

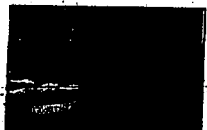


GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy with scattered showers probable. High, 60. Low, 43. Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY



Young scribes: Students at Halley's Silver Creek Alternative School helped award-winning author Ridley Pearson turn one of his detective novels into a movie screenplay. Page B4

Power: The Galena Advisory Committee is considering a fuel cell to provide economical, eco-friendly electrical power to its cross-country ski lodge. Page B4

HEALTH & FASHION

Are they necessary? They're still the second-most common major surgery in the United States, but more surgeons and patients are having second thoughts about hysterectomies. Page A5

SPORTS



Ice Dreams: The road to the Stanley Cup enters its unpreempted week of action on the frozen field. Page B1

OPINION

10U: All taxpayers benefit from understanding which taxes hit their wallets hardest, a guest editorial says. Page A10

SECTION BY SECTION

- Section A Opinion ...10-11
- Weather ...2
- Nation ...3
- Idaho/West ...4
- Features ...5-7
- Dear Abby ...8
- Morning break ...8
- Movies ...8
- Crossword ...8
- Comics ...9

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Protests fail to shut down IMF



Demonstrators protest against the World Bank and International Monetary Fund in Washington Sunday.

Committee calls for faster debt relief for poorest countries

Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON — The International Monetary Fund's governing committee on Sunday called for faster debt relief for the world's poorest countries, but took little note of the thousands of noisy protesters in the streets calling for abolition of the global lending agency.

The IMF's International Monetary and Finance Committee, which includes 24 nations but is dominated by the world's seven largest industrial powers, concluded its spring session with a call for continuing gradual reform of its lending poli-

D.C. police learn from protests in Seattle — A3

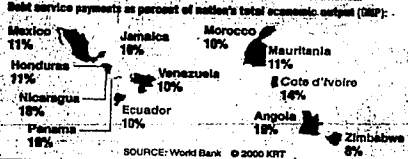
cies for nations undergoing financial crises. The move toward a "new financial architecture" began in the wake of the 1997-98 Asian financial crisis, when the IMF's initial response was widely seen as flawed.

But at the same time, the IMF governing body rejected proposals to sharply limit the fund's ability to demand structural reforms of the economies of countries that seek its help.

Liberal critics, like many of the thousands who came to demonstrate during the weekend meeting, say IMF adjustment policies have harmed the poor. Conservative critics, including many in the U.S. Congress, have proposed narrowing the circum-

Struggling nations deep in debt

The poor debtor nations — those that use much of their wealth to pay interest on their foreign debt — are concentrated in Africa and Latin America.



stances under which the IMF would be allowed to bail out failing economies.

"The way forward to reducing poverty around the world is not to advocate turning our back on the global economy," said Gordon Brown, Britain's finance

minister, "but to strengthen international cooperation."

The loudest protests in the streets attacked the IMF and World Bank's initiative to provide debt relief to 40 of the

Please see IMF, Page A2

NEGOTIATIONS FALTER



Ketchum resident Helen Kolough owns 44 acres next to Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. The hospital would like to purchase the land to expand the facility.

MVRMC tries to strike deal for land

By Jay Howser
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — An expensive project to expand Magic Valley Regional Medical Center vertically might not be necessary if officials can purchase some open land just north of the facility. Officials at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center have been eyeing the 44 acres of land owned by Ketchum resident Helen Kolough for many years. After sharp increases in patient volume over the past decade convinced hospital officials they needed to expand the facility right away, they made Kolough an offer in December to buy the entire plot at a rate consistent with an unofficial appraisal done last May.

It was an offer Kolough said she

Hospital needs to expand, and building upward would cost millions more

to refuse. She said the offer of \$1.22 to \$1.46 million was simply too low. In 1989, eight acres of the land was appraised for \$1.9 million. She said she won't sell the land until she's offered a fair price.

"I don't think anybody who knows anything about land would sell all that land for that. I don't think they would even consider it," Kolough said.

Kolough admits she doesn't really know exactly how much the land is worth. She said the figure should account for at least some appreciation since 1989, but the price was not her only concern about the most recent proposal.

Turning over the entire 44 acres of land was not something she and her late husband Fred over intended to do. The Koloughs wanted to relinquish some property to the hospital, but only the land between Rock Creek Canyon and Martin Street south of Heyburn Ave.

"It really seemed to us that this property should one day belong to the hospital. That was always our plan," she said. "I just would like a fair price for it."

Kolough said she is too emotionally attached to give up the entire 44 acres she acquired bit by bit over the last 50 years. Her property now extends all the way

to Filer Avenue.

"It would be just like cutting out my heart. I'm just not ready for that," Kolough said. "When you own something, to get rid of it you have to be ready to do that. This [land] is meaningful to me. This is Fred's and my life."

The parties have also been unable to agree on some plan to turn over the land in phases, she said.

Kolough's stance leaves hospital officials with their hands tied, said Chief Executive Officer Jerry Hart. He said expansion is an absolute necessity at this point and must begin soon — with or without Kolough's land.

"We just don't have the luxury of taking a long period of time to negotiate anything," Hart said. "We're either going to become an

Please see LAND, Page A2

ON A ROLL

Environmentalists threaten lawsuit over INEEL facility

By N.S. Nokkentved
Times-News writer

SCOVILLE — Flush from the victory of halting a proposed radioactive waste incinerator in eastern Idaho, two environmental groups have threatened a lawsuit over another radioactive waste treatment plant.

The Environmental Defense Institute of Troy and Keep Yellowstone Nuclear Free of Jackson, Wyo., say operating a liquid radioactive waste treatment plant at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory violates federal environmental law.

The two groups sent Energy Secretary Bill Richardson and INEEL Manager Beverly Cook a 60-day notice of intent to sue if the plant is not shut down. The notice is a legally required precursor to filing a suit.

The plant — known as the New Waste Calcine Facility — has operated 18 years without federal hazardous waste permits, the two groups said. The state now has given INEEL until June 1 to apply for a permit to shut down the plant, the notice says.

"The calciner is an incinerator that burns deadly liquid high-level radioactive waste left over from a process that dissolved

Please see INEEL, Page A2

Birth parents resent records being opened

Chicago Tribune

LOS ANGELES — It has been almost two decades since Cindy gave birth to a daughter, the product of a violent rape that still haunts her with memories that sometimes jolt her awake at night.

In those nearly 20 years, Cindy, the only name she would allow to be used, has gone on to marry and rear five children, and she has no desire to have that daughter she surrendered to adoption enter her life.

Yet in a number of states, new laws supporting adoptees seeking their birth records could deny Cindy and other women like her the anonymity they want.

New laws in Tennessee, Delaware and Oregon and pending changes in at least four other states give people who were adopted the right to petition for their original birth certificates, Please see ADOPTION, Page A2

Stock investors brace for trading, stay positive

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — If there was a glimmer of good news in Friday's catastrophic stock market sell-off, it came in the final hour of trading.

