPOINT (AP) — The 1929 Mercedes replica that four students at Sandpoint High School have built from a kit is one of the coolest cars on campus.

But this car isn't likely to elicit any "oohs" or "ahs" from muscle-car admirers when its "engine" comes to life. The car is electric, powered by 12 batteries that don't make a sound.

One of its student creators, senior Cole Gollen, turned the key in the purple sport convertible's ignition Wednesday to demonstrate. No starter turned over.

"It's on," he confirmed. "Not much to it."

The independent-study engineering technology students who built the car are convinced the internal combustion engine is on the way out, especially considering the recent rise in gasoline prices.

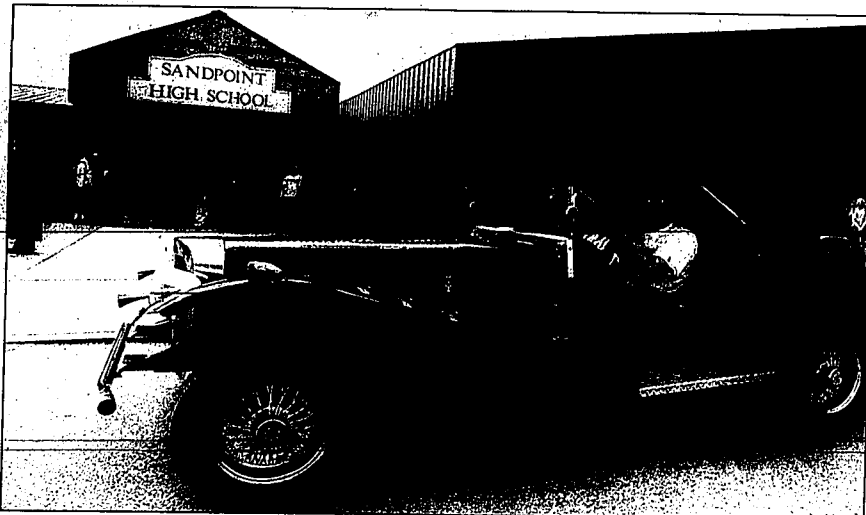
"Electric cars in some form or another will be what people will be driving in the future," said Nolan Clark, a senior who has worked on the car for two years.

Before the students tackled the project, they took a class in which they built go cart-sized electric race cars that are used as teaching tools in some schools.

The cars competed in regional contests. Cars that traveled the farthest in an hour on a 64-pound battery were declared winners.

The Mercedes has much more than the dozen batteries weighing 50 pounds each.

Most are stored beneath the fiberglass-bodied vehicle's hood, with the rest taking up space normally used for the back seat. The car's electrical chassis parts come from a Volkswagen and a Ford



Nolan Clark rides with driver Cole Gollen in their electric car in front of Sandpoint High School in Sandpoint Wednesday. The students constructed the car from a kit, with some help from area businesses.

Mustang.

Students were still working on their creation last week, and planned to add finishing touches such as an emergency brake and speedometer.

This summer, the students plan to drive the car in Sandpoint's "Lost in the '50s" parade.

"We'll be the only electric car in the parade," said Gary Quinn, the teacher who supervised the project.

Plenty of outside support made the project possible, including a school-to-work grant awarded in 1998. A local classic car enthusiast donated the car kit, and business-

es helped supply tires and the paint job.

Another company will help collect data on the car's performance with a laptop computer that is being installed inside.

The students believe the knowledge they've gained through the project will help them in college

and the job market.

"This is a chance for us to prove ourselves," said Lee Vanhorn, a senior who wants to open a custom car business.

"It's coming out great," he said of the car. "It really opened my eyes. I always thought gas engines were the best thing around."

Bomber may have wanted to get caught

LAS VEGAS (AP) — A Las Vegas man who placed incendiary devices at area churches and then stuck Post-it notes around downtown trying to get caught will be evaluated in a federal institution.

Federal prosecutors said James Carbullido was accused of placing the devices at more than nine Mormon churches throughout the Las Vegas Valley. Three of the devices ignited but were extinguished quickly, according to Thomas O'Connell, assistant U.S. attorney.

Some of the incidents occurred while church services were in progress, but no injuries or major damage was reported.

"Thank God he was not proficient at constructing incendiary devices," O'Connell said Friday.

"People were inside the churches when the devices were discovered. He was definitely dangerous," Carbullido was found innocent by reason of insanity Thursday. He will be evaluated in a federal medical facility, O'Connell said.

"He won't be released until it's determined he's no longer dangerous," O'Connell said.

A psychologist and a psychiatrist said Carbullido suffers from paranoid schizophrenia.

The incidents began in July 1998 and continued for a year until Carbullido began placing Post-it notes "with cryptic messages about the fires" on mail boxes and light poles in downtown Las Vegas, O'Connell said. He also placed some in an elevator in the Clark County Courthouse.

O'Connell said the notes referred to church fires and the message: "We need to talk about Mormons."

Some ranchers ignore the law, still try poisoning predators

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The days when ranchers could poison predators — and any other wildlife that happened along — are long gone but some livestock owners are not ready to abandon the practice.

Last week in Salt Lake City's U.S. District Court, authorities unveiled the latest Utah case.

Federal and state wildlife officials suspect Wasatch County sheepman Ray Lee Okelberry of illegally spiking mule deer carcasses with pesticides on his Wehburg property, resulting in the indiscriminate poisoning of numerous mammals and birds, including federally protected golden eagles.

The Goshen resident was charged with a single misdemeanor count of violating the federal Eagle Protection Act.

The investigation began after a hiker came across the poisoned bait while looking for a lost dog last April, according to the state Division of Wildlife Resources.

Wildlife officials found two poison-saturated deer carcasses surrounded by dead animals that apparently had scavenged a lethal meal, charging documents allege.

The dead animals included three eagles, which enjoy federal protection. Convicted eagle killers can be sentenced up to a year in jail and a \$100,000 fine. Repeat offenders can be charged with a felony.

"We've had way too many cases like this," said DWR enforcement chief Bob Elwood.

To protect their cattle and sheep from coyote depredation, Utah ranchers sometimes laced carcasses with potent deer with diluted poisons that are typically made for agricultural uses, he said.

This illegal war on coyotes kills heavy collateral casualties and puts the recreating public at risk.

Poisoning bait is a throwback to an era when Western ranches operated in the absence of

any regulation and in a culture that valued livestock over varmints and other nongame wildlife.

In 1996, a federal judge handed down a one-month jail sentence for a Salt Lake-area rancher who had an employee poison deer carcasses in East Canyon, causing the deaths of at least 13 eagles.

"They are putting out things that are a real threat to the environment," Elwood said. "To use any poison in a way other than its registered use is a violation of federal law. In many cases we find such high dosages, the animals die almost instantly. Then there are secondary poisonings. Any responsible person would understand how dangerous this is."

Just touching these carcasses poses dangers to humans, dogs and wildlife, Elwood said.

In the recent Wasatch County case, neither the hiker nor his dog was injured.

Officers removed the poisoned

animals on May 6, substituting them with the nonpoisoned carcasses of an eagle and deer, according to an affidavit by Bryce Findley, a special agent with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

Forensic analysis of the birds later found lethal levels of a "carbamate pesticide," matching the toxic substance laced into the flesh of the deer, the government alleges.

Findley and a state officer, Jodi Peck, set up video surveillance and got a neighbor to tell Okelberry "he had seen deer, skunk and bird carcasses at an unspecified location on Okelberry's property," Findley wrote.

The property in question is part of the Wallsburg Cooperative Management Unit.

This inclusion allows the Okelberry family to acquire additional deer tags in exchange for allowing the hunting public to stalk game in the area south-east of Deer Creek Reservoir.

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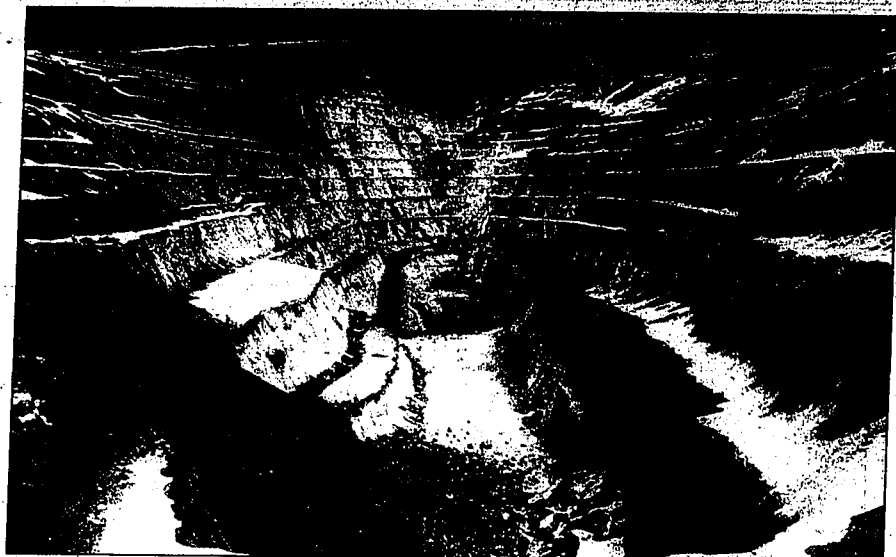
Idaho's last active gold mine closes, hitting 'one-company towns' hard

BOISE (AP) - The closure of eastern Idaho's Beartrack mine marks the end of an era for an industry that pumped millions of dollars into the state's economy and attracted those wanting to live and work in its rugged mountains.

When Reno, Nev.-based Meridian Gold opened the mine in 1994, employees were told it would be a seven-year job. And by the end of March, the last ore-filled truck will leave Idaho's last

active gold mine. "We all knew going in that it would be a six or seven-year project," said Jami Kluesner, a human resource coordinator for Meridian Gold. "We knew what was coming."

Out of 120 employees, 70 are relocating, some to other mining jobs in Utah, Nevada, Colorado, Wyoming and Montana. A skeleton crew of about 20 will stay behind to mine the heaps and do reclamation work. Complete clo-



A power shovel sits at the bottom of the Beartrack Mine pit near Salmon. The mine has pumped millions of dollars into the state's economy since it opened in 1994. Above left, the molten gold hardens into ingots such as these.

sure expected in 2002.

The closure's impact on nearby Salmon serves to underscore the economic trauma being experienced by small communities scattered throughout the state that relied on gold mining and logging. Survival in the new decade requires economic diversification.

"In the foreseeable future, mining is probably something that's going to be the exception rather than the rule," said Don Bellamy, the manager and vice president of the Bank of America branch in Salmon. "With the price of gold where it's at today as well as economics and complying with environmental regulations, it's pretty tough for that industry."

And things could get tough for Salmon. During the 1990s, Beartrack broke the state record for annual gold production and had between a \$13 million and \$20 million impact on Salmon. When it opened, it filled the economic void created by the closure of the Salmon Intermountain sawmill.

"The mine absorbed those jobs lost from the mill," Bellamy said.

"Now we'll see the full impact of losing the mine and the mill."

Bellamy said the town is working to expand its airport and maintain infrastructure to attract

outside businesses.

"If we're aggressive and successful in interesting other business to come here, and can keep our school and hospital, we'll continue to attract an economic base," Bellamy said. "If small towns are not successful in transitioning to other economies, you're going to see some pretty tough times."

Tough times or not, some are happy to see gold-mining companies leave Idaho. Conservation groups repeatedly criticized them for environmental degradation and the mess left behind.

"The Silver Valley in northern Idaho is the second largest Superfund site in the United States," Dallas Guggell of the Idaho Conservation League said. "And often times the responsible

parties go out of business and the state and Idaho citizens are left with a huge burden."

Environmentalists also questioned how much reclamation efforts helped.

"Most of the time it is just remedial work," Guggell said. "They're leaving sites with a lot of big problems like cyanide pools that could break. Idaho's water and rivers will be safer without operations like those going on."

And while they hope the companies do not return, it will be the price of whichever mineral they are looking for that dictates where they drill next.

"Mining companies continue to do exploration, and there are sites out there they know about," Alan Porter of the state

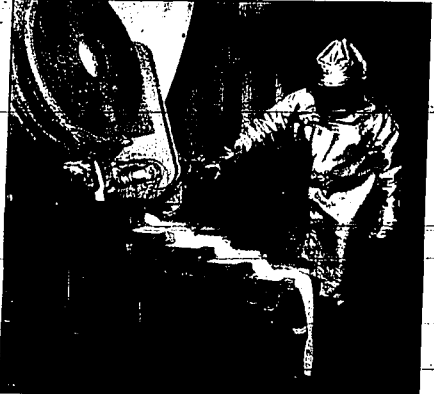
Department of Commerce said.

"But right now, prices are down. Meridian Gold, meanwhile, is looking elsewhere for the next motherlode."

"We opened up a mine in January in northern Chile called El Penon," Chief Executive Officer Brian Kennedy said. "We're also developing a mine in northern Nevada."

In 1997, Idaho ranked sixth in the nation for gold production and second in silver production. Northern Idaho's Silver Valley has produced over a billion ounces of silver, making it one of the world's most abundant regions.

While Idaho is famous for its precious metals, phosphate mining is the largest segment of the state's mineral industry.



Dave McLean pours molten gold ore from the Beartrack Mine into ingots earlier this month near Salmon. Employees of the Meridian Gold company knew seven years ago their last day was coming this year.

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Making sense of an 'up and down' year

HUTCHINSON, Kan. — Was here any doubt? Try as they might, a national championship just wasn't in the cards for this season's College of Southern Idaho men's basketball team. Turned out even facing in the elite eight was unmanageable.

Though just as talented, if not more athletic, than the top teams here at the NJCAA national tournament, it was the Golden Eagles' recent lack of tight situations and a disappointing state of brink laying that ultimately did in their season.

In fact, the tournament was a perfect microcosm of CSI's season.

Comparing sophomore Mike Hood summed it up best when he said his final season at CSI was a series of "ups-and-downs."

Boy, he wasn't kidding.

Hood played well before breaking his shooting hand with one short punch. It took a month and a half before the appendage healed, then another two to three weeks before he returned to form. What could've been a disastrous season for Hood has returned to one of promise for the future.

A confident CSI arrived at the national tournament with two goals in mind: leaving with a championship and a 30-win season. Neither materialized.

Against an overmatched and steam-rolled Cocheis College, the Golden Eagles saw their confidence, smashing the Apaches into submission. Then, facing a second-ranked Southeastern, two teams fought to the bitter end. But the battle-tested Blackhawk prevailed on their way to ultimately winning the school's first national title.

As head coach Joe O'Brien said: "We've played a tough schedule with many close games this season. That experience no doubt, has helped us in these wars."

For CSI, Wednesday's crushing blow took some of the luster from the Golden Eagles' nine- and 11-game regular-season win streaks.

NCAA national tourney results - C3

This team was just too easily distracted to be able to win a title — this season. Sprinkled with sophomores, a team that began the regular season 0-3 and was very green ended its season with a burning hunger and the necessary experience it needs to return to Hutch next season.

Though it seemed that every little thing was able to infiltrate and upset the fragile balance of the Golden Eagles during the year, ultimately they were able to forego the distractions and put it together on the floor.

Freshman Blandon Ferguson matured into a potential All-America candidate last week, and Nigerians Uche Okafor and the athletically gifted Ben Eze return to man the middle. With the thrilling skywalking of Jerry Duggan and deft games of Cardell Butler and Kendall Minor returning, this team should scare the hell out of the competition next season.

The final piece of the puzzle is a head point guard to replace the likes of Hood and Kenny Brunner. Whether that means William Parker returns to the fold, or some outstanding freshman arrives, recruiters are already actively on the trail for next year.

Get ready.

'Former Golden Eagle leads Purdue back to Big Dance

The Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Once again, Purdue needed some late-game heroics.

Once again, Jarraun Cornell and former College of Southern Idaho standout Greg McQuay supplied them, sending the Boilermakers to the final 16 for the third straight year.

McQuay led the sixth-seeded Boilermakers (23-9) with 16 points in a game marked by bruising physical play and relentless man-to-man defense that saw both teams contesting nearly every shot.

Cornell, converting key foul shots and long-range baskets, scored 13 of his 15 points in the final 9:30 as Purdue beat Oklahoma 66-62 on Saturday in the second round of the West Regional.

"We were stale on offense and I just wanted to step up personally and for my team," Cornell said. "After I hit the first three, I felt my rhythm and the rest fell down."

Purdue has seen Cornell do it before. In the Boilermakers' 62-61 first-round victory, he hit three three-pointers in the final nine minutes.

"This was an up and down game, the entire way, and we were able to pull it



Purdue center Greg McQuay, right, knocks the ball away from Oklahoma forward Eduardo Najera during the first half Saturday in Tucson, Ariz.

for this."

Nolan Johnson led Oklahoma (27-7) with 20 points. Eduardo Najera added 15 points and Hollis Price had 10 for the Sooners, who just missed a second straight trip to the regional semifinals.

But the Sooners especially were hurt by poor perimeter shooting. They were just 2-for-19 from beyond the arc after converting 10 of 21 three-pointers in their first-round rout of Winthrop.

"Purdue did a great job of containing our perimeter guys," Johnson said. "They weren't giving us any easy looks."

Added Najera, whose stellar career ended when he fouled out in the final minute, "I still can't believe we lost tonight. We had the game the whole time. We just didn't play smart enough."

Purdue will face 10th-seeded Gonzaga on Thursday in the regional semifinals in Albuquerque, N.M. The Bulldogs beat second-seeded St. John's 82-76.

"This team is like a roller coaster," McQuay said. "We do good, then we lay down for a while. We matched up really well with them. It was just a matter of who made the least mistakes."

Oklahoma coach Kelvin Sampson agreed.

"It's a fine, fine, fine line between win-

ning and losing this time of year," Sampson said. "We were a play away from going back to the Sweet 16."

Cornell, who hit three threes in the last nine minutes of Purdue's 62-61 first-round victory over Dayton, made clutch shots from beyond the arc and at the foul line.

With Purdue trailing 63-64 after consecutive layups by Najera and Victor Avila, Cornell rebounded a miss and put it back for a layup and then drained successive three-pointers to give Purdue a 52-49 lead with 7:49 remaining.

Oklahoma fought back to go in front 58-56 on Nolan Johnson's tip-in with 1:49 remaining but McQuay dunked off an alley-oop pass.

With 43.7 seconds left, Cornell was fouled on a three-point try and made all three free throws for a 63-60 lead with 43.7 seconds left.

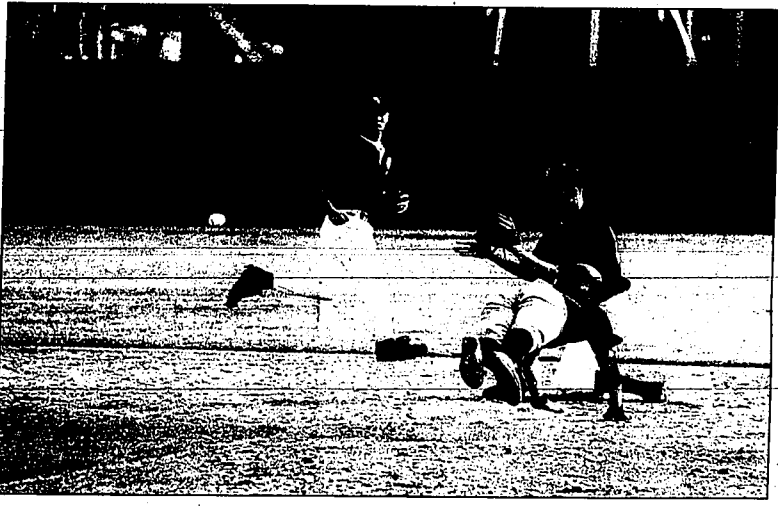
Price made both ends of a 1-and-1, hit Rodney White and made three of four free throws down the stretch to secure the victory.

Purdue lost its last chance when a pass from Price was deflected into the arms of Smith with 7:49 remaining.

Brian Cardinal, Purdue's leading scorer, who was just 349-13 on the night from the

Please see NCAA, Page C4.

MAKING THE PLAY



The Golden Eagles' Danny Clements awaits the throw to second base during Saturday's first game against Ricks College.

DOAN CASAR/For Times-News

Ricks bucks a CSI sweep

By Jeff Rosen Times-News sports editor

TWIN FALLS — Aaron Ott's one-hit relief performance earned him Buck the Bulldog and Ricks College a 6-5 Scenic West Athletic Conference baseball victory in the nightcap of a Saturday doubleheader at Frontier Field.

But College of Southern Idaho shortstop Nick Bullen delivered a bullish performance of his own, driving in the winning run to assure the Golden Eagles (3-5 in conference, 10-11 overall) of their second doubleheader split in two days.

Bullen's base hit broke an 11-11 draw in the bottom of the seventh inning, scoring Andy Gertz from second for a 12-11 win in the opening game.

"I knew they were going to throw me something off-speed," Bullen said. "I was looking for the curve ball. They threw it, I swung at it and I hit it."

Bullen nearly relived the glory in the seventh inning of the nightcap, but struck out swinging with the winning run aboard.

Credit Ott: The stocky Ricks freshman threw two scoreless innings to preserve the Vikings' nightcap win. Buck the Bulldog? The red stuffed animal was awarded by Ricks coach Jerry Schlegelmilch to the Vikings' hero of the day.

"Any time you lose a close one like we did, then win, it's a great thing," said Schlegelmilch, whose team improved to 5-3 in the SWAC, 7-12 overall. "It's emotion, highs and lows. And he hung in there."

In a see-saw Game 1, Ricks took the early lead in the third inning when Josh Hansen scored on an error. CSI sophomore starter Joey Clark lasted the rest

of the inning, allowing three hits, three runs and five walks and striking out five, but was replaced in the fourth by Paul Boyd.

After the Golden Eagles' assumed a 4-1 lead in the bottom of the frame on an error and a Jaime Kissner double, Nick Hansen took a bases-loaded walk to chase Boyd and tie it at 4.

JayDee Spendlove jumped on Nick Parker's second offering, clearing the bases with a deep line-drive double for a 7-4 Ricks

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Who's next? Hunt coach Rod Edmison throws his hat into ring

By Kevin Hall Times-News writer

HUTCHINSON, Kan. — Usually, coaches look forward to making the trip in March to Hutchinson, Kan., as a sign of success.

But for Hutchinson College women's basketball head coach Rod Edmison, success could be waiting in Twin Falls.

Edmison confirmed on Friday that he is interested in the current College of Southern Idaho women's head coach opening, left vacant by Joel Bate, who resigned the position after seven seasons on March 5.

"There's nothing that I can really comment on," he said. "But whether it be CSI or an assistant coaching position somewhere, when a good opportunity becomes available you have to



be interested."

Edmison, who's coached the Blue Dragons for seven years, wanted it perfectly clear that he is completely happy at Hutch.

"Hutch is a great place," he said. "So is CSI."

Edmison said he was formally introduced to CSI President Gerald Meyerhoffer and Athletic Director Jeff Duggan while both men attended the tournament in support of the

Golden Eagle men's team's bid for a third national championship.

Southern Idaho finished the tournament 1-2, and was eliminated on Thursday in a loss to Indiana's Vincennes University.

Duggan said that no formal interview for the vacant women's job has been conducted, but that Edmison was to have given him a resume and references before he and the team returned to Twin Falls today.

"Like any job search, he'll join the pool of qualified applicants," Duggan said.

Edmison added that he'd heard of the opening "through the grapevine," while actively recruiting in the area.

Duggan said he thinks Edmison had some connection to former CSI men's head coach Steve Irons.

Cubs' Wood looks good in first start with new elbow

The Associated Press

MESA, Ariz. — For about 20 minutes, Kerry Wood felt just like he did when he was called up to the big leagues in 1998. His stomach was jumping, his legs were weak and his body was shaking.

But as soon as he reared back, let the baseball fly and heard the umpire yell "Strike!" everything was right in his world.

"I felt like I was just out there playing catch," he said. "I forgot how much fun it was."

The 1998 NL Rookie of the Year made his first start Saturday since reconstructive elbow surgery last April, giving up one hit in one inning as the Cubs lost to the Chicago White Sox 8-7 in a split-squad game.

Sammy Sosa hit a two-run homer, his eighth of spring training, in the first inning as the Cubs

took a 6-0 lead. But Carlos Lee drove in three runs as the White Sox rallied.

A sold-out crowd of 12,426 packed the stadium to see Wood, and fans lined up early to catch a glimpse of the pitcher who tied a major league record in just his fifth career start, striking out 20 in a nine-inning game. One fan carried a sign that read, "Welcome Back, Kerry."

"You just get excited behind him," Cubs first baseman Mark Grace said. "So he hit him, he's great for the game. He's great for our team. I'm just ecstatic."

Wood threw 15 pitches, 10 of them strikes. But three of his pitches were fastballs, with his speed ranging from 93-97 mph.

"It's as good as he can get, I think," catcher Joe Girardi said. "I think he could have done much better."

Bruins split with Idaho Falls schools

By Holly Kert Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — After swallowing a sound beating from Idaho Falls High School, the Bruins bounced back to crush Skyline, another visiting Idaho Falls school, on their home softball field Saturday.

"We saw some bright spots," said Twin Falls coach Nick Baumert. "But there's still lots of work to do."

The two Idaho Falls schools traveled to the Magic Valley for games this weekend and left with mixed results.

Idaho Falls split with Minico Friday and defeated Twin Falls Saturday. Meanwhile, Skyline split the Bruins on base-stealer in Burley, then defeated Jerome and fell to Bruins Saturday.

The Bruins brought their record to 2-1 overall with the two non-conference outings.

Idaho Falls 6, Twin Falls 0

Jen Ozmun is the name, strike-outs are the game.

Ozmun, Idaho Falls' starting pitcher, retired nine Bruin batters and walked just one on the way to pitching a no-hitter Saturday afternoon. The previous afternoon, Ozmun struck out 16 at Minico.

"She's a tough pitcher," Baumert said. "But we weren't swinging at good pitches."

The Tigers' three errors and Ozmun's only walk of the outing put the Bruins on base just four times in the seven innings. Twin Falls was in scoring position every time it got on base, but failed to bring its runners home.

"We need to work on our short game," Baumert said. "We need to get some bunts down."

Idaho Falls center fielder Kali Baird singled in the first inning to drive home Kelsi Hunter for the first run of the game. Then the Tigers kept the Bruins score-

Please see BRUINS, Page C2.

SPORTS

Glenns Ferry Pilots race to a sizzling diamond start

The Times-News

GLENN'S FERRY - Four games into their baseball season...

The success is welcome, even if it takes some getting used to...

Senior Ryan Simons was the Pilots' spark in the first contest...

In the 11-1 nightcap, Glenns Ferry broke a 1-1 tie in the bottom of the fifth with a six-run rally...

Zach Simons - Ryan's freshman cousin - also had Glenns Ferry starter Juan Green error in the sixth inning for the win...

The Pilots (4-0) next host Wood River on Tuesday.

Glenns Ferry 2, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 11, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 12, Highland 0

Glenns Ferry 13, Wendell 2

Glenns Ferry 14, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 15, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 16, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 17, Wendell 2

Glenns Ferry 18, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 19, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 20, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 21, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 22, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 23, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 24, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 25, Wendell 1

Glenns Ferry 26, Wendell 1

Local sports

Buhl 14, Kimberly 0

Buhl - The Indians continued to pick up where they left off in 1999 Saturday...

In the 14-0 first game, the Indians got all their runs in the second frame...

Mathews struck out six and walked just one for the win...

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Madison 18, Burley 11

BURLEY - The battle of the Bobcats took place Saturday...

Madison came out with the win the first game, outscoring Burley by seven runs...

Burley is 1-5 overall and 0-2 in conference...

The Knights Saturday.

The Knights Saturday.

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Glenns Ferry 17, Wendell 2

Glenns Ferry - Candace Laib retired eight batters in the first game and struck out 13 in the second to give Glenns Ferry both wins in a doubleheader with Wendell.

The Trijans scored just two runs in the second game, both in the third inning...

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Skyline 4, Jerome 3

JEROME - The Jerome Lady Tigers started off Saturday playing the Skyline Bruins...

The Tigers later played the Idaho Falls Tigers for their second loss of the day...

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Pocatello 8, Jerome 5

JEROME - The Jerome Tigers battled the Highland Rams and Pocatello Indians Saturday.

The Jerome team has been playing without the help of five of their strongest players this week...

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Davenport increases string against Hingis

INDIAN WELLS, Calif. (AP) - World No. 2 Lindsay Davenport continued her recent domination of top-ranked Martina Hingis...

The victory was the 1999 Wimbledon winner's fifth in a row over Hingis...

Davenport held service to narrow the gap to 4-3, then, setting the tone for the rest of the match...

Hingis didn't win another game, and her mounting frustration showed as she threw her racket to the court...

Davenport finished with 35 unforced errors, most of them in the first 16 games...

Davenport, 23, began her current winning streak against Hingis in Sydney in 1999...

Davenport won 6-1, 7-5 in the final for her third Grand Slam singles title.

Davenport, from Newport Beach, Calif., is 11-7 lifetime against Hingis...

Davenport won 6-1, 7-5 in the final for her third Grand Slam singles title.

Iowa wins its sixth straight championship

ST. LOUIS (AP) - Iowa won its sixth straight NCAA wrestling championship not as a juggernaut...

Iowa won 6-1, 7-5 in the final for her third Grand Slam singles title.

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Bruins

Continued from C1

Continued from C1

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Continued from C1

Continued from C1

Continued from C1

Continued from C1

Continued from C1

Southeastern claims NJCAA national crown

HUTCHINSON, Kan. - Johnnie Selvie led 24 points and 12 rebounds as Southeastern Iowa beat Calhoun...

Southeastern closed the game at the free-throw line, getting 10 free throws...

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Bruins set softball camp for March 29-31

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Lady Bruins will be holding a softball camp for girls in grades 3-8 March 29-31...

The camp is free and open to the community.

The camp is free and open to the community.

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The camp is free and open to the community.

The camp is free and open to the community.

The camp is free and open to the community.

Stay on top of your money with the Money

Spring clean and sell your treasures in The Times-News Marketplace classified advertising. 733-0931

Nets can smell playoffs in the air after win over Bucks

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Lucious Harris scored seven of New Jersey's final 10 points, and the Nets won a key game in their drive to make the playoffs by beating the Milwaukee Bucks 92-90 in overtime Saturday.

Despite missing three of four free throws in the final 10.2 seconds, New Jersey pulled out the victory to move within two games of the Bucks and Orlando Magic for the eighth and final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

Keith Van Horn scored 27 points and Stephon Marbury 27 for the Nets. Tim Thomas came off the bench to lead Milwaukee with 23.

Wizards 104, Bulls 88

WASHINGTON — Two nights after ending the Lakers' 19-game winning streak, the Wizards lifted off their bench to pull away in the fourth quarter.

Ron Strickland had 13 points and nine assists, and Gerard King had 12 points and 10 rebounds for the Wizards.

Pacers 113, Hornets 99

INDIANAPOLIS — Coming off consecutive games of 32 and a career-high 35 points, Jalen Rose led six Pacers in double figures as they defeated the Hornets 113-99.

Reggie Miller finished with 20 points, Travis Best came off the bench for 18, Rick Smith added 16 points and 12 rebounds, Mark Jackson finished with 12 and Sam Perkins had 10.

Celtics 104, Mavericks 99

DALLAS — Antoine Walker scored 10 of his 29 points during a third-quarter surge, and Boston gained ground in the Eastern Conference playoff race.

Eric Williams added 18 points, and Paul Pierce scored 15 for the Celtics, who moved within a game of Milwaukee and Orlando, who are tied for the eighth and final Eastern Conference playoff spot.

Heat 92, Cavaliers 90, OT

CLEVELAND — Jamal Mashburn scored 29 points, including Miami's last 10 in overtime.

Mashburn broke a 90-90 tie with a 22-foot jumper with three seconds to play. He scored 14 of the Heat's final 16 points.

Brevin Knight's driving layup with 22.9 seconds left tied the score at 90. Knight missed an 8-foot runner as time expired.

Spurs 102, Nuggets 82

SAN ANTONIO — Samaki Walker came off the bench to score a season-high 18 points and grab 10 rebounds.

David Robinson and Tim Duncan each chipped in 13 points, with Robinson grabbing 12 rebounds, and Duncan 10. Playing in his third game since returning earlier this week from a kidney transplant, Sean Elliott had a season-high five points in 14 minutes.

The Associated Press

How bad are the TV ratings at NBC?

Vince Carter was outdrawn by Jarlov the Woolly Mammoth by a number of viewers for NBC.

The audience for last Sunday's Raptors-SuperSonics game, shown to 55 percent of the country on NBC affiliates, was dwarfed in prime time by the number of viewers for a Discovery Channel special on unearthing the 20,000-year-old remains of a mammoth in Siberia.

"Mammoths must have more universal appeal than at least some basketball teams," said Lynn McReynolds, a Discovery Channel spokeswoman.

The Raptors-Sonics game drew about 4.6 million households, the lowest number of figures for NBC on a Sunday night prime-time game. About 10 million tuned in for the Discovery show.

Ratings are down 16 percent for last season on NBC, while Turner Sports also has experienced a precipitous drop in viewership.

Phil on Michael

Shortly before his team had his

NBA notebook

19-game losing streak ended in Washington on Thursday night, Lakers coach Phil Jackson addressed the job Michael Jordan has been doing and the task he faces as president of basketball operations for the Wizards.

"They obviously have some problems here. David Stern dropped down a gauntlet and said, 'You managed yourself into this position manager, you got out of it,'" said Jackson, who coached Jordan to six NBA championships in Chicago.