The Dow Jones industrial average, down more than 700 points in late afternoon, clawed about 100 points higher by 4 p.m. when the closing bell rang at the New York Stock Exchange.

"The close was vitally important," said Gary Kalbaum, chief technical analyst at J.W. Genesis Securities in Boca Raton, Fla. "For several days, we saw selling peak in the last hour as major institutional investors just got

World markets fall in early trading today — A12

out of the way."

On Friday, the institutional investors appeared to be responsible for the late-hour upturn. That very modest move higher could have been a sign that after the worst week in Wall Street history, investors are ready to return to search of bargains, some market analysts said. But others aren't as certain investors will be ready to jump back in.

The Dow industrials lost a record 805.71 points, or 7.3 percent, last week, while the Nasdaq

It's not a funeral. But it is a crisis.

— Jim Griffin, Aetelus Investment Management

composite index shed a record 1,125.16 points, or 25.3 percent.

Past market dips have given a nation mad for stock investing the chance to buy highly regarded stocks at more-affordable prices. Bargain-hunting investors were largely responsible for lifting the market out of

steep corrections in 1997 and 1998.

But last week, buyers were hard to find. The utter lack of enthusiasm left some analysts pessimistic about the market's chances come Monday.

"It's not a funeral. But it is a crisis," said Jim Griffin, chief investment strategist at Aetelus Investment Management in Hartford, Conn.

The market faces several potential roadblocks to a Monday morning advance. For one thing, margin calls, which contributed to the steep declines of the past two weeks, could draw more money from the market.

D.C. cops learn from WTO protests

Police use force, diplomacy against trade protesters

Chicago Tribune

WASHINGTON — Drawing lessons from last year's violent World Trade Organization protests in Seattle, the Washington police used a deft blend of force and diplomacy Sunday to frustrate demonstrators intent on shutting down the spring meeting of the International Monetary Fund.

The Seattle police had been criticized for responding too late and with too much force to demonstrators' tactics that succeeded in blocking delegate access to the WTO meeting. Washington Metropolitan Police Chief Charles Ramsey, a former top official in the Chicago police department, was intent on avoiding a similar fate.

Even before the Washington protests began in earnest, the police conducted crackdowns that were swift, harsh and intimidating. The police late Saturday night arrested 600 protesters and closed their headquarters as a fire hazard. But statesmanship was on display, too. With protesters filling downtown streets on Sunday, Ramsey personally took command at barricades where demonstrators and police officers appeared ready to clash. He



A police officer chases a world finance demonstrator Sunday in Washington, D.C. Hundreds of anti-globalization protesters took to the streets, chanting and sitting down in intersections.

defused at least one faceoff where the police had already donned gas masks in anticipation of a confrontation.

The protests could still spiral out of control Monday when the governing body of the World Bank meets and the city's streets

are again clogged with weekday traffic. But on Sunday, at least, the 10,000 protesters failed in their pledge to shut down the meetings.

Unlike in Seattle, where protesters prevented delegates from attending the opening session, the

demonstrators in Washington were felled by adroit planning by IMF officials. Aware of protesters' plans to set up human barricades at 6 a.m. to block streets around the meeting site, police escorted busloads of delegates to the buildings around 5 a.m.

Drug czar calls for more intensive treatment effort

The Baltimore Sun

BALTIMORE — On the well-trodden paths of the national drug debate, Barry R. McCaffrey likes to surprise his audiences, undermining stereotypes and shattering assumptions.

He tells them, for instance, that the rate of illegal drug use among African Americans under 30 is lower than that of white Americans that casual drug use peaked in 1979, when 14 percent of Americans used an illegal drug (during the most recent month), compared to 6 percent currently.

He informs them that the United States consumes less than 1 percent of the heroin produced in the world. Pakistan has more than twice as many heroin addicts. That, in his opinion, "the worst drug ever to come to the United States" is not heroin or crack cocaine but methamphetamine, which has become the dominant drug of abuse in many U.S. cities.

In a nation with little enthusiasm for spending tax dollars on drug addicts, he has become the nation's most prominent advocate for treatment.

McCaffrey said that he long ago watched a huge community become devastated by drug abuse and then bounce back to nearly eradicate the problem. That was the U.S. Army, where he served for 36 years and achieved the rank of four-star

general before President Clinton appointed him director of the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy four years ago.

"I've had four combat tours," McCaffrey told the Baltimore Sun recently. "I've never seen greater suffering in warfare than I've seen in substance abuse in this country."

McCaffrey, 57, is far from a drug libertarian. He has pushed hard recently for military aid to the government of Colombia for its fight against drug-running guerrillas. He opposes needle-exchange programs and roundly rejects the idea of drug decriminalization. He argues that such talk is pernicious, partly because it mutes the anti-drug message to middle-school children, whose behavior will determine the future of drug abuse.

But in other ways, McCaffrey has defied the natural expectations that face a general who becomes drug czar. When New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani last year astonished drug-abuse experts by saying he wanted to phase out methadone programs, McCaffrey took him on.

McCaffrey has pushed to move methadone from restricted status in heavily policed programs into the mainstream of medicine. New federal regulations proposed in July would make it easier for stable methadone patients to receive take-home supplies of the drug from their doctors.

Clinton, Gore hit fund-raiser

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Al Gore touted Internet access as an antidote to inner-city woes Saturday before collecting millions of dollars for Democrats at a star-studded Beverly Hills dinner with President Clinton — their first joint appearance in more than four months.

Clinton praised the man who seeks to succeed him as "the most qualified person in my lifetime, I believe, to seek this job."

Gore too showered his boss with compliments and said he wanted to carry on his legacy. "As I'm out there running now, the wind at my back is that people think we're heading in the right direction."

The vice president attended the unveiling of the first "cyber cafe" in the South-Central Los Angeles area, praising it as a step in closing the so-called digital divide.

"It will help connect the citizens of central Los Angeles with the worlds of knowledge and discovery and commerce that too often seem worlds away," Gore told hundreds of listeners at a brain-storming session on revitalizing poor neighborhoods. He was introduced as "an honorary black man" to the crowd, made up most-



President Clinton and Vice President Al Gore, left, visit with music mogul and founder of Dreamworks SKG, David Geffen late Saturday during a Democratic fund-raiser in Beverly Hills, Calif.

ly of minorities. "If you don't as a child gain access to this technology and a familiarity with working with it, you're going to be less able to excel at the endeavors that rely on that technology later on," he said. Poor young people are far less likely to have that technology at home than other children, he said.

It was primarily young people surfing the World Wide Web when Gore visited the Inner-City Cyber Cafe, and he looked over their shoulders while they did so. "It's kind of fun, isn't it?" Gore asked 9-year-old Cameron Gardine, who surfed apparently oblivious to the news microphones dangling over his head.

Governors protest tax-free internet

The Washington Post

When 36 governors sent a letter to congressional leaders last week asking them to reject the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce, the name of the governor of Texas was notably absent.

The letter, organized by Utah Gov. Mike Leavitt, R, warned Congress that the commission's recommendations to keep the Internet free of taxes threatened traditional retailers. Those privileges, the letter said, not only would erode the tax bases of states and cities, threatening funding for schools and roads, but also would trample on the Constitution's guarantee of state sovereignty.

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Gore tweaks enviro book

WASHINGTON (AP) — The book that critics say made Al Gore green with envy and extremism is being recycled in the midst of his presidential election campaign, and he's not backing down from the views that give Republicans almost a decade of ammunition.

Indeed, in a new introduction Gore tells opponents "let me save you the trouble of reading the entire

book" and points them to the pages where he advocates the elimination of the internal combustion engine, bread and butter of the U.S. auto industry, in 25 years.

"It is possible, it needs to be done; it will create jobs, not destroy jobs," writes the vice president and Democratic presidential candidate. "I'm proud that I wrote those words in 1992, and I reaffirm them today."

Elián's father rips Miami relatives

MIAMI (AP) — Elián González's father lashed out at his Miami relatives on Sunday, accusing them of "child abuse" for turning his son against him and insisting that the 6-year-old boy wants to return to Cuba.

With the boy's fate still before federal judges, Juan Miguel González said on CBS' "60 Minutes" that he didn't believe a video taped at the relatives' home in which his son said he didn't want to go.

"This boy," González said. He also accused the relatives of manipulating his son to believe that his mother still may show up someday — in this country. "He hasn't had time to mourn for and feel for the death of his mother," González said.

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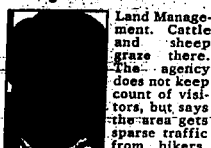
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IDAHO/WEST

Babbitt eyes Great Rift

Secretary might close area to development

ARCQ (AP) — The Great Rift south of this small town is a geologic wonderland, sharing characteristics with the nearby Craters of the Moon National Monument...



Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt

Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt is scheduled to visit the 62-mile area and discuss whether it is worthy of higher federal protection...

Ahern. "The secretary said he's heard about this place and wanted to go out there all his life."

Under the 1906 Antiquities Act, the president can establish monuments on federal land to protect "objects of scientific and historic interest" without congressional approval.

Completes for Friday Signed by the governor

SB1365 (Health and Welfare) — Expands residential living assistance opportunities for handicapped...

HB669 (Revenue and Taxation) — Creates a \$50 million Idaho Safe Communities Loan Program...

HB690 (Revenue and Taxation) — Requires appraisal of school district property before disposal.

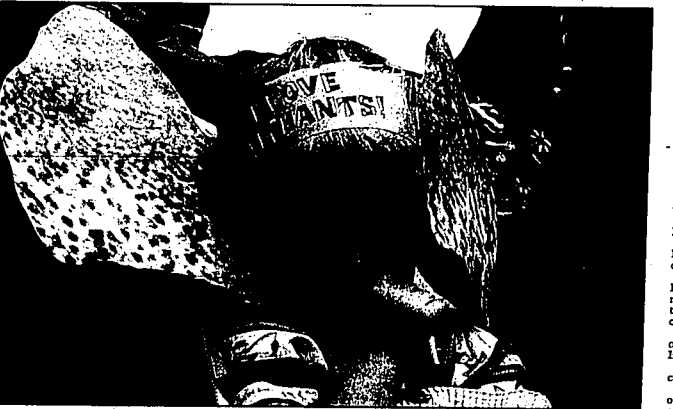
Utah county won't join road suit

DUCHESENE, Utah (AP) — Duchesne County commissioners are reluctant to join a pending state lawsuit that seeks to prevent the federal government from closing some dirt roads on public lands.

Utah counties to resolve the custody of 5,000 dirt roads. The dispute arose after Congress repealed Revised Statute 2477 in 1976...

(rights of way filings), and I think they would be agreeable to doing that with us," Ross said. "If the BLM has the ability to sit down with the county and agree on the rights of way with perpetuity...

MY, WHAT BIG EARS YOU HAVE!



Zachary Stuart, 3, waits to catch a glimpse of Portland's prairie pachyderm, Packy, during the elephant's birthday festivities in Portland, Saturday. Packy, who was celebrating his 38th birthday, was the first elephant born in the western hemisphere in 44 years when he was born April 24, 1962.

Ed board to consider new standards

BOISE (AP) — The state's elementary schoolchildren could face more testing and extra instruction as a result of standards under consideration by the State Board of Education.

ers' plan to establish what students should know and be able to do from kindergarten through 12th grade. Idaho employers and colleges pushed lawmakers to develop the standards because many students graduating from high school have not mastered basic education skills essential for success in higher education and the workplace.

tion's long-held system of defining a good education by the classes students take will be replaced by measuring the knowledge students possess.

Preston places in Academic Decathlon

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Katy Taylor High School won the large-school division of the U.S. Academic Decathlon on Sunday, its second national title in the last four years.

converged on Trinity University and San Antonio College on Thursday to begin a grueling, 10-category contest.

In the medium-school division, Weymouth High School, Massachusetts won top honors, followed by Eisenhower Senior High from Oklahoma...

HB699 (Revenue and Taxation) — Exempts some Commission of Pardons and Parole reports from public disclosure.

HB524 (Transportation and Defense) — Revises terms for Arts Commission members.

HB573 (Health and Welfare) — Clarifies responsibility for paying for indigent health care.

HB773 (Appropriations) — Allocates \$6.6 million for 2001 operation of the Idaho State Zoo.

HB773 (Appropriations) — Allocates \$25.3 million for 2001 operations of the Department of Self-Governing Agencies.

HB773 (Appropriations) — Allocates \$50.5 million for 2001 operations of the Division of Professional-Technical Education.

HB751 (Appropriations) — Allocates \$7.6 million for 2001 operation of the Department of Self-Governing Agencies.

HB754 (Appropriations) — Allocates \$2.5 million for 2001 operation of the Division of Financial Management.

HB773 (Appropriations) — Allocates \$15.8 million for 2001 operations of the community colleges.

HB773 (Appropriations) — Allocates \$50.5 million for 2001 operations of the Division of Professional-Technical Education.

HB773 (Appropriations) — Allocates \$119.0 million for 2001 operations of the Department of Agriculture.

HB773 (Appropriations) — Allocates \$36.8 million for 2001 operations of the Department of Environmental Quality.

The Times-News

A few raptors shy of a full tank

If you've been to a gas station lately, you have no doubt been shocked by the prices: \$1.67, \$1.78, even \$1.92. And that's just for Hess's Twinkies. Gas prices are even worse.

Americans are ticked off about this, and with good reason: Our rights are being violated! The First Amendment clearly states: In addition to freedom of speech, "Americans shall always have low gasoline prices, so they can drive around in sport utility vehicles the size of minor league stadiums."

And don't let any so-called "economists" try to tell you that foreigners pay more for gas than we do. Foreigners use "exotic" gas, which is sold in foreign units called "kilometers," plus they are paying for it with foreign currencies such as the "franc," the "lira" and the "dubloon." So in fact there is no mathematical way to tell WHAT they are paying.