Jordan actually showed up at the Lakers-Wizards game, making an appearance at the MCI Center for the first time since the trading deadline.

Jackson said Jordan has the capability to overcome the Wizards' salary cap problems, which threaten to keep the team playing the lower echelon of the league for several seasons.

"Michael's terrific with numbers. That's something that I've always felt he's been good at," Jackson said. "I can't run any kind of percent against him with our actual calculating quickly who's

got the edge. Managing yourself out of problems is going to take some long-range planning and some good reads somewhere else in the NBA."

Empty seats

One of commissioner David Stern's pet peeves is all those empty seats at NBA games that are so visible on highlight shows.

His solution, of course, comes from his new pet project: the Internet. At league marketing meetings earlier this week in Denver, a solution was offered.

Ticket-holders with open seats who do not plan to attend certain games could e-mail teams about it. The teams could then make those seats available to people sitting in the open sections or people wanting extra tickets.

"The whole Internet revolution for moving goods and services around is going to have an important impact on the whole issue of ticketing," Stern said.

Stern also had his marketing troops hear from representatives of The Gap, Old Navy, Starbucks, Home Depot and SFX on the issue of customer service.

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings Eastern Conference table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB, and Home/Away/Overall records.

NBA Standings Western Conference table with columns for team, W, L, PCT, GB, and Home/Away/Overall records.

SCORES AND STATS

Eastern Regional scores and stats table.

Midwest Regional scores and stats table.

West Regional scores and stats table.

South Regional scores and stats table.

BASEBALL

Major League Baseball scores and stats table.

Minor League Baseball scores and stats table.

ON THE AIR TELEVISION

Table listing TV and radio broadcasts for various sports events.

HOCKEY

NHL Standings Eastern Conference table.

NHL Standings Western Conference table.

SKIING

Table listing ski racing events and results.

Table listing biathlon events and results.

WARRIORS 95, BULLS 82

MEMPHIS — The Memphis Grizzlies defeated the Chicago Bulls 95-82 on Saturday.

WARRIORS 95, BULLS 82

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Road to the Final Four

Call it the Wild West Regional - Stanford hits pothole on road to Final Four

The Associated Press

Wisconsin stopped Arizona, Gonzaga knocked off St. John's and Purdue beat Oklahoma to make it a clean sweep of the top three seeds in the suddenly wide-open regional.

Mark Vershob scored 15 points as eighth-seeded Wisconsin upset top-seeded Arizona 66-59 on Saturday in Salt Lake City.

On Arizona's home floor in Tucson, Matt Santangelo scored 26 points as No. 10 Gonzaga beat No. 2 St. John's 82-76, and Jaraan Cornell scored 13 of his 15 points

NCAA on the Net
<http://www.finalfour.net>

in the final 9:30 in No. 6 Purdue's 66-62 victory over No. 3 Oklahoma.

Wisconsin successfully slowed the pace against speedy Arizona. "I'm not sure I can adequately describe how good we feel about how proud I am of this team," coach Dick Bennett said. "They accepted the game plan and employed it so close to perfect as humanly possible. To defend a good shooting team like Arizona is something I'll remember for a long, long time."

The Badgers limited the Wildcats to 39 percent shooting. "It was a tough lesson to learn," Arizona coach Lute Olson said. "It was very obvious that the better team won this game from the standpoint of maturity and toughness."

Maurice Linton scored nine of his 14 points in the final 2:57 for the Badgers (20-13), who won two games in an NCAA tournament for the first time since winning the national championship in 1941.

Arizona (27-7), the 1997 champion, is the first No. 1 seed to lose in the second round since Rhode Island beat Kansas in the 1998 Midwest Regional.

Freshman Gilbert Arenas led the Tar Heels with 21 points in the regional semifinals Thursday in Albuquerque, N.M., Wisconsin will face fourth-seeded LSU, and Gonzaga will play Purdue. LSU beat Texas 72-67 in Salt Lake City.

In the Midwest Regional semifinals in Auburn Hills, Mich., Michigan State will play Syracuse, and Iowa State will face UCLA.

In Cleveland, Michigan State beat Utah 73-61 and Syracuse edged Kentucky 52-50. In Minneapolis, Iowa State beat Auburn 79-60 and UCLA routed Maryland 105-70.

Gonzaga, which reached the West final a year ago as the 10th seed, shouldn't be considered a



UCLA guard Earl Watson hangs on the rim after dunking the ball during second-half action against Maryland in the second round of the men's NCAA basketball tournament in Minneapolis, Saturday.

sleeper anymore. "We're still fighting for respect," Santangelo said. "Any label you put on us means we're still playing and we're still winning. That's what counts right now."

Santangelo made 6-of-10 three-pointers, including three in the final eight minutes as the Bulldogs (26-8) pulled away. Erick Barstley led St. John's (25-8) with 21 points.

Play resumes today in the East and South regionals.

In the East, Temple plays Seton Hall, and Oklahoma State faces Pepperdine in Buffalo, N.Y., and Duke plays Kansas, and Illinois faces Florida in Winston-Salem, N.C.

In the West, Cincinnati plays Tulsa, and Ohio State faces Miami in Nashville, Tenn., and Stanford plays North Carolina, and Tennessee faces Connecticut in Birmingham, Ala.

State rallied in the second half to beat Utah.

Michigan State will face Syracuse in the regional semifinals Thursday in Auburn Hills, Mich., about an 80-mile drive from the Spartans' East Lansing campus.

Cleaves, the senior point guard who turned down NBA millions for a chance to win an NCAA title, scored 13 points in the second half when Michigan State (26-7) overcame a six-point deficit and blitzed the Utes (23-9) with a 27-7 run.

Andre Hutson added 19 points for Michigan State, two victories away from getting back to a second straight Final Four. Hanno Motolla led Utah with 16 points.

Syracuse 52, Kentucky 50
Preston Shumpert's jumper with 37 seconds left was the difference for the fourth-seeded Orangemen (26-5).

Kentucky, which beat Syracuse in the 1996 title game, set up its offense after three late timeouts and a foul that stopped the clock with 5.9 seconds left.

With the Orangemen bunched inside in a tight zone, Keith Bogans drove the lane and tossed up an off-balance 10-footer that came up short. Tayshaun Prince missed on a tip as the horn sounded.

Shumpert finished with 12 points, 10 rebounds and three blocked shots before fouling out with 3:46 left. Bogans and Jamaal Magloire each had 12 points for Kentucky (23-10).

Iowa St. 79, Auburn 60
All-American forward Marcus Fizer scored 16 of his 22 points in the second half and had 12 rebounds for second-seeded Iowa State.

Stevie Johnson added 21 points for the Cyclones (31-5), who won the school's first regular-season conference title in 55 years and set a school record for victories after being picked to finish last in the Big 12. Marcus Daniels led Auburn (24-10) with 12 points.

UCLA 105, Maryland 70
UCLA, which barely made the tournament field after a 19-11 regular season, won its eighth straight game.

Earl Watson had 17 points and a school-record 14 assists as the sixth-seeded Bruins connected on six fearsome alley-oops and a school-record 14 three-pointers. Lonnie Baxter had 22 points and 10 rebounds for the third-seeded Terrapins.

Midwest Regional
Michigan St. 73, Utah 61
Mateen Cleaves scored 21 points as top-seeded Michigan

Western Kentucky (22-9).

Duke 71, Campbell 42
Missy West scored 15 points as Duke (27-5) moved to the second round for the sixth straight year. Duke's Georgia Schweitzer, the ACC player of the year, was held to 11 points.

Midwest
At Lubbock, Texas
Tulane 65, Vermont 60
Grace Daley scored 30 points and No. 22 Tulane (27-4) overcame a 13-point second-half deficit to advance.

The Green Wave (27-4) trailed 48-35 with 12:23 to play after Vermont (25-6) opened the second half with a 21-3 run. But Vermont managed only 12 points the rest of the game.

In a late game, it was Tennessee Tech (24-8) against Texas Tech (25-4).

At Knoxville, Tenn.
Arizona 73, Kent 61
Lisa Griffith scored 19 points, including three 3-pointers in a second-half charge, to lead No. 21 Arizona (25-6). Arizona took a 23-point lead midway through the second half before Kent (25-6) fought back.

Tennessee 90, Furman 38
Semeka Randall scored 17 points as top-seeded Tennessee turned in a record-setting defensive performance and dominated

West
At Athens, Ga.
Georgia 74, Montana 46
Top-seeded Georgia overcame a 13-point deficit to stifle the Boilermakers. Cedric Miller scored 16 points and Shala Crawford added 15 for the Lady Bulldogs (30-3).

In a late game, Michigan played Stanford.

At Santa Barbara, Calif.
In late games, it was North Carolina vs. Maine and Rice vs. UC Santa Barbara.

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. - So this is the reward for being a No. 1 seed?

A second-round game today with perhaps basketball's most storied program? Powder blue pompoms and ghosts of Jordan and Worthy?

Against a team that just happens to match up great against you?

"It's a tough second round game," Casey Jacobson said. "They look hungry. Some people might say we got a bum deal, getting North Carolina in the second round. But we had to play a good team, no matter what."

Yeah, but... The Southern bracket is filled with potholes and none is bigger than the one looming on this next stretch of Stanford's road. North Carolina, with 36 hours to prepare.

And the Stanford players thought they had just finished their finals.

Stanford easily dispatched South Carolina State on Friday night, before a half-filled Birmingham-Jefferson Civic Center Arena. With a 30-point lead early in the second half, Coach Mike Montgomery almost could have started breaking down Tar Heels game film on the bench, except for the severe etiquette breach that would be.

Let's just say that if Alcorn State wasn't great preparation for Gonzaga then it's a pretty busy, out-matched South Carolina State wasn't the best they've ever faced.

Dismissing South Carolina State with Alex Gorbard on the floor for the final minutes might be fun, but no one knows if it's a remedy to Stanford's late season blues.

"It's hard to gauge whether we played as well tonight because of different styles," said Montgomery, politely.

And now the Tar Heels, cleverly fitted with a No. 8 seed.

James Worthy, a guy who knows a little bit about North Carolina basketball, said, "They match up well with Stanford."

Looking behind that North Carolina 18-13 regular season record is danger.

"We have a lot of pride when we go out there in our North Carolina uniforms," said Tar Heels center Brandon Haywood. "We're playing for others."

Most of the others aren't there. No Dean Smith. No Michael Lytle. No Worthy. No Vince Carter or Antawn Jamison. None of whom would have been seniors this season.

This is a North Carolina team that was on the bubble just a week ago, that actually created controversy by getting into the tournament because Virginia - which tied for third place in the ACC with the Tar Heels - was left out.

This is a North Carolina team that Missouri players had the audacity to trash. Clarence Gilbert handed the Tar Heels a week's supply of thumbtack victims when he said, "They've had a lot of great players there. They don't have any great players now."

This is a North Carolina team that was just a memory removed from its greatest humiliation in recent NCAA history - a first-round loss last year to Weber State. That was the Tar Heels' first first-round loss in 18 years.

Still, "North Carolina is North Carolina," said Montgomery.

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COMMENTARY

Ann Killoran

Carolina," Montgomery said. "They have great players and this year is not an exception."

And their players match up well with Stanford. North Carolina has size, with a starting front line of 6-foot-8, 6-foot-11 and 7-foot players. The rap on seven-footer Hayward is that he disappears and plays soft at times, though that wasn't the case on Friday, when - with no sizeable opponents to contend with - he dominated for 28 points and 15 rebounds. The Tar Heels outbounded Missouri 55-30.

Unlike other potential opponents the Tar Heels have bodies to put on Mark Madsen and the Collins twins. Madsen played with Hayward on the USA team at the World University Games in Spain last summer.

"I ended up guarding Brendan a lot," Madsen said with a grin, "and he ended up dunking on me a lot."

And then there is North Carolina's backcourt. Ed Cota and Joseph Forte are quick and can penetrate.

"The guards present problems, but their efficiency isn't the same as Stanford's," said Worthy, who was doing color commentary on the game.

The highlight matchup of the game will be between North Carolina's only senior starter, against Michael McDowell.

Friday night - without a single one of Stanford's 14 turnovers - but that's not an accurate barometer. McDowell headed into the tournament coming off the worst trip of his season, an unraveling in the state of Arizona.

And he faces what could be the first in a long line of stellar point guards that reaches all the way to Indianapolis. Or the last.

"Cota is so good with the ball," Montgomery said. "He's the key to their team."

So North Carolina has an inside game. They have quick, penetrating guards. They can't contain three-point shooting. They beat Stanford 57-49 in the 1998 Preseason NIT with basic play the same roster.

But the Tar Heels most dangerous weapon may be their damaged pride and the public dismissal of their chances.

"That's a position I'm comfortable with, with people counting us out," Hayward said. "When you have nothing to lose, that's when you're most dangerous. A lot of people didn't expect us to win today. I'm sure a lot don't expect us to win on Sunday. But we can come in and surprise some people, then, too."

Bill Guthridge, North Carolina's avuncular non-legend coach, had this assessment of today's game.

"They're very hard to play against," Guthridge said. "No one likes to play against Stanford."

Right back at you, Bill.

Ann Killoran is a sports columnist with the San Jose Mercury News.

Tech starts strong in coach's final run

The Associated Press

Louisiana Tech began its final NCAA women's tournament run under coach Leon Barmore with authority.

Patricia Jackson had 24 points and Ayana Walker had 14 points, 10 rebounds and five blocked shots as No. 3 Louisiana Tech routed Alcorn State 95-53 Saturday in the first round of the Midwest Regional at Ruston, La.

The game began the final phase of Barmore's coaching career at Tech. He announced Friday that he would step down as coach after the season, ending an 18-year run in which he posted the highest winning percentage (.872) in major college basketball.

Saturday's victory improved his record to 518-76. Walker said defense was the key to the win for Tech (29-2). Alcorn State finished 22-9.

"Coach is always on us about defense," Walker, who played just 22 minutes, said. "I thought in the second half my defense was much better."

Tech's relentless pressure held Alcorn State to 32 percent shooting for the game and just 6-of-25 from the field in the second half.

"We made them come out to get shots and face us in the second half," Jackson said.

Tech, one of two teams to have played in every NCAA tournament, made short work of an Alcorn State team making its debut.

"A lot of people will look at

NCAA Women's Tournament

this score and say, 'Well, it was their first tournament,' but we were never scared," Alcorn State coach Shirley Walker said. "We got beat by 40-some, but overall I don't feel bad about the way we played."

In the other first-round game at Ruston, Vanderbilt played Kansas.

In other regionals:

East
At West Lafayette, Ind.

Oklahoma 86, BYU 81
Phylissia Whaley scored a season-high 33 points and became Oklahoma's career scoring leader to pace the Sooners (24-7). Whaley now has 2,152 career points, breaking the record of 2,147 set by Molly McGuire from 1980-83.

Purdue 70, Dartmouth 66
Last-minute starter Mackenzie Curless hit a short jumper in the final minute for the defending NCAA champions, who blew a 20-point first half lead.

At Durham, N.C.
Western Kentucky 68, Marquette 65
ShaRae Mansfield scored 17 points, including two free throws in the closing seconds, to lift

Western Kentucky (22-9).

Duke 71, Campbell 42
Missy West scored 15 points as Duke (27-5) moved to the second round for the sixth straight year. Duke's Georgia Schweitzer, the ACC player of the year, was held to 11 points.

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Mariners are Rodriguez's team now

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP) - With long, purposeful strides, Alex Rodriguez walked toward the team bus after a two-homer, six-RBI exhibition game.

He was surrounded by reporters, who dutifully follow the player who has become the center of attention for Seattle fans.

The Mariners are Rodriguez's team now. At least for one season.

With Ken Griffey Jr. in Cincinnati, the Mariners will head even home run Rodriguez can hit. With No. 24 gone, No. 3 will be No. 1 in Seattle.

"I like the way things are shaping up so far," Rodriguez said. "I worked really hard this winter. I take my offseason very seriously. I'm ready to go."

Griffey had a great 11-year career in Seattle, with dazzling catches in center field and prodigious home runs in the Kingdom that long will be remembered by Mariners fans. While not as popular as Griffey, Rodriguez certainly is loved by the fans, too. In 1996, he was the AL batting champion with a .358 average. Last year, he hit 42 home runs for the second straight season. Only Eric Banks, with the Chicago Cubs in the 1950s, hit more homers as a shortstop.

"I'll tell you what, at times he makes it look awful easy," Mariners manager Lou Piniella said. "It's not that easy, either. He's a great talent. Alex is capable of having a monster, monster year."

Rodriguez, eligible for free agency after this season, is just 24, an age when many players still are trying to break in. Yet, following the departure of Randy Johnson in 1998 and Griffey last month, he's the team leader.

He had T-shirts made up for his teammates that say: "We are on a mission sir." His teammates are wearing them with pride.

"I'm going to take added responsibility this year to make



Alex Rodriguez of the Seattle Mariners autographs baseballs before a Cactus League spring training game March 4 in Peoria, Ariz. The Mariners are, at least for one season, his team now.

sure that not only I'm prepared and productive, but my teammates are also prepared to play," Rodriguez said.

"Something we have to improve from the past."

"I'm not a real vocal guy, but sometimes you need to say something—there's been this misconception that I'm just an innocent bystander and go about my business, but when I have to say something I'll say it behind

closed doors in a very private manner. I don't like to embarrass my teammates and I don't like them to embarrass me. I'm just focusing on doing things right. I want to take that additional responsibility."

Even with Griffey and Rodriguez, the Mariners have had two subpar seasons, finishing third in the division behind Texas and Oakland and playing under .500.



Yanks' Yamall shows some progress, youth

KISSIMMEE, Fla. (AP) - Ed Yamall flashed a frown Friday afternoon, his shoulders hunched forward as he analyzed his latest pitching performance. Convinced that he was progressing, the left-hander nevertheless felt disappointed.

"The bottom line is I still gave up five runs in three innings," the Yankees rookie said at Disney's Wide World of Sports Stadium. "When you go out there, you'd like to give your team a chance to win games. I could have been all over the place and still gotten away with stuff. But that doesn't happen very often in the big leagues."

Yamall is slated to be the No. 5 starter for the two-time defending World Series champions, and his performance Friday against the Braves, shaky as it was, showed three innings, five runs, seven hits, two walks, one strikeout—provided glimpses of what makes him so highly regarded.

He struck out Chipper Jones, the reigning National League Most Valuable Player, and stranded four baserunners.

Estes still bothered by soreness in shoulder

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. - With two weeks left in spring training, Giants pitcher Shawn Estes is still bothered by a sore shoulder, and manager Dusty Baker said Friday there's a chance he might not be ready for the start of the season.

"He's just trying to get his arm strength to where he's not feeling any discomfort," Baker said. "It's disappointing on the side. But he's not ready, we've got to get who's in for him ready."

Mark Gardner is the most likely candidate to step into Estes' rotation spot.

Baker said Estes remains sidelined indefinitely but would not rule out his return prior to his first scheduled regular season start on April 4.

Potential Colorado closer hobbled by neck problem

TUCSON, Ariz. - Jerry Dipoto, the front-runner to be Colorado's closer, will miss at least four

Baseball heats up

April 3 - Opening day for other teams, active rosters reduced to 25 players.
July 21 - All-Star game, Atlanta.
July 24 - Hall of Fame induction ceremonies, Cooperstown, N.Y.
July 24 - Hall of Fame game, Arizona vs. Cleveland, Cooperstown, N.Y.
Oct. 3 - Playoffs begin.
Oct. 21 - World Series begins, city of American League champion.

Baseball notebook

weeks and could be out for the season after being diagnosed Friday with a bulging disc below his neck.

Dipoto, a right-hander, had been pitching with pain in his left shoulder, and Rockies general manager Dan O'Dowd sent him to have magnetic resonance imaging test to determine the cause. The results showed a C-6 bulging disc just below Dipoto's neck.

"I feel terrible for Jerry. I really do," O'Dowd said. "No one represents the fabric of this club as much as Jerry. At the same time, I'm tremendously excited about the opportunity it presents some of our people if they take advantage of it."

Baylor tiring of Heredia's repeated failures

TUCSON, Ariz. - Don Baylor is getting tired of seeing reliever Felix Heredia fail.

Heredia, who entered Friday's game against the White Sox with a 21.60 earned-run average, gave up three homers and a walk in one inning.

Baylor said Heredia is not a lock to make the Cubs' Opening Day roster, but that might be an empty threat. Hard-throwing left-handed relievers are a rare commodity and the 23-year-old Heredia would have to clear waivers if the Cubs tried to demote him to the minors.

"Guys need to throw strikes out of the bullpen," the manager said. "That's a necessity, not a wish."

Sanders, Wohlers to start season in rehab

SARASOTA, Fla. (AP) - Deion Sanders and Mark Wohlers will start the season rehabilitating in Cincinnati, then will go to Triple-A to work their way toward rejoining the Reds.

The 32-year-old Sanders agreed to a minor league contract last January, hoping to revive his baseball career. The outfielder sat out three of the last four baseball seasons so he could be a full-time cornerback for the Dallas Cowboys.

He couldn't run when he showed up for spring training because he was recovering from arthroscopic surgery on his right knee. He spent the first few weeks rehabilitating the knee, then was out with an ankle injury. Sanders was 2-for-4 with a homer Saturday in a minor league game.

Wohlers, also with the Reds on a minor league contract, is trying to come back from major elbow surgery and regain his ability to throw strikes. He won't be ready

to pitch again until at least May. Even then, nobody knows if the reliever will be able to regain find the strike zone.

Wohlers, 30, got the save in the clinching Game 6 as Atlanta beat Cleveland to win the 1995 World Series. Then he lost his ability to throw strikes after injuring his base side in 1998. Last April, the Braves traded him to the Reds, who hoped a new setting and some changes in his delivery would take care of the problem.

Instead, he tore a ligament in his right elbow while throwing a pitch during a minor league game in June. His rehabilitation is on schedule.

"If it becomes where it's not fun and I'm pulling hairs out of my head again... I'm not going to go through the frustration I've gone through the last two years," Wohlers said recently. "Life's too short to go through another year of that. I'm just not going to do it."



Cincinnati's Dalon Sanders takes a swing for a strike in the first inning against the Philadelphia Phillies Tuesday in Clearwater, Fla.

Kapler's no Juan, but that isn't all bad

COMMENTARY Randy Galloway

this season, Kapler will be a work in progress, with an emphasis on "work."

Kapler is all about that, and certainly all about all-out hustle. There will be no ground ball he won't attempt to beat out. There will be no line drive to right field that won't be charged like a World War II Marine attacking an enemy bunker.

"To me, this is kinda like a war," Kapler said Thursday. "People are depending on you getting to that line drive—the pitcher, your teammates."

"I live in fear of letting people down, including myself. Any ball hit to right field, I take it personal if I don't make the play."

Again, the difference from Juan is so immense that comparisons are not worth mentioning.

"Juan is one of the great players of the game—there is nothing to compare at this point," Kapler said. "I just want my teammates and the fans to like what they see from Gabe Kapler. Anytime I let them down, it will never have been because of a lack of effort."

Peer pressure in baseball is constant and often harsh. Ballplayers watch each other, and they compare and measure, not only the talent level, but also the heart size. Kapler was a rookie last season with the Tigers. He didn't quite live up to the expectations of some. When the Gonzalez trade was made in November, Kapler was not just another name in the deal. He was immediately nominated to replace Juan in right field.

Don't think the Rangers' veterans weren't watching closely as spring training opened three weeks ago. To Kapler's credit, he has passed the initial test.

"I'm totally impressed with him," first baseman Palmeiro said. "Kapler plays the game the right way—very hard at all times. And his passion for baseball really comes through. All that hustle is natural. You can tell none of it is forced. It's just him."

From left fielder Rusty Greer: "You can't ask him to fill Juan's shoes, and we're not. But the fans can come to the ballpark every day and watch a good young talent play the game very hard. (Kapler) only has a year in the big leagues. Give him a little time."

Palmeiro likes the fact young center fielder Ruben Mateo will be sandwiched in the outfield

between Greer and Kapler. "Ruben knows to either go hard all the time or you're going to look out of place in this outfield," he said.

Now, about the Kapler bat. He was given the day off Thursday from Grapefruit League play, but so far his offense has been solid. The average is .300, with four extra-base hits in a 9-for-30 effort.

"We're just scratching the surface right now," said Rudy Jaramillo, the team hitting instructor. "But when you're working with a combination of talent and desire to improve, it's always a pleasure."

Kapler hit only .245 with the Tigers in his rookie season. But the 18 home runs, 22 doubles and four triples suggest much potential.

"I've got no offensive goals for the season, but one thing I will do is improve every year," Kapler said. "And I want to be held accountable on that part. If you don't see year-to-year improvement, let me hear about it."

The new right fielder is no Juan in some ways, that's not bad at all.

Randy Galloway is a sports columnist with the Fort Worth Star-Telegram.

Who's Bubba?

Veteran minor-leaguer impresses Rockies

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) - After nine seasons toiling in the New York Yankees' minor league system, Bubba Carpenter is on the verge of a breakthrough with the Colorado Rockies.

Which begs the question: Who's Bubba?

"I think a lot of people were (asking that) when I came into camp last year. No one knows anything about me," Carpenter said Friday. "Everyone's new to everyone else here, so I was just another one of the new faces."

Carpenter is befriended with the catchy moniker—given to him by his brother as a toddler. Signed as an undrafted free agent in 1991, the 29-year-old Carpenter has never been on a major league roster, but he has played with the likes of Yankees stars Derek Jeter, Andy Pettitte and Mariano Rivera.

"I think without a doubt it's harder to break through (with the Yankees) because of the success they've had the last five seasons," Rockies hitting coach Clint Hurdle said. "That's a tough organization to have upward movement in."

Carpenter, whose given name is Charles Sydney Carpenter, enjoyed his best season last year, hitting .283 with 22 home runs and 81 RBIs for Triple-A Columbus. But like every previous year, Carpenter did not receive a call from the Yankees when they expanded their roster in September.

"There was a few times I really thought I had a good shot, and then something else would happen," Carpenter said. "They'd either go out and sign someone else, or whatever. It was always something. A few times it was disappointing, but that's baseball."

Carpenter's fortune could be changing. Several split-squad games gave him a chance to play regularly early this spring, and he responded by hitting .278 with a home run and five RBIs in 18 at-bats.

With Darren Bragg slowly recovering from offseason knee surgery, Carpenter is a strong candidate to win a job as a reserve outfielder who would provide a left-handed bat off the bench.

"Bubba's holding his own," Hurdle said. "He's made the most of his opportunities so far. He's opened some eyes."

"Any time you have a kid with the qualities that Bubba's brought to the table, you root for him. He's got a great attitude, loves to play and has been very open to instruction. There's something to be said for the resiliency and the perseverance that he's shown."

So how will Carpenter celebrate if he parlays his free-agent contract into an opening-day roster spot?

"I'll tell you April 3 if that happens. He can't with a smile. Find me then, and I'll talk to you."

Know the score?

Read The Times-News sports pages to see how your favorite team is doing.

SPORTS

Burton goes with the NASCAR flow

Earnhardt's victories feature high drama

DARLINGTON, S.C. (AP) — Jeff Burton can't complain about NASCAR decisions — not about the rain and not about the rules.

Three times in the past year, including both events last year at Darlington Raceway and earlier this month at Las Vegas, Burton was out front when rain flagged races and officials later awarded him victories. So he wants no part of deciding how to equalize competition among Fords, Chevrolts and Pontiacs.

"This isn't a democracy, we don't get to vote, we don't get to make the rules: They tell us what to do and how to be," said Burton, who will start 27th today in the Mall.com 400. "That's the way it's always been and that's the way it ought to be."

It's NASCAR's leaders who have the vision for what's best for racing.

"We have vision about how to go faster than the next guy," Burton said. "Well that doesn't do anything to help promote the series."

"If you let us run it, it would be like CART, a bunch of car owners trying to make decisions, and it would never work."

That said, he's reserving judgment on recent rules changes that let Chevrolet Monte Carlos lower their front air dams 2 inches. So far, it looks to have helped the Chevys — Dale Earnhardt won last Sunday's Cracker Barrel 500, and Jeff Gordon won his first pole since August at Darlington and will start up front today.

In years past, it was impossible for Burton to win so far back in the field because on the top 25 qualifiers at Darlington pit on the frontstretch. But this winter, the track moved all the pits to one side, "evening the playing



Jeff Burton, front, of South Boston, Va., comes around turn four on his way to winning the NASCAR Winston Cup Series CarsDirect.com 400 at the Las Vegas Motor Speedway March 5. Burton won the race after it was shortened to 148 laps due to inclement weather.

field a little bit," Gordon said.

A year ago, Burton got a "little boost from Mother Nature. In the TransSouth 400, Burton was out in front when he was caught up in a turn-four wreck.

His wheel was bent. His front end smashed. He could barely make it around to the finish line. But he did and just in time for the drizzle to turn drenching. Burton stepped from his car and urged the clouds to pour.

"I said, 'Please keep raining,'" Burton remembered. If the race

was resumed, "we would have finished 40th or something," he said. Burton didn't need anyone's help to win the Southern 500. He had the best car all day, and as clouds darkened and the rains came he was again out in front.

If Burton loves the rain, Jeremy Mayfield hates it. He was in contention — and avoided the wreck that caught Burton in the spring 1999 race — but got stuck behind the winner.

The 30-year-old Mayfield has finished third, second, fifth and

fourth his past four Darlington races. The weather forecast for Sunday — more rain — is enough break for a lesser race.

"Looking at the weather forecast for the weekend, man, it will just tear at your heart," Mayfield said. "We really felt like we had a great chance at winning both of the races at Darlington last year. Jeff Burton did instead."

No matter the weather, the Mall.com 400 could turn out to be one of the more interesting races so far this season.

NASCAR notebook

DARLINGTON, S.C. (AP) — Whether he's spinning someone out or stealing one at the line, Dale Earnhardt has a flair for the dramatic.

Last week's 2-foot victory over Bobby Labonte at Atlanta just proved the latest chapter.

"It's been pretty dramatic with a lot of people's wins. I don't know," Earnhardt said Saturday. "I stir up controversy, don't I? I don't know if I search it out or what."

Earnhardt's last win wasn't controversial, just breathtaking as he held an outside line to edge Labonte.

"It was just a great race and I'm proud to be a part of it," he said. Earnhardt gets to relive a more controversial moment next week at Bristol Motor Speedway, where he spun out Terry Labonte with less than a lap to go on the way to victory last year.

Earnhardt says he hasn't thought that much about the August 1999 race.

"I wish he hadn't wrecked," Earnhardt said. "I wish it was one of those deals where we bumped, got by him and raced on."

Earnhardt will start fourth-for-today's Mall.com 400 behind pole sitter Jeff Gordon, Kevin Lepage and Ward Burton. A victory for Earnhardt would be his 10th at Darlington and tied his career mark of David Pearson.

Eagle tire tracks

Goodyear's radial tire used at Darlington Raceway this week is the first time there has been a repeat appearance of the new Eagle tire at the same race track. Tony Freund, the company's lead engineer for stock car tire development, said Darlington's unique nature makes it essential teams use all four tires equally so the driver keeps balanced during his run.

"We're very pleased with the performance we've seen out of these tires," Freund said. "They really proved themselves at Darlington last fall."

Freund said Dale Jarrett, pitting on the backstretch in the Southern 500 this past September, stayed out during a caution period and remained with the lead pack because his tires did not wear away too fast.

Mall.com says 'maybe'

Will Mall.com, a first-year title sponsor at Darlington, come back next season?

Raceway president Jim Hunter said the Internet company will evaluate its fit before deciding.

"But we looking forward to a long relationship," Hunter said.

Larry Ledham, the company's president and CEO, said Mall.com's relationship with Darlington is also with its parent organization, International Speedway Corporation. But "I understand and I tied the career mark of David Pearson."

In February, Mall.com replaced the South Carolina Services, which had been the race's title sponsor the previous 18 years.

Maier leads Austrian giant slalom sweep

Michael Johnson streaks to brilliant 200-meter time

BORMIO, Italy (AP) — World Cup champion Hermann Maier crashed and compatriot Michael Dorfmeister was only a runner-up Saturday. Still, the Austrian duo did well enough to win the men's and women's giant slalom crystal globes.

Despite his wipe-out, the indestructible "fermatator" became only the third skier in the history of the World Cup to reap four titles in a single season.

Dorfmeister, who lost the women's overall title to teammate Renate Goetsch, controlled herself with the giant slalom crown, clinching it with second place in Saturday's giant slalom behind first-time winner Brigitte Obermoser of Austria.

For Maier, the latest laurel was one of many. He earned the World Cup overall, super-G and downhill titles before clinching the giant slalom trophy Saturday. He also broke the season points total record last week, then soared to a whopping 2,000 points with a victory in Friday's super-G.

"I reached all my goals," said Maier. "First 2,000 points and now four titles. There are not many people who have won four cups. It's a great feeling."

Maier became the first person to collect four titles in a single season since Switzerland's Pirmin Zurbriggen in 1987. Jean-Claude Killy was the first to accomplish the feat in 1967.

But Von Gruenigen finished sixth and Maier a frustrating second, handing Maier the title even before his second run.



Hermann Maier of Austria speeds down the course during the first run of the World Cup men's giant slalom in Bormio, Italy, Saturday. Hermann Maier became only the third man in history to win four World Cup overall titles in a season Saturday, even though he crashed in the final.

Maier, going last, had nothing to lose and rocketed out of the start hut, only to fall on his side as he attacked the steep, bumpy bottom part of the course.

"If Christian Mayer had taken the lead, I wouldn't have made that mistake," Maier said. "I had nothing to lose so I gave it all I had but I wasn't concentrated and fell."