But here in the U.S. we are definitely getting messed over, and the question is: Why are we going to do about it? Step one, of course, is to file a class-action lawsuit against the cigarette companies. They have nothing to do with gasoline, but juries really hate them, so we'd probably win several hundred billion dollars.

But that is a short-term answer. To truly solve this problem, we must understand how the oil business works. Like most American companies, they probably think that gasoline comes from the pump at the gas station. Ha! What an idiot. In fact, the gasoline comes from a place called UNDER the gas station. These tanks are connected to underground pipelines, which carry large oil tankers filled with oil from the Middle East.

But how did the oil get in the Middle East in the first place? To answer that question, we must go back millions of years, to an era that geologists call the Varian Period, when giant dinosaurs roamed the Earth, eating everything that stood in their path, except for broccoli, which they hated. And then one fateful day (Oct. 8), a runaway asteroid, believed by scientists to be nearly twice the diameter of the late Orson Welles, slammed into the Earth and killed the dinosaurs. By sheer bad luck all happened to be standing right where it landed.

The massive impact turned the dinosaurs, which were made of chitin, into oil; this oil was then gradually covered with a layer of sand, which in turn was gradually covered by a layer of people who hate each other, and thus the Middle East was formed.

For many years, the Middle East was content to supply the United States with oil at a price called "fair constitutional prices." But then the major oil-producing nations - Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait and Texas - got all in a huff and organized an organization called OPEC, which stands for "North Atlantic Treaty Organization." In the 1970s, OPEC decided to raise its prices, and soon the United States was caught in a real energy crisis: The Disco Era. It was horrible. You couldn't go to a bar or wedding reception without being ordered onto the dance floor to learn "The Hustle."

At the same time, we also had an oil crisis, which was caused by the fact that every motorist in the United States was determined to keep his or her automobile gas tank completely filled at all times. As soon as your gas gauge dropped from a "Full" to "Fifteen percent," you'd rush to a gas station and get in a huge line with hundreds of other motorists who also had nearly full tanks.

So anyway, the oil crisis finally ended, and we were all rid of our Volkswagen Rabbits and replaced them with Chevrolet Suburbans boasting the same fuel economy as the World War II era. Now, once again, we find ourselves facing rising gas prices, and the question is: This time, are we going to learn from the past? Are we finally going to get serious about energy conservation?

Of course not! We have the brains of mealworms! So we need to get more oil somehow. As far as I can figure, there is only one practical way to do this. That's right: We need to clone more dinosaurs. We have the technology, as was shown in two blockbuster movies, "Jurassic Park" and "Jurassic Park Returns with Exactly the Same Plot." Once we have the dinosaurs, all we need to do is put an oil rig in a suitable, nearby location.

If this plan makes sense to you, double your medication dosage, then write your congressman. Do it now! That way you'll be busy when a 150-ton tank



HUMOR Dave Barry

SECOND THOUGHTS

Doctors consider more closely whether to perform hysterectomy

By Joan Bean
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Hysterectomies were often done unnecessarily in the past.

Dr. David Allen, a Twin Falls physician who specializes in obstetrics and gynecology, said as recently as 20 years ago surgical removal of the uterus was far too common.

"It used to be just about to the point where if you are finished with children and if you tell your doctor you want it done - it's done," he said. "But that never was right."

Now, there has to be a good reason to remove a uterus, Allen said - because of bleeding, for example, or uterine or cervical cancer, or sometimes to alleviate pain.

But there are still about 570,000 done in the United States every year, making it the second-most commonly performed major surgery. That's down from a peak of 724,000 in 1985.

Probably the most common cause is abnormal bleeding that doesn't respond to drugs. A lot of bleeding problems can be treated with birth-control pills or other medications, and even surgery is required if it may not be a hysterectomy.

Ablation, which is a procedure that cauterizes the inside of the uterine wall, is one option. And there is also a balloon that is blown up inside the uterus that coagulates the area and controls the bleeding. It's like cauterizing, but less painful and not quite as effective.

"This works well, but a lot of women when they are bleeding and the medicine hasn't worked and they're facing surgery, and you give them the options between less invasive like the endometrial ablation or the balloon therapy or a hysterectomy - hysterectomy is always going to



Terri Koch, director of surgical services at the Twin Falls Clinic and Hospital, stands in front of an operating table used for hysterectomies, the second-most commonly performed major surgery in the United States.

work - for bleeding anyway, most of them don't want the others," Allen said.

These procedures have between a 60 and 80 percent success rate, he said. Many women choose the sure thing.

If she wants to have more children, of course, none of these procedures are an alternative. Consulting, whether with a balloon or ablation, would likely render her sterile.

Bleeding isn't always life-threatening, Allen said, unless a woman is very anemic and clearly needs help.

"Bleeding every day - day in and day out and even though you're not anemic, you're missing

work and school," he said. "It's not like it used to be 100 years ago - we had to just put up with that."

Fibroids, which are benign tumors, are the most common cause for this bleeding. They tend to grow, and if they get large enough there can be very erratic heavy bleeding.

There's also a condition called hyperplasia, which is a thickening of the uterine lining. This can be pre-cancerous.

Testing will show whether the particular cell type looks suspicious, and in that case hysterectomy is usually recommended. But if the cell type appears benign, the patient might get by with just dilation and curettage - a pro-

cedure that dilates the cervix and scrapes the intrauterine cavity - or with medication.

"In menopausal women we worry about hyperplasia more," Allen said. They shouldn't be getting hyperplasia in menopause, because the estrogen from the ovaries is gone.

A hysterectomy is sometimes done to alleviate pelvic pain. But Allen says it doesn't always do the trick.

"We try a million things, but if they all fail and we really think it probably is the uterus and we do it, it usually works," he said.

Times-News correspondent Joan Bean can be reached at 733-0830.

How the surgery is performed

By Joan Bean
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - There are two kinds of hysterectomies, abdominal and vaginal. Which a woman gets depends in part of the skill of her surgeon.

Dr. David Allen, a Twin Falls obstetrician and gynecologist, said if the surgeon doesn't know how to do a vaginal hysterectomy, then he or she will go through the abdominal wall. If the surgeon can do both, the size of the uterus is the deciding factor.

"If it's too big it's very difficult to remove vaginally," he said. "And when you really have to struggle, then you have more risk of bleeding and it's much safer to remove it abdominally."

Allen said 90-95 percent of hysterectomies he does are vaginal. There's less bleeding and infection, and a shorter recovery time. And patients usually go home the next day, as opposed to three days after the abdominal surgery.

"There's no advantage to sparing the cervix," he said, and the patient can still get cervical cancer.

The uterus is attached to side wall of the pelvis and there are many large blood vessels on either side. Removing the uterus is a matter of clamping each vessel and tying it, going up in step-wise fashion, cutting the supports to the uterus, but leaving the ovaries - unless they too are to be taken out, Allen said.

If the woman is 45 or older, the ovaries are usually removed too - but this is not done without carefully explaining all the benefits either way.

In menopausal women, Allen said the ovaries should go during hysterectomy.

Please see SURGERY, Page A7

work - for bleeding anyway, most of them don't want the others," Allen said.

These procedures have between a 60 and 80 percent success rate, he said. Many women choose the sure thing.

If she wants to have more children, of course, none of these procedures are an alternative. Consulting, whether with a balloon or ablation, would likely render her sterile.

Bleeding isn't always life-threatening, Allen said, unless a woman is very anemic and clearly needs help.

"Bleeding every day - day in and day out and even though you're not anemic, you're missing

Prognosis improves in cancer war

Los Angeles Times

Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer among women worldwide, trailing only tumors of the breast. But if a growing coalition of researchers has its way, the insidious disease should fall out of the top 10 within the next two decades and could eventually drop completely off physicians' radar screens.

Every year, cervical cancer strikes nearly half a million women in the United States, and about 200,000 women a year die of the disease. But the bottom line, public health authorities say, is that the vast majority of those deaths are unnecessary.

Cervical cancer is caused by a virus called human papilloma virus, or HPV. New technologies

To learn more...

For more information about cervical cancer and HPV testing, visit: <http://www.cervicalscreening.com>, <http://www.nccco.org> and <http://www.digene.com>.

Source: Los Angeles Times

for detecting that virus have made it relatively easy to diagnose cervical cancer at its earliest stages, when the disease is virtually 100 percent curable.

These new tests, some of which can even be conducted by women themselves, could bring cervical cancer screening to large areas of the world where women now receive little or no gynecological care.

Perhaps even more important,

researchers have recently begun testing vaccines against HPV that hold the promise of eliminating most cases of cervical cancer by preventing infection.

"Cervical cancer can be the good-news story in our battle against cancer," said Dr. Omega Logan Silva, president-elect of the American Medical Women's Association. "This disease is preventable."

The first inroad against cervical cancer occurred six decades ago when Dr. George Papanicolaou developed the Pap smear, in which cells from the cervix are removed with a swab and examined under a microscope. Abnormal cells indicate the presence of either cancer or dysplasia, a precancerous condition that normally leads to cancer.

Is there a better way?

The Washington Post

A study of nearly 500 women in the field and in the mid-1990s found that 70 percent of the surgeries did not meet a level of care recommended by experts in the field and that the surgeries had been recommended inappropriately. None of the women had the surgery because of cancer or emergency health problems.

Researchers found that the patients generally had not gone through adequate diagnostic evaluation and had not tried alternative treatments before having a hysterectomy.

• What's new: This study compares actual physician practice

with criteria established by two expert panels that seeks to identify when patients should be recommended for a hysterectomy.

• Caveat: The authors note that even if the proper procedures had been followed, some of these women very likely would have still been recommended for a hysterectomy. The study also was unable to identify women who did not get a hysterectomy when one was warranted.

• Bottom line: Women and their physicians should consider all alternatives to hysterectomy and use appropriate testing before going forward with surgery.

• Find this study: The February Obstetrics & Gynecology, page 199.

Here's some creative gift ideas for Mother's Day

It's not too soon to think about Mother's Day. A few terrific gift suggestions:

- You've probably seen ads for Or-Lite and wondered whether it was worth the cost. I will testify to its high quality and TrueColor clarity. It's the ideal illumination for any activity that requires precise color selection, but it's also great for anybody who does needlework or crafts involving detailed work. There are several models - a compact portable, two flexible clamp-on lamps and a sleek floor model.
- Or-Lites are widely available in fabric, craft and office supply stores, as well as catalogs. Suggested retail prices range from \$39.95 to \$150.
- A good small gift for anyone who sews is the new invention by Judy Apple of Ypsilanti, Mich. The Needleie is a compact vinyl caddy for new and used machine needles. It can store up to 12 new plastic needle cases and you can sort your used needles in a special grid by type and size. You no longer have to sift through scattered needles and strain to read

SEWING

Barbara Gash

the tiny identifying markings on them. There's also a way to tag the needle you're currently using in the machine.

The Needle Pack, \$14.95, is in stores and catalogs, or order directly from Sewing Notions Inc. at 800-334-4241 anytime or <http://www.sewingnotions.com>.

• Electric scissors, made by Dritz, are back on the market. These are industrial quality, performing better than ever with a new ergonomic design to help reduce wrist and hand strain. Although lightweight, they can cut paper, leather and multiple layers of fabric quickly.

The \$75 electric scissors are available at local quilt shops, Hancock Fabrics and through the Keepsake Quilting catalog, 800-865-9458 anytime or <http://www.keepsakequilting.com>.

Barbara Gash writes about sewing for The Detroit Free Press. Write to her at The Free Press, P.O. Box 826, Detroit, Mich. 48231, or send e-mail to compuser@root.com.

Insurance plans often say no

Six out of 10 doctors report that health insurance plans refuse at least once a month to cover the cost of drugs they prescribe for patients. And many doctors believe that denial of coverage for medication, tests, hospitalization or referral to specialists has had negative consequences for their patients. These findings are included in a survey of 1,053 physicians conducted last year by Kaiser Family Foundation and the Harvard School of Public Health. Twenty-six percent of the doctors said that in the past two years they had "often" or "sometimes" exaggerated the severity of a patient's condition to get medically necessary care for the patient.

Don't clean your plate

Resist the temptation to enlist your children in the Clean-Plate Club, Pennsylvania State University researchers recommend. Encouraging them to eat everything in front of them, especially when serving large portions, appears to undermine a child's natural ability to stop eating when full. As a result of parental prodding to eat more, kids may learn to disregard internal hunger cues and respond instead to so-called environmental food triggers - like the mound of food on their plates. When 5-year-olds were given one cup of

Health notes

macaroni and cheese to eat for lunch, they typically consumed one-third of it, or 186 calories. But when they were served two cups of macaroni and cheese, they boosted their intake to 417 cups, or 258 calories - nearly a 40 percent increase in calories.

Strong scents of family

Your mother nose you better than anyone else. Cornell University researchers say they have confirmed what scientists have long believed - that mothers can smell their young using what is commonly called the "armpit effect." Studies have suggested that animals - including humans - can detect pheromones, which are compounds that, while not aromatic to the conscious senses, are somehow smelled. In humans, these scents are produced under the arms.

Sickened by downsizing

Downsizing may boost company profits. But Finnish psychologists report in the British Medical Journal that people who survive major job cuts are twice as likely to take sick leave and have a five-fold increase in backaches and muscle problems. Increased workloads, a smaller role in deci-

Heartburn linked to cancer

Heartburn plagued half of all American adults, but most people with heartburn don't treat it as a serious medical problem.

Judging by the \$1 billion spent each year on over-the-counter heartburn remedies, most sufferers prefer to treat the malady on their own.

A recent widely publicized study reported that some heartburn sufferers were nearly 45 times more likely than normal to develop cancer of the esophagus - an extremely aggressive cancer that has become increasingly common in recent years.

Heartburn, a recurring, burning pain in the upper abdomen or lower chest, is caused when gastric acid backs up into the esophagus. A lining of mucus normally protects the stomach from its own potent digestive acid, but the one-way tube known as the esophagus has no such protection.