He claimed the crown with 520 points, a mere 3 points ahead of Maier.

"In 1994 I won it by two points

and this year I lost it by three," said Mayer, who won the two previous giant slalom races. "It's difficult but everything comes back to you in life."

Benjamin Raich, 22, demonstrated the depth of the Austrian team, mastering the long, ratted Stelvio course in 2 minutes, 25.64 seconds to lead an Austrian sweep of the podium, with Heinz Schillegger in third.

On the women's side, Dorfmeister's title helped make up for some of her skier's more

frustrating moments.

"I was disappointed about the overall," she said. "I had such bad luck in the speed events this season and this title helped lessen the disappointment."

Leading after the opening run, Obermoser held on to win in 2:42.79, a solid .24 seconds ahead of Dorfmeister.

"I made a few mistakes so I'm quite surprised," Obermoser said. "But I wasn't nervous at all. I just pretended it was another 'ing run."

PIETERSBURG, South Africa

(AP) — Double world record holder Michael Johnson ran a stunning 19.7-second 200 meters Saturday in the Engen Summer Series Grand Prix meeting.

Johnson, making his first competitive appearance of this Olympic year, made an emphatic statement about his chances of repeating the 200-meter and 400-meter double in Sydney which he achieved in the 1996 games in Atlanta.

His altitude-aided time was the fourth-best ever posted — he has bettered it twice and Frank Fredericks of Namibia clocked 19.68 in the wake of Johnson's 1996 world record of 19.32.

"My time shows I am on track, and the training I am doing is right," Johnson said. "Now I am looking forward to Sydney, and I'll go out there and just do my best."

Americans set world records in swimming

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — Neil Walker and Jenny Thompson of the United States on Saturday set world records in the 100-meter individual medley and butterfly events of the World Short Course Championships.

Therese Alshammar of Sweden set her second world record at the championships when she sliced half a second her own 50-meter freestyle record with a time of 23.59. She set the previous record of 24.09 in Lisbon last December. Germany's Sandra Voelker was second in 24.77 and Britain's Alison Sheppard was third in 24.80.

Setting his fourth record of the meet, Walker swam the distance in 52.79 seconds to break the record of 53.10 held by Finland's Jani Sievien since 1996. Sievien was second in 54.08, while Britain's James Hickman was third in 54.38.

Thompson powered past the competition in the semifinal to finish in 56.56, breaking her own record of 59.30 set last February in Paris. She swims in the 100-meter butterfly final and said "I felt a little tired and tense in the warm-up and I didn't expect to break the world record," Thompson said. "Why not break the world record again in the final."

Walker set two records in the 50-meter backstroke on Thursday's opening day, then helped set a third with the men's 800-meter relay team Friday.

Along the way, the 23-year-old from Verona, Wisconsin, also broke seven American national records and six championship records. The swimmer for Austin's Texas Aquatics team goes for one more gold in the 100-meter backstroke on Sunday, the last day of the meet.

Thompson, a 26-year-old five-time Olympic champion from Dover, N.H., dropped out of the 50-meter freestyle to go for a butterfly record.

Don't laugh: American skiers aim for gold

BORMIO, Italy (AP) — Brimming with confidence after their recent wins, Darin Rahalves and Kristina Koznick are aiming high: gold at the 2002 Salt Lake City Olympics.

The two U.S. Ski Team veterans say the Games hold only a sliver of their attention. But now the dream suddenly appears within reach.

"I've always dreamed about winning, but you don't know what it means until you do it," said Rahalves, who triumphed for the first time in back-to-back World Cup downhill last month in Norway.

"When you taste it, you want it again," Rahalves said. "I feel the energy buzz whenever I think about it."

After those victories — which stunned the World Cup elite accustomed to seeing Rahalves 15th or worse this season — he

kicked into high gear.

He was fifth in super-G the next day. A ninth and sixth followed in downhill and super-G this week at the World Cup finals here. Rahalves now ranks 10th in the world in both speed events.

"It's great to end the season with this feeling," said the 26-year-old from Truckee, Calif. "It gives me big-time motivation for next year."

Rahalves' triumphs on the Lillehammer Olympic course were the first by an American in any World Cup discipline since Kyle Rasmussen won on the same hill in 1995.

"It definitely gives a boost to skiing in the U.S.," Rahalves said. "The team has been struggling a lot and it is good to show that we are going in the right direction."

"I know I've got what it takes to medal in St. Anton (2001

World Championships) and Salt Lake City."

Koznick — only 24 but a 10-year U.S. Ski Team veteran — collected her first victory of the season in a slalom last week in Sestriere, Italy.

She hopes to be the threat again in the season's final slalom Sunday.

"My goals for Sunday?" Koznick said. "That's easy. I want to win. I won the last one so I can expect to win Sunday."

Winner of two slaloms early last season, Koznick failed repeatedly to break the top 10 for most of this season. Then she quickly picked up the pace in late February, firing off a fourth, a second and then the victory.

The win was the first for an American woman since Koznick clinched a night slalom-in-Semmering, Austria, in

December 1998.

Koznick, from Burnsville, Minn., blamed her slow start on trouble adjusting to new boots and skis after switching sponsors and reducing her ski length.

"Once I got over my equipment problems then my results started coming," the slalom specialist said.

Koznick surged too late to clinch the World Cup slalom crown, which will be decided Sunday, but she's already looking forward to next year.

"I want the slalom title," Koznick said. "I know I can win it if I am consistent — consistently in the top-three, not the top-15."

Further ahead, Koznick's and Rahalves dreams merge.

"For sure in the back of my head I am thinking of Salt Lake," Koznick said. "Of course, I have an Olympic dream: I want to win gold."

Time to liquidate?

Use The Times-News Marketplace classifieds to turn possessions into cash

Nature book depicts sunrises from around the world

The (Colorado Springs) Gazette

John Shaw travels the world to shoot nature photos, but on Jan. 1, he stood in Garden of the Gods looking for a photo that would illustrate the beauty of the Pikes Peak region on the brink of the new millennium.

Shaw, an often-published nature photographer and photography-book author, lives north of Colorado Springs but generally doesn't shoot Colorado for a living. He doesn't sell much locally, either. But this is his base camp for exploring the world.

"I live by FedEx," he says.

Because of his reputation, Shaw was tapped to shoot one of the photos for a book titled "Daybreak: A Year of Sunrises" to be in bookstores by Wednesday.

More than 100 professional photographers were asked to pro-

About the book

"Daybreak: A Year of Sunrises" by John Shaw. The book has 144 pages, costs \$24.95, is published by NorthWord Press of Minneapolis, and should be in major bookstores.

vide photos from all over the world for the project. Shaw was an obvious choice because although he keeps a low profile at home, just about everyone

involved in nature photography knows who John Shaw is.

"He's got a great reputation," says John Elder, Colorado's master nature photographer and author of many books on the state. "He's done some great how-to books and I hear he's a great teacher."

"And from his photos, it's obvious he's very sensitive to the environment."

"He's one of America's master nature photographers," says Roger Teiff, coordinator of the Daybreak 2000 project. "There was no doubt in my mind that he'd produce something great. His film is spectacular."

Shaw wasn't as confident. "The problem with a project like this is that they're guessing you'll have spectacular light - but it was just pretty ordinary that morning," he says.

Shaw, who only does nature photography - "everything from mountains to mosquitoes" - has been published in magazines and books that range from National Geographic to Ranger Rick, he says. "You pick a magazine (that runs nature photos) and I've probably been in it."

Formerly a college professor - his undergraduate degree is in philosophy from Montclair College and his master's in American literature from the University of Wisconsin at Madison - he now teaches photography workshops when he's not shooting.

Like most nature photographers, Shaw is self-taught. "Almost everybody stumbles into it," he says. "And they learn the creative end of it first - and the business end of it eventually."

He gets weekly calls, letters or e-mails from wannabes who say, "I've quit my job to become a nature photographer. How do I support my wife and kids now?"

"They only see the fun side of it."

He became a nature photographer in the 1970s while teaching at the university level. It was an avocation, not a job that could support him at first.

"It takes a long time to get to the point where you can make a living at it (photography)," he says. "From hundreds of photos, you can make hundreds of dollars; from thousands of photos you can make thousands of dollars. But it takes a while to get there."

A teacher by nature, he eschews the classroom for the outdoors, where he often teaches

his craft to novices. He also leads photo safaris for Joseph Van Oo Photo Tours, a job that takes him to such exotic places as China to photograph pandas or Antarctica to shoot penguins.

He also writes a column for the company's online magazine, and he's the author of five how-to books about photography. His sixth, scheduled to be published later this year, is a major revision of his first book published in 1984.

One of the attitudes that permeates his books is to leave nature as you find it.

"There are people who will pick a wildflower (which is illegal many places) and take it home to photograph it in better light," he says with dismay. "I believe it is more important not to harm your subject than to get the perfect photograph."

Three people arrested in Death Valley shooting spree

INDEPENDENCE, Calif. (AP) - Three people remained jailed on Saturday after they allegedly shot down a California Highway Patrol helicopter during a daylight standoff in a bleak Death Valley gully.

No injuries were reported during Friday's desert siege, part of an 18-hour confrontation that began when the trio allegedly fled Nevada authorities in a car filled with guns and ammunition.

Arrested were Lloyd M. Burrus, 44 and Cheryl Kate Marruise, 50, both of Downey, Idaho, and Jeffrey Chip Burrus, 20, of Emeryville, Calif. There was no immediate word on whether the two men were related, according to the Inyo County Sheriff's Department.

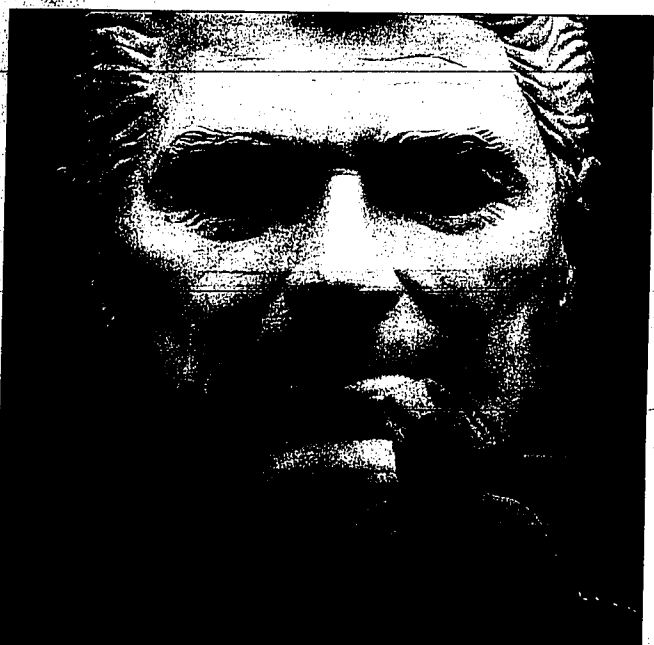
The three could face charges of attempted murder of a peace officer and shooting at aircraft in flight. They were being held on \$250,000 each in the jail of this small eastern Sierra town, according to a sheriff's press statement.

The incident began at 5:17 a.m. Friday when a Nevada Highway Patrol officer stopped a 1984 BMW on U.S. 95 near Rathpope Wells, Nev., about 60 miles north of Las Vegas.

The officer saw a shotgun in the car, which sped away, according to a statement from Inyo County Sheriff Dan Lucas.

During a 70-mile chase, the fugitives repeatedly shot at pursuers from the Nevada and California highway patrols and the Nye County, Nev. Sheriff's Department. They did not return fire.

WHAT'D YA FIND UP THERE?



Chuck Wolf, left, of Williamsburg, and a friend have a little fun with the bust of former president Ronald Reagan in the parking lot of Days Inn Friday in Williamsburg, Va. A business group has commissioned a number of concrete presidential busts for a massive historical entertainment park they plan to develop called Presidents Park on Water Country Parkway in Virginia. The park will consist of statue-busts of all 41 presidents, each one about 18 feet tall, plus a 92-foot tall statue of George Washington.

Las Vegas offers more 'shows'

Nevada gambling mecca promises one singular sensation after another

By Michael Phillips
Los Angeles Times

Shows to see on the Strip

Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor. Luxor Las Vegas, 3900 Las Vegas Blvd. South. Sundays and Mondays, 7 p.m.; Wednesdays-Saturdays, 7 and 10 p.m. \$60.50-\$71.50. (800) 557-7428.

Notre Dame de Paris. Paris Las Vegas, 3655 Las Vegas Blvd. South. Tuesdays-Fridays, 7:30 p.m.; Saturdays, 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. \$69.50. (877) 374-7469.

FEK. MGM Grand Hotel, 3799 Las Vegas Blvd. South. Tuesdays-Saturdays, 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. \$37-47. (800) 929-1111.

O. Bellagio, 3600 Las Vegas Blvd. South. Fridays-Tuesdays, 7:30 and 10:30 p.m. \$93.50-110. (888) 468-7111.

Las Vegas - Every 90 minutes in front of Treasure Island resort and casino, a merry band of leaping, laughing, lip-synching pirates hits the deck of the good ship *Hispaniola*.

"The Buccaneer Bay Show" isn't long on narrative, but here's what happens: The pirates point their cannons at the HMS *Britannia*, a few hundred yards to the north. Kaboom - flames, pirates and Brits plunge into the water. The *Britannia* sinks.

This is theater in Las Vegas.

In a city of 120,294 hotel rooms and an equal number of all-you-can-eat buffet menus, distinctions between "real" theater and "fake" theater coalesce amid the jangle and whir of the casinos.

Is such a city - for decades known as the home of the 6-foot showgirl in replicate - prepared for "Blue Man Group," an unlikely (and very funny) off-Broadway franchise featuring three shiny blue technobent and a lot of percussion, which opened this week at the Luxor hotel?

Can the Gallic musical-theater spectacle *Notre Dame de Paris*, a Euro-ported version of "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," find a niche for itself at the Paris Las Vegas hotel, where it opened in January?

If the answer is yes to either question, then the elastic notion of Las Vegas theater - theater in a city that is theater - may be in for another stretch.

Las Vegas theater redefined itself rather suddenly in 1993, when Cirque du Soleil opened a permanent (or "sit-down") production at Treasure Island. "Mystere" disarmed the city with a new sort of show biz: circus, plus theater, plus class.

Its popular success led to a sec-

ond Cirque production, "O." Since 1998, Cirque's incomparable aquatic has scarcely gone about its business inside the Bellagio, a \$32 million production in a \$100 million auditorium, built around a shape-shifting 1.5 million-gallon outdoor pool. Such expenditures may not be equaled any time soon, especially since Mirage Resorts Inc. (Bellagio's parent company) agreed to be acquired last week by MGM Grand Inc. in a \$4.4 billion deal.

For now, and probably for years to come, "O" represents a pinnacle of New Vegas showmanship. It is Vegas-specific, yet it takes you someplace else, to a water planet not unlike our own. It's a deservedly tough ticket - \$110 on the high end, the highest on the Strip. It's beautiful enough to make you cry, all the way back to the blackjack table.

In one sense "O" stands alone; in another, in the year of Our Lord of the Dance 2000, it's just one more theatrical brand name for the taking. "Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance" plays eight shows weekly at New York-New York Hotel & Casino. "Forever Plaid" continues an open-ended run at the Flamingo Hilton.

Broadway has long been a part of this city's theatrical identity. "Tab" versions of proven shows play the hotels, cut down to a 90-minute running time. Two a night. In and out, and back to the tables.

"Blue Man Group: Live at Luxor," may approximate the classic Old Vegas running time. But it's not "Forever Plaid." In a city testing its theatrical boundaries, this is the most tantalizing boundary-pusher afoot.

Talk show host cancels birthday bash to avoid clash

DEARBORN, Mich. - Trying to avoid a clash with gay rights activists, radio talk show host Laura Schlessler canceled her Michigan birthday bash and fundraiser.

Gay and lesbian groups upset because "Dr. Laura" called homosexuality a "biological error" and "deviant," were planning to protest the April 15 event.

Schlessler said in a statement she decided to cancel "so as not to compromise anyone's physical safety or subject anyone to embarrassment or discomfort."

"We're thrilled that she's not being her next rhetoric to Detroit," said Sean Kosofsky of the gay rights group the Triangle Foundation.

About 800 tickets at \$76 apiece had been sold. Proceeds were to

People in the news

benefit her charitable foundation and Detroit's Children's Center.

'Jeopardy!' host says he has the tougher questions

ATHEENS, Ga. - "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" may have higher ratings and a bigger budget, but "Jeopardy!" host Alex Trebek says he has the tougher questions.

"You have to wonder about some of the contestants on that program," Trebek told journalism students Friday at the University of Georgia.

He then launched into an imitation of his friend, "Millionaire" host Regis Philbin and an imaginary player:

"What's the usual color of Post-its?"

"Uhhhhhh." Trebek noted Philbin has been on "Celebrity Jeopardy!" twice - "And he finished third both times," Trebek said.

"Granted our money is nowhere comparable to those other shows," Trebek said. "But so what? People on our program aren't there for the money; they're there for glory, to show off their intellectual prowess."

Trebek was in Georgia to tape the "Jeopardy!" Tournament of Champions this weekend in Atlanta.

Film actress Janet Leigh speaks for film preservation

FARGO, N.D. - The actress

famous for getting stabbed repeatedly in a shower in Alfred Hitchcock's "Psycho" is speaking out on film preservation.

Janet Leigh said she first realized the importance of film preservation 15 years ago, when she was given a tribute that included a showing of her first movie, "The Romance of Rosy Ridge."

"When it came on screen, I wanted to cry. You could see it, but the print was in such horrible, deplorable condition," the 72-year-old actress said Friday.

"The shock hit me that my precious movies weren't invincible."

"We cannot let this happen, because the motion picture is the most effective medium of American culture that we have."

- compiled from wire reports

It's in the mail - Academy copes with case of missing Oscars

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) - The Oscar drama has started awfully early. Police Saturday continued their search for the missing statues.

Academy Awards officials on Friday said a shipment of the latest statuette had gone AWOL - the latest embarrassment for the Academy, which had to scramble to send new voting forms after 4,000 ballots got lost in the mail.

The 55 statues vanished last week and are presumed stolen, said the executive director of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

"We think everybody should watch the entire Oscar show to see if we have enough on hand to get through the end of the show," Davis wisecracked. "But if the Academy might hand out a 'really ugly' statuette, I'd be glad to see it."

Actually, the Academy has about 20 Oscars in storage, and manufacturer R.S. Owens Co. of Chicago is busy making replacements. Oscar officials expect to

have those delivered early next week, though the Academy is "going to be a little off that, just in case there is an Oscar gang out there," Davis said.

The statues were reported missing March 10 from a Roadway Express loading dock in Bell.

"That's the same Los Angeles-area community where 4,000 Oscar ballots were misplaced at a post office earlier this month. The ballots were eventually found, but the Academy had already printed new ones and extended the voting deadline by two days, to next Thursday."

As things turned curiously and curiously over the stolen statues, Academy spokesman John Pavlik said he expects Oscar host Billy Crystal will have a field day over the missing statues and ballots during the March 26 show.

"We've told Billy Crystal not to go anywhere near Bell, California, in the next couple of weeks," Davis said. "It seems to be a Bermuda Triangle for Oscar things."

Roadway Express, which shipped the statues from Chicago, had no comment. Roadway has put up a \$50,000 reward to help recover the statues, Davis said.

Los Angeles and Bell police, along with FBI art theft experts, are investigating, Davis said.

The 55 statues represented enough Oscars to give to all of the winners on Academy Award night. But the exact number of statues needed isn't known until the big night because some nominations go to more than one person. For example, two people might win for collaborating on a screenplay.

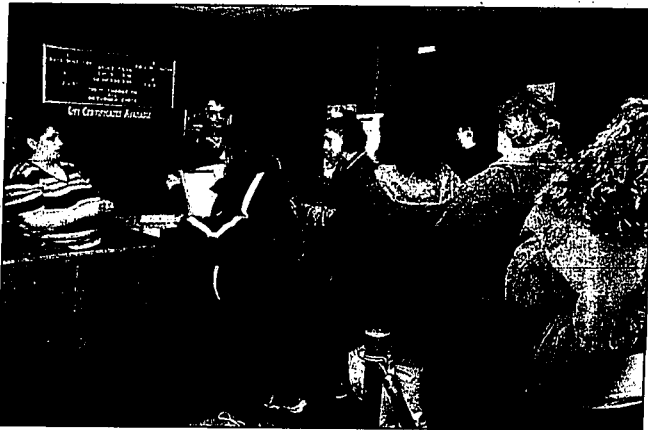
The statues were packed in 10 boxes, all encased in shrink-wrap on a pallet. At 8.5 pounds each, the gold-plated statues would have weighed about 470 pounds, meaning whoever stole them would have needed a forklift and a truck, Davis said.

The manufacturing cost of the statues was about \$18,000, though Davis said they have far greater intrinsic value.



Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Executive Director Brock Travis says Friday the Oscars were missing from a truck traveling from Chicago to Los Angeles.

NATION



Moviegoers wait Friday to buy tickets for the local premiere of 'Boys Don't Cry' at the River Twin Cinema in Falls City, Neb. The movie is based on the life of Teena Brandon, a woman who posed as a man, dated a local woman and then was killed by two men after they learned of her true gender. It has been six years since Brandon was murdered in a farmhouse near Humboldt, about 20 miles west of Falls City.

Nebraska reviews stay lukewarm on Hollywood version of slaying

FALLS CITY, Neb. (AP) - So far, the reviews have a common theme: The Falls City portrayed in the Oscar-nominated "Boys Don't Cry" doesn't look at all like the real thing.

The critically acclaimed movie about Teena Brandon opened here Friday. Nearly everyone in this southern Nebraska farm town knows the story of Brandon, a woman who posed as a man, dated a woman and then was killed by two men after they learned her true identity.

Virginia Ernst manages River Twin Cinema, which sits across the street from the courthouse where a jury convicted Brandon's killers.

Ernst expected large crowds for the film's opening at the 220-seat theater that sits along one of the city's narrow, brick streets, but the theater was only half full at Friday's showing. Ernst anticipated larger crowds Saturday.

After previewing the movie Thursday with her staff, Ernst said she did not know how the community would respond to the movie's lesbian love scenes and a portrayal of Falls City with most characters depicted as drunks.

"It's nothing like the town that's in the movie," Ernst said. After watching the film on Friday, resident Jared Kirkendall agreed.

"That's not Falls City," he said. "It's weird they made it more of a love story than a crime." "Boys Don't Cry" opened nationwide in November, but did not reach Nebraska screens until last month, when it opened at multiplex theaters in Omaha, the state's largest city. Area theater managers shied away from the film until actress Hilary Swank won the Golden Globe Award for her portrayal of Brandon.

Swank is nominated for the best actress Academy Award to be presented March 26. Chloe Sevigny, who played Brandon's girlfriend, Lana Tisdel, is up for the best supporting actress award.

It has been six years since Brandon was murdered in a farmhouse near Humboldt, about 20 miles west of Falls City. Her



Brandon Teena, left, appears with Lana Tisdel in this undated photo. The "Cinemax Real Life" documentary "The Brandon Teena Story" tells a "tragic tale of intolerance and murder" in America's heartland.

friends, Lisa Lambert, 24, and Philip DeVine, 22, also were killed because they witnessed Brandon's death. Brandon, who used the alias Brandon Teena, was a 21-year-old woman who ran around the Falls City area with a rough crowd, including her killers, John Lotter and Marvin Nissen.

Her death came after she told police that the men raped her when they learned of her true identity and were upset that she had dated their female friend, Tisdel.

Lotter is on death row awaiting execution. Nissen is serving a life prison sentence after agreeing to testify against Lotter.

Sarah Nissen was among the 110 people at Friday's premiere. The 18-year-old high school student is a cousin to Nissen, who also goes by Tom.

"From what I understand, and

from what Tom's told me, the movie is wrong," she said after seeing the film. "There's none of it that's right. It was just weird." Tisdel, who still lives in Falls City, has sued the film's makers. She claims the movie makes references to her as "lazy, white trash and a skanky snake," and depicts her as a lesbian and constantly under the influence of drugs and alcohol.

The movie also falsely portrays Tisdel as falling asleep at the murder scene and "doing nothing about it after it has occurred," according to Tisdel's lawsuit.

Police reports indicate that Tisdel was not at the murder scene. Kimberly Peirce, writer-director of "Boys Don't Cry," has said she took dramatic liberties with Brandon's case in portraying it on the big screen.

'Brockovich' movie revisits town's contaminated water nightmare

HINKLEY, Calif. (AP) - Roberta Walker knew something was wrong when a utility giant agreed to buy her five-acre Mojave Desert property for \$250,000.

"Everybody around us was becoming sick, and cats, dogs, and rabbits were dying," said Walker, whose curiosity triggered a multimillion-dollar lawsuit against Pacific Gas & Electric Co.

The seven-year battle waged over contaminated water by Walker and hundreds of Hinkley residents provided the background for the new Julia Roberts movie, "Erin Brockovich," which opened Friday.

In real life, the street-smart, tough-talking title character was the legal clerk who rallied Hinkley to sue PG&E.

"It's a great opportunity to send our message. Everything in the movie is true," Brockovich said after a Ventura County fundraising showing of the movie Wednesday night.

Greg Fruett, a spokesman for San Francisco-based PG&E, said Wednesday he has not seen the movie-but-has-viewed-televized previews.

"We look at this as a dramatization, not a documentary, and put it in that perspective," he said. "Any movie, including this one, has an incredible luxury of taking facts and intermingling them with drama to create a very entertaining movie."

Walker and her neighbors were among 650 plaintiffs in the 1993 lawsuit that claimed PG&E discharged toxic wastewater into groundwater at its compressor station, exposing residents to cancer-causing chromium 6.

PG&E settled for \$333 million four years ago. Another 300 former Hinkley residents have a November court date in their follow-up suit against the utility.

Many of the scenes in "Erin Brockovich" were filmed last summer in Hinkley, a farming



Erin Brockovich prepares for a TV interview with Access Hollywood Wednesday at a Westlake Village, Calif., law office. "Erin Brockovich," the Julia Roberts movie, dramatized the seven-year battle waged against Pacific Gas & Electric Co. by hundreds of Hinkley, Calif., residents.

Now showing

"Erin Brockovich" is showing locally at the Twin Cinema, the Jerome Cinema in Jerome and the Century Cinema in Burley.

Attorney Ed Masry, who handled the initial lawsuit and is portrayed in the movie by Albert Finney, believes Walker was the catalyst for the investigation.

"Hollywood did an accurate rendition of the facts," he said. "Erin worked night and day on the case for two years, and during the trial more than a million pages of documents were scanned through computers."

And Brockovich? She still works for Masry, heading the Masry & Vitouse law firm's toxic research department.

14TH ANNUAL LATHAM MINI RODEO

AT THE CSI EXPO CENTER
THURSDAY, MARCH 23
REGISTRATION 6:00 P.M.
CONTEST 6:00 P.M.



EVENTS

- Stick Horse Barrel Racing
- Goat Tagging
- Team Roping • Bull Riding

For Ages 4 Through 12

All competitors receive a free ticket to the Saturday afternoon, March 25, 2000, performance of the 24th Annual Rocky Mountain Regional N.I.R.A. Rodeo held March 24th and 25th at the C.S.I. Expo Center. The top four contestants in each event will compete in the pre-rodeo entertainment championship finals at 7:30 p.m. on March 24th and 25th at the C.S.I. Expo Center.

CHAMPIONS WILL RECEIVE TROPHY BUCKLES!!!



College of Southern Idaho Rodeo Club
24TH ANNUAL INDOOR INTERCOLLEGIATE RODEO
FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 24 & 25, 2000
AT CSI EXPO CENTER

REGAN, Rodeo Announcer
TRICKIE ADAM

PARTICIPANTS FROM 10 INTERMOUNTAIN COLLEGES

THREE PERFORMANCES:
8:00 P.M. FRI., MARCH 24
2:00 P.M. SAT., MARCH 25
8:00 P.M. SAT., MARCH 26

For more information on both the Mini Rodeo and the 24th Annual Rocky Mountain Regional N.I.R.A. Rodeo, contact Shawn Davis at 733-9554, ext. 2620; or call Latham Motors at 733-5776. All contestants must have liability release signed by parents or guardian for competing.

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Test markets release new 'Exorcist'

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) - More than 25 years after the horror movie classic "The Exorcist" won Academy and Golden Globe awards, a new version of the film was released Friday in three college towns as a preview to its national release later this year.

"The Exorcist - The Version You've Never Seen" will terrify a new generation of moviegoers here and in Austin, Texas and Ann Arbor, Mich., with a full reel of material restored to director William Friedkin's 1973 version.

"I saw it once when I was young and I really liked it. It scared the hell out of me," Isiah McPherson, 21, said while waiting to buy tickets for himself and his girlfriend, Dana Stephens.

Based on the best-selling novel by William Peter Blatty, the film graphically depicts the demonic possession of a 12-year-old girl (Linda Blair) and the efforts by a priest (Max von Sydow) to exorcise her demons.

"I'm very scared," Stephens said. "In fact, I've been trying to get him to let me out of this." Oddly enough, Blatty said Friday that scoring moviegoers was not his original intention.

"When I wrote the novel and also when I wrote the screenplay, frightening people was not my primary intention. It was the fun-est thing from my mind," he told Atlanta radio station WSTR. "I meant it as a supernatural detective story and a psychological thriller."

Many of those waiting to see the movie at the Beechwood Stadium 11 theater Friday afternoon weren't even born when the film was first released.

Among the new scenes is an eerie depiction of the girl, Regan, "spider walking" down a flight of stairs upside down and chasing two other characters.

An elaborate scene that required a contortionist stunt-woman held aloft by a deep-sea fishing pole was left out of the film originally, Friedkin said, because he feared audiences would not accept something so bizarre at the beginning of the film.

"This is the version that the author first saw and has always wanted," Friedkin said recently. "The restored new footage - plus one or two little surprises - make the film more suspenseful, as well as spiritually deeper."

Electric Shaver Troubles?

BUSINESS TECHS

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Personal finance: Socially responsible mutual fund managers agitate for accountability.

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MONEY

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INSIDE

YourBusiness D2
Farmbeat D3
Classified DT-20

Business Editor: Virginia S. Hutchins 733-0931, Ext. 242

Section D

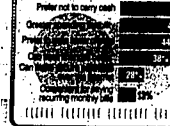
The Times-News

Sunday, March 19, 2000

BizFACTS

Why we use plastic

Reasons for using credit cards



NOTE: Multiple responses allowed. SOURCE: American Express Survey Research Services. © 2000 AET

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

IDACORP directors declare dividend

BOISE — Directors of IDACORP Inc. (NYSE: IDA) declared a common stock dividend of 46.5 cents per share, payable May 1 to holders of record at the close of business May 5.

Directors of Idaho Power Co. declared quarterly dividend on 4 percent preferred stock of \$1 per share, payable May 1 to holders of record April 14.

They also declared dividend on 7.68 percent serial preferred stock, first series, \$100 par value, of \$1.92 per share, payable May 15 to holders of record April 25. They declared dividend on 7.07 percent serial preferred stock, without par value, of \$1.76752 per share, payable May 19 to holders of record April 25.

Better Business Bureau meets at TF restaurant

TWIN FALLS — The Better Business Bureau Inc., serving southwest Idaho and eastern Oregon, will hold a Member Success Meeting for the Magic and Wood River valleys from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday at the Magic Valley restaurant, 611 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Four associates of the BBB member success team will present the basics of getting the most from membership. Team members promise the meeting will be insightful and useful, with time for questions.

An optional lunch is available for \$6.30 with the selection of one of five meal choices. RSVP by calling the member success team at (800) 218-1001 or (208) 342-3852.

First-time homebuyers have three more chances

TWIN FALLS — First-time homebuyers who missed previous "Finally Home" programs can sign up for one to be held in April.

College of Southern Idaho's Community Education Center spokeswoman Sylvia Jensen said the free two-evening workshop will be held three more times before the end of 2000. It features local representatives from real estate, finance, appraisal, title insurance and home building who speak about buying your first home.

Free workshops are sponsored by CSI and Idaho Partners for Home Buyer Education Inc. The April sessions will be from 6 p.m. April 12 and 19 in CSI's Shields building, room 118. They are designed especially for low- to middle-income homebuyers. The Department of Housing and Urban Development funds the program. Benefits such as closing-cost assistance and zero down payment are also offered to those who successfully complete the two-evening program.

Local presenters for the April sessions will be real estate agent Cindy Collins from The Prudential, Marcia Ash from First Federal Savings Bank, Brad Hartman from Alliance Title, Mac Maysler of Mays & Associates Appraisal and Home Inspector Glen Theberge.

CSI has been selected by HUD to coordinate the program in the Magic Valley. Although the courses are free, pre-registration is urged to keep from exceeding seating accommodations.

Call CSI's Community Education Department at 733-9554, Ext. 2288.

Compiled from staff reports

Labor on demand

New Twin Falls office dispatches workers for the day

By Virginia B. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — When private-sector downsizing left him without a job, Greg Rogers stood in unemployment lines.

Now a state-employed labor market analyst, Rogers knows how a job search can be discouraging days when you're waiting for phone calls and just don't know what direction to try next.

He never tried day labor or used a temporary agency himself, but Rogers knows a new business in town might be a welcome sight for some folks.

At Washington-based Labor Ready's Twin Falls office, which opened March 1, temporary workers sign in each morning and wait to be dispatched to a job. Maybe at a feed manufacturer in Buhl. Maybe a cold-storage facility that uses electrical or warehouse help. Maybe a dairy, a building supply store or Jerome Cheese Co.'s sanitation department.

"They're asking for you, and that's kind of a nice feeling," Rogers surmised.

For workers down on their luck for the moment, a place to go where they have a chance to make some money today is good for the self-esteem and the sense of direction, he said. People out of work through no fault of their own are just looking for a chance to demonstrate their skills, he added.

At Labor Ready, that chance can come with little notice.

"Labor Ready is the Domino's of the labor industry. We deliver," said Twin Falls branch manager Stan Visser, 46, who was born in Twin Falls and lived here until age 16.

The company's goal is to deliver labor within an hour of a client's call.

That focus, unusual among Magic Valley temporary employment agencies, has brought a growing stream of hopeful workers through the doors of the 430 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. office.

They're attracted, too, by Labor Ready's practice of issuing paycheck daily.

Impressive pool

Visser's return to Twin Falls follows Labor Ready assignments in Texas, California, Oregon and Nevada, where he opened seven other new Western locations and had ample opportunity to compare areas' available labor pools. Twin Falls, though perhaps not abundant, is the best.

"The quality of labor in this area is head and shoulders above anywhere else I've been," Visser said.

He gives local workers great marks for dependability. They show up, and they do what they



Jim Webb files out an application at Labor Ready in Twin Falls while his wife, Joyce Webb, waits. The Webbs recently moved to the Magic Valley. If his qualifications check out, Jim Webb will be a valuable commodity to the temporary agency.

About Labor Ready

Calls itself the nation's largest provider of temporary manual workers.

Based in Tacoma, Wash., with 774 locations nationally in 1999.

New office in Twin Falls is part of the company's 200-office national expansion in 2000.

Existing Idaho locations in Boise, Nampa and Coeur d'Alene.

Symbols on the New York Stock Exchange is LRW.

Generated \$851 million in sales in 1999, up 40 percent from \$607 million in 1998.

In 1999, employed 860,000 workers, serviced 250,000 customers, and issued 6.5 million work orders.

Source: Labor Ready prospectus

A look at local labor

A several new, large employers enter the Twin Falls market. The Times-News is examining the supply of willing, able workers and the dynamics of the job market. Watch for more coverage on labor issues in the coming weeks.

Related stories — D2,3

had transportation, he said. Fourteen were sent to jobs.

Wednesday, Visser dispatched 14 of the 24 who signed in. Just nine got work Monday. The numbers show a normal acceleration for a new Labor Ready branch, he said.

Customer base

Labor Ready isn't an appropriate route for all work aspirations.

It's tailored to the labor market — "any customer that requires brain and brawn" — not to more specialized retail, sales or managerial fields, Visser said.

"Construction is one of our main sources of business," he said. Its niche includes such fields

as manufacturing, demolition, sanitation and the like, plus clerical and office support work. Visser is courting new clients every day in the growing Magic Valley.

The company's national customers bring some automatic business to the Twin Falls branch. The Home Depot, for instance, uses temporary labor when it restocks shelves or moves a nursery department.

As it prepares a Twin Falls store's opening this spring, The Home Depot has vendors using Labor Ready workers to shelve their wares.

Labor Ready — which pays all taxes, liability insurance, worker's compensation insurance, administrative costs and worker's wages — negotiates with the customer a flat rate based on worker's compensation and skill levels required. It pays a worker \$6 to \$15 per hour based on skills used at his or her job for the day.

Unlike other areas of the West, Visser said, Twin Falls has a demand for labor that's equally as mixed as the worker flow into Labor Ready's doors.

Taking 50 or 75 new worker applications each week — and accepting easily 80 percent as potential employees — Visser said he sees no glut in any particular field.

"It's a diversified labor force," he said.

If anything, there's a shortage right now of semi-skilled and skilled construction labor. The semi-skilled include framers and experienced cement workers. The skilled are finish carpenters, cabinet makers, finish cement workers and the like.

For Thursday, Visser was searching for local-haul truck drivers, for a potential dairy customer, when a trucking couple walked in the door.

She is retired, and he — a former long-haul trucker — is tired of the road.

Visser Thursday morning started the process of checking out the man's driving qualifications. In two hours, he said, "I'll know whether I have a good driver or not."

As The Times-News wanders restfully, good truck drivers are in short supply, Visser said.

"Skilled and semi-skilled — they're good as gold," he said.

Getting to the job

The morning routine starts early at Labor Ready.

For advance assignments, it requires workers to sign into the labor hall an hour before a job is scheduled to start. Visser checks their appearance and attitude, hands out work tickets and speaks to each one each morning.

"We like to see our workers

before the customer does," he said. "We screen our workers daily before each job."

When a job order comes, he tries to pick the best-suited workers in the hall. He calls them to the desk and explains the job. They can accept or decline.

Would-be workers might wait all day — or as long as they're available — to get the hoped-for call and a day's pay.

Meanwhile, Visser has "always got the coffee going, and the movies are playing," he said.

Because it provides labor on demand, Labor Ready can't guarantee a perfect balance.

"One day you'll have too many workers, and another day you'll be short," Visser said.

"The labor industry is not a career-type market," Visser said. Because workers tend to change jobs frequently, perhaps because of a layoff or weather-related slowdown, there's usually a need for immediate income, he said.

About half of his laborers are temporary, seeking work for one day to two weeks, he said. The other half seeks transitions into potentially permanent jobs. If an employer finds a good Labor Ready worker, it's free to hire him or her whenever it likes.

Periodic job-site visits and midday phone calls tell Visser how individual workers are performing. Now and then, someone decides to slack off.

"If something happens," he said, "I've got 10 people waiting to fill that job."

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 242, or by e-mail at virginia@magicvalley.com.

Crossing owner buys back stock

SALT LAKE CITY — JP Realty Inc. announced it has repurchased about 1.46 million shares of its common stock at a cost of about \$25 million.

This represents an average price of \$17.09 per share, well below the company's net asset value, JP Realty said. Its management and directors continue to consider the common stock to be an attractive investment, it said.

The company currently has about 19.9 million shares of common stock and units outstanding.

JP Realty (NYSE: JPR) owns one property in Twin Falls — the 37,000-square-foot Twin Falls Crossing on Blue Lakes Boulevard, a former Ernst store facility. JP Realty's predecessor company, Price Development Co., built the Magic Valley Mall.

Here's how a few companies with Magic Valley locations, or other local ties, fared in the stock market during the past week.

Symbol	Description	Friday's Close	Previous Friday	Weekly Change	52-week High-Low	Annual Yield
ASCO	ALBERTSON'S	26 3/8	24	5 1/8	81 - 23 1/2	2.48%
ABCA	AMERISTAR	3 29/32	4 1/32	1/32	5 1/2 - 3 1/2	2.48%
CAG	CON AGRA	17	18 5/8	2 5/8	31 1/4 - 15 1/8	4.76%
COPI	KONGHEW FIBRE	13 1/2	13 7/8	3/8	17 3/4 - 10 5/8	3.48%
COST	COSTCO	53 1/2	52 1/2	1	86 1/2 - 32 1/4	N/A
TGT	TARGET	69 3/2	60 13/16	8 11/16	77 - 53 3/4	5.8%
ID	IDA CORP	30 7/8	53 1/2	9 7/8	69 3/4 - 35 3/4	2.8%
SEAR	SEARS	30 1/2	27 3/8	3 1/8	53 1/2 - 28 1/4	2.68%
IFC	IDACORP	33 5/16	32 1/8	1	53 - 28 1/2	5.8%
FSCD	FEDERATED	46 1/2	52 1/8	3/8	31 - 30 3/4	4.87%
WFC	WELLS FARGO	38 1/2	35 1/8	3 3/8	49 1/2 - 34 1/4	5.28%
WFLS	WASH. FEDERAL	17	15	2	25 1/2 - 18 1/2	5.8%
NTC	NORWELT	16 11/16	14 3/4	1 3/8	34 7/8 - 14 1/8	N/A
MB	MORGAN	46 1/2	44 1/2	2	53 1/2 - 31 1/2	4.8%
HZ	HUIZEND	32 11/16	33 11/16	1	54 - 30 1/2	4.8%
FB	FEDERATED	40 1/8	36 5/8	4 3/8	57 1/2 - 31 5/8	N/A
KRP	KRATON	13 15/16	13 1/8	7/8	18 1/2 - 13 5/8	7.48%
WMT	WAL-MART	55 3/4	48 1/8	7 5/8	70 1/4 - 38 7/8	4.03%
KCP	KEY CORP	18 13/16	16 1/2	2 3/4	38 1/8 - 15 9/16	4.9%
HP	HEWLETT	40 1/4	35 1/8	5 3/8	67 3/8 - 34 1/4	2.98%
MU	MICRON TECH	126 5/8	106 3/8	22 1/4	126 1/2 - 34 1/4	N/A
LRW	LABOR READY	9 1/4	8 7/16	13/16	28 3/8 - 7 5/8	N/A

Compiled by Rob Weaver, investment representative for the Edward Jones office at 1448 Fillmore St. in Twin Falls.

YOUR BUSINESS

MILESTONES

Insurance company honors Stroberg-Leavitt agency

TWIN FALLS—The Alliance Insurance Companies in McPherson, Kan., announced Stroberg-Leavitt Agency Inc. in Twin Falls has been named Advantage Agent for 2000.

To qualify as an Advantage Agent, an agency must exhibit superior professionalism and profitability over five consecutive years, Alliance said.

The Alliance Insurance Companies are represented by independent agents and serve 10 Midwestern states. Alliance was established in 1988 and said it writes a full range of property and liability insurance for homes, farms and commercial businesses.

Bonanza Motors earns five stars from DaimlerChrysler

BURLEY—DaimlerChrysler announced Bonanza Motors has earned its Five Star designation by rigorously establishing a rigorous set of processes designed to ensure

the highest level of customer satisfaction.

The new Five Star performance process is designed to make dealerships displaying the Five Star sign the most desirable places to buy or service a vehicle, DaimlerChrysler said.

The new Five Star program is designed so dealers continually examine and re-evaluate the way they do business. To maintain their Five Star status, dealers are encouraged to think of ways to constantly improve the way they conduct business and to put the customer first in every interaction with the dealership.

"This is an all-new Five Star program," said M. John MacDonald, DaimlerChrysler's vice president of sales and service. "Superior satisfaction is just part of the process. Five Star dealerships have dedicated themselves to perpetuating the Five Star ideas of constant development and improvement. Five Star dealers must prove themselves year after year."

Bonanza Motors is at 325 Overland Ave. in Burley. It offers Chrysler, Plymouth Dodge, Dodge Truck and Jeep vehicles.

Recruitment program helps find employees

The Times-News

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A new recruitment resource for identifying job candidates with disabilities skilled in a wide variety of fields now is available free of charge to employers. The 2000 Workforce Recruitment Program database contains profiles of more than 1,200 individuals seeking permanent employment and internship opportunities.

The Workforce Recruitment Program for College Students with Disabilities, a joint venture of the President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities and the U.S. Department of Defense, recently sent recruiters to colleges and universities throughout 40 states, the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico to interview students and recent graduates with disabilities.

Candidates are pursuing or have completed degrees on two-year, four-year, graduate and professional levels. Job categories include accounting, administration (professional

and support), business, computer science, criminal justice, communications, customer service, education, engineering/technology, health care, human resources/equal employment opportunity, legal, sales, sciences and social sciences. A profile of each candidate includes academic and demographic data, contact information and the recruiter's impressions from the interview.

To use the database while recruiting for a given position, employers have two options:

- Obtain the database on CD-ROM to independently search by field, state or school by faxing a request on company letterhead to Phil Mallin at (724) 891-0275.
- Call the Workforce Recruitment Support Line at (724) 891-3533 or send e-mail to pmhallin@jcs.com to have a specialist search using specified job requirements. Technical assistance for using the CD-ROM, as well as access to each candidate's resume and school transcripts, is also available through the Workforce Recruitment Support Line.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Perkins Restaurant of Twin Falls on March 8 received a plaque from Special Olympics Idaho in appreciation for its contributions in 1999.

General Manager Mike Nelson and Associate Manager Dawn Luchsinger of the Perkins Restaurant were presented with the plaque by Mike Gemar, Special Olympics World Games coach from Buhl, and Chris Schenck for the Idaho State Police.

Last year, the "Tip-A-Cop" program raised nearly \$3,000 to send Idaho special athletes to area and world games, the restaurant said. Tip-A-Cop uses area law enforcement officers as waiters and waitresses for the day. All the tip money is donated to Special Olympics, supplemented by half of the daily tip taken in by Perkins for that day.

This year's Tip-A-Cop is scheduled April 6.

Through their Chain of

Hearts campaign, Idaho credit unions raised \$5,800 to benefit children treated at regional not-for-profit hospitals of the Children's Miracle Network. This is just one fund-raiser Idaho credit unions will hold to meet a \$75,000 fund-raising goal for April. Last year, the credit unions raised more than \$67,000.

The Chain of Hearts campaign asked credit union members to purchase paper links that would bear the names of loved ones and be displayed in credit union lobbies during the Valentine season.

"Besides providing care regardless of families' ability to pay, CMN hospitals offer special treatment programs that other hospitals lack. Thus, they treat kids from every county in Idaho who can't go anywhere else for the care they need," said Karen Warner, CMN fundraising coordinator for the credit unions' trade association.

Idaho children receive help through CMN hospitals in Boise, Salt Lake City and Spokane, Wash.

Money goes to the CMN hospital nearest the area where it is raised.

CAREER MOVES

TWIN FALLS—Blue Lakes Mortgage added Dawn Luchsinger to its staff as a mortgage loan officer.

A longtime resident of Twin Falls, Luchsinger will work with Jim Griffice and Ronald E. Heath in serving people looking for financing to construct, refinance or purchase a home.

She has many years' experience in professional and retail customer service, a press release said. She brings four

years' experience in all phases of mortgage lending and processing, including training with Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac electronic loan approval.

BURLEY—Sheila Adams of Century 21 Riverside Realty was recognized as a quality service producer by Century 21 Real Estate Corp. The Quality Award is a new national award in the Century 21 system.

Adams' competitive intelligence, professionalism and dedication has made her a valued and trusted real estate partner for the Mini-Cassia community and a major contributor to the overall success of Century 21, a press release said.

She has 22 years' experience in the industry with Century 21. She is a national director for the National Association of Realtors and represents 3,800 Idaho Realtors. She serves on the local executive board, the state board and on the Education Council for the Idaho Real Estate Commission.

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TWIN FALLS—Marcia Roberts is a new clinician moving into the area. She will do

play therapy and counseling at the Downtown Counseling and Play Therapy Center, 220 Fourth Ave. E. in Twin Falls.

Roberts received her bachelor's degree at Idaho State University and her master's degree at Walla Walla College in Washington. She worked in mental health for nine years and a rape crisis center. Roberts said she has been a Red Cross volunteer for four years, has served on the board of directors and as the chairwoman for Disaster Mental Health with the Red Cross. She is certified for Disaster Mental Health through the Red Cross and is an instructor for basic HIV/AIDS education. Roberts can be reached at 736-0695.

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.

Please e-mail items to Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins at virginia@magvalley.com

Or contact her at: The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303, 733-0931, Ext. 242, Fax 677-4543 or 734-5538

YourBusiness deadline: Noon Thursday for publication the following Sunday.

4 Ways Travel Service, Inc. CarlsonWagonlit

Travel Agent Tip
Jim Forzo
Travel Consultant

Tips On Tippling
Whom do I tip? Whom? How much? These are questions that have nagged consumers since the first services transaction. The practice of tipping is meant as a form of thank you for services rendered or bestowed as a subtle bribe for special treatment.

Tipping need not be mandatory or automatic. Tipping should be done at your discretion and as a reward for good or superlative service.

The following are tipping suggestions for travelers. Remember to carry a lot of change and small bills for tip.

Taxi/limo Drivers: A \$2-\$3 tip is usually satisfactory, more if he/she helps with your luggage and takes special steps to get you to your destination.

Waiters: 15-20% of your pre-tax check is standard. Make certain you look at the charges before adding a tip. However, some restaurants automatically add it especially for groups.

Tour Guides/Charter Bus Drivers: If it is not stated on the ticket, tip \$1-\$2 for a half day tour, \$2-\$3 for a full day tour, and anywhere from \$10-\$20 for a week-long tour.

Hotel Maids: Maids are often forgotten because they typically do their work when you are not around. For stays of more than one night, \$1 per night is standard.

Mexico Cruise
3 Day..... FROM \$359
4 Day..... FROM \$309
7 Day..... FROM \$689

Based on double occupancy and includes port charges. Ground transfers, visas and air transportation are additional. Some restrictions apply.

Alaska Cruise Tour
6 Night Land Tour
5 Night Voyage of the Glacier
Including the Midnight Sun Express ULTRA DOME private cabin.
FROM \$1999, FROM \$2399.

Based On Double Occupancy, Subject To Availability. Air & Transfers Not Included.

Hawaii
6 Days Waikiki \$536
At a fine Waikiki property. Value, class & Thursday Departure through 3/25/00.

6 Days Maui \$693
At a fine Maui property. Valid Wednesdays & Thursday Departure through 3/25/00.

Includes Air from Boise, Rates per person, double occupancy and subject to availability. Restrictions may apply. Limited availability.

Europe
Heart of Europe \$1389
A 10-day tour of Central, Eastern, Switzerland and France. Holland, Germany, Austria, Liechtenstein, Switzerland and France.

A Taste of Britain \$719
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Who could use a good day's work?

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS—Every morning is a bit of a gamble for Ray Craft Sr. of Twin Falls.

For almost three weeks, Craft has shown up at the new Labor Ready office in town to quaff coffee and wait for someone to put him to work.

"I average three or four days a week I get work," he said Thursday morning, fixing the cup of coffee to his taste.

That's a good enough average to keep him coming. Especially when a day's work means immediate pay.

"It's not much of a gamble, but yeah, it's worth it," Craft said.

He claims 10 years' carpentry experience, plus past jobs as a retail salesman and as an advertising company's office manager. His new arrangement, he said, means he has to wake up each morning with a certain mind-set: willingness to take whatever comes along.

"It's a big challenge, because you have to be versatile," Craft said. "I come in with an open mind."

So far, most of his assignments have been setting up merchandise for Home Depot vendors.

He usually waits two or three hours for a work order and talking with other guys before going home to wait for a phone call from Labor Ready.

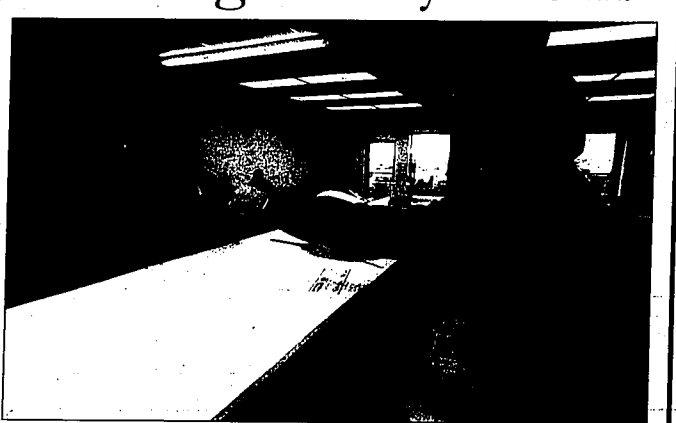
"Everybody has to get along real well in here," Craft said. They might, after all, be co-workers that day.

Another Home Depot helper lately has been Lois Reeder, 19, of Twin Falls. Thursday morning, she picked up a work order to restack shelves and recycle cardboard boxes.

Reeder had signed up at Labor Ready a week earlier with her mother, who Thursday got her first assignment, at a grocery store.

Mom was offered a clerical job but can't type. But she understands this is a new Labor Ready branch, without a full raft of clients, and is being patient for her daughter said.

"We put in our applications around town, but we haven't got any calls back in," Reeder said. She and her mother applied at a



Stan Visser, branch manager of the Twin Falls office of Labor Ready, checks in some safety gear from Brent Lillevoed. At 8 a.m., Lillevoed was just coming in off a night job.

A look at local labor

precision-parts manufacturer, a horse-trailer manufacturer and a janitorial company last week.

Will Reeder switch to full-time work if it presents itself?

"Probably. If it pays more, yeah," she said. But she's pleased with Labor Ready pay rates.

Here is a family in an unusual transition.

These days Dad stays home to teach the younger siblings. He is self-employed at home as a classic-car mechanic, but some days Reeder is the only paid worker in the family.

Reeder said her parents have sacrificed career potential to educate their children at home. Both parents have college-level degrees in order to teach the family. And in October, she said, the entire family will move to Australia so Reeder can study marine biology

there. Her dad likely will work in construction there, and Australia will be good for her 14-year-old sister, who is interested in ecology.

As Craft and Reeder waited Thursday morning, Brent Lillevoed of Twin Falls was ending a night of sacking mixed grains and vitamins for a feed manufacturer and operating a forklift.

He checked off answers to a list of questions: Was the pitch for the job accurate in terms of the skill level that determines pay rate? Did he observe anything unsafe on the job site? Was he injured?

In two weeks at Labor Ready, Lillevoed said, he got five or six days' work. He prefers night shifts but will take days.

Daily paychecks are a big part of the draw. And he said he gets better service at branch manager Stan Visser's Labor Ready than at the three other temporary agencies he tried.

"They couldn't find me enough work to keep my busy — Stan can do it," Lillevoed said.

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

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Lois Reader is saving part of her wages toward attending college in Australia.

Temp agencies don't fear new competitor

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Several earlier arrivals in Twin Falls' temporary employment market say Labor Ready's coming isn't a threat in their industry.

"I don't really think that they're going to be necessarily a shakeup," said Rich Davila, account manager at Intermountain Staffing Resources in Twin Falls. "I really don't think it's going to change the industry much."

The field has seen a lot of changes during the past few years, with many new entries into the local market, said Tony Mayer, president of Personnel Plus in Twin Falls.

"A few of those companies aren't around anymore," he said.

Mayer said he hasn't watched Labor Ready's opening with any special interest, adding that a national company doesn't have any advantage over a local or regional company in the temporary employment business.

Nita Cooper, branch manager of SOS Staffing Services Inc. in Twin Falls, also foresees no industry change driven by Labor Ready.

"I think that there's a different concept in what we sell," Cooper said.

SOS and some of its counterparts say they fill a broader, higher-end range of jobs - often for permanent assignments.

"I feel we have a larger capacity to serve professional employers in the city, as well as labor," Cooper said.

Intermountain Staffing can do anything that Labor Ready can, including day labor, Davila said, but its overall focus is on longer term positions. He touted Intermountain Staffing's customized services, company-specific orientations, drug testing and extensive screening - meant to find an employer a perfect fit for the job, "not just throw them a body," he said.

The advantage, he said, is an employee with "a better idea what he's getting into."

"We consider ourselves the higher-end staffing," Davila said.

Personnel Plus covers the client gamut, general and skilled labor, office and administrative, professional, short-term, permanent and executive recruitment, Mayer said.

"Our company tries to service the entire labor market that exists in the Magic Valley area," he said.

day labor could have a beneficial role for entry-level workers, laborers without special skills and businesses with emergencies such as the arrival of an unusual large inventory shipment, said the Idaho Department of Labor's Magic Valley labor market analysts.

"I think there's probably a niche there for it," analyst Greg Rogers said.

A lot of local businesses - food processing and clerical ones, for example - seem to be receptive to temporary-agency personnel, Rogers said. And from the part-time temp worker's point of view, daily paychecks might alleviate fears of not being paid or not being paid regularly.

Labor Ready's practice of providing on-demand labor could, in fact, be a leg up for young or beginning workers.

If they do good days' work for a variety of employers, they might establish positive reputations in enough quarters to bring them referrals for permanent jobs, Rogers said.

How about Labor Ready's daily pay?

"We've not felt the need to do that with our employees," Mayer said.

If employees requested daily pay, Personnel Plus could accommodate them, Mayer said. But those requests have been the exception rather than the rule.

His business aligns pay cycles with the client's normal pay arrangements, he said.

Davila contends less frequent pay is a stability advantage, spurring workers to look to the future and follow through with the job.

SOS pays once a week as a rule but can do same-day pay in other SOS offices.

"That's something that we're looking into for this area," Cooper said. But for now, SOS workers in Twin Falls don't have the option of walking out the door with their money each day - and they haven't asked for it, she said.

As local growth continues, the industry could have room for everyone.

"We hope that Twin Falls is a growing market, and it is growing somewhat," Mayer said. "We would all like to see it grow faster and see more opportunities for our workers."

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 242, or e-mail at virginia@magicalvalley.com

Americans have seen high gas prices before

Knight Ridder News Service

It was a crisis, an alarming assault on the American way of life, a harbinger of an Orwellian future of dark, cold winters and global turmoil.

It was the mid-1970s and the U.S. economy, it seemed, was dying. The cause of death: high oil prices. The culprit: OPEC.

Skyrocketing petroleum prices unleashed an economic plague that included layoffs, inflation and recession. In 1974 and 1975, the economy contracted due to oil shocks, and the 1979 oil shock sent inflation soaring so high that the Federal Reserve lifted interest rates well into the double digits to bring it under control.

In the year 2000, by contrast, America is once again facing the prospect of sharply higher oil prices. But rather than filling with panic, the streets are packed with millions of sport utility vehicles gulping gasoline that averages \$1.41 per gallon.

Rather than a recession, Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan is warning that economic growth must slow.

Rather than rampaging inflation, prices are actually falling in many parts of the economy, and the overall consumer price index moved by an almost imperceptible 0.2 percent in January.

Analysts looking at the big picture aren't completely sanguine about the situation, saying broader effects of oil prices could take up to two years to materialize. That would be especially true if OPEC's recent ironclad unity con-

tinues to hold. But clearly, something happened on the way to the apocalypse. Indeed, some economists say the muted effect of the current oil shock is perhaps the strongest evidence to date that the nation has undergone an economic metamorphosis.

Specifically, oil is no longer the grease in the American economic engine. Today, its share of the gross domestic product is a shadow of its former self. Fast-growing sectors of the economy, such as technology, don't run on fossil fuels.

Secondly, the United States is a far richer country than it used to be. So gas prices of \$1.41 are less threatening in today's world, when the average American has \$22,304 in disposable personal

income, than in 1981, when the figure was \$9,566.

"Finally, consumers with the SUVs have perhaps decided - correctly - that gasoline prices aren't so high after all. When adjusted for inflation, gas prices hit all-time lows in 1998. Even recent increases don't take them anywhere near record levels of the early 1980s.

Experience has taught all U.S. drivers that, old fears of \$100-per-barrel oil notwithstanding, gas prices not only rise, they also fall.

"I think right now people view high gas prices as a reasonably temporary phenomenon," said Steve Mansell, an economist at Barry University in Miami Shores. "Over the past 20 years, when we've had these runups, they haven't lasted long."

Oregon cattlemen sear NCBA

In a move borne of total frustration, the Oregon Cattlemen's Association has voted unanimously to withhold its state affiliate dues to the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. The action followed quickly on the heels of the NCBA annual convention in Phoenix at which Oregon producers had hoped to find resolve to their concerns, but didn't, said John Hays, OCA president and NCBA board member.

"All of the (NCBA) momentum is headed toward the feeder and the packer, and now it is going back to the cow/calf man who's going broke out here," said Hays, a producer in Unity, Ore.

Oregon cattlemen just "can't figure why we pay dues when they don't figure our questions are being answered," he added.

Disillusion in the ranks has been brewing almost ever since the merger of industry sectors formed NCBA four years ago. Hays, who this past year served on NCBA's Blue Ribbon Commission to address producer concerns, said that effort - initiated by NCBA immediate past president George Swan of Twin Falls - was a good one. The commission spent a year rounding up input and coming up with proposals to fix what producers thought was broken.

"I think we had a good plan that worked for everybody," Hays said, "but when it got on the (young) floor, it got tore up pretty good," he said.

Swan, however, thinks the arduous review process at the convention and the resulting postponement of implementation due to bylaw procedure had more to do with cattlemen's frustration than the actual outcome.

Some commodity prices inch up on drought news

TWIN FALLS - Wheat prices rose a bit on the sobering news earlier this week that U.S. farmers, already reeling from a long slump in agricultural commodities, now face a serious drought threat after the warmest winter on record.

Wheat prices rose 7 cents on Tuesday, the day after the U.S. Commerce Department issued its first-ever spring drought forecast, but dropped 2 cents on Wednesday and another 2 cents on Tuesday.

Most of the drought concern is in the eastern regions of the U.S. where corn is grown and the Texas-Oklahoma area. "A lot this year to tell what the impact will be," said Dave Sparrow, executive director of the Idaho Wheat Commission. Harvest is a long way off and timely rains could change the scenario.

Idaho wheat growers are watching the situation in Texas and Oklahoma most closely. Two-thirds of the Texas winter wheat crop has already been ruined in poor condition or worse. Parts of Kansas and much of central



George Swan of Twin Falls, immediate past president of NCBA, said the Blue Ribbon Commission is continuing its effort to make substantive changes to the national organization.

Farmbeat
Highlights of this week's Magic Valley Ag Weekly, The Times-News' weekly report on agriculture.

Nebraska is also dry, although moisture in February has improved the situation.

Cattle bill curbs bureaucracy, heads to Idaho House next

BOISE - A bill aimed at consolidating federal and state environmental regulations for cattle operations whizzed through the House Agriculture Committee Tuesday with all hands in favor. Senate Bill 1398, which earlier gained full Senate approval, is now headed for the House floor.

Drafted by the Idaho Cattle Association, the bill has been hailed as a proactive stance by the cattle industry toward heightened compliance with environmental regulations. The bill, does not, however, add to or subtract from any regulations already on the books, said ICA President Greg Garata of Murtaugh.

"We're not raising the bar on any rules or regulations," he said. "We're just asking for a different agency to have oversight." The legislation would transfer

federal and state oversight of regulations concerning surface and ground water to the Idaho Department of Agriculture. It would specifically transfer state oversight from the Division of Environmental Quality and provide for a Memorandum of Understanding with the Environmental Protection Agency to transfer federal oversight, Garata said.

Garata said some media reports have stated the bill would increase environmental standards, but that is not the case. The bill would simply and condense a number of overlapping regulations from separate agencies.

"That's why we're doing it. We're trying to reduce the level of bureaucracy," he said.

Truck legislation grinds through the Legislature

BOISE - A massive bill has just hit the state's mailbox, and state

officials and legislators are trying to figure out how to pay it.

A District Court judge agreed last month with the American Trucking Association that Idaho's two-tiered system of truckweight taxation was unconstitutional.

"Those familiar with the case say the ATA is willing to settle with the state for \$27 million - or 22 cents on the dollar of the original suit. That's consistent with what the ATA has done in other states where it has won similar lawsuits.

Growers beware: Bean costs may exceed income

KIMBERLY - This year more than ever a bean grower needs to know almost exactly what it really costs to grow beans. Prices for the harvested product are just plain low, while the cost of growing the product keeps rising.

"It's very critical for farmers to understand what they are paying to grow beans," said Steve Singh, University of Idaho bean breeder at Kimberly. "With prices the way they are today, it may not be worthwhile until and unless production costs are reduced and yield maximized."

Gary White of Rupert, an Idaho bean commissioner, said he obtained figures from his neighbor, John Rensberg, who also grows beans and is very good at working calculations on the computer. Over the early winter, White and Rensberg came up with an input figure they think would be fairly accurate.

"We think about \$425 an acre for input costs would be a conservative figure," he said. He adds, however, that does not include escalating prices in the petroleum industry, which have a substantial impact on all aspects of agriculture - from fertilizer to diesel to delivery charges.

Those figures include seed, irrigation, fertilizer, chemicals, fuel, harvesting, and labor - before the fuel crisis. Also included are cash ownership costs such as land, charges, taxes, equipment, liability, as well as depreciation.

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MONEY

Personal finance

Just an uptick or major shift?

By Ellen Glanton
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Forget about college basketball. The real March Madness broke out this past week in the stock market.

Technology stocks, which had shot up to stratospheric levels in recent months, were trampled. Blue-chip stocks, given up for dead earlier this year, roared back to life.

The shift was swift and fierce. Nonetheless, most analysts feel it helped restore balance to a market that had lost all sense of reason.

"The rapidly and the violence of the move was surprising, but in a bull market that's had such a long run, it's healthy," said Charles Pradilla, chief investment strategist at SC Cowen Securities in New York. "For this time being, the unbridled move up in the Nasdaq is over."

From Monday to Wednesday, the technology-dominated Nasdaq fell 466 points, or 9.2 percent below the record high of 5,048.62 set March 10. For a short time on Thursday, the Nasdaq fell farther, plunging into what Wall Street calls a "correction" — a drop of at least 10 percent that sometimes

signals a turning point for the work.

It wasn't the first time this year that the Nasdaq fell steeply. The highly volatile index tumbled 404 points from Jan. 4 to 6. From Jan. 26 to 28, it lost 280 points. But during both of those routs, technology stocks so thoroughly ruled investor sentiment that the broader market collapsed, too, unable to function without its brash, successful leaders.

This time, however, investors showed the money they pulled from technology stocks into old-fashioned blue-chips and other consumer product and industrial stocks, a shift so strong that the Dow Jones industrial average smashed through its record for a one-day point gain, rising 499.19 on Thursday.

Fueling the move were large money managers who tried to capitalize quickly on the shift in market momentum.

"Five years ago, there would have been four committee meetings before moving money around like this," said Pradilla. "Today, the meetings occur on the fly and you just do it."

For the week, the Dow gained 664.1 points, or 6.7 percent, its biggest weekly point gain ever,

and its best percentage gain since 7.9 percent in August 1984.

The Dow's newfound strength was enough to lift the entire market higher — including the now-vulnerable tech stocks.