Changes in your diet can help reduce heartburn. Reducing your consumption of alcohol, spicy and fatty foods, tomato products and caffeine will decrease heartburn attacks.

- compiled from wire reports

HEALTH & FASHION

When guys hate the skin they're in

DEAR PAULA: My husband has been struggling with dry skin, and I would love to help him but don't know where to begin.

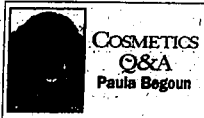
—Marilyn, Philadelphia

DEAR MARILYN: Men are about as comfortable with skin care as they are holding a woman's purse while she shops.

One positive result of this lack of interest is that men don't waste their money on wrinkle creams or unnecessary products for their skin.

The downside is that most men don't use sunscreen on a consistent basis leaving their skin at risk for cancer — not to mention wrinkles — and when they have skin problems they usually just ignore it.

It also means most men don't know to stay away from irritating, skin-care ingredients in their shave products and end up with red, rash-like bumps and razor burn (which is really, more often



than not, product burn). Basic skin-care rule No. 1 for both men and women: If the skin-care product you're using repeatedly burns, irritates, tingles, causes the skin to become inflamed, or hurts, don't use it.

What should men use to take care of their skin when they shave?

The list isn't all that different from the one that applies to women.

To start with, all men's skin types need a gentle, water-soluble cleanser, a gentle shave product (foam, cream, or gel), followed by a gentle, nonirritating

aftershave or shaving lotion (which for all intents and purposes is just a masculine name for a gentle toner).

The same options follow for treating breakouts (disinfectant and BHA), sun care (SPF 15 with UVA protection), or dealing with dry skin (a good moisturizer).

Here are some good options for gentle shave products for a nonirritating shave:

- Colgate Shaving Care Aloe Shave Cream (\$1.69 for 11 ounces), Regular Shave Cream (\$1.69 for 11 ounces), Sensitive Skin Shave Cream (\$1.69 for 11 ounces), Edge Pro-Gel Extra Moisturizing Shave Gel (\$2.49 for 7 ounces), Extra Protection from Nicks and Cuts (\$2.49 for 7 ounces), Fragrance-Free for Irritated Skin and Razor Bumps (\$2.49 for 7 ounces), Normal Skin Shave Gel (\$2.49 for 7 ounces); Gillette Series Shaving Cream Advanced Performance, Vitamin

Enriched (\$2.52 for 9 ounces), Foamy, Regular (\$1.69 for 11 ounces), Foamy, Sensitive Skin (\$1.69 for 11 ounces), Series Shaving Cream Advanced Performance (\$2.99 for 7 ounces); Noxzema for Men Medicated Shave Cream (\$2.79 for 11 ounces), Protective Formula (\$2.79 for 11 ounces), Advanced Shave with Aloe and Lanolin, Dimethicone Skin-Protectant Shave (\$2.79 for 11 ounces) Medicated Shave for Sensitive Skin, Dimethicone Skin-Protectant Shave (\$2.79 for 11 ounces); and Old Spice Moisturizing Shave Cream (\$2.49 for 11 ounces)

Paula Begoun is the author of "Don't Go to the Cosmetics Counter Without Me (4th edition)" (Burrton Press, \$19.95). Write to her at 13075 Canyon Drive, Suite 160, Seattle, Wash. 98148 or check out her Web site: www.cosmetic-scop.com

Car Accident

FREE REPORT Reveals closely guarded secrets you need to know before you settle your case or speak with anyone. There are currently thousands of auto accident victims who are living a life of misery and pain because they don't learn their rights and options as an auto accident victim. Don't let this happen to you or your loved one. To receive your free report entitled, "What You Need To Know If You Have Been In A Car Accident" call the Toll-Free 24 hour recorded message at 1-800-942-3698. The call is free and so is the report.

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HELICOBACTER PYLORI

A Common Cause of Ulcers

A PAINFUL PROBLEM
If you have an ulcer — a sore or crater in the lining of your digestive tract — you know it can be an uncomfortable and even painful condition. But do you know what caused it? Traditionally, ulcers were thought to be caused by too much spicy food, stress, or an anxious personality. We now know that most ulcers are probably due to infection with bacteria known as Helicobacter pylori or H. pylori.

TREATMENT
After you've been evaluated by your doctor can begin treatment. It tests show that H. pylori bacteria are in your digestive tract, medications can be prescribed to kill them so your ulcer can heal.

WHEN TO CALL YOUR DOCTOR
With proper treatment, most ulcers heal without problems. But if you notice any of the following, call your doctor right away:

- Vomiting frequently or vomiting blood
- Dark, tarry or bloody stools
- Sudden, intense pain
- Continued weight loss
- Continued pain after taking your medication.

COMMON ULCER PROBLEMS
Ulcers may or may not cause symptoms, and the symptoms often come and go. If you have an ulcer, you may notice some of these common symptoms:

- Burning, cramping, or hungerlike pain in the stomach area, often one to three hours after a meal or in the middle of the night.
- Pain that gets better or worse with eating.
- Nausea or vomiting.
- Black, tarry, or bloody stools (which means the ulcer is bleeding).

YOUR EVALUATION
An evaluation by your doctor can show if you have an ulcer and determine whether it was caused by H. pylori. Your doctor may ask you questions, examine you, and possibly do some tests. Certain treatment options may be tried first before extensive testing is done.

SPECIAL TESTS
Certain tests can confirm the presence of an ulcer. A special x-ray called a barium upper gastrointestinal series may help locate an ulcer. An endoscopic exam, done through a long tube passed through your mouth into your stomach, can give the doctor a close look at your ulcer. Blood and breath tests are also available to show whether you have H. pylori in your digestive tract.

MEDICATIONS
To kill H. pylori, your doctor will probably prescribe antibiotics. Other ulcer medications are often prescribed as well. Most of the time, killing H. pylori will keep the ulcer from returning. Occasionally, all of the bacteria are not killed or the bacteria come back. If this happens, another ulcer may develop.

Take all your medications exactly as your doctor or pharmacist instructs. The medication may make you feel worse for a short time, but it's the best way to ensure that all of the H. pylori bacteria are killed so the ulcer won't return.

No referral is necessary • We file insurance claims • 24 hour phone service
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(208) 734-1266 or Toll free (888) 734-1266

Magic Breathers Club to meet

Magic Breathers Club will meet at 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Office on Aging annex at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

Jackie Nix, director of the Twin Falls senior citizens Center, will be the featured speaker. Her topic will be the Meals on Wheels and other senior center programs.

For more information, call Mardo Eaton at 734-6307.

Refresher course
A childbirth refresher course will be offered from 7 to 10 p.m. Tuesday in the Education Center at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. Pre-registration is required, call 737-2900.

C-section class
A Cesarean childbirth class will be offered from 7 to 9:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Education Center at MVRMC in Twin Falls. Pre-registration is not required.