The Nasdaq, which lost 466 points from Monday to Wednesday, gained back nearly half of the decline by Friday, leaving it only 250 points lower at week's end.

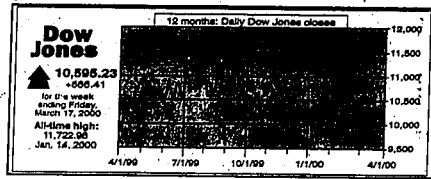
The balance between the stocks of the old and new economies had at least momentarily — been restored. "The market is finding a bit more rationally," said Ned Riley, chief strategist at State Street Global Advisors. "Investors realized that (blue chips) have fallen about as far as they're likely to fall, and at this point, they're very good bargains."

The market's volatility has increased this year because so many investors have given up their old "buy and hold" philosophy in favor of momentum-driven trading.

Technology stocks caught fire because their success last year attracted more and more money — from institutional clients, frenzied day traders, and ordinary folks who retooled their 401(k) plans and mutual funds to focus on the

market's top performers.

The problem was that the Nasdaq's velocity was unsustainable, prompting the stocks of many small tech companies — such as semiconductor component maker PMC Sierra — to double in less than three months.



Domini Social Investments founder leads effort for more accountability

By Dunstan Prial
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Now that socially responsible mutual funds have thrust themselves into the mainstream of the American investment landscape, pioneers in the field are emerging as influential voices for change.

Take Amy Domini, for example.

Domini, the founder of New York-based Domini Social Investments, is leading an effort to encourage mutual fund managers to make public the votes they cast in corporate proxy battles.

Fund managers act as the surrogate voice for millions of American shareholders who control trillions of dollars worth of corporate stock through individual mutual funds and 401(k) retirement plans, Domini noted in a recent interview.

Yet the vast majority of fund managers are essentially unaccountable to those shareholders in terms of the proxy votes managers cast on specific issues related to a given company.

For example, a paper company might ask shareholders to vote on whether the company should purchase wood cut from an environmentally troubled region.

Fund managers are in a position to take a stand on such an issue, Domini said. But most fund shareholders have no idea how a manager voted on this type of issue, since those proxy votes aren't made public.

"They aren't publishing how they're voting. It's kind of a 'trust me' situation," Domini said. "I think the industry has been asleep at the switch here."

Domini contends that pension fund managers have more than a moral obligation to shed some light on the positions they take that affect the companies in their portfolios. Indeed, Domini's inter-



OF MUTUAL INTEREST

pretation of federal law would require it.

Under rules established by the Employment Retirement Income Security Act, or ERISA, which set federal guidelines for managing pension funds, all information related to the assets of pension fund must be accessible to the shareholders. Domini believes proxy votes should be treated just like any other asset of a pension fund, and access to those votes made just as accessible.

Domini Social Investments operates the \$1.3 billion Domini Social Equity Fund, the oldest and largest socially responsible index fund.

Socially responsible funds generally are called "negative screens" to ferret out the stocks of companies investors feel do good. Alcohol, tobacco and firearms stocks are frequently barred from socially responsible funds through the use of such negative screens, as are companies with poor environmental and labor relations records.

Considered something of a

niche product since their inception in the 1970s, socially responsible funds burst into the mainstream late last year with announcements by Vanguard Group and TIAA-CREF that both plan to offer investors socially screened funds.

Vanguard is America's second-largest mutual fund company, trailing only Fidelity Investments. And TIAA-CREF invests the pension funds of millions of American teachers.

Domini said the addition of such high-powered players as Vanguard and TIAA-CREF could go a long way toward pressuring the rest of the industry into adopting more socially conscious strategies.

The momentum seems to be moving in Domini's direction. Her message has been picked up by two influential figures — Vanguard founder John Bogle and Securities and Exchange Commissioner Paul Carey — both of whom recently called for more disclosure on the part of fund managers.

As it stands, however, the industry is "defaulting socially conscious decisions" to the management teams of the companies poised to reap short-term benefits from controversial moral and environmental issues, according to Domini.

Despite all of the money that has flowed into mutual funds in recent decades, fund managers have "never faced the question as to whether or not socially responsible resolutions make sense to support," Domini said. "They've taken a very simple approach — if management opposes it, it must be wrong," she said.

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THE LIGHT TOUCH by Craig Smith



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Personal finance

Specialized credit cards become valuable for issuers

Chicago Tribune
After months of problems, Bank One Corp. figures a key to fixing its credit card operation depends on the help of partners like United Airlines, America Online and the University of Notre Dame.

The bank's credit card business is the nation's second-largest, after Citibank - detailed last summer when competition drove its introductory rates too low and customer service problems sent many highly paying customers away. Since the debacle, the bank's stock price has fallen by half and its chief executive has been forced out.

Now a significant element in the Chicago bank's plan to stabilize itself includes expanding its partnerships with groups that have specialized credit cards for their customers and members. Bank One expects two-thirds of its new accounts in 2000 to come from such partnerships.

In the current battle for credit card market share, cards sponsored by companies or organizations generally are the most valuable for issuers. A sector pioneered by a Discover bank 18 years ago, sponsored credit cards have proven to have a golden combination: They're more profitable and less risky than other cards.

Anything that promises profitability and stability is a godsend to U.S. card issuers, who are in a war for cardholders.

"Everyone who wants a credit card and can even sniff creditworthiness has a card," said Bruce Brittain, head of Brittain Associates in Atlanta, which does market research on the financial services industry.

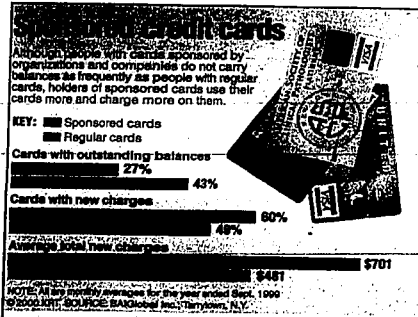
Credit card issuers now have to compete either on price, which Bank One's problems prove is a dangerous route, or with something special, like sponsored cards, Brittain said.

That leads card issuers to seek out companies or organizations to sponsor cards - they want access to their customer or membership bases. For the sponsors, the cards encourage loyalty - and can bring a cut of the purchases made with the cards.

About 28 percent of all credit cards are sponsored by a company or other group, according to BAIGlobal Inc., a credit-card research firm in Tarrytown, N.Y.

Bookstore giants Barnes Group Inc. and Barnes & Noble Inc. recently launched competing card programs that allow customers to earn rewards at their stores.

The Borders card, done with Bank One, came out last fall. Borders executives treat it as a way to attract customers, who earn more points toward gift certificates when they use the card at Borders. The company would not disclose how many accounts it has or whether it receives a cut of all



the purchases made with its cards. The Barnes & Noble card is being developed with MBNA Corp. of Wilmington, Del., the nation's largest issuer of sponsored cards and one of the top performing card companies in the country.

"They dominate this sector, and they'll have nine years of 25 percent compound annual growth," said Joel Gombeg, an industry analyst for William Blair & Co. That is particularly impressive given the pressure the industry has been under, he said.

One reason for the success of sponsored cards is that people tend to be more loyal to cards that reward them with airline miles, such as the Bank One-issued United Mileage Plus card, than they are to a plain-vanilla banking card, Gombeg said.

"And if they're going to default on a card, that's the last one they'll default on," he said.

Consumers also tend to be attached to cards that give a percentage of all charges to their college or professional association.

Take the American Society of Clinical Pathologists in Chicago. About 25,000 of its members are credit-card-carrying billboards for the association.

"I like having ASCP written on the card. It shows that I value my profession," said Susan Besaw, manager of outreach services for Evanston Northwestern Health Care Laboratory Services.

Besaw has reduced the number of cards she carries from eight to three, and she primarily uses the ASCP card. Why? She loves it when people notice the card and ask what a clinical pathologist is, partly because it gives her a chance to pitch the profession, which needs new recruits. There simply are not enough people aspiring to run laboratories that test tissues and blood samples.

It also boosts the service she receives, Besaw said, when she explains that pathologists are medical doctors.

Card issuers covet cardholders like Besaw who belong to professional or collegiate associations, because they tend to have higher incomes, charge more and pay their bills on time, experts say. Together, those partnerships and corporate sponsorships make cards more profitable and stable for issuers.

As a monthly average, about 60 percent of sponsored cards had new charges on them compared to 49 percent of non-sponsored cards in the year ended September 1999. That's according to BAIGlobal, 1999. That's also found that total new charges averaged \$701 a month for sponsored cards versus \$481 for non-sponsored cards.

Fewer sponsored cards have balances carried from month to month, which means issuers receive less in interest payments from them than from regular cards. But card companies generally derive higher profits from sponsored cards because of the greater number of purchases, which means more fees from merchants, and because the cardholders are particularly loyal, experts say.

Parents can find money for child's tuition through diverse sources

By Joyce M. Rosenberg
The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Over the next month, as high school seniors receive acceptance letters from colleges, their parents will start crunching numbers, trying to figure out how to pay for four years of tuition, fees, books and living expenses.

Many families, even those that have been putting money aside, will find they're short thousands of dollars. Their first impulse may be to panic.

Don't, say college financial aid officers.

"In my experience, very few families end up in the circumstances where they don't feel they can send their child to a good school," said David Charlow, director of financial aid and educational financing at Columbia University.

Even if your child's school of choice has high tuition, chances are you'll be able to get the money together, probably through a patchwork of sources such as savings, loans, school or government grants, scholarships and deferred tuition payments. Charlow said students should "not assume that the cost of a school might preclude them from attending. Many of the most expensive schools often award need-based financial aid."

New York University, which estimates an undergraduate's tuition and expenses will come to more than \$33,000 in the current academic year, laments in its financial aid Web site (www.nyu.edu/financialaid) that some students simply assume that they will be unable to handle the cost of an NYU education and do not even apply for admission.

NYU, like other colleges and universities, expects to help students get funding for their education. The school says 73 percent of its full-time undergrads receive some form of financial aid.

A school's Web site will have information about the various kinds of financial aid available to students and their families. Other

helpful sources are state education department Web sites, and the U.S. Department of Education's site (www.ed.gov/offices/OSAF/Students), which has information about the various kinds of federal aid.

Many students expect to take out loans. But Paul Simenson, an assistant for campus services at Penn State, suggests parents first

able to borrow for their children's education through what are called Federal PLUS loans. Whether or not a loan is subsidized, or whether parents are able to take out PLUS loans, will depend on family circumstances, Simenson said. Income is not the sole determining factor, he said. "The biggest predictor of eligibility is family size and the number of children in college."

Other sources of government financial aid include federal grants and work-study programs. And some students planning to attend a school in the state where they live are eligible for state tuition assistance. Corporations, philanthropic and religious groups provide thousands of scholarships and grants each year. Sallie Mae, the nation's largest issuer of student loans, has a Web site (www.eashe.com) to help students search for private scholarships and grants. A word of warning: It may be too late at this point to apply for some of these scholarships for the fall semester, since private groups may have earlier application deadlines than colleges.

Many families, even those that have been putting money aside, will find they're short thousands of dollars. Their first impulse may be to panic.

turn to resources such as savings, grants, scholarships and payment plans. The first avenue of resort is to work with the school, as the student is going to be attending," he said.

Perhaps the best-known loans are federally subsidized Stafford loans. If the student is the borrower, subsidized loans free him or her from interest payments while still in school. Students can also take out unsubsidized Stafford loans. Under these loans, the student is either responsible for making interest payments while in school or agrees to have the interest included in the loan principal.

If parents rather than the student want to be responsible for repaying the loan, they may be

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POINT OF LAW

By Douglas D. Emery
COMPARATIVE NEGLIGENCE

Questions: My teenage son was involved in a traffic accident in which both he and the other driver were cited for traffic violations. No one was hurt in the accident, but both vehicles sustained significant property damage. My son's insurance policy states the vehicle which failed to yield right of way to him. The police investigation concluded that the accident included a measurement of the length of skid marks left by my son's vehicle. Based upon the length of the skid marks, the investigation concluded that my son was traveling in excess of 60 mph in a speed zone which was clearly posted at 30 mph. My son was convicted of inattentive driving based upon the facts of the accident and his calculated speed. How likely is it that the other party's insurance will pay to repair my son's vehicle?

Answer: Unfortunately, based upon the facts that you have detailed, it is unlikely that the other party's insurance company would feel any responsibility to pay the damages sustained by your son. Idaho recognizes the principle of comparative negligence. This principle establishes that in order for a party to recover damages sustained in an accident, it must be evident that the other party's actions were the proximate cause of the damages sustained. If the apportioned fault was equal between the two parties (i.e. 50/50) then the principle of comparative negligence would establish that each party would be responsible for their own damages.

If, however, a jury were to apportion, for an example, 70% fault to the other party, your son would be entitled to 70% of the damages which he sustained.

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Dominican Republic watches as cigar business goes up in smoke

Knight Ridder News Service

VILLA GONZALEZ, Dominican Republic — The weeds that choke some of the world's best tobacco farms, the "For Sale" signs and the empty curing sheds all tell the same story: The 1990s cigar boom has gone up in smoke.

Once ground-zero for the rage that made hand-rolled cigars, a symbol of success and leisure for American yuppies and movie stars, the Dominican cigar industry has shrunk with a vengeance.

As U.S. imports fell two years running, about 120 cigar factories closed and 10,000 workers were laid off. Tobacco farming all but halted, plummeting from 2.94 million acres in the 1997-98 season to 600 acres this season.

Gone are the "cigar cowboys," fast-buck entrepreneurs who knew nothing about tobacco but put on white Panama hats and began manufacturing poor-quality stogies dismissed by old hands as "Don Nobodys."

"There's been a Darwinian natural selection, with the strong surviving and the rest going back to raising plants," said Hendrick Kelner, maker of Davidoff cigars and one of the industry's top experts.

It's not quite a bust, since Americans are still importing twice as many premium cigars as in 1992, when *Cigar Aficionado* magazine hit the market and almost single-handedly unleashed the cigar boom.

"The boom was like filling a glass of beer. At first you see foam, but in the end you see there's more beer in the glass," said Cuban-born Benjamin Menendez, who works with the Spanish-French cigar conglomerate Altadis.

Consumers are seeing some lower prices these days as distributors such as Mike's in North Miami sell what's left from shuttered factories, offering boxes once marked at \$150 for as little as \$50.

But the end of the boom has hurt everyone else along the daisy chain that basically sells smoke: growers, rollers, box makers, factories, wholesalers, retailers and advertisers.

At the height of the boom in 1997, Villa Gonzalez was the heart of the agricultural side of the industry, a town in the Dominican Republic's northern Cibao Valley set amid some of the world's best tobacco lands, next to Cuba.

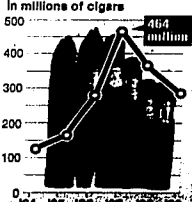
With the U.S. embargo banning Cuban cigars from the U.S. market, the valley's manufacturing center, the city of Santiago de los Caballeros, actually exported more premium cigars than Cuba that year.

As leaf prices soared from 60 cents a pound in 1993 to \$2.70 in '98, hundreds of farmers struck by the "green gold bug" began tearing up their food crops to cash in on the boom.

They planted tobacco in their backyards, along the sides of

Cigar Imports

U.S. imports of premium hand-rolled cigars from the 10 largest producing countries: In millions of cigars



© 2000 IRI (Circulation) Cigar Association of America, IRI, Photo: AP/Wide World

roads, on the sides of mountains, even in lands declared unsuitable by the Dominican government's Tobacco Institute. For a while they all made money.

"Everyone got a new refrigerator, a new truck or a motorcycle, even a new mistress," joked Kelner. — But by the end of the 1998-99 season last spring, the dip in U.S. sales had created formidable backlogs all along the industry.

Manufacturers suddenly found themselves with up to five years' worth of leaf inventory. Farmers were forced to sell some of their leaf at what Kelner called "vile assassination prices" as low as \$1.50 a pound, and to warehouse another 5.5 million pounds in hopes of selling it later.

Growers hope that once inventories drop this year they can stabilize the area planted at 600,000 acres, although that will depend largely on whether U.S. imports and sales stabilize or continue to drop this year.

Today, some of the region's best tobacco fields are planted with tomatoes, yucca, plantains, onions, peppers and beans. Others have been left fallow, while still others have "For Sale" signs.

During the boom, competition for cigar rollers was so fierce that Santiago factories regularly stole experienced workers from each other with offers of better pay, and established schools to train new ones.

Today, an expert cigar maker still earns \$330 per month, three times higher than pre-boom levels and a solid income in a country where the average salary is about \$225 a month.

But overall employment at cigar factories has plummeted from 25,000 to 15,000 and many factories have closed their rollers' schools. Overall production in Santiago is down by about 40 percent, Kelner said.

The boom was nowhere more obvious than in the scores of factories that suddenly sprang up around the Dominican Republic, which until 1992 had seven or eight major factories and 10-12 smaller ones.

By 1997, there were about 145 factories, some with 1,500 rollers, some with as few as three, most working night shifts and even weekend hours. Today, only 25-30 factories remain, some "open" in name only.

The biggest to close was Tamboril, which used to make about 3 million cigars per year. Its Israeli owner was one of the many "cigar cowboys" who rushed into the business with no experience but hopes of quick profit.

At the height of the boom, the biggest single bottleneck was a shortage of cigar boxes. So Rafael Schott, who had a small box factory, invested in new equipment and doubled his workforce from 25 to 50.

But others had the same idea. The about 20 box factories before 1997 suddenly blossomed to more than 100. Some 60 have now closed, and Schott said his orders dropped from 1.5 million in '98 to 800,000 last year.

"We are trying to stay open, but '99 was a very hard year," Schott said.

Wholesalers like Mike's owner Oscar Boruchin increased unit sales last year by snipping up the inventories of bankrupt factories, paying 45 cents for cigars that once retailed for \$5-6 and selling them for 80 cents to \$1.

But the dollar value of his sales dropped 10 percent to 15 percent in '98 and '99, Boruchin said, a far cry from the 20 percent to 30 percent annual increases he saw during the boom years of '96 and '97.

Although about 400 specialized cigar stores known as "chandeliers" used to account for 80 percent of U.S. premium cigar sales, before the boom, most of the industry's increased production in '96 and '97 went to fill shelves in thousands of retailers that jumped into the cigar bandwagon.

"You suddenly didn't have to sell cigars. You had buyers, so everyone got into it — pharmacies, liquor stores, supermarkets. Even gas stations were selling cigars," said Kelner with obvious disgust.

Soda Wars: Coke, Pepsi juice up with new breakfast varieties

WASHINGTON (AP) — The soda wars have come to breakfast. PepsiCo Inc. and the Coca-Cola Co. are using their marketing muscle to revolutionize what used to be a basic beverage — orange juice.

Cans of frozen OJ are out. They've been replaced by an expanding array of refrigerated varieties: With or without pulp. With or without calcium. With or without extra vitamin C. And now, variations like "Orange Passion," "Orange Banana," and "Orange Ruby Red with calcium."

Led by industry giants Tropicana, which PepsiCo acquired in 1998, and Minute Maid, a unit of Coca-Cola, sales of refrigerated OJ have been soaring over the past two to three years, especially the calcium-fortified and high-pulp varieties. Sales of frozen concentrate are down 21 percent since 1997.

"This is ... no longer your grandmother's orange juice," said John Sicher, editor of Beverage Digest, an industry publication.

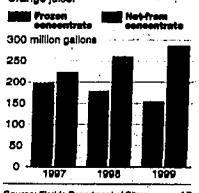
Tropicana's Pure Premium orange juice last year became the fourth largest-selling brand in the grocery business after Coca-Cola Classic, Pepsi-Cola and Campbell's Soup. In 1993, Tropicana was 16th.

Sales of refrigerated orange juice, which includes varieties that are made from concentrate and those that aren't, rose 7 percent between 1997 and 1999 to 632 million gallons.

Sales in the not-from-concentrate segment, Tropicana's specialty, were up more than 28 percent over the same period to 287 million gallons, according to A.C. Nielsen supermarket data.

Frozen vs. refrigerated

Sales of frozen orange juice are falling as consumers buy more refrigerated orange juice.



Source: Florida Department of Citrus AP

The growth in the calcium-fortified juices has been even more dramatic — their sales jumped 58 percent from 1998 to 1999 and now represent 20 percent of the refrigerated orange juice market.

Consumption of orange juice overall rose from 5.3 gallons per person in 1997 to 5.7 gallons last year.

"I drink this stuff like it's water," said Cathy Kissel, 57, of Falls Church, Va., as she surveyed the refrigerated juices in a supermarket recently.

There were 15 different varieties of Tropicana and Minute Maid orange juice on display, including Tropicana's high-pulp, calcium-fortified "Grovestand" and Minute Maid's pulp-free "Orange Tangerine." At \$3.39 to \$3.49 a half gallon, the chilled juice costs at least a third more than the frozen concentrate.

Kissel is just the kind of consumer that the industry is targeting — aging baby boomers that

are looking for extra calcium and don't want to fuss with frozen concentrate. The 55-to-64-year-old age group is projected to grow by 25 percent over the next five years.

"The baby boomer population is the biggest, wealthiest and the most self-care oriented part of the population," said Audrey Rummel, a spokeswoman for Minute Maid, which first introduced calcium-fortified orange juice in 1987. "They're increasingly looking for ways to take care of themselves."

Orange juice and broccoli top the list of foods that consumers are trying to consume more often for disease prevention, ahead of fish and spinach, according to a survey done in late 1998 by HealthFocus Inc., which tracks consumer trends for the food industry.

The high-pulp juices, which are supposed to seem more like fresh-squeezed OJ, also are supposed to appeal to the adults, as well as the new varieties of grapefruit juice and orange-grapefruit blends.

Blood-cholesterol and the new orange-tangerine blends, which are sweeter than regular OJ, are aimed at kids.

While it's good that people appear to be increasing their calcium intake by drinking fortified juice, they still need nutrients found in dairy products, said Cyndi Thompson, a nutrition expert at the University of Arizona and a spokeswoman for the American Dietetic Association.

"There may be a false sense of security that if I get my vitamin C and calcium from orange juice I don't need to drink any milk, or eat other dairy products," she said.

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BURLEY 3311 Overland Ave. 4 bdrm, 2.5 bath, home on 5.57 acres has 2 fireplaces, fully landscaped w/underground sprinkler and covered patio, 3 acres pasture w/irrigated, horse, tennis and Stp Berkeley pump. Call 678-8615 ask for Broe, \$250,000.

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2050 Heyburn Avenue East • Reduced To \$108,000
Greatroom floorplan in this pretty new 2 bedroom, 2 bath home is enhanced by vaulted ceiling. The lawn & sprinklers are in & the home is ready for a new owner to move in. Quiet and convenient NE Twin Falls neighborhood. (Take Sunrise out of Five to get to home) #23481
Hostess: Joie Owen

3717 N. 2700 E. • Twin Falls
Part brick home on one acre in country setting close to Twin Falls. Has new Oak kitchen, fenced pasture, lots of room for an RV, finished basement, back deck, new garage with hot tub, 3 1/2 bedrooms, 1.75 baths.
#94329 Jane George

RE/MAX REALTY
Feature of the Week...
AFFORDABLE 3 bedroom home with 2 full baths, third bedroom could be office den, breakfast bar, covered patio, double car garage, fenced yard, and in Sawtooth School District. CALL JILL STONE TODAY FOR YOUR PERSONAL SHOWING AT 734-0030 OR 420-0030!!! (95008)

RE/MAX REALTY
NEWER 1 ACRE HOME IN BIG/LITTLE RANCHES!!!
Awesome views from this 4 bedroom with open Denon Great Room plus Family Room and Oak kitchen sets the pace in this wonderful country home. Over 1900 sq. ft. of living plus bar/shop, dining area, finished basement, full car garage, everything you've always wanted for \$138,500!!!
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A GUARANTEED AD
Buy the Guaranteed package and The Times News guarantees to sell merchandise or automotive items in 7 days and real estate in 15 days or we will give you the ad an additional 7 days. There is a \$3 extra charge for the guaranteed package. Ads may be cancelled early for customer convenience but the charge will remain the same.

501 OPEN HOUSES
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TIMES CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT
208-734-5538
OR
208-677-4543 (BURLEY)

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#26,900. 3 bedroom, 2 bath 1997 kit manufactured home. Window coverings & storage shed. Owner will look at all offers. Park is located in Hanson. CALL SANDY THOMAS @ 420-3451, #91881

\$74,900. BEAUTIFUL, QUIET COUNTRY SETTING close to town. 3 bedrooms, 2 bath manufactured home on 1 acre lot. Patio, 2 car carport, storage shed, workroom. Nice landscaping, nice view. CALL DIANA WHITNEY @ 737-3969, #94833

\$90,000. IT'S BEEN REDUCED & MUST SELL! Great neighborhood Over 2000 sq. ft. Including 4 bedrooms & 2 baths. Spacious kitchen. Nice deck & hot tub included. To see this home CALL BRIAN RASMUSSEN @ 737-3927 OR 734-8753, #94371

\$112,000. WHY LOOK ANY FURTHER? This brand new 3 bedroom, 2 bath home not only has everything you need, from gas heat, AC, maintenance free exterior and more. Great location! CALL DEANNA @ 733-8538 OR DIANN DOMAN @ 737-3916 OR 735-1428, #94087

\$139,000. New home to be built on an acre close to Twin Falls. Over 1700 sq. ft. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths with 3 car garage. CALL RON FREEMAN, AGENT 009 LICENSED TO SELL, 734-4208 OR 737-3915, #92658

\$185,000. LISTED WITH LYNN! Absolutely beautiful 3 bedroom, 2 bath on 1 acre just east of Twin Falls. This property features many extras including double garage, lawn mower garage, extra carport for boat etc., another storage bldg, w/drop run, fenced, auto sprinklers, hot water, window blinds, etc. Call LYNN RASMUSSEN 737-3900 OR 429-2807, #94224

\$194,500. QUALITY THROUGHOUT! 3275 sq. ft. on 1.23 acres w/16x20 shop. This immaculately kept home has it all-4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 baths, jacuzzi tub, central vac, intercom, satellite system, indoor spa room, oak kitchen, maintenance free exterior & a hot tub. Call LYNN RASMUSSEN 737-3961, #90332

\$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 737-3908 OR 731-2121, #94410

\$262,000. FANTASTIC VIEWS & GOLF TOOI! This custom built home on the Pleasant Valley course is absolutely gorgeous! Spacious w/beautiful windows, 1.4 acre, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, plus finished triple garage, immaculate, built in 1999. CALL CAROLYN CUTLER 737-3913 OR 733-9026, #94247

\$29,800. STOP PAYING RENT! Start building equity. Very affordable, like new '97 manufactured home in park. 2 bedrooms, 2 baths with spacious living room & kitchen. CALL BRIAN RASMUSSEN FOR MORE INFO. 737-3927 OR 734-8753, #94716

\$33,500. NEW LISTING! Sharp 2 bedroom starter home with excellent shop or garage. PLEASE CALL RICK BEARD @ 737-3912 OR 539-5311, #94880

\$39,900. REDUCED! Very nice 4 bedroom, 2 bath home near Sawtooth Elementary, swimming pool, the high school, tennis courts & basketball court. Nice floor plan, oak kitchen, family room, covered patio, fenced yard & the hot tub, stove! CALL LYNN RASMUSSEN 737-3900 OR 429-2807, #93506

\$39,900. COUNTRY LIVING! With 3 bedrooms and 2 baths that sits on it own 2 acres with shares of water. Above average home with a huge deck and many more features. CALL JOANNE NIELSEN TODAY 886-2994, #94136

\$119,000. THIS HOME IS READY for you to move in. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, ranch style home is in a great Eastside location & has many features including fireplace, breakfast nook, mature landscaping & backs up to Thompson Park. CONTACT THE HESS TEAM-WALT 737-3933, #91677

\$149,900. WANT TO LIVE ON THE JEROME GOLF COURSE? Here's your chance! This newer home has 1824 sq. ft. w/3 bedrooms, 2 baths on one level. Features include open vaulted living area, central air, heat pump, full sprinklers. Enjoy the views from the patio. CALL DAN BEARD 737-3906 OR 731-2121, #94513

\$159,500. WANT A BUSINESS IN YOUR HOME? This home has it all, long oilshop area w/central air, home system, new carpeting, fresh paint, new roof, newer dbl pane windows all in this 4 bedroom home. Also includes 20 acres of fenced pasture & water shares. Lots of opportunity here! CALL DOROTHY GEIST @ 737-3903, #94970

\$199,900. SPECTACULAR CANYON VIEWS FROM THIS 3 bedroom, 3 1/2 bath townhouse. Located in the gated community at the Finnschick, this split entry home features over 2400 sq. ft. and includes gas fireplace on each level, loft ceilings, jetted master tub, deck & close to the walking path & shopping. CALL WALT HESS 737-3933, #94684

\$389,900. Brand new superior quality home in prestigious NE area. Gorgeous luxurious master suite with jetted tub, 4 bedrooms, over 5200 sq. ft., large den/office, hardwood floor in split entry home features over 2400 sq. ft. w/ceilings with crown molding. PRICED UNDER APPRAVAL! Realtor Owned. CALL TRACY, #901881

\$39,300. Great investment opportunity. Two level townhouse w/2 bedrooms, 1 bath & over 890 sq. ft. Good rental history. FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL THE HESS TEAM, WALT 737-3933, #94716

\$79,000. COUNTRY HOME nestled against the foot hills offers you 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, large living room & laundry on main floor. Full unfinished basement. One car garage. Beautiful setting with view north & south. Hardwood floors, good storage, lots of extras. CALL PEGGY CONNALLY FOR YOUR APPOINTMENT, #94662

\$87,500. 3 bedroom home w/pallet store. Great for 1st time home buyers or even a rental. 892 sq. ft. on the main level, 782 sq. ft. in the basement. CALL DAN BEARD @ 737-3912 OR 731-2121, #94430

\$104,900. BEAUTIFUL, IMMACULATE 4 bedroom, 3 bath vintage home. Delightful living room with fireplace, large living room, built in bookcase & high ceilings. Formal dining room. Custom oak cabinets in remodeled kitchen w/breakfast nook. Gorgeous landscaping, fenced yard. Double car garage w/automatic sprinkler system. Realtor owned. CALL DOROTHY, #94743

\$121,500. Price reduced! Home Business? Great 4 bedroom, 2 bath home on Main street in Shoshone. Great location for home business. Well maintained yard. Lots of extras. CALL JOANNE 886-2994, #90984

\$159,500. GREAT CREEK! GREAT HOME! Great 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home. Oak flooring in entry, dining & kitchen areas, new oak cabinets. Exceptional grounds w/fruit trees, double sided fireplace. The spacious family room looks out to all of Magic Valley! CALL CAROLYN CUTLER NOW AT 733-9028 OR 737-3913, #91932

\$219,000. Goller's paradise! Here it is in a glorious all brick 4 bdrm, 3 bath home. Amenities include a formal living & dining room, beautiful double sided fireplace. The spacious family room looks out to all of Magic Valley! CALL CAROLYN CUTLER NOW AT 733-9028 OR 737-3913, #91932

\$349,900. Superb contemporary home on over 2 acres of land in one of the finest Twin Falls areas. 5 bedrooms, 4 1/2 baths, 3 car garage & many custom features including sunken entertainment center w/flat top seating, unique pedestal eye formal dining, den/drawery and a private hot tub w/2 master suite. CALL WALT 737-3933, #91652

\$49,900. PRICE REDUCED. On this farm house on one acre in Kimberly includes 1 TFC water share. Needs some fin up in this 3 bedrooms, 1 bath home. Perfect location! CALL RICK BEARD FOR DETAILS. 539-5311 OR 737-3912, #94713

\$59,000. 1 year old manufactured home, 1188 sq. ft. w/3 bedrooms, 2 baths, dining room, cherrywood throughout the kitchen. Deck & storage shed. Can easily be moved to own property or stay in park. CALL DIANA WHITNEY @ 737-3969, #92923

\$89,500. DUPLEX! Great investment opportunity. Each unit has 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, 1 car carport & located in great location. Lots of NEW in these units, even a new roof in 1999. CALL LYNN RASMUSSEN @ 737-3900 OR 429-2807, (Realtor Owned), #94850

\$102,500. MUST LISTED WITH LYNN! Very very sharp home in like new condition. Features include conventional kitchen, great room effect gas heat, central air, dbl. garage w/openers, patio w/canopy cover, auto sprinklers, formal dining room, full bath in master bedroom. CALL WALT @ 737-3908 OR 731-2121, #94889

\$132,900. NEW LISTING! Large 3 bedroom home on quiet cul-de-sac in Kimberly. This home features over 3000 sq. ft., 6 bedrooms, 3 baths has extras such as patio stone, auto sprinklers, formal dining room, family room and an above ground pool for all your summer fun. CALL WALT @ 737-3908 FOR DETAILS, #94889

\$179,000. NOW UNDER CONSTRUCTION! This 3 bedroom, 2 bath home is near the Pleasant Valley Golf Course in Kimberly. This home features 2011 sq. ft. on one level, central air, brick & synthetic siding, with a patio. CALL DAN BEARD @ 737-3906 OR 731-2121, #94463

\$239,900. 4 bedroom, two story home on 0.5 bath home. Machine-bldg, grain storage, shop, temperature & humidity controlled potting cellar, 4 linear sprinkler irrigation systems. Best managed farm with excellent reputation in the country. Great certified seed potatoes. CALL THOMAS LLOYD 543-9122, #94068

\$3,000,000. 2000 acres, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home. Machine-bldg, grain storage, shop, temperature & humidity controlled potting cellar, 4 linear sprinkler irrigation systems. Best managed farm with excellent reputation in the country. Great certified seed potatoes. CALL THOMAS LLOYD 543-9122, #94068

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Sales Associate
737-3907

KRISTA KULJANEX
Licensed Real Estate Assistant

DEBBI HOWARD
Executive Assistant

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2121 Kimberly Road w/ La Sabla Espresso!

521 MANUFACTURED HOMES

INVESTORS: Or just looking for a great deal? We have 5 homes we have to sell now! Make offer today. Call Westwind Homes at 732-5710.

TWIN FALLS, Repo'd Homes Available. They're going quick but there's still some left. Most sizes & prices. Call Westwind Homes at 732-5710.

106 SPECIAL NOTICES

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Dan Weaver Construction wants your work! Trucks, Excavators, Backhoes, Roadgraders, Concrete Dumptrucks, Food Trucks, Slag Pits. We have been in the Magic Valley for 30 years... hauling gravel, pouring concrete and building roads for our neighbors.

ADOPTION:

1. 8 Brittaney Spaniel X
2. Australian Shepherd X, female teenager.
3. Siamese X, female adult.
4. Beautiful Samoyed adult neutered male.
5. Border Collie X, black & white male pup.
6. Chesapeake Australian Sheph X, male, 6 months old, house trained.
7. Older Chihuahua Terrier X, male dog.

139 Nice cats & kittens

CATED:

Many nice cats & kittens 159 Sixth Ave. West 733-2289

AFTERNOONS ONLY:

Monday-Friday
CLOSED Saturdays, Sundays, & Holidays.
Animals are SOLD or DESTROYED after 48 hours, so please come and visit the pound daily to check if your pet is here. This is not an up-to-date list; mixed dogs are hard to describe. Or come pick up puppy, dog or kitten. They would love a home!

This is a public service announcement of the Times News.

102 CARD OF THANKS

THE FAMILY OF OLIVE CROTHERS

would like to express our appreciation and thanks for all the acts of kindness and prayers offered at the time of the death of our mother, Grand Mother and Great Grand Mother. Our special thank you to the caregivers at the Home and the long term care center at St. Benedict's for their excellent care over the last several years.

Kenneth, Inez & Family
Stearling, Beverly & Family

104 PERSONALS

BORRY I AM NOT A MILLIONAIRE as seen on TV. However, if you are a single female, 35 to 65 who likes dancing, walking, camping, fishing, investing & traveling, I'm a lady, this is what you get. I'm a male in 60's. Stable, carefree fun to be with. Wes 324-3734, male.

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SMART START DAY CARE

Now we have an opening. Call 733-4805.

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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, 1-800-876-7080.

ADVERTISING

Immediate openings for FT or PT in Classified Sales for Twin Falls office. Looking for a self-starter, able to focus on the tasks at hand, and able to handle the pressure. Accuracy in spelling, computer skills, and pressroom essential. Please send resume to: Kim Patterson, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0548

ADVERTISING SALES

The Times-News has an immediate opening for an advertising salesperson in the Burley office. If you are a self-starter, experienced in advertising in the areas largest distribution daily newspaper, and delivering solutions to area businesses, please send your resume and cover letter to: Attn: Janet Goffin, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303

CLERICAL

Office Assistant for a local business. Self-starter/wood phone skills. Send resume to: P.O. Box 580, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303. Waqes DOE.

CLERICAL POSITIONS

12-16/hr. No experience necessary. 1-800-573-1346, ext. 2121.

CLERICAL

PT Receptionist. 218 Falls Ave. Twin Falls, Idaho. Call 733-9277.

AG WEEKLY CORRESPONDENTS

If you have a way with words, and a background in the J.R.L. background, you will start your career as a correspondent with the Magic Valley's leading ag newspaper? Newspaper experience a plus. Call Carol at 733-0931 ext. 221 or send info to: Attn: Web Editor, Carol Durmus, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303

CLERICAL

PT, accounting, bookkeeping knowledge, experience in Cougar, Min. help. Heavy volume. ASAP. 863 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. 736-4473

CLERICAL

Secretary needed for busy office, knowledge of Microsoft Office, good phone skills & filing, vehicle needed. Send resume to: P.O. Box 1014, Twin Falls, Idaho or fax to 732-6167.

CLERICAL

Wanted self-motivated data processor with inventory and computer experience for Trucking Industry. Salary range to \$50,000. South 78 West Jerome ID 83338.

COMPUTER SUPPORT

Discovery Research Group is seeking an individual with programming and/or computer support experience. Preferably in the survey research industry, to work on Twin Falls office. Experience with NetWare, DOS, Windows, ACS, Survey, and a comparable package a plus. Please send/fax resume to: David Hoffman, 2089 E. Fort E. Blvd., (Rt. 15) S. 84121 or fax to (801)44-0550. Discovery Research Group is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CONCRETE

Concrete workers needed in Sun Valley. If you have experience, Call Merrick Construction, 760-2688 or Skp 720-4137

BANKING

MAGIC VALLEY BANK

Is Currently Accepting Applications For a New Branch Located in Gooding, Idaho.

- Branch Manager
- Assistant Secretary/Customer Service Rep.
- Customer Service / New Accounts Rep.
- Bank Tellers

Please forward resume or apply in person at:

Intelligent Employment Solutions

218 Falls Avenue Twin Falls, ID 83301

Magic Valley Bank and -Intelligent Employment Solutions are an Equal Opportunity Employer

CONSTRUCTION

Carpenter. Experienced cabinet installer. General contractor knowledge. Own tools. ASAP. 808 Staffing Services, 683 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. 736-4473

CONSTRUCTION

Expe. framing, siding and finish carpentry. Wood River Valley, Waqes DOE. Call 934-9239.

CONSTRUCTION

Experienced Welder & Steel Siding Installers. Call Sam, 6pm, 423-5270

CONSTRUCTION

Immediate opening for full time customer service assistant at SUWS Field Office near Gooding. Duties include: greet customers, answer questions, and maintenance of office buildings, facilities, and grounds, including seasonal snow removal, light yard work, and some general cleaning. Some experience in retail or high school diploma or equivalent required. Contact: 208-733-2224, ext. 208-880-5665, EOE.

CASE MANAGER / THERAPIST

THE BEST SCHOOLS OF IDAHO

EMPLOYMENT - FULL TIME

Position will provide case management and therapeutic services to students and their families. Requires bachelor degree in behavioral science, Post-graduate to LSW, MA, LPC, OR MSW, 2 years or more experience working with adolescents preferred. Salary dependent on degree and experience.

TO APPLY: Please fax or mail your resume to The Brown Schools of Idaho, PO Box 448, Gooding, Idaho 83303. Fax: 208-934-8889, or apply in person. Please call 208-934-8833 with any questions.

The Brown Schools of Idaho is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Application accepted until 3/24/00

CLERICAL

Full time front desk receptionist needed for fast paced medical facility. Medical background preferred. Send resume to: TFC&H, Attn: Wendy, P.O. Box 1233, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303. EOE.

CLERICAL

Office Assistant for a local business. Self-starter/wood phone skills. Send resume to: P.O. Box 580, Twin Falls, Idaho 83303. Waqes DOE.

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DRIVER/DELIVERY

Seasonal fertilizer and chemical delivery. Call Westland Farm Service, 638-5031, EOE, MFD.

DRIVERS - CONCRETE

Concrete O/Os & Teams

KOLM TRANSPORT

SKLMS UP TO 39¢/mile

Apply 1150/mln/yr Training to 41¢/hr. O/O's #747

DRIVERS - CONCRETE

Must have CDL(A) EOE 800-825-5536 x 1021

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FARM

Now Hiring for various positions at Horizon Organic Dairy. Call 438-2450 or 2589 E 500 S, Paul.

GENERAL

3 friendly, enthusiastic people for an appointment for our representatives. Mon-Fri, 4pm-6pm. Sat, 10am-2pm. Sun, 11am-3pm. 733-8350.

GREENHOUSE WORKERS

- Plantar
- Grower
- Transport

Intermountain Staffing Resources.

1145 Addison Ave, Suite 3, Twin Falls

HATCHERY

FT Hatchery worker needed. Pond & plant work. Applications available weekdays 9:00-11:00. 1 mile W of hospital on Highway 20. Call 733-8350.

HEALTHCARE

Responsible adult to work with elderly couple; references required and checked. 733-0115

HOME CARE

LOW. Electrician to work for progressive family oriented business that offers outstanding benefits. More information call: 208-788-3238.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Request for Proposal (RFP) for Recruitment & Selection (non-profit organization) is seeking an Executive Director. The position is a part-time Executive Director. Duties include: Administration, Supervision, Mgmt. Membership Development, Fundraising, and Public Relations. For a job description, RFP or to request a copy of the RFP, contact: Dennis Bwywer, IRPA Personnel at 208-736-5536 or dbwywer@idnet.com

HOTEL

Amortical Inn is looking for a Front Desk Representative. Must be available for all shifts. Apply in person, 137 State Lakes Blvd. N. Twin Falls, Idaho

HOTEL

Person of persons needed to manage a small chain motel between Utah & Nevada border. Salary is negotiable. Call 1-800-435-6638.

LAB SUPERVISOR

Immediate opening for Laboratory Supervisor at modern food processing facility with 2 FT positions. Apts./beds, equipment. Lab. 6am-3pm. 242-2699.

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LANDSCAPING Landscape Co. looking for irrigation installer with experience and willing to supervise... Call Bob Seaborn at 324-3233.

LAW ENFORCEMENT Twin Falls County is accepting applications for the position of Jail Technician... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

LAWN CARE Lawn Care Co. seeking FT employees... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

LAWN MAINTENANCE Local company needs seasonal labor for lawn care... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

LOANS \$100 - \$750 CALL TODAY! 734-4333

MACHINIST CNC Machinist Exp/education req. Top pay and benefits... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MACHINIST Spars Manufacturing Co. is accepting applications for FT Machinists for CNC turned and conventional machines... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MAINTENANCE Wanted cell motivated manager for Agri Business... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MANUFACTURING Spars Manufacturing Company is accepting applications for full time positions: Quality Control, Packaging, Warehouse... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MEDICAL Health Information Clerk - Part-time, night shift and part duties include admission/registration, computer operations and telephone skills... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

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MECHANIC Medical Transcriptionist position open at A's American Car Care. Apply at: 1819 Lewis Center, Twin Falls, 734-4280.

MECHANIC MEDIANC, sm. engine repair, air conditioning, tire changing, oil changes. Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MEDICAL Part time cook in an assistive living center... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MEDICAL CNA's, LPN's and RN's, also home health nurses. Fulltime plus, 733-7300.

MEDICAL Immediate opening for Medical Transcriptionist/Ward Clerks... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MEDICAL CNA's and LPN's, also home health nurses. Fulltime plus, 733-7300.

MEDICAL Career Opportunity We're looking for CNA's and LPN's for a permanent position providing in-home care... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MEDICAL Medical Receptionist Full-time Receptionist... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

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MEDICAL Full-time administrative position open at a health care facility... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MEDICAL Pediatric LPN needed to work evenings at a day care center... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MEDICAL Skilled-Nursing Facility opening for CNA's to work in our facility... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

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MISCELLANEOUS Job opening at Magic Valley... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

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MISCELLANEOUS Phone professional needed to answer incoming calls... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

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PLUMBERS New construction, remodel and service plumbers... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

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ACCOUNT MANAGER RETAIL SALES Large food manufacturer has immediate opportunity for an ACCOUNT MANAGER for Canned Vegetable Sales in the retail grocery industry... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

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LABOR READY WORKERS NEEDED NOW!!! WORK TODAY CASH TODAY!!

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LABOR READY WORKERS NEEDED NOW!!! WORK TODAY CASH TODAY!!

UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO LABORATORY MANAGER Idaho Food Quality Assurance Institute, Twin Falls, Idaho. Responsible for: serving as laboratory manager and senior analytical scientist on agrochemical laboratory staff... Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER DISCOVER YOUR EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES WITH US! MVRMC - creating a supportive work environment, serving our community with excellence, integrity and compassion. We currently have an opening for the following position: Imaging Specialist, RN, LPN, Paramedic, Clinic Manager - Psychiatric Services, C.N.A., Certified Surgical Technologist, Respiratory Therapist, Chemical Dependency Counselor - C.V., Education Coordinator - C.V. We offer competitive salary & benefits! Magic Valley Regional Medical Center, Human Resources, R.O. Box 409, Twin Falls, ID 83303-0409. Call Shaonee at 866-8626.

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SALES
If you're questioning your job, your income, your lifestyle - try a business of your own. Call AVON 1-800-478-8557

SALES
We're the largest-manufactured home retailer looking for career-oriented salespeople...

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Exciting new sales position available immediately with an established home based telecommunications company...

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Inside Sales Trainee Full time outside training opportunity. Compulsory skills helpful but not required...

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Opportunity is knocking for financial freedom in the travel industry your goals will become reality...

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the Leader in Manufactured Home Equity Loans
Refinancing in buying/selling your home
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TRADE
P.T.S.I. Boise, looking for other operators, flatbed, good gross plus sign on bonus...

WELDER
No certificates, must read blue prints, and know wire feed, experienced only...

ELECTRICAL
Experienced person, writing small motors and installation...

WELDERS
Experienced SS Welders Pipe fitting and Sanitary welders wanted...

TRUCK DRIVER
The J.R. Simplot Company offers a competitive salary and no overtime...

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EXT. 1089

REMEMBER
That birthday you placed some time ago in the calendar...

THE TIMES-NEWS CURRENTLY HAS THE FOLLOWING INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER ROUTES ON THE WEST SIDE OF TWIN FALLS

ROUTE 816
100-500 4th Ave. N.
100-500 5th Ave. N.

ROUTE 816
100-500 6th Ave. N.
100-500 7th Ave. N.

ROUTE 822
100-400 2nd Ave. E.
100-500 4th Ave. E.

ROUTE 822
100-400 7th Ave. E.
100-500 4th Ave. E.

ROUTE 824
100-500 5th Ave. E.
100-500 6th Ave. E.

ROUTE 852
100-500 6th Hwy. Mtn.
200-400 6th Marlin

DRACO INVESTMENT CORP.
Managee/contracts?
SELL DIRECT

RECEIVING PAYMENTS?
We purchase Mortgages, Notes, Individual Credits...

EDUCATION
Very Nice! 1 year old 3 bdrm, 2 bath, great room home...

601 FURNISHED HOUSES
TWIN FALLS, 3 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, fully furnished...

602 UNFURNISHED HOUSES
BURLY - 3 bdrm w/1000 sq ft, 1 1/2 baths...

603 FURNISHED APTS/ DUPLEXES
TWIN FALLS, 1 bdrm, w/d hookup, full kitchen...

604 UNFURNISHED APTS/DUPLEXES
TWIN FALLS, 1 bdrm, w/d hookup, full kitchen...

BEAT THE IRST
Move in by April 15th & pay \$99 on your first month's rent!

FILER - New and Spacious 2 bedroom duplex with Garage, \$600 mo. Call 734-5670.

FILER - Extra nice quiet 2 bdrm, w/carpets, \$375. Call 734-5670.

FILER - Nice, clean, 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, w/carport, \$450. Call 734-5670.

FILER - Extra nice quiet 2 bdrm, w/carpets, \$375. Call 734-5670.

TWIN FALLS, 2 bdrm house, new paint/corner, new carpet, call 734-3361

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, in South Park \$400/mo. Call 734-3361.

TWIN FALLS - 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, full kitchen, call 734-5670.

TWIN FALLS 1 bdrm, 1 bath, \$450 + \$200 dep. Call 734-5670.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, full kitchen, call 734-5670.

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, full kitchen, call 734-5670.

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TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, full kitchen, call 734-5670.

KIMBERLY, Like New! One bedroom, \$350 a month. Call 734-3361

TWIN FALLS, 1 bdrm apt. \$395. Call 734-5670.

TWIN FALLS, 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, full kitchen, call 734-5670.

TWIN FALLS, 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, full kitchen, call 734-5670.

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TWIN FALLS, 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, full kitchen, call 734-5670.

TWIN FALLS, Large & clean 1 bdrm. \$535/mo. Host call 734-3151

TWIN FALLS, 1 bdrm, 1 bath, full kitchen, call 734-5670.

TWIN FALLS, 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, full kitchen, call 734-5670.

TWIN FALLS, 2 bdrm, 2 1/2 bath, full kitchen, call 734-5670.

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Garden Apartments
2-3 Bedroom Units
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TWIN FALLS
COMMERCIAL RETAIL SALES
FOR LEASE
RETAIL SPACE 200 to 4600 sq. ft.

KIMBERLY Rainbow Bar/Cafe, liquor, outdoor... 565.000, Call 733-1359.

TWIN FALLS AUTO BODY SHOP BUILDING FOR... 4700, 4700, 1/2 acre... Call 733-7029 for information.

TWIN FALLS Office/Shop Overhead doors, ample parking, good location... 1150 sq ft to 6000 sq ft.

TWIN FALLS Retail space available for lease... 2752 sq. ft. in 670 Blou 2500 Blvd N.

611 FARMS FOR RENT EDEN close to highway... 20 acres for lease, farmed last year.

MOUNTAIN HOME 900 acres of sugar beets... land avail. 587-9131.

TWIN FALLS, 25+ farm acres. Full water, 40+ pastures... 733-4042.

613 PASTURE WANTED MAGIC VALEY AREA. Pasture wanted, 5 to 50 pads of cattle.

614 WANTED TO RENT BURLEY HEYBURN Rm of Loaso 3-4 Bdm Home.

MAGIC VALLEY. Looking for a space to hook up... 2000 sq ft, 1/2 acre.

611 FARMS FOR RENT EDEN close to highway... 20 acres for lease, farmed last year.

MOUNTAIN HOME 900 acres of sugar beets... land avail. 587-9131.

615 MOBILE HOME SPACE. JEROME - RV lift space. Call 324-3131.

616 ROOMMATES WANTED TWIN FALLS, Room, \$250 + \$150 dep. Avail. Now.

701 LIVESTOCK BULL, Angus Bull, Com. 12 yrs old. 736-7273.

BULLS-REGISTERED RED ANGUS 2 yr olds & 1 yr olds. Flaming rocky.

BULLS MURRAY GUY, 3 yearlings, low birth weight, early calving.

BULLS yearling horned Herefords of all quality stock. Grained & ready to go anywhere.

BULLS, Yearling Red Angus 5/16 mottled... low birth weights, good muscling.

BULLS, 10 outstanding Red Angus virgin bulls, Robin Hood bloodline.

BULLS, Reg. Brangus yearling bulls, good birth weights & growth.

BULLS, Angus Bull, Com. 12 yrs old. 736-7273.

BULLS-REGISTERED RED ANGUS 2 yr olds & 1 yr olds. Flaming rocky.

BULLS MURRAY GUY, 3 yearlings, low birth weight, early calving.

CALVES BICK? Try Top Gun All natural... 543-0925.

CATTLE 50 head of stock cows, some pups. Call 324-5129.

CATTLE, Calves for sale. Please call 208-328-6682.

CATTLE, Purebred Angus replacement heifers, approx. 750 lbs.

CATTLE, Reg. Angus Bulls, 2 & 1 yr olds. Exc. EPDs, pro. background.

CATTLE, Utah Angus Sires, Sat. April 1, 10 pm, Weber County Fairgrounds.

E-MAIL your classified ad to us at... 543-0925.

HORSE, 7 yr. old QH gelding, needs extra rider. Must sell 2004-548-2202.

HORSE, Finshed barrel & polo horse, very competitive. Call 934-5001.

HORSE, AQHA/Rog. mare, Exceh-High School Bloodline. Call 423-6228.

HORSE - Reg. color of a year Appy mare, smooth ride, gentle disposition.

HORSES 5 nice 3 yr. old stud colts, gray, buckskin & bay, grandsons of Han die Bar Doc (1100 & 1500).

HORSE, Mare-Rod Racer, roped up, push button... 2300/P.U. box, 1700/Ditcher 1100, single rib.

PIG Wagon, for sale, 48" C.P.A. roped plus... 2300/P.U. box, 1700/Ditcher 1100, single rib.

REGISTERED ANGUS BULLS, 37 long yearlings & 8 two year olds.

SHEEP Whiteface ewes w/J&N & Flew lambs, which are tag & docked.

702-FARMRAUNCH/EQUIP 160 SHARES of Snake River Shores, Twin Falls area.

CHEVY 72 C60 \$3500. 6KW Miller Welder Gen... 1700/Ditcher 1100, single rib.

COMBINE CASE IH 1660. Axial flow, 2 headers... 1700/Ditcher 1100, single rib.

COMBINE CASE IH 1660. Axial flow, 2 headers... 1700/Ditcher 1100, single rib.

FORD 73 To Wheeler, 534 engine, wide load... 1700/Ditcher 1100, single rib.

FORD 94 250 turbo diesel, 52K miles, XLT clean... 1700/Ditcher 1100, single rib.

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Heart 2 brought to you by... The News. 1-800-422-9283. 24 hours a day!

1-900-903-9977. Humorous SWF, 23, 5'4", 140 lbs. with brown hair and green eyes.

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BAHAMAS. Enter to place your own ad and record your voice... 1-800-422-9283.

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3 LINES \$10 DAYS

For items under or adding up to \$1000 (Maximum of 4 items please)
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The Times-News Call 733-0931 or 677-4042 Today!

OATED PIPE, 6", 800 ft. Best offer. Call 543-9843.

GRAIN DRILL, 10'. **BALER**, JD, 467. Perfect. 1100. D. 1100. 1100. 1100. Complete. Farm Trailer. 20'. 837-9019.

GRAIN DRILL, JD 8200. 10'. Double disk, seed. Exc. cond. 326-4919.

GRAIN DRILL, Plainsman. Exc. condition. Top of the line. Call 644-1238.

HESSTON 4855 Hay Baler, exc. cond. \$8000. Call 423-5321.

HORSE Trailers, Excellent Selection of 2 & 3 horse used trailers. Starting at under \$1000. Close Out on all 1998 Logan Coach Trailers. Quality Trailer Sales. Call 624-6868.

HORSE YRLE, Single axle, 2 horse, exc. cond. \$5000. Call 735-1672.

JD tractor 4620 exc. cond. \$8500. Call 775-758-6400.

NEW HOLLAND - 216 rake, used 1 yr. \$9800. Call 633-1677.

PLANTER, JD 7100, 6 row 30" monitors, exc. shape. Call 837-6306, evenings.

FLOW, Class, IH145, 4 bottom, hydraulic rest, low acres, exc. cond. \$7500. Please call 208-423-4874.

ROLLER HARROW - 72" Brilliant HD on 4 carrier wheels. Crows feet front & rear. 5 tire in middle. Higher profile, exc. cond. \$3000. 934-8134.

SAVE BIG BUCKS on Farm package insurance. Use 5% discount for qualified farms. Hunter Insurance Agency, Burley ID (208) 675-9431.

SUGAR BEET SHARES - Snake River share. Call 438-2183 Evenings.

SWITCH 1085 NI 1116. 16" head, very good. \$11,500/offer. 432-8800.

TRACTOR, JD, 4500, MF-power shift, 31 hp. 2005. 5K hrs. Good cond. \$32,000. 423-4874.

703 CUSTOM

CUSTOM PLOWING - Call 733-8392 or 420-2013

HAY RETRIEVING, small & large bales. Please call Twin Falls, 732-5480.

705 IRRIGATION

WHEEL LINES - T-BIRD 52-999. 678-0803 or 678-7893

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GATED PIPE - 3500' 10" pipe, plus filter. \$21.90 per ft. Call 324-3141

GATED PIPE, alum. 10", \$1.80, 9" \$1.65, 8" \$1.50, 6" \$1.25, 4" \$1.00.

MAINLINE, 6" w/60 Rands, \$40 h22.50. HANDLINE, 3" or 4" bell & steel, \$1300 per line. PUMP, JD, 85 hp w/5 RB Cornell pump & drive. \$1500. Call 75700. Call 733-4077 days or eve. 733-3894.

GATED PIPE, Aluminum, 10", \$1.50 per foot. Call 934-4480.

GROUND WATER RIGHTS Dairy-farm-commercial. Buy. Call 826-1718

PUMP, 3 hp, gas, Centrifugal, motor in Briggs & Stratton. \$350. 734-8020.

BYRON TUBES - 1200' 80", 75 ea. 80" x 60" 85 ea. or offer 326-4141

USED H & L solid set, used H & L hand line; 2' gated pipe; exc. cond. 6", 8", 10", 12". Call 436-5025

WHEEL LINE - DRIVE LINE, New galvanized steel, \$4, each or \$375, for system. 438-6742

WHEEL LINES, 2 West. 2-1770 ft. shuntles. \$3500 each. 1-1500 ft. shuntles. \$2500 each. 524-6702. Leave message.

706 FARM BEED & FERTILIZER

BUY FERTILIZING COSTS Directly from Antimony Sulfate. F.O.B. Privo, UT 84700. 766-1150. 801-766-9150

LEAF-CUTTER BEES for sale in wood boxes for pollinating. We have the quality, high live count. Call 208-880-1132 or 208-450-9010

ORGANIC COMPOST \$5.00 per ton. Volume discounts. Horizon Organic Soil. Call 737-5865, 733-1110

POTATO SEED, 18,000 sacks. Certified Russet Potatoes. Call 223-9292

WHEAT SEED, certified Persewena. 826-5635.

708 HAY, GRAIN, FEED

BARLEY STRAW, Clean small bales, 75 lb Cornell pump. 2101

CORN SILAGE for sale. Price negotiable. Call 324-5568 or 366-2698

CORN SILAGE - 1000 ton for sale. Call 898-2427 or 420-8097

DAIRY HAY good quality. \$90 delivered. 680-9300 or 684-9300 evenings

HAY - 3 rd crop, 2 string bales, covered, excellent. home use. 324-5018

HAY 3rd cutting Alfalfa, 24.4 P, 239 RFV, 50 Ton, 2 wide bales, \$90/ton. ST FAW, 800 bales a \$1/bale. 543-8558

HAY 750 Ton, Dairy & feed hay, 100% covered. Call 326-4141

HAY Alfalfa, 1000 - 1 ton bales. Top quality. Call 208-587-9121

HAY - 10 ton alfalfa 3rd cutting 2 string bales, barned. \$85 ton. 328-8850.

HAY - Quality alfalfa, 175 T, 1st crop, one ton bales, tested. \$90 ton. 543-8789.

HAY, Dairy & feeder quality. 175 T, 1st crop, one ton bales, tested. 734-3509 or 731-3471

HAY, Premium quality, certified hay for sale, 3rd crop, 20 ADF, 38 NDF, 17 RFV, covered & off ground. 301 tons. Top bales straw, \$6/bale. 208-754-4553, 521-8387.

WE BUY USED TOOLS & EQUIPMENT FOR CASH! Also, old silver bits & spurs. **VICKERS** WESTERN STORE 733-7096

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ANTIQUE SCHOOL DESKS, fill green iron sides, covered, metal, etc. \$10 ea./offer. 733-6140

EGG Scale, \$45. Soda Fountain glassware, \$90. China scale for 12, \$125. Call 543-4532

WE'VE MOVED! Betty Lee & "Never Enuff" Now @ GoodHollows 143 Main Street East WORKING MONDAYS Come See Us! Always Buying!

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FREEZER - 4 size upright, \$75. Call 738-3733.

GE 30" RANGE, Almond in color. \$200.00. 532-4811

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WASHER/DRYER set, Kenmore, exc. cond. \$250. Single washer, \$125. Wamany, 738-4805

803 BAZAARS & CRAFTS

LOOKING FOR CRAFTERS First annual Spring Craft Show, for more information about booth sign up call 324-9588.

804 BUILDING MATERIALS

WOOD-MIZER, '92, LY-40 portable bandsaw mill; \$800. Low mill seat, incl. Blade sharpener tool, \$500. Call 324-4512.

806 COMMUNICATION DEVICES

NADIOS - 2 Motorola MTS 2-way, one 1/2 cord, dry. Call 532-4790 or 431-5821

This year will be our best! Use Classified. 733-9931.

809 COMPUTERS

COMPAQ, SVGA monitor, CD-ROM, sound, modem, printer, WIN 95, MS Office 95. Call 737-5865, 733-1110

COMPUTER - Nice laptop computer, 486 with Windows 95. \$170. 735-1026

COMPUTERS Used 486's & Pentium's, starting at \$200. Epson color printer, \$75. 733-9444

810 FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD - Dry & present split & delivered \$100. Call for white supply lists. Call 677-2382

811 FURNITURE & CARPET

BED - King wearbed, bookcase headboard, 5 drawer under dresser, foot bench, complete. \$250. Call 734-3683.

LOG PINE Beds & Tables, Beautiful! Made to order. Please call 208-697-3018

MATTRESS king size, 3 yrs old. \$250. Call 734-7837.

Try a two-part classified ad today. Call 733-0931.

QUEEN SIZE PILLOW TOP MATTRESS SET Still in plastic. \$260.00. 734-5891

SOFA, exc. cond. \$200 or best offer. Call 733-7699 located at 5199 Clindy Dr.

812 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

FABCO fireplace insert blowdowns. Good shape. \$400. Call Mike 543-4354 or 543-6258

814 JEWELRY & FURS

RING and bracelets 14 kt. & marquis diamond wedding ring. Size 6. Appraised at \$1300. Selling for \$800/offer. Days 736-2190 ext #250. 735-5091 evenings

815 LAWN & GARDEN

LAWNMOWER JD LY155, '98, exc. like new. \$1900. Tony at 735-9796

RIDING LAWN MOWER, 14 1/2 hp 3 yrs old Exc. Cond. \$500.

TREES - 2-3' potted Spruce and Australian pine, exc. windbreak quality. \$10 ea. 423-9181

816 EXERCISE EQUIPMENT

3 SEATED WEIGHT SYSTEM, light, institutional multi station strength training equip. for your home. Exc. cond. Make offer. Price much also included. Call 678-2782.

TREADMILL, works good. \$150. Call 423-5315.

TREADMILL, Proform, New in box. Originally \$700, now \$415. Call 733-5885, Steve.

817 MISC FOR SALE

ANTELOPE mount, Excellent condition. 75\$/offer. Call 333-5495

CAMPER SHELL - 7, Nice, \$125 firm. Call 734-6915.

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FAST TREES, Grow 6-10 ft./yr. \$4.95-\$8.95, delivered. Potted Tree Brochure. 800-615-3405

FREE (2) Tractor tires. Great for sand boxes. Call 420-3483 or 733-5911.

HOOD, SKIRT and liner for Balaclava. Barely used, paid \$100, asking \$50. Call 734-8995.

NEW & USED Restaurant Chair, Booth Tables, and Table Bases for sale. 678-0044 Evenings

PAGERS BY MAIL With 5, 10 coverage, quarterly payments of \$32.85. 1-877-317-2999 for free www.pagers.com

RECLINER, \$50. Metal desk, \$60. 2 dog electric shock collar trainer, \$50. chain link dog kennel \$150. Call 733-1425 or 731-1161.

PEAVEY SP20 SPEAKERS 1 set, like new \$500. Sound Tech Powered mixer \$500. 1-877-436-6127

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THE ACES ON BRIDGE[®]
Bobby Wolff

Dear Mr. Wolff:
If partner opens one heart, is it a good idea for me to offer a jump shift to three diamonds with ♠ A-K-7-3, ♥ 8, ♦ A-K-J-8-5, ♣ A-7?

ANSWER: Theoretically, Sacramento, Calif.
Prime Tickets, Sacramento, Calif.

Dear Mr. Wolff:
At duplicate, RHO opens one heart and I hold ♠ A-Q-5, ♥ K-J-10-9-6, Q-8-7, J-2. Should I double, or bid one heart?

ANSWER: While this is not an ideal example of a takeout double, most duplicate players will choose a double. Naturally, one would like something more in the majors. However, a double does get a close decision over a waiting pass.

Dear Mr. Wolff:
At duplicate, RHO opens one club, and I hold ♠ A-Q-5, ♥ K-J-10-9-6, Q-8-7, J-2. Should I double, or bid one heart?

ANSWER: I recommend the one-heart overall rather than a take-out double. The heart suit is substantial, and the bid avoids problems introduced by a double when partner has four spades and three hearts. If you bid one heart, there is nothing to prevent partner from bidding one spade if he has five and is short in hearts.

Dear Mr. Wolff:
With both vulnerable, I deal and open one diamond. LHO passes and partner responds two clubs. What's my best rebid with ♠ Q, ♥ Q-J-9, ♦ A-Q-10-7-6-4, ♣ A-Q-10-7-4-10-7-6-4?

ANSWER: I see only one choice in three hearts. All other bids have serious flaws, and the raise of partner's suit leaves the door open to many possible contracts.

Dear Mr. Wolff:
At duplicate, RHO opens one heart-and-LHO responds one spade. Partner overcalls one no-trump, and RHO doubles for penalties. With neither side vulnerable, should I pass or should I bid? I hold ♠ J-9-8-7-6-3, ♥ 7, ♦ 10-7-4-2, ♣ 6-5.

ANSWER: All indications point to a rescue attempt. Obviously, the opponents mean business, and your hand rates to be useful at one no-trump. Some might try two diamonds, retreating to two spades if doubled. I favor a confident rescue to two spades. Partner's one no-trump guarantees you will find spade support in dummy. If LHO doubles as expected, RHO may not sit for it, and he rates to be void in spades.

Dear Mr. Wolff:
At duplicate, no vulnerability, is it a good tactical move to make a takeout double of RHO's one-club opening with ♠ A-Q-6, ♥ J-9-5, ♦ J-10-8-2, ♣ A-10-7-7?