Help for widows
Widowed Information and Consultation Services will begin a series of meetings on Coping with Widowhood from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Office on Aging at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

The eight-week sessions will be held each Wednesday. Widowed persons will receive information and support in dealing with the special problems of being widowed.

To register or for more information, call 736-2122.

Surgery

Continued from A8

a hysterectomy, principally to prevent ovarian cancer. There's no good screening test to detect it.

With younger women, the ovaries are left in place unless there's a compelling reason not to.

Risks of hysterectomy, although rare, are bleeding, infection and damage to bowel, bladder or ureter.

Patients ask what happens to the space the uterus took up. Allen tells them it is filled in by bowel and doesn't leave a depression.

They also worry about gaining weight. He said hysterectomy does not cause this, but going on hormones sometimes does.

And Allen is often asked whether hysterectomy will affect sexual function.

It doesn't.

Times-News correspondent Joan Bean can be reached at 733-0830.

Subscribe. 733-0931

To do for you

Co-dependents meet
Co-Dependency Group will meet from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Canyon View West Group Room in Twin Falls. Fee is \$10. For more information, call 734-6760.

Alzheimer's support
Alzheimer's Support Group will meet from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Wednesday at SunBridge Care Center and Rehabilitation, 640 Filer Ave. W. in Twin Falls. For more information, call Becky Jacobsen at 734-8645.

CPR class offered
A cardiopulmonary resuscitation class will be offered from 6:30 to 10 p.m. Thursday in the doctors' meeting room at MVRMC. Fee is \$11. To register, call 737-2007.

Bereavement help
The Here and Now Bereavement Support Group will meet at 1 p.m. Thursday at Hospice Visions, 1300 Kimberly Road in Twin Falls. For more information, call Flo at 735-0121.

First-aid course
A community first aid and safety (infant, child and adult CPR and first aid) nine hour course will be offered at 8 a.m. Saturday at the American Red Cross in

Twin Falls. Pre-registration and pre-payments are required for the class. For more information, call 733-6464 or 1-888-367-6321 or visit the Red Cross office, 718 Shoshone St. E.

Breast cancer support
Breast Cancer Support Group will meet at 7 p.m. April 24 in the reception area of the Cancer Center in Twin Falls. For more information, call Char Basila at 737-2800 or Jody Tremblay at 733-3700.

Learn first aid
Standard First Aid (adult CPR and first aid) six and one-half hour course will be offered at 6 p.m. April 24 at the American Red Cross in Twin Falls. Pre-registration and pre-payment is required for all classes. For more information, call 733-6464 or 1-888-367-6321 or visit the Red Cross office at 718 Shoshone St. E. in Twin Falls.

About C-sections
A Cesarean childbirth class will be offered from 7 to 9:30 p.m. April 25 in the Education Center at MVRMC in Twin Falls. Pre-registration is not required.

To do for you is a calendar listing of health-related activities, events and education. Information should be submitted by Thursday for publication in the following Monday's Health & Fashion. Mail notices to: The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, 83303, or deliver to our office at 132 Third St. W.

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1-800-DR SINUS

The Times-News has walking routes available in the towns of Filer, Buhl, Twin Falls. Good compensation for time involved. With additional Bonuses available, this may be a great way to earn extra CASH while getting paid for your morning walk.

Adults, youth, and seniors, are encouraged to call for details.

Contact Kathy Harman, the district manager for these areas at 733-0931 ext. 347.

Kathy Harman
District Manager

For additional MVRMC educational offerings call 737-2007. If you require special accommodations, call 737-2102 or TDD 737-1980 at least 24 hours in advance of the event.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

□ Childbirth Refresher Course * Tuesday, April 18, 7 - 10 p.m., Education Center. Pre-registration required. Call 737-2900.

□ Cesarean Childbirth Class * Wednesday, April 19, 7 - 9:30 p.m., Education Center. Pre-registration is not required.

□ Co-Dependency Group * Wednesday, April 19, 6 - 7:30 p.m., Canyon View West Group Room. Fee: \$10. For more information call 734-6760.

□ CPR Class * Thursday, April 20, 6:30 - 10 p.m., Doctor's Meeting Room. Fee: \$11. To register call 737-2007.

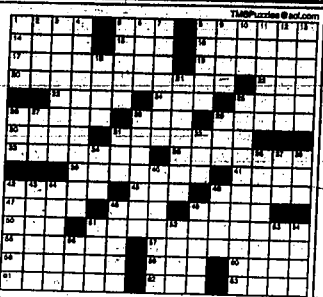
□ Breast Cancer Support Group * Monday, April 24, 7 p.m., Cancer Center Reception Area. For more information call Char Basila at 737-2800 or Jody Tremblay at 733-3700.

□ Cesarean Childbirth Class * Tuesday, April 25, 7 - 9:30 p.m., Education Center. Pre-registration is not required.

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MORNING BREAK

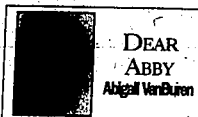
- ACROSS**
- 1 Go angling
 - 5 Bay window
 - 8 Killdeer's mate
 - 14 Killer whale
 - 15 In the past
 - 16 Epic by Virgil
 - 17 Responsive to advice
 - 19 Seat on a stand
 - 20 Certain music
 - 22 Nurse a drink
 - 23 Fork point
 - 24 King of Tan
 - 25 Transmitted
 - 26 Age
 - 28 Apple seed
 - 29 Bucks
 - 30 Twinge
 - 31 California observatory peak
 - 33 Lizards resident
 - 35 Deed bows
 - 39 Long journey
 - 41 Theorem
 - 42 Word shapes
 - 45 Boulder
 - 46 Originated
 - 47 Impostor's target
 - 48 African nation
 - 49 Arm of a chair
 - 51 Fakoo processor, of a
 - 55 Whole
 - 56 Greek region
 - 59 Looked with lust
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 - 62 Daring routine
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- DOWN**
- 1 Bubble massa
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 - 3 Catching a whiff of
 - 4 Reinquishing



- 5 'The Mistla'**
star
- 6 Jamaican fruit**
- 7 Pedestrian's target**
- 8 Impudent**
- 9 Warmly**
- 10 Conclusion**
- 11 Arm of the Indian Ocean**
- 12 Plur support**
- 13 Skilled ones**
- 14 Topchick**
- 21 Made compulsory**
- 22 Plains**
- 23 Health resort**
- 27 Unnaturally**
- 28 Cure-all**
- 29 Mino of 'Fidel Without a Cause'**
- 31 Give reconpanso**
- 32 Mothers**
- 34 One of Japan's adventurers**
- 37 Actress Farrow**
- 38 Male heir**
- 40 Standup comic**
- 42 Art stands**
- 43 Small piano**
- 44 Small sofa**
- 46 Long scarves**
- 48 City on the shore**
- 49 Senator Lott**
- 51 Arduous journey**
- 52 Archaic pronoun**
- 53 Corolla's neighbor**
- 54 Mog or Irene**
- 56 Nest-egg savings abbr.**

Couple's wedding gift has special value

DEAR ABBY: My fiancé and I are being married next year, and we have decided to start a new wedding tradition. Along with registering for housewares, china and place settings, we are requesting something straight from the heart of each of our guests.