ANSWER: I see only one choice in three hearts. All other bids have serious flaws, and the raise of partner's suit leaves the door open to many possible contracts.

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WOW!
TO CHOOSE FROM

Dear Abby: A toddler declares war on mom's boyfriend.
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FAMILY LIFE

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Features Editor: Steve Crump - 733-0931, Ext. 223

The Times-News

Sunday, March 19, 2000

Section E

Read a story, change a life forever

My friend Betty and I were talking about how kids don't read enough anymore. Betty was especially concerned about her daughter, Kim.

"Kim learned to read when she was 3," said Betty, with a sigh, "but I can't remember her reading anything except the 'TV Guide' since then."

The National Education Association is on the case. This month, the group is sponsoring its "Read Across America" celebration, and some 20 million children and adults have signed on to read books everywhere from family gatherings to public parks. (<http://www.nea.org/readcross>)

The NEA has also released the results of a survey asking children to vote for their favorite books. J. K. Rowling's "Harry Potter" series came in first, followed by R. L. Stine's "Goosebumps" series and Dr. Seuss's "Green Eggs and Ham" and "The Cat in the Hat." E. B. White's "Charlotte's Web" made the list, too, as did "The Chronicles of Narnia," by C. S. Lewis, and several titles by Beverly Cleary and Judy Blume.

Brings back old memories. When my kids were little, they and their friends loved to read, but there were days when we parents were convinced that nothing was making the leap into their brains.

I remember one kindergarten teacher, back in the Midwest, who had decided to "publish" a class dictionary. She would interview each child and put their names and facts about them in alphabetical order.

One kid said his favorite wrestler was "Hawk." Another kid said he wanted to grow up to be a Camaro. A third kid said his favorite pet was a cobra.

When my daughter was about 9, I agreed to host a slumber party for her and her two friends. After I agreed, it dawned on me. I didn't know anyone else who had done this - for a dozen 9-year-olds all at once. No one knew why.

Actually, my friends had tried to warn me. One friend told me, "I let the kids at my Kathy's slumber party raid the refrigerator until I caught one of them drinking the juice from a bottle of 161 pickles."

Another friend advised me to screen my children's guest list and omit any first-timers.

"I let them get their experience somewhere else," she said.

After our slumber party was over, and I had checked to make sure everyone had survived, I vowed to do things differently next time.

"I think we should try to talk the kids into nice little lawn parties next year," I said to my husband. "At someone else's house."

No long ago, I read about a fairly extensive study of young people in churches which reported that 85 percent of these youth tend to reason, "Just because it's wrong for you doesn't mean it's wrong for me." And 66 percent of them said they had lied to their parents or another adult within the last three months.

These are the kids with the religious training. Behind the push to get kids and adults to read more is the idea that this will help children and parents spend more time together - in the hopes that the parents will start turning out children with better family values. Maybe even better mental health.

I just received a news release announcing the publication of a book titled "I Remember When: Activity Ideas for Kids and Parents Reminisce," by psychology professors Howard Thorsheim and Bruce Roberts. According to the book, and 20 years of research by its authors, when people share stories of their life experiences, they develop a better sense of well-being - and this kind of reminiscing can actually lower heart rate and boost mental health.

"Storytelling is one of the oldest and best-known ways to express the meaning and significance of who you are," Thorsheim explained.

Psychologists also tell us that, even though other factors have some influence, just about everything points to the fact that most kids grow up to be like their parents.

I think I'll find a good book to read tonight.

Denise Turner is assistant features editor at The Times-News.

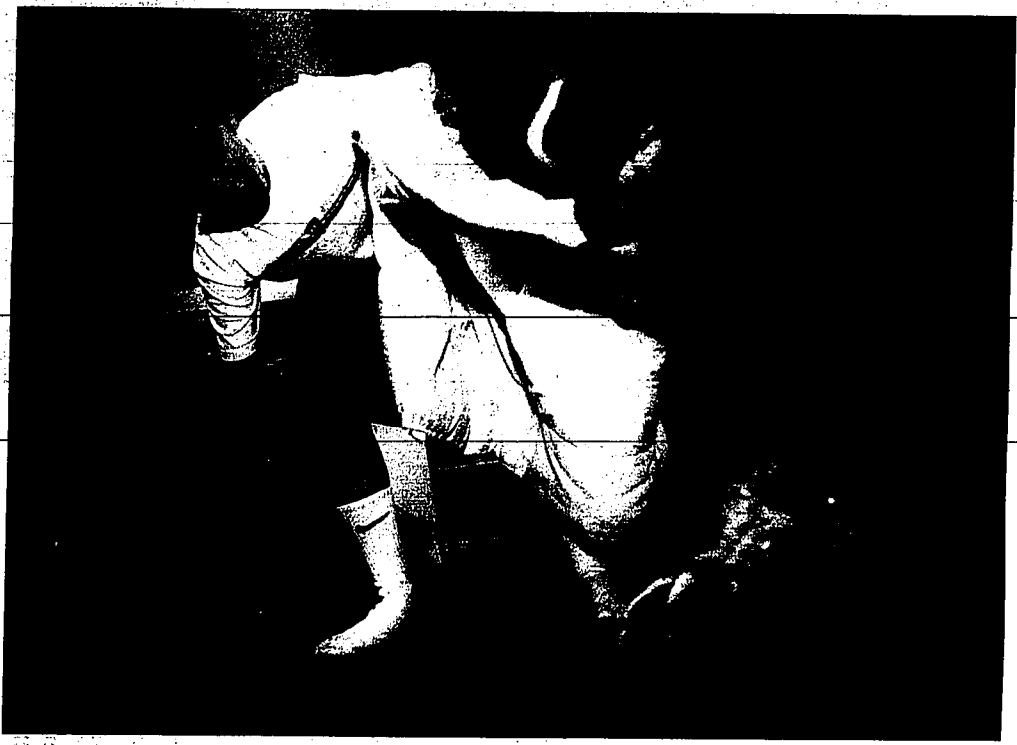


Photo illustration by BRUCE SHIELDS/The Times-News

Monsters under the bed?

All kids are afraid, but sometimes it gets out of hand

"The night Max wore his wolf suit and made mischief of one kind and another, his mother called him, 'Wild Things!' and Max said, 'I'll eat you up!' so he was sent to bed without eating anything."

- "Where the Wild Things Are," by Maurice Sendak

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The "scariest thing of all is a child who's not scared of anything."

"Fear of one kind or another is

normal in children," said Linda Anoshian, a professor of psychology at Boise State University and a specialist on the social isolation of homeless children. "It's one of the ways they find out about their world."

That notion is a hard sell for parents. From fear of the dark to a toddler to fear of dating as an adolescent, Moms and Dads interpret trepidation as trouble.

"Fears make some parents think something is wrong," Dr. Alexandria Doyle, a Texas clinical psychologist, is told the Dallas Morning News, "when in fact, it means the child has moved to a new level of development, a clearer sense of reality."

"Fears change, according to a kid's growth and development. It's universal."

The trouble arises when kids can't - or won't - talk about what's bewitching them.

"Abnormal fears can manifest themselves in a number of ways," Anoshian said. "The only way that parents can find about that is knowing what's going on in the child's life."

But that doesn't mean telling the kid that there's nothing to be scared of. Fears, Anoshian added, are based on feelings that are legitimate and very, very real. And face it: Kids have always had their reasons for being afraid.

Think about fairy tales: Hansel being fattened by a horrible old woman who planned to eat him. Jack killing a giant who was chasing him.

Plus there have always been

fears inherent with living: Pioneer kids probably were scared - with good reason - of wild animals. During the 1950s, the thought of nuclear war terrified some children.

A late 1990s study by psychology professor Patricia Owen found that drugs, guns and kidnapping ranked high among fears shared by kids ages 7 to 9. Only a generation ago, she found, fears tended to be pretty tame.

Still, the same basics that scared our grandparents probably will scare our grandchildren, too. And those fears tend to be universal, according to a 1980s study of children worldwide. Though culture determines various objects of fear, researchers found that others - namely the dark and monsters - are universal.

The trick, Anoshian says, is not to trivialize terrors; it's to teach kids how to handle them. That's a vital lesson, she added, because humans must deal with fear for a lifetime.

"It's a lot harder with teenagers, and that's why developing communication skills are so important," Anoshian said.

Parents always have to be proactive communicating with adolescents. That doesn't mean meddling, but it does mean paying attention.

"If a teen-ager knows he or she can talk about fears with parents, they will."

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 223, or write to him at crump@magicvalley.com

A parent's guide to things that go 'bump' in the night

The Dallas Morning News

Here's what to expect as your child grows:

• **Infancy:** Loud noises scare babies, says Dr. Alexandrin Doyle, a Dallas clinical psychologist, as does being physically unsupported.

"If you hold them in a position in which it looks like they're going to fall, they'll put their arms out," Doyle says.

Early on, says Dr. Thomas Van Noose, a Plano, Texas, clinical psychologist, children

fear being separated from their "attachment figure" - usually their mother.

As they progress through their first year, children become afraid of strangers. They may start to cry, become fretful, look around for a familiar face.

• **Toddlers:** Dogs, thunderstorms, costumed characters. Preschoolers' fears revolve around abstract concepts such as monsters and pirates.

• **Grade-school years:** Five- to 6-year-olds tend to be afraid of sensory fears, such as thunder, rain, the dark.

"At age 5, kids tend not to be very fearful relative to kids at other ages," Doyle says. "But at 6, we see an increase in fear because they tend to run off and do things they may not be capable of handling. They're poor judges of their own abilities."

"You see a 6-year-old really reacting to a cut as if they need a Band-Aid for emotional, as well as physical, reasons."

"Seven-year-olds are a little more hesitant. They'll hang back then when they feel they can handle it, they'll move forward."

By age 8, kids enjoy mastering a fear,

she says. For instance, if the lights go out during a thunderstorm, they probably won't admit they're afraid of the dark. But they'll like being with a parent to light candles.

By 9, kids tend to be fearful that they won't be able to handle responsibility. They may be afraid of making mistakes, or of being late, Doyle says.

In adolescence, fears tend to center around their peer group. Van Noose says. They wonder: Will I fit in? Will I make the team? Am I attractive enough?

Setting some eating rules can help parents cope

In his book "Coping With a Picky Eater," Dr. William G. Wilkoff recommends these rules to help prevent a child from becoming a picky eater:

- All eating and drinking is to be done at the table or in a high chair. Not only does this help prevent eating snacks and excess drinking between meals, but it also trains children to appreciate the social aspect of meals.
- Limit drinks. Excess milk and juice are out. Water is fine.
- Only two snacks per day - one at midmorning and one at midafternoon, with fruits and vegetables preferred.

Etc...

- No seconds unless one has cleared the plate. This is not about joining the "clean plate club," Wilkoff writes, but is about not overdoing one food at the exclusion of others.
- The child doesn't have to stay at the table when finished eating. But once excused, a child is finished eating, he notes.
- No disruptive behavior in the dining area. The goal is to provide a pleasant atmosphere for eating; unruly behavior should not be tolerated.

-Source: Baltimore Sun

New show at the CSI planetarium features narration by Leonard Nimoy

Ongoing

TWIN FALLS - The Faulkner Planetarium's new show "The Search for Life in the Universe" is being shown at 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays at the planetarium on the College of Southern Idaho campus.

Narrated by "Star Trek's" Leonard Nimoy, and featuring three-dimensional art and space travel sequences, this show will appeal to audience members of all ages, although some of the program's scientific discussions will be beyond

ing a telescope.

Planetarium admission is \$4 for adults, \$2 for students, \$3 for senior citizens and \$9 for families.

For more information, call the Herrett Center at 733-9554, Ext. 2655.

Every Sunday, To do for Families 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 Wednesday.

the understanding of most children.

"Rusty Rocket's Last Blast," an excellent show for younger audiences, will be shown at 2 p.m. Saturdays.

Another program "More Than Meets the Eye" will be shown at 4 p.m. Saturdays and will show amateur astronomers what they can see in the heavens from their own back yards. The show is especially good for telescope owners or those considering buy-

FAMILY LIFE

www.4Kids.org

YOUR QUICKEST SHOT TO THE COOLEST SPOTS ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB

LET'S TALK ABOUT IT From sign language to the spoken word, communication is crucial to our society. Here you can journey through this fascinating world of hearing. The Evolution of Communication. Get ready to receive a message at www.4kids.org/communication. This interactive web project covers everything from early drawings and hieroglyphs to today's television, radio and advanced computer systems. With a great timeline, quizzes and video clips, this site is one of the world's most fun, interactive and educational. It's also great for students. So, check out some communication inventions, such as Morse Code, the telephone and even the pen. You'll discover that speech recognition software is coming soon to a computer near you. Whether you're a text lover, a good listener or a body-language specialist, this site can be enjoyed by all communicators.

STRETCH YOUR MIND The brain is the most powerful muscle in the body. It's also the most complex. It's made up of billions of tiny cells that work together to create our thoughts, feelings and actions. This site is a great resource for learning about the brain and how it works. It's also a great resource for parents and teachers looking for fun and educational activities for children. Visit www.4kids.org/brain today!

Dear Amy: When one of my school friends on the bus...
Dear Amy: There are so many great Web sites for me to choose from...
Dear Amy: How do you say "hello" in Japanese?
Dear Amy: I'm learning a new language...
Send your questions about the WWW to: Ask Amy, c/o The Learning Tree, 11500 E. 17th Ave., Aurora, CO 80012. E-mail: askamy@4kids.org.
 NETWORK OF REGIONAL TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION CENTERS
 Helping make technology learning fun!

Toddler will soon become dependent on steady praise

Q. What is the appropriate amount of praise for a 15-month-old?

I praise my toddler for specific accomplishments, but I don't make a huge deal out of it. I want him to know that I'm proud of him, but I don't want him to need my praise for everything he does. I have a friend who is teaching her child of the same age to clap for himself whenever he does anything nice. The mother also praises every time the child says anything (even words he has known for months). Am I wrong in fearing that this amount of praise is too much and will lead to future problems?

A. Your intuitions are right on target. It is not only unnecessary to praise a child, regardless of age, for every single accomplishment, but even counterproductive in the long run.

Too much praise creates a dependency on being praised, which inhibits, rather than promotes, accomplishment and independence. Furthermore, once a child is fairly proficient at something, the message from his parents should be, in effect, "What you're doing is just what it's simply the right thing to do."

In another 18 months, your friend is going to wonder why her 3-year-old won't leave her alone. It's OK for me to snoop in my teenager's books, notes, book-bag, diary, etc. If I suspect he may be up to something? If I find evidence of wrongdoing, how should I handle it? It's OK for me to snoop in my teenager's books, notes, book-bag, diary, etc. If I suspect he may be up to something? If I find evidence of wrongdoing, how should I handle it?

A. There is no easy answer to this issue. I believe a parent has a right to know if a child is up to no good, but also believe a child has a right to know that his or her privacy is not to be violated. It's a delicate balance that is a parent's job to maintain.

You do not have a right to snoop just to be nosy. If, however, you have a good reason to suspect your child is up to no good, it's generally harmful, or clearly inappropriate from a moral standpoint (such as collecting pornography), and your teen "stonewalls" any attempt to discuss the issue, then

PARENTING

John Rosemond

Q. How does one get a teenager to keep a clean, neat room?

My 14-year-old says it's his room to do with as he likes. Is it?

A. Not on your life! From early on, my wife and I told our kids (now married with children) they were guests in our home. Honored guests with a tenure of some 20 years, mind you, but guests nonetheless.

They were expected to be "good" guests, meaning they were to respect the standards we set regarding behavior and cleanliness. We told them that if they didn't keep their rooms neat and clean, we reserved the right to clean up after them. In so doing, we would go through drawers, look under mattresses, and so on. In other words, if they wanted to keep us out of their rooms, all they had to do was maintain them to our standards. It was a simple standard that was in clear evidence in the rest of the home.

As I recall, my wife, Willie, and I "sterilized" each of their rooms once, and only once. That was all it took. We psychologists term it "one trial learning."

John Rosemond is a family psychologist. Questions of general interest may be sent to him at Affirmative Parenting, 9247 N. Meridian, Indianapolis, IN 46260 and on his Web site: <http://www.rosemond.com>

Rumor teaches girl to keep secrets

"Children seldom misquote you. In fact, they usually repeat word for word what you shouldn't have said."

—Source unknown

By Floanne Kersh

When my last pregnancy was confirmed, I wanted to share the exciting news with someone as soon as I was certain. My husband was on a business trip in California, so, in my excitement, I informed my 8-year-old daughter much earlier than I should have.

Kimberly was so elated as I walked but we agreed to keep it "our little secret" for two weeks until Daddy returned from California. We would tell him then.

That weekend, my daughter invited her best friend to spend the night. When I walked by her door, I could hear a lot of excited-

Chicken Soup for the Soul

In this story by Floanne Kersh, a woman learns how quickly gossip can distance itself from the real truth.

sounding whispering and giggling, and I suspected that Kimberly might have found the secret too hard to keep. However, I did not question her for fear that she would think that I did not trust her.

Monday afternoon, Kimberly came home from school, looking very-down and depressed, headed straight for her room and closed the door behind her. This was definitely not my usually happy-go-lucky Kimberly. Out of curiosity, I softly knocked on the door. "May I come in?" I asked. For a while there was no sound, then a meek voice answered, "Yes."

Sitting on her bed, Kimberly hung her head in shame. "What in the world is the matter?" I asked her. "Oh, Mama, I did a terrible thing. I broke your confidence and shared our secret with my best friend." Kimberly's conscience was obviously tormenting her and, though I was disappointed, I felt sorry for her and comforted her, holding her close and reassuring her that everything was all right.

The next afternoon, Kimberly came home sobbing hysterically. Sitting down beside her on the

bed once more, I asked, "What on earth could possibly have happened to have you this upset?"

"Oh, mother, mother," Kimberly cried louder. "It's just too awful. Everyone at the school is asking everyone else, 'Have you heard the "secret" about Kimberly's mother?' She is pregnant by a man in California and she doesn't want anyone to know. Even her husband doesn't know about it yet."

I could not help but be somewhat amused, in spite of Kimberly's indignation. Needless to say, the story was eventually straightened out, and no one was hurt. One thing the story does prove, though, is how fast gossip travels—even from the mouths of babies and in the entire situation can be misconstrued.

To submit a story for future publication, send it to P.O. Box 30880-K, Santa Barbara, Calif. 93130.

'Mission to Mars' is an entertaining film for older audiences

The Orange County Registrar

• "Mission to Mars" (PG) — Twin Cinema, Century Cinema of Burley, Magic Lantern of Ketchum, Jerome Cinema.

Best for: Mature younger teens to adults.

What it's about: The year is 2020 and NASA has successfully landed Mars 1 on the Martian surface. Unfortunately, after a disaster, Luke Graham (Don Cheadle) is the sole survivor who sends a message asking for help back to Earth. A second crew — Commander Woody Blake (Tim Robbins), Jim McConnell (Gary Sinise), Dr. Fisher (Connie Nielsen) and Phil Ohlmyer (Jory O'Connell) — is quickly put together and sent on a six-month journey to rescue him. The amazing discovery they become a part of changes their lives forever. Kim Delaney also stars.

The good: This sci-fi adventure dazzles with special effects and entertains with a unique concept. Sinise, Robbins and Cheadle deliver strong performances.

Cheadle's character undergoes a complete transformation after discovering a dangerous abnor-

mally no human has ever seen. He knows it could change the future of the planet, the solar system and possibly even Earth.

The not-so-good: This is not a violent movie with gory alien scenes, but there are strange and tragic occurrences that cause deaths. Mature older kids and teens will enjoy all of the space lingo and the intricate plot but it may be hard for younger kids to grasp or follow.

Offensive language: Some Sex: Friendly and loving fraternizing between husband and wife but no nudity or sex.

Violence: Several people are killed by various causes.

Parental advisory: Because this story deals with the unknown on a planet, there are intense scenes and deaths. This movie will appeal to mature older children and teens who enjoy a good sci-fi space adventure with an intricate plot.

Entertainment value: A

• "Drowning Mona" (PG-13) — Twin Cinema.

Best for: Mature teens to adults.

What it's about: This is a comedy (set in a town where everyone drives a Yugo) about a mean, spiteful and nasty woman named Mona Dearly (Bette Midler) who accidentally drives her car off a cliff when her brakes give out. When Police Chief Wyatt Rash (Danny DeVito) investigates the case, he discovers a whole town full of people that came under suspicion (Jamie Lee Curtis, Casey Affleck, William Fichtner, Marcus Thomas) because Mona was cruel to everyone. Neve Campbell plays his daughter who's busy planning her wedding one of the suspects (Affleck).

The good: This is a dark comedy because of the horrible character of Mona, but there are some funny scenes that work because the characters are so colorfully brainless.

Midler can look really good in her movies, or she can get expressions on her face that have to be the ultimate definition of awful.

The not-so-good: Many disturbing elements make it offensive. Not only is there crude and rude

language, but there are verbally abusive scenes where Mona riffs into everyone. Flashbacks give ample reason for the town (and the audience) to hate her. When you think about it, the theme of an evil woman verbally and emotionally tormenting several people (including her husband and son) who are all relieved that she dies is sad. When you don't think about it and just go along for the silly, demented ride, it's funny.

Offensive language: Plenty of it.

Sex: Several implied situations but no complete nudity or graphic sex. Curtis plays a twisted sexual bedroom game of "Wheel of Fortune" with two different men. It's more pathetic than sexy but it doesn't involve complete nudity, just underwear.

Violence: Mona's car drives off a cliff, a man drowns, another man's car drives into her. When she pushes people around. Lots of verbal abuse is played out in comedic scenes.

Parental advisory: Don't be fooled by the PG-13 rating, it's definitely not for kids.

Entertainment value: C

• "The Next Best Thing" (PG-

13) — Reel Theater of Twin Falls, Twin Cinema of Burley.

Best for: Mature audiences.

What it's about: Madonna plays Abby, a yoga instructor who gets drunk one afternoon and spends the night with her gay best friend Robert (Rupert Everett). The end result is a boy named Sam (Malcolm Stumpf), who is unable to remember until six years later, when a potential husband (Benjamin Bratt) comes into the picture and messes up the happy home.

The good: Madonna looks better than ever — living proof that women can have babies and endure a beautiful sexiness — and Everett is his good-looking self.

The not-so-good: Since the storyline revolves around a gay man living with a straight woman, there are obviously several issues that are dealt with surrounding those circumstances. Issues that are talked about, gay issues are dealt with and a couple of bedroom sexual situations occur with both people and their partners. No full nudity or sex is shown. The movie is a story that tries to give new meaning to the term "family" by justifying

solish behavior. It also tries to redefine the role of a father, making him almost dispensable. Child-custody cases aren't civil or rational for children and this movie makes the painfully obvious. Here a gay father wants to be in his child's life but doesn't have rights. The mother now wants to marry a man who can give her a family, but she has more confusion for you heap onto a 6-year-old? That's what this story deals with, and although it has a somewhat happy ending, it is an emotionally exhausting dilemma.

Offensive language: Mild

Sex: A couple of scenes imply it, but Robert wakes up with a man but no full nudity or sex is shown. Sam walks in that way character in his mom's room and it is upset by that.

Violence: None

Parental advisory: This is not a light-hearted "family film" for young children. Parents, and adult themes and issues parents won't want to have to explain or discuss with kids. For children who have recently gone through a divorce, this movie could be a sad and painful reminder.

Entertainment value: C

Uncle Sam wants in on the office betting pool

Knight Ridder News Service

Hitting a jackpot is, of course, the ambition of anyone who sticks a quarter into a slot machine or plunks down a buck on some high-odds bonus bet in a casino table game.

But at this time of year, folks who reveled in their winnings when the lights were flashing and the bells were clanging are reminded that gambling winnings are like most other forms of income: There are taxes to be paid.

Federal income tax regulations that address gambling winnings are complex and, some would argue, unfair. Nevertheless, the tax is due.

For starters, casinos are obligated to give a winner documentation under a number of circumstances.

To take one common example, whenever a slot payoff reaches \$1,200, the winner receives a W2-

G recording the win (a copy also goes to the Internal Revenue Service). The same is true of a bingo win where there is an entry fee to play.

Sometimes the threshold for documenting a win can be as low as \$600, such as tournaments with no entry fees (free slot tournaments). In those cases, the winner receives a Form 1099.

There are different rules for different types of gaming profits. If a player wins a sports bet or high-odds table bet of at least \$600, a W2-G is issued when the proceeds are more than 300 times the amount wagered. An example would be hitting a royal flush in Let it Ride, where the odds on any of the three normal bets are 1,000-to-1. Some winning bonus bets in games such as Let it Ride and Caribbean Stud also qualify for a W2-G.

However, big wagers without high odds — an even-money \$5,000 winning bet in blackjack,

roulette or baccarat, for example do not trigger a W2-G.

When payoffs that require the issuance of tax-related documentation reach a certain point, casinos are also obligated to deduct withholding tax at a rate of 28 percent. The minimum win for withholding tax is \$5,000. A notable exception is slot jackpots, for which no tax is withheld.

When reporting gaming income on the year-end Form 1040, taxpayers must list their gaming wins on the front of the form under "Other income." IRS gaming specialist Eric Lacher pointed out that while gamblers can deduct documented gaming losses, they can only do so up to the amount of gross winnings and cannot offset other income with excess losses at the casino.

Also, only winnings reported on the W-2G can be offset, not those on the Form 1099.

Gambling losses are reported on Schedule A (Itemized deduc-

tions). In addition, the requirement to report gambling income on the front of the Form 1040 can affect, sometimes adversely, a number of other tax circumstances for which there are income taxes, such as how much Social Security earnings are taxable.

The American Gaming Association, a group that represents casino interests, hears plenty of complaints from casino customers, according to John Shelk, the group's vice president for government affairs.

"We think it's unfair, but we have enough trouble protecting the half-loaf we have on Capitol Hill," Shelk said. "The half-loaf" is the current offset deduction.

Some lawmakers see the Schedule A deduction as a subsidy for gambling. Shelk said, "Changing the code would cost the government money," he said, "so it's an uphill battle."

Schools teach kids courtesy and foster better learning

Knight Ridder News Service

MIAMI — James Howe washes his hands before eating, chews his crackers carefully and thanks his instructor, Myoussi Jones, for bringing them. "Thank you, Myoussi," he says. "May I throw it away?"

"Yes, you may," replies Jones, thanking James as he tosses the empty container into her sack.

"You're welcome," he replies.

Not bad for a 6-year-old in kindergarten still sorting his numbers and ABCs. Miss Manners, not to mention mom and dad, would be thrilled.

James and a dozen other kindergartners and first-graders at R.R. Moton Elementary in West Ferris, Fla., are the pioneers in a new movement sweeping public schools: Teaching the Golden Rule, as well as reading, writing and arithmetic. In part, the movement is fueled by a state law passed last year requiring public schools to teach character.

Increasingly, however, educators recognize that well-mannered children have fewer disciplinary problems, learn better, and graduate with social skills. And if

some parents can't or are unable to teach the basics, please, then the schools will do it.

Moton Principal Yvonne Hinson thinks that manners are essential for children to learn. And indeed, teachers are already seeing a difference in the children in the month-old manners class, which is run as an after-school program.

"They're more apt to listen to the teacher," says Moton reading specialist Bertha Smith, who helps tutor the children after Jones' hour-long class.

Children also feel more secure in a school that promotes common courtesy. Schools that don't curb cursing, shoving and other unruly forms of behavior encourage the rude to flourish. Teachers and parents are trying to teach them the right ways, says Jones, an author of several books on children's manners and graduate of The R.R. Moton School in Washington.

"I had a mother who called me in tears to thank me for telling her daughter that what she was taught at home was the right behavior," she says. "The peer pressure is so great."

Know the score? Read The Times-News sports pages to see how your favorite team is doing.

Not ready for romance: Some teen boys find dating tough to handle Acronyms help handle stress

The Dallas Morning News

DALLAS — At 14, Will Giles has witnessed and withstood the victories and defeats of breaking up, making up and affection gone AWOL.

"I thought I got on a little too soon," the ninth-grader says. "I didn't know what to do."

If the results from a recent Penn State University study are an indication, many boys will's age feel the same, yet continue to date. And the study suggests that "such behavior can harm boys' self-esteem and that boys are more vulnerable in dating relationships than previously thought."

REACTIVITY CHECK! Teens and talk. Gift of gab. Bar chart showing percentages for various personality traits: Dope name says they're the most popular (44%), Cool (38%), Other names (29%), Mean (25%), Smart (23%), Grumpy (19%), Funny (15%), Easy-going (8%), Boring (6%).

ship — and therefore sharing information about themselves — have a harder time bouncing back when it's over, Dowdy says.

"Our life is frittered away by detail... Simplify, simplify!" — Henry David Thoreau

This is an article by acronym. Since 1989, a director of the Institute for Stress Management, I've developed a set of acronyms.

STRESS Tim O'Brien

SMART: Stress Management - And Relaxation Training, the overall acronym for setting up a proficient program.

ATTITUDE: Attitude of positive arrival at a substantially lower figure: \$16.60 a week, according to Bodnar.

Confrontation can be good

The Dallas Morning News

Barbara Pachter has no problem admitting her past. She was a wimp, an avoider who would just as soon duck a conflict than get tangled in it.

Many people shy away from confrontation because they think it will only lead to bad results such as wounded feelings and more misunderstanding.

cations consultant and author of success seminars and books, noticed similar complaints made by people in her seminars, and examined their connections.

The jerk test

O'Pachter's methods to the "jerk test." She says people sometimes assume the other person is in conflict with them, and she provides several questions to find out.

- Does the other person understand the effect of nonverbal communication?
Did the other person really mean "ham?"
Is the person the source of the conflict... or is it the policy?
What's really bothering you?
Be specific about the problem because it helps clarify your thoughts.

Source: Dallas Morning News

It takes a certain caliber of family to host a foreign exchange student

Knight Ridder News Service

AKRON, Ohio — The Sideris family's exchange student was supposed to be from Paris, but instead, the Siderises got the exchange student from Mexico.

When he left, the Siderises sighed in relief. Then Phyllis and John Sideris signed up to welcome another exchange student to their home in Twin Lakes, Ohio.

American families. Usually, the host family provides room and board and the students have their own spending money for clothes and entertainment.

Giving kids an allowance can teach important lessons, some experts say

Knight Ridder News Service

No matter how you slice it, allowance is rife with life lessons. It can teach kids that they have to work to get what they want.

As a general rule, Janet Bodnar believes in giving an allowance, which she defines as a fixed sum given to children and teens on a predictable schedule in exchange for carrying out certain well-defined responsibilities.

When mother has less than a high school education — 23%
When mother has a bachelor's degree or higher — 29%

According to survey results analyzed by researchers at Ohio State University, about half of American teenagers report receiving an allowance.

Reading: When mother has less than a high school education — 36%
When mother has a bachelor's degree or higher — 95%

If you want your children to succeed, give them a good example and read

Statistics 101: Reading and education

Kindergartners whose mothers have a college degree are much more likely to be read to at home every day than those whose mothers have less than a high school education.

Telling stories: When mother has less than a high school education — 23%
When mother has a bachelor's degree or higher — 29%
Playing sports: When mother has less than a high school education — 27%
When mother has a bachelor's degree or higher — 18%

Is it time for a Spring Cleaning? Brush in for a visit!!! SAWTOOTH DENTAL Family Dentistry Twin Falls, 733-4515 • Sheehone, 886-2728 • Hagerman, 837-4167

COMMUNITY

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

GIFT OF BOOKS



Above, Anne Jennison of Filer High School presents books to Morgan Krueger and Kayla Slusher. Below, four Filer High School Journalism students were selected to present books to students at the Canyonside Christian School. The older students are, left to right, Anne Jennison, Sara Boss, Amanda Floroz and Victoria Talbot. They also acted out a skit for the younger students.

Photo courtesy of Filer High School



FIT STUDENTS

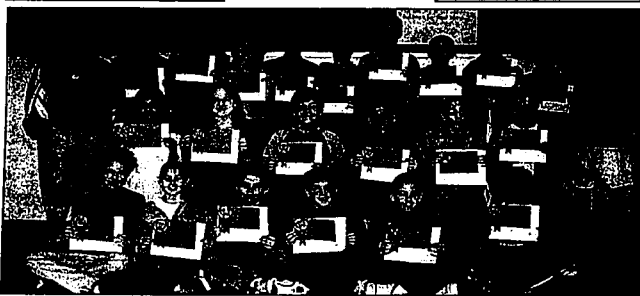


Photo courtesy of O'Leary Junior High

O'Leary Junior High School students met the President's Council Fitness Challenge. The students are left to right, bottom row: Kristen Grahm, Lacey Higley, Scott Thompson, Michael Frew, Brandon Denny and Tyler Peterson; middle row: Shakira Bandolin, Nicole Asher, Shane Stigall, Alexander Harmon, Krysta Blank and El Morgan; top row: McKenzie Batoman, Sharise Quigley, Danielle Howard, KJ Palau, Andy Harris, Jesse Iwe, Scott Treat, Tim Aaron Dennis, Isaac Vega and Scott Thompson.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Standards set to perform at 2002 Club in Buhl

BUHL - The Standards will perform from 8 p.m. to midnight April 7 at the 2002 Club on Eighth St. in Buhl. The five singing brothers will perform music from the 1950s to the present. After the show, students will have a chance to meet the group, buy T-shirts, discs or posters and get autographs, organizers say. Aspenwood Photography will be on hand to record the event. Space is limited and only 100 \$12 tickets will be sold at the Buhl High School office. The 2002 Club is comprised of Buhl's 10th-grade students. Parents and teachers help the club coordinate extra-curriculum educational activities, organizers say. The 2002 Club's motto is "Graduate together 2002." For more information, call Buhl High School at 543-8262.

Western Idaho Ceramic Club announces show

CALDWELL - The 32nd Annual Spring Fling Ceramic Show is May 6-7 at the O'Connor Fieldhouse in Caldwell. May 4 is entry day from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at O'Connor Fieldhouse. The show pick is "Picture Frames." A brunch will be held at 9 a.m. May 6 at the Caldwell Senior Citizen Center. For more information, call Marcella Burnham at (541) 372-5521, Jan Clinic at 365-7382, Ron Burdette at 439-9733, or Kathy Wilson at 466-7472.

Filer woman celebrates 90th birthday Sunday

FILER - Helen Doud Henderson of Filer will celebrate her 90th birthday with an open house from 1-4 p.m. Sunday at Cavanaugh's Canyon Springs Hotel at 1357 Blue Lakes Blvd. N. in Twin Falls.



Helen Henderson

Henderson was born March 19, 1910, in Otego, Kan. and has been a resident of the Magic Valley since 1911. She married Kenneth A. Henderson on May 20, 1938. The couple has two children, Suzanne Young of Idaho Falls and Kent (Bevarty) Henderson of Kent, Wash., three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Henderson won the Idaho Mother of the Year award in 1971, the international Melvin Jones Fellow Award for Humanitarian Services in 1995-96, a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Twin Falls Chamber of Commerce and an honorary degree from Albertson College of Idaho. Her children are hosting the event.

Ride 'Em and Slide 'Em club sponsors horse show

RUBERT - The Ride 'Em and Slide 'Em 4-H Club is sponsoring a Shaggy Horse Show at 8 a.m. on March 25 at the Minidoka County Fairgrounds. Show classes include some adult classes and 44 classes in halter, Western, English and trail by age division, lead line for ages 6 and under, youth and adult and age 18 and over. Participants should bring a lunch and drinks will be sold. Entry fees are \$2 per class for 4-H members or \$3 per class for non-members. To pre-register, call Cynthia at 436-1153 or Lawrence at 436-9476.

Head Start accepts applications for 2000-2001

TWIN FALLS - Twin Falls

South Central Head Start is accepting applications for the program year 2000-2001, for children who will be 3- or 4-year-olds by Sept. 1, 2000.

The program is a low-income family service program that provides a preschool opportunity for children and home visits that focus on growth and enrichment for the parents, organizers say.

The program is provided at no cost to the families. Preference will be given to 4-year-olds with the lowest income.

Head Start Centers are located in Twin Falls, Buhl, Jerome, Shoshone, Hailey, Burley, American Falls, Hansen and Wendell.

For more information, call South Central Head Start at 736-0741 or 1-877-736-0741, or write at 324 Second St. E., P.O. Box 1238, Twin Falls, ID 83303-1238.

Retired federal employees group plans meeting

TWIN FALLS - The National Association of Retired Federal Employees, or NARFE, will meet at 11:30 a.m. Tuesday at the Mandarin House restaurant at 705 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.

Speaker Kevin Lenot of the state park service will talk about Box Springs tours.

All retired and present federal employees are invited to attend. For more information, call 735-0364 or 735-1119.

Twin Falls Community Pool hosts open kayak night

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Community Pool will host open kayak night from 7:30-10 p.m. Tuesday at its location on Stadium Boulevard near Twin Falls High School in Twin Falls.

Admission with a kayak is \$5 at the door and River Rats will have loaner kayaks available.

For more information, call the Twin Falls Community Pool at 734-2336.

SCHOOL LUNCH

All schools serve milk with meals.

BUHL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Breakfast
Monday: Egg and cheese Muffin.
Tuesday: Pancake and sausage on a stick.
Wednesday: Biscuits and gravy.
Thursday: Donuts.
Friday: Cereal, cinnamon toast.
Lunch
Monday: Peanut butter and jelly sandwich, chips, apples, granola crackers.
Tuesday: Turkey, potatoes and gravy, corn, hot roll.
Wednesday: Pepperoni pizza, french fries, bread sticks, pineapple.
Thursday: Sloppy Joes, french fries, med-corn, cherry dessert.
Friday: Grilled cheese sandwich, vegetable soup, crackers, pickle spears, fruit.

VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Breakfast served every day.
Lunch menu
Monday: Spaghetti, meat and cheese, green beans, hot roll, peniche.
Tuesday: Soft shell taco, salsa, corn, potato wedges, fruit cobbler.
Wednesday: Open menu.
Thursday: Nachos, meat and cheese, salsa, corn, bread sticks, fruit.
Friday: No school.

CASTLEFORD

Breakfast: Milk served every day.
Monday: Donuts.
Tuesday: Pancakes.
Wednesday: Scones.
Thursday: Cinnamon rolls.
Friday: Eggs and toast.
Lunch: Self-serve salad bar every day.
Monday: Chicken nuggets.
Tuesday: Baked ham and cheese sandwiches.
Wednesday: Chili.
Thursday: Cheeseburgers.
Friday: Sack lunches.

FILER

Monday: Italian dunkers.
Tuesday: Cheeseburgers.
Wednesday: Fried chicken.
Thursday: Soup and sandwiches.
Friday: Corn dogs.

HANSEN

Breakfast: Milk served every

day.
Monday: Cereal, toast, juice.
Tuesday: Pancakes, ham, juice.
Wednesday: Yogurt, toast, juice.
Thursday: Long Johns, cereal, juice.
Friday: No school.

Monday: Pizza, green salad, fruit.
Tuesday: Lasagna, bread sticks, green salad, fruit.
Wednesday: French toast, ham, hash brown patty, fruit.
Thursday: Chicken burgers, french fries, fruit.
Friday: No school.

IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL

Lunch: Choice of white or cheddar milk each day.
Monday: Chickens-nuggets, potato planks, sliced apples and cinnamon, "prize."
Tuesday: Soup and salad bar, fruit, cinnamon rolls.
Wednesday: Pancakes and syrup, sliced ham, spudsters, cat-soup, blueberries.
Thursday: Combination pizza, veggies and dip, ice cream sundae bar.
Friday: No school.

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 nuggets, au gratin potatoes, mixed veggies, rolls, strawberry yogurt.
Tuesday: Potato bar, whole wheat rolls, carrot stick, half orange, fruit surprise.
Wednesday: Taco, salsa, corn, peach cake.
Thursday: Chicken noodle, crackers, rolls, fruit cup, cookie.
Friday: Enchiladas, whole wheat rolls, green beans, fruit jelly.

MAGIC VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL

Lunch: Choice of milk offered every day.
Monday: Chicken sandwich, fresh vegetables, ranch dip, apple, cookie.
Tuesday: Taco Bell burrito, lettuce and tomatoes, potato

wedges, fruit, cherry cude pie.
Wednesday: Pepperoni pizza, tossed green salad, fruit, bread sticks, pizza sauce.
Thursday: Ham and cheese Hot Pocket, tater tots, fruit, apple pie.
Friday: No school.

MURTAUGH SCHOOLS

Milk served with meals.
Monday: Finger steaks.
Tuesday: Turkey sandwiches, soup.
Wednesday: Beef and noodles.
Thursday: Corn dogs.
Friday: No school.

ST. EDWARD'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Monday: Park er apples.
Tuesday: Spaghetti.
Wednesday: Taco salad.
Thursday: Baja chicken.
Friday: No school.

TWIN FALLS ELEMENTARY AND JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOLS

Breakfast menu
Monday: Cereal, apple juice, wafers bread.
Tuesday: Egg, cheese and ham sandwich, orange slices.
Wednesday: Cereal, fruit, toast.
Thursday: Sausage gravy over biscuits, fruit.
Friday: No school.
Lunch: Junior highs have a choice of main line or second line menu. Salad bar, soup and sandwich bar, tater tot bar available on alternate days.

Monday: Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes and gravy, orange slices, dinner roll, ham and cheese Hot Pocket; salad bar.
Tuesday: Foot long hot dog, corn chips, fruit, cherry cude pie; steak tacos, potato bar.
Wednesday: Pizza, tossed green salad, fruit, cookie; taco bar.
Thursday: corn dog, mustard and ketchup, tater tot, fruit, fudge brownie; grilled chicken wrap; soup and sandwich bar.
Friday: No school.

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.

FOCUS ON PEOPLE

Kimberly resident earns master councilor status

Dane Johns, son of Jerry and Chris Johns of Kimberly, was installed on Jan. 15 as master councilor of the Twin Falls chapter, Order of DeMolay. Johns is a student at Kimberly High School.

Dordt College in Iowa accepts area seniors

Darlene Gaalwyk, daughter of Donald and Dianne Gaalwyk of Castleford, and Shanna Smit, daughter of Mike and Dianne Smit of Twin Falls, have been accepted at Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa, for the 2000-2001 academic year.



Sharon Dingman, Camp Rainbow Gold representative, receives a check from Clover Trinity Lutheran School students Cale Miller and Taylor Clelland.

Clover school donates to camp

BUHL - The students of Clover Trinity Lutheran School in Buhl presented a check for \$260 to Camp Rainbow Gold on Feb. 2.

The funds were raised by the students, presented through eighth-grade, through their

CSI offers school workshop

TWIN FALLS - The College of Southern Idaho presents a "Back to School" workshop from 1-4 p.m. April 14 at the Center for New Directions on the CSI campus in Twin Falls.

The workshop caters to "non-traditional" student or adults considering taking a college class or returning to school to earn a degree, college representatives say.

Participants will learn about services available at CSI, including financial aid and college procedures.

Organizers will also explore the myths regarding adults returning to college.

This free workshop is designed for any person who is considering full-time or part-time college classes and unsure of where to start or what resources are available.

Participants are asked to pre-

register.
For more information or to pre-register, call 733-9554, Ext. 2680, or 1-800-680-0274, Ext. 2680.

Robert F. Lindberg, M.D.
Diploma American Board of Orthopaedic Surgeons
Fellow American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons
Member American Orthopaedic Foot & Ankle Society

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Ketchum & Gooding Practice
General Orthopaedics
Foot & Ankle Surgery

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Gooding Co. Memorial Hospital
call 208-733-1959
or 800-881-5680
Kitchum office
located at the
Sun Valley Spine Institute
150 W. 1st St., Suite #103



ANNIVERSARIES

THE AMENS

RUPERT - Mr. and Mrs. Bill Amen of Rupert will be honored at an open house March 26 for their 50th wedding anniversary.

Family and friends are invited to call from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Rupert First Christian Church, 1110 Eighth St. Bring a copy of a favorite story or picture for the memory album. The couple requests no gifts.

Amen and Pearl Schenk were married March 25, 1950, in Burley.

They have resided in the Magic Valley since their marriage and have lived in Rupert for the past 26 years.

For 28 years, they have owned and operated Tots to Teens Boutique.

The event is hosted by their children, Dennis (Diane) Amen of Boise, Larry (Karon) Amen of Twin Falls, Deana South of Rupert and Cindy (Steve) Knopp of Paul.

The couple has 12 grandchildren and seven great-grandchildren.



Bill and Pearl Amen



Eric Sutton and Andrea Smith

SMITH-SUTTON

OAKLEY - Monica Smith and Dennis Smith of Oakley announce the engagement of their daughter, Andrea Jo Smith, to Eric De Sutton, son of Garth and Jolene Sutton of Archer.

Smith graduated from Oakley High School and Career Beauty College in Rexburg.

Sutton graduated from Madison High School. He is employed by Garth Sutton & Sons Farm in Archer.

The wedding is planned for Friday. A reception to honor the couple will be held from 7-10 p.m. Friday at the Oakley LDS Snake Center in Oakley. A second reception is planned from 7 to 9 p.m. Saturday at the Lyman LDS Church in Rexburg.



Anna Marie and Kenneth Jones



Phyllis and Glen Steima

She worked at various jobs throughout the Magic Valley. The event will be hosted by their seven children, Joseph, Vanita, Samuel and Patrick, all of Murtaugh, Trasha of Hansen, Michael of Kimberly and Edith of Filer.

The couple has 21 grandchildren and 22 great-grandchildren.



of Cedar Edge, Colo., and Don Steima of Bend, Ore. The couple has two grandchildren.

THE JONESES

MURTAUGH - Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth P. Jones of Murtaugh will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at an open house on March 26.

Friends and relatives are invited to call from 2 to 5 p.m. at the home of their daughter, Vanita, at 3477 N. 4500-E. in Murtaugh. The couple requests no gifts.

Jones and Anna Marie Fisher Leeper were married March 24, 1950, in Twin Falls.

He worked for John Deere as baler man until his retirement.

THE STELMAS

BELLEVUE - Mr. and Mrs. Glen Steima of Bellevue will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary today.

Steima and Phyllis Ivie were married March 19, 1950, in Bellevue, and have since resided in the Wood River Valley.

He worked in farming during his earlier years, and in construction for the last 30 years throughout southern Idaho.

She owned and operated Phyllis's Beauty Shop in Bellevue until her retirement in 1992.

Their children are Glenda Ryan and Dan Steima, both of Underwood, Wash., Phil Steima

Pretty ducks have healthy ducklings

Good-looking males produce the healthiest families, at least if you're a duck. A study by Cambridge University scientists concluded that female mallard ducks laid bigger eggs if they mated with attractive male ducks than with unattractive ones. "In many different animals, attractive males often father healthier offspring than other males. It was presumed this was because they have 'good genes,' which they pass on to offspring," the team reported. "But our study has shown it can all depend on how much the female likes her partner."

Family news you can use

laws to cover gay men and women. While only 15 percent of respondents approved of legalizing marriage between two men, and 16 percent supported it for two women, that was about 50 percent higher than four years ago, when 11 percent supported it for women and 10 percent for men.

Work isn't kids' stuff

They're your kids - you take care of them. That's what an increasing number of non-parents are saying, out loud or under their breath, about special treatment for parents in the workplace. According to a USA Weekend poll, three in five Americans believe parents get a better deal when it comes to leaving work on time, and four in 10 Americans have heard a coworker complain that parents get a break at work, in terms of schedule, responsibilities, or expectations.

Trading-card wizardry

And you thought the craze over the yellow, squeaky, tail-disabled critter was out of control. Prepare yourself for what could be the next trading-card mania: Harry Potter. Wizards of the Coast, the Hasbro-owned company responsible for the Pokemon card game, has secured the rights from Warner Bros. to create a Harry Potter game, the Seattle Times reports.

Over-Souled?

How many titles in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series do you think have been published? An Amazon.com search turned up 189 books, audio cassettes, audio

To list yours ...

Anniversary or wedding planned?

Let us know soon!

The Times-News welcomes wedding, engagement and anniversary announcements. Deadline to get them into Sunday's Family Life section is 5 p.m. on Tuesdays.

The paper is happy to publish wedding, engagement and anniversary announcements on our features pages on other days of the week as well, but we ask that you give us at least 72 hours' advance notice of the event in order to have time to get it published. And if you'd like a photograph used with the article, we can accommodate most good-quality pictures - except Polaroids. Questions? Call Ramona Jones at 733-0931, Ext. 262.

CDs, planners, etc. The books include: "Chicken Soup for the Woman's Soul," "Chicken Soup for the Christian Soul," "Chicken Soup for the College Soul," "Chicken Soup for the Country Soul," "Chicken Soup for the Couple's Soul," "Chicken Soup for the Golfer's Soul," "Chicken Soup for the Mother's Soul," "Chicken Soup for the Pet Lover's Soul," "Chicken Soup for the Unsinkable Soul," and, bless them, "Chicken Soup for the Writer's Soul."

Spring training

On a much smaller scale, there's this underlying theme to Amazon.com's list of bestselling children's books: "Captain Underpants and the Perilous Plot of Professor Poopypants," "The Adventures of Captain Underpants: An Epic Novel," and "Captain Underpants and the Attack of the Talking Toilets: Another Epic Novel."

- Compiled from wire reports.

kids with character



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ENGAGEMENTS

CROZIER-CHRISTENSEN

JEROME - Ron and Karen Crozier of Jerome announce the engagement of their daughter, Angie Lynn Crozier, to David V. Christensen, son of Dale and Jana Nalden and Van E. Christensen, all of Ririe.

Crozier is a graduate of Ricks College in Rexburg. She is employed at Southern Idaho Therapy in Jerome.

Christensen attended Ricks College. He is employed at Uintah in Idaho Falls.



Angie Crozier and David Christensen

The wedding is planned for Friday in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple.



Dasha Wilson and Nathan Swisher

WILSON-SWISHER

HANSEN - David and Linda Wilson of Hansen announce the engagement of their daughter, Dasha Autumn Wilson, to Nathan Allen Swisher, son of Eric and Lori Swisher of Idaho Falls.

Wilson is employed at Twin Falls Clinic & Hospital.

Swisher is employed by Center Partners in Idaho Falls.

The wedding is planned for May 13 at the Amazing Grace Fellowship in Twin Falls. The reception will be held at the Ballroom in Twin Falls.

ORTHMAN-SEARLE

PAUL - Layne and Donna Mae Harper of Paul announce the engagement of their daughter, Andrea Orthman, to Brett Searle, son of Scott and Gay Searle of Burley.

Orthman is a 1997 Minico High School graduate.

Searle graduated from Burley High School in 1996. He served a two-year mission in Oakland Mission for the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

The wedding is planned for Saturday with a reception from 7



Andrea Orthman and Brett Searle

to 9 that evening at the View LDS Church, 559 S. 490 E. of Burley.

Magic Valley Wedding Planning Directory

The following businesses can help make your wedding a memorable occasion.

APPAREL

Hudson's Shoes
148 Main Ave. 733-4750
Twin Falls
1239 Filer Ave. 733-6280
Twin Falls

ACCESSORIES

All About Brides (customized)
inside Candlestick Park
736 2nd Ave. N. 734-3444
Twin Falls

CATERING

First Class Catering
521 E. Main 677-3853
Burley
El Sumbro
153 W. Main 324-7238
Jerome
Homestyle Direct/Intm
Chair & Table
Catering & Rentals
Twin Falls 733-6621

FLORAL

Every Blooming Thing
266 Blue Lakes Blvd.
Twin Falls 733-8322
First Class Catering
521 E. Main 677-3853
Burley
Flowers & Weddings by Loy
2210 Tinnie Ave.
Heyburn 679-5803
The Homestead
1211 Falls Ave. E. 734-4150
Twin Falls

FORMAL WEAR

First Class Catering
521 E. Main 677-3853
Burley
Hart's Tux and Gowns
1301 Filer Ave. E. 734-8393
Twin Falls
Sweetheart Manor
Overland & 42nd St.
Burley 678-8692

GIFTS

Sav Mor Drug
1109 Main 543-4347
Burley

HEALTH/BEAUTY/HAIR

Falls Avenue Fitness Unlimited
798 Falls Ave.
Twin Falls 734-7538

HOMES

First Impressions Day Spa
113 E. Main 677-4229
Burley
Glamorous Nails by Jackie
1321 Allison Ave.
Burley 678-1306
Studio One/Lisa Hawkins
832 Blue Lakes Blvd. N.
Twin Falls 733-2321

HORSE-DRAWN CARRIAGES

Transformations Unlimited
inside Candlestick Park
736 2nd Ave. N. 734-8380
Twin Falls
Women's Fitness Unlimited
336 Main Ave. S.
Twin Falls 736-8129

INVITATIONS

First Class Catering
521 E. Main 677-3853
Burley
Wedding & Rental Shop
210 S. Main
Twin Falls 733-8838

JEWELRY

Boyer Jewelry
1838 Addison Ave. E.
Twin Falls 733-4552

LOGGING/TRAVEL

Four Ways Travel
160 2nd St. W.
Twin Falls 734-7805

LUXURY CAR RENTAL

Budget Rental
524 Airport Loop
Twin Falls 735-8698
Theisen Motors
701 Main Ave. E.
Twin Falls 733-7700

MISCELLANEOUS

The Book Plaza
230 W. 11th
Burley 678-2505
Twin Falls Sewing Center
157 Main Ave. W.
Twin Falls 733-3344

PHOTOGRAPHY

Allens Photo
105 E. Main 324-2486
Jerome



VIDEOGRAPHY

Jeff Floyd Photography
123 E. Main 324-1057
Jerome
Suzanne Portrait Design Studios
119 2nd Ave. West
Twin Falls 734-9069
616 Commercial St.
Elka, NV 753-0929

WEDDING/BRIDESMAID DRESSES

Frederickson's Candies
309 2nd St. E.
Twin Falls 733-7624

WEDDING FACILITIES

Millennium Productions Videography
328 Shoshone St. E.
Twin Falls 735-9987
Soundworks Video & Audio Pro.
518 10th Ave. E.
Jerome 324-2593

WEDDING/BRIDESMAID DRESSES

Wedding & Rental Shop
210 S. Main
Twin Falls 733-8838

WEDDING FACILITIES

Best Western Burley Inn & Convention Center
820 N. Overland Ave.
Burley 678-3501
First Class Catering
521 E. Main 677-3853
Burley
Sweetheart Manor
Overland & 42nd St.
Burley 678-8692

WEDDING FACILITIES

The Ballroom
Crescent Blvd. Shoshone & 2nd Ave.
Twin Falls 733-5313

Stay on top of your investments with the Money pages.

Phone 733-0931, ext. 219 to include your business in this directory.



SENIORS

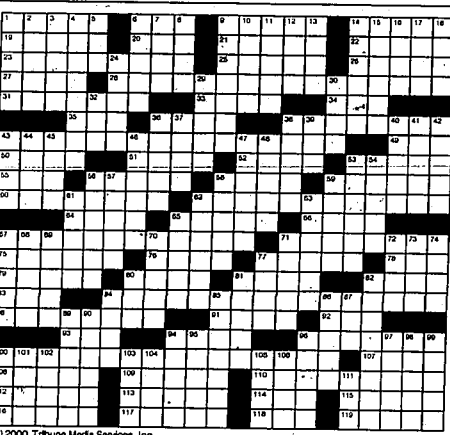
THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

FROST WARNING

By Alan P. Olinhwang, Huntington Beach, California

- ACROSS**
 1 Builder's mops
 6 Away from the pro
 9 Inebriated one
 14 Gifted
 19 Sublease a flat
 20 Last launch
 21 Ghana's capital
 22 Tapped out
 23 Start of Robert Frost quotation
 25 Like the Arctic Chukchee or Brudeker
 27 Outer banana
 28 Part 2 of the quotation
 31 Six-line stanzas
 33 Formerly, formerly
 34 North of South China, e.g.
 35 Miss, neighbor
 36 Farm measure
 38 Looking with disapproval
 43 Part 3 of the quotation
 49 Nalder's partner?
 50 "Of Mice and Men" character
 51 Nobleswoman
 52 Small bottle
 53 "It's a Wonderful Life" director
 55 Wain, neighbor
 56 Southern breakfast dish
 58 Quart for beehive
 59 Places for public discussions
 60 Rockless track
 62 Part 4 of the quotation
 64 Senryu command
 65 Martin and Rickard
 66 Opposing position
 67 Part 5 of the quotation
 71 Looks at with favor
 75 Rapp knits for rustlers
 76 Discanscorer
 77 Scatterbrained
 78 Dots on
 79 Loudness units
 80 Virginia's dance?
 81 Shore bird
 82 How my handlings went
 83 Allons's queen
 84 Part 6 of the quotation
 88 Fundraising event
 91 Goofs up
 92 Comparative ending
 93 Criminal city, briefly
 94 Night or Skye
 96 Courtship song
 100 Part 7 of the quotation
 107 Hua-Hoop actor
 108 More lit
 109 North African antelope
 110 End of the quotation
 112 Martin's partner
 114 Calvin of the PCA
 114 Memo summer
 115 Sweet, in Sovietia
 116 Dues usharing
 117 Under
 118 Rocky peak
 119 Douse toppers
 120 DOWN
 1 Makes ready, for short
 2 Embankment
 3 Fugate play, "A Lesson from"
 4 "The Heart"
 5 Act of o/dor
 7 Sucker
 8 Singer Tennille
 9 Flat coverer
 10 Flat boats
 11 Billiance
 12 Caspan fooder
 13 Unlamented
 14 Garshwin song
 15 Piano garage
 16 In know about
 17 Light gas
 18 Writer Buchanan
 19 Tennis supplement griddor
 20 Irish county
 21 On yeah, right
 22 Samuel's teacher
 36 Shakedown
 37 Sounders
 38 Claim
 39 Org. of Flyers
 40 Computer fodder?
 41 Jean Baker
 42 Lawn
 43 Skyline element
 44 Soup ingredient, perhaps
 45 Disinformation
 46 Quick flashes of light
 47 Writer Waugh
 48 Ice-cream tastes
 49 Very doc
 50 Gino's Palmer
 51 Scowls
 52 Death rattles
 53 European capital
 54 Finished, in France
 55 The closer ones
 56 Walk like a duck
 57 Another name for cage
 58 Architect Richard
 59 Alan
 60 Map in a map
 61 Nary a oach
 62 Of musical sounds
 63 Tennis coolwater
 64 Static-speaking
 65 Germans
 66 Spooker, e.g.
 67 Present starter?



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Youth battles through tough beginnings, comes out on top

Rafael, not his real name, was a slight-built boy, but tough enough at 120 pounds to play football.

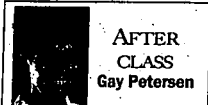
But even though he worked hard at the game, never missing a practice, always out on the field running, pushing-the-dummies around, scrimmaging - more often than not he was thrown aside by the bigger players.

Still there was not a player with more heart, more courage, more stick-to-it-wives. But his size was against him, and, in the course of a tough game, his knee was ruined by a hard side blow, and he ended up in a cast, then a brace, never to play football again.

Happily, the same spirit that propelled him to play the game continued in his everyday life. He was Hispanic, in the days when Hispanics were a tiny fraction of the school population. However there was no prejudice against him at school. Everyone liked him. He was a cut-up, a clown, fun to be around.

But his grades - ah, his grades. They left a great deal to be desired. I talked to him about it, but all I could get from him was a laugh and a joke, although he did bring me some bookends he had made in shop.

He rather shyly presented them to me, perhaps as a bit of an apology. I was touched by his gift.



AFTER CLASS
Gay Petersen

Time passed, and I needed someone to help me with some work in my yard. Rafael volunteered and turned out to be not only a fine worker, but a pleasure to be around.

And as we worked he began to trust me enough to confide in me. He told me how difficult it was for him at home - that his father was a grant who berated him for the slightest infraction.

He was never allowed to study at home. When he tried to study in his room at night his father would demand that the light be turned out. He had resorted to using a flashlight under the covers, but if his father caught him he was in for it, as usual.

Still, he had persisted, but since he also worked as a dishwasher in a restaurant after school he was very tired at night and often fell asleep, only to wake up in the middle of the night, flashlight still on and book still open.

His school work could, perhaps, have been finished during the day at school, but he was so anxious to make friends that he clowned away his time instead of pursuing good grades.

We had a good talk about how important grades might be, how important it was for him to graduate, how important it was to his life to learn skills beyond high school.

Whether or not our talks caused him to think more about an education I do not know. But I do know his clowning around lessened, and his grades improved.

He graduated and, by hard work - no help from his family - went on to higher education. He eventually got a job as a manager in a store chain - a job at which he was very successful.

He later married and became a father.

Rafael's life was exemplary. Here was a child who was able to rise above injury and a questionable environment; who, by dint of determination and hard work, became a happy and successful man, a good husband and a good father. His determination to succeed, despite his limitations, is a great example to us all and especially to those who believe they have no way out.

Hats off to the Rafaelos of the world.

May they continue to inspire us toward greater goals.

Gay Petersen is a retired teacher who lives in Wendell. Write to her at peterson@magicklink.com.

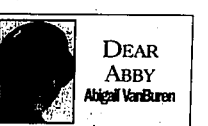
Toddler fixes youthful sights on rival for affection of his mother

DEAR ABBY: I am dating a lovely 29-year-old woman who has a 3-year-old son. We are both very much in love, but the boy is extremely unruly when I am around.

My girlfriend is getting tired of having to discipline him all the time. He misbehaves in stores and restaurants and embarrasses us both.

Frankly, it is starting to have an impact on our relationship. She says that he only acts up when I am around.

Is there anything I should do so that this doesn't destroy our relationship?
 -JASON IN GLENDALE



DEAR ABBY
Abby VanBuren

the etiquette of name placement for newly married

I have a son who went the extra mile and had HIS last name changed to his wife's. How many men do you think would be willing to do that? You wouldn't believe the red tape and disbelieving looks he got when he went through the process of having his name legally changed. It was almost as if his masculinity

He and his wife are both proudly serving our country in the U.S. Army, stationed in Fort Bragg, N.C., and I'm very proud to be the mom of two of our finest soldiers.
 -JODY HAHN, ADVANCE, MO.

DEAR JODY: Although a man changing his name to that of his wife's is unusual, it is not unheard of. I believe the practice originated in England, when men married into families that had no male heir to carry on the name. Today the "name game" has many variations. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Your advice to "Shirley B. from Roswell, N.M." about how a woman should change her name when she marries was good information - but presented only half the equation.

There are many of us men who choose to hyphenate our last names with those of our wives. As a married couple, we share our money, our home, our bed, our hearts and souls - why not our names?

For me, it was a matter of practicality. We both wanted to have the same last name and saw no reason why we shouldn't. Also, by using both names, our children could have the last name of both of us.

After my family's initial shock (which they quickly got over), the only problem I've encountered is that it's a bit awkward filling out forms with my "maiden name."

-DANIEL SAPON-BORSON, A HAPPY HYPHENATED HUSBAND IN PORTLAND

DEAR DANIEL: If this idea takes hold, creators of forms will have to change the designation to "surname or maiden name" to accommodate secure gentlemen such as yourself.

Now that women are coming into their own, it's encouraging to know that some men are willing to meet them halfway. Bless you all.

Stroke victim needs therapy

Q. My father was hospitalized in mid-February after a stroke that left him paralyzed on the left side and unable to talk. His doctors began the therapy process almost immediately and, after 10 days, began discussing discharge for continued therapy. My mother has been so upset that she does not understand what happens next or who pays for what. My father is 71, has Medicare Parts A and B, and a supplemental policy from his former employer. My parents have minimal assets and live on a fixed income. I am sending this by e-mail so that, hopefully, you can reply to us as quickly as possible.



NEXT STEPS
Jan Collins and Jan Warner

A. When a person loses bodily function, even the simplest activities become difficult. The rehabilitation process is time-consuming and can be frustrating for both the patient and family. Based on the description you give, your father will probably need physical, speech, and occupational therapies - called "PT," "ST," and "OT" - which are delivered by trained professionals in various settings.

Physical therapists use exercise and equipment to help relieve pain, maintain elasticity and increase mobility and strength. Occupational therapists teach functionally impaired individuals how to do what used to come naturally, like getting dressed. Speech therapists help those like your father who have lost the ability to speak or swallow. Assuming the best result from these therapies, your father may be able to return home; however, your family must be prepared for the potential that he may need to continue to be institutionalized. At a minimum, these therapies are needed to prevent your father from further deterioration and to preserve the functioning he has retained.

Who pays for these therapies can be a complicated issue. With certain limitations and so long as the therapy meets the "reasonable and necessary" test, Medicare will generally pay for PT, OT, and ST in the hospital, in a skilled nursing facility for up to 100 days, in the home setting under specific circumstances, and at special therapy facilities. There must be either a reasonable expectation that your father will improve or that these services are needed to maintain him and not allow him to deteriorate.

In 1997, because of billing abuses by nursing homes and rehabilitation centers that charged Medicare \$600 per hour for therapy services they contracted for \$25 per hour, Medicare placed limits on the amount that would be paid for therapy outside the hospital;

however, in 1999, these limits were removed for the years 2000 and 2001.

Because of the importance of the discharge planning process and because of the complexities of the payment issues, we urge anyone whose family member is being discharged from the hospital for therapy or rehabilitation to take an active part in the discharge planning process. Because most families will not understand all ramifications until it is too late, we believe that it is wise to include a private geriatric care manager or case manager in the planning process. This will be the wisest investment you can make.

South Carolina ETV has assisted in the production of an excellent video program about the discharge planning process, which we believe is a must for any family that finds itself in this situation. To order, send a check for \$15.95 payable to "Discharge Planning Video" to us at P.O. Box 11704, Columbia, S.C., and we will make sure you receive a copy.

Taking the NextStep: Because of numerous requests for information about wills, living trusts, and related documents, we have included some basic information at <http://www.nextsteps.net> under "Resources." You can also register to receive a complimentary weekly e-mail newsletter about the latest issues affecting the elderly and disabled.

Jan Collins is a writer and editor. Jan Warner is a matrimonial, tax and elder-law attorney. Both are based in Columbia, S.C.

How retirement benefits are calculated

Q. My husband and I anticipate an early retirement. I'm wondering about the impact of several years of reduced earnings before I can claim my Social Security benefits. Are the benefits calculated upon the last 10 years of earnings or over a longer period? A Social Security retirement benefits are calculated using your highest 35 years of work.

Philippines. Can I have my Social Security checks directly deposited to a local bank in the Philippines?
 A. No. International direct deposit, or IDD, is not currently available in the Philippines. However, Social Security is rapidly adding new countries to our IDD partners. You may want to check with us again in the future.

To determine if direct deposit is available in the country where you live or expect to live in the future, contact the nearest U.S. Embassy or consulate or U.S. Social Security office or write to the Social Security Administration, P.O. Box 17769, Baltimore, Md. 21235-7769, USA.
 This column was prepared by the Social Security Administration. For fast answers to specific Social Security questions, contact Social Security toll-free at 800-772-1213.

Take a break
 Check out Family Life Sundays in The Times-News

Knowing we're a lot like you. That's Community!
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