We are asking our friends and families to donate blood in honor of our marriage. We want our guests to have the opportunity to give a gift that will truly last forever in someone's life. We have been donating blood together for several years, and it makes us feel great.

Our local blood center will set up a group number especially for our guests to use when they come in to give blood. They'll also keep track of the donations so we'll be able to personally thank each donor for his or her special gift.

—BLEEDING HEARTS IN DENVER

headed down that path, and I have a few tips I'd like to pass on:

Not only is that man not her friend, he's her enemy, her husband's enemy, and an enemy to her marriage. Long before she has ceased obsessing over that scoundrel, he will have forgotten her and moved on to his next victim.

Full-blown affairs always begin with "harmless" little flirtations — which are neither harmless nor little. While she's enjoying her tryst, she is robbing her husband of the mental, emotional and physical affection that is due him alone. The affair will leave permanent scars on her and her marriage that time will not erase.

—VOICE OF EXPERIENCE, PORTSMOUTH, N.H.

DEAR BLEEDING HEARTS: I commend you and your fiancé for your ingenuity and generosity. You've come up with a bloody good idea, and I hope it inspires others.

DEAR ABBY: I hope that 27-year-old married woman who told you she fantasized about kissing her "friend" will listen to what I have to say on the subject. I was the same age she is when I

wasn't inclined to listen to me.

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Mon - Thurs 4:00-7:15-9:45
► High Fidelity (PG-13)
► American Beauty (R)
► Erin Brockovich (PG-13)
► Romeo Must Die (R)
► 28 Days (R) (not in theatres)

Mon - Thurs 5:15-7:15
► Fire on Earth (R)
► Mon - Thurs 6:55-7:00-9:15
► Mission to Mars
► Ready to Rumble (PG-13)
► Return to Me (R)
► Road to El Dorado (PG) (not in theatres)
► Mon - Thurs 4:15-7:00-9:30
► Keeping the Faith (PG-13)

Mon - Thurs 9:45
► Black and White (R)

Jerome Cinema
303 West Main Street, Jerome, Idaho 83403

Daily 7:00-9:30
► Rules of Engagement (PG-13)
► Erin Brockovich (PG-13)
► Road to El Dorado (PG)
► Ready to Rumble (PG-13)

Movies
734-2100

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Time is with Taurus; Capricorn, slow down

IF APRIL 17 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: When pressure is on you are up to it. You have natural executive capabilities. Your mother was "the doer" in the family; your father was "the dreamer." You are a combination of both. Capricorn, Cancer natives play important roles in your life — can have these letters, initials in names: Q, Z. During May you make fresh start in new direction and could be made in love.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Attention revolves around choice of marriage mate, home, where you finally decide to live. Give others "second chance." Maintain high standards. Others applaud.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Time is on your side. Don't change horses in midstream. You are going in right direction. Pisces, Virgo people will reassure you. Stick with number 9.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Key is organization. Line up priorities; make decision: Love or lust? Capricorn, Cancer-born persons play instrumental roles. Quality counts.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Look beyond the immediate. Maintain universal "vision." Be familiar with language, social habits of people in other lands. Journey overseas?

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Your kind of day. Stress originality. Display showmanship, talent for drawing in the crowd. People are attracted to you as much as to the show itself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Questions loom large concerning proposals relating to partnership, court appearances, marital status. Be persistent, patient; try to be diplomatic. Capricorn involved.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Bring forth artistic talents. Utilize powers of persuasion. Humor plays role. Laugh at your own foibles. Taurus, Sagittarius persons are on your side.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Wall of opposition will backfire once again — in your favor. Those who opposed could become allies. Taurus and another Scorpio renege.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Read and write; learn by teaching. You'll solve a mathematical problem. You will do

HOROSCOPE Sydney Omar

well in word games. Flirtation may have gone on long enough.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Slow down. Take time to beautify home, to discover and to purchase art object. You'll be asked to decide on purchase of home. Libra will play complicated role.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Define terms, outline boundaries, show that you are more than a one-dimensional person. Mystical events transpire. You could be central figure. Pisces featured.

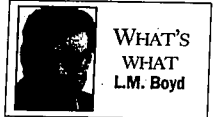
PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Don't attempt to duck basic issues. You will be rewarded for going out of your way. Kinship pays — you'll know that soon. Cancer native plays top role.

Thank Seuss for 'nerd'

Q. Where'd we get the word "nerd"?

A. From Dr. Seuss's 1950 book "If I Ran the Zoo."

Am told the world's people have been at peace only about 8 percent of the time during last 3,500 years. Why they failed, I can't fight during that 8 percent I can't say. Sick maybe.



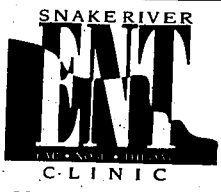
Originally, a "casket" was a chest to hold jewels, not remains. It was the late Bertrand Russell, gone since 1970, who noted: "Even in civilized mankind, faint traces of monogamous instinct can be perceived." Among wild animals, experts say: "The safer the den, the louder the snuff." Curious why it isn't quoted by sellers of security systems.

Client writes: "Not question marks, but quotation marks,

these are what the Germans call "goose feet," okay?"

Research goes on to find a legal stimulant that can be added to cologne. Some ingredient that will do what coffee does, but by way of the nose. Scientists working on this project explain it to various listeners, and the eyes of some begin to shine, and they nod knowingly, and the scientists have to say again, "Legall Legall!"

Some black bears are blond. No, natural.



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For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Pickles

By Brian Crane



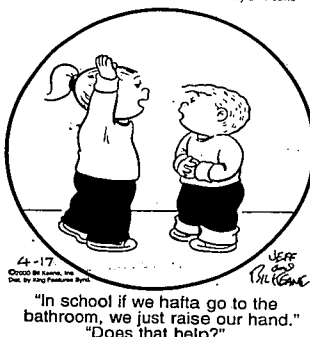
Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham



The Family Circus

By Bil Keane



"In school if we hafta go to the bathroom, we just raise our hand." "Does that help?"

G.C.

By Johnny Hart



Garfield

By Jim Davis



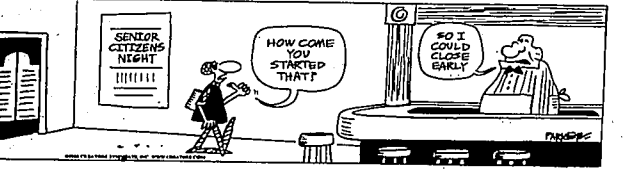
Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



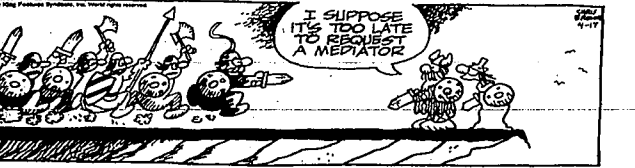
The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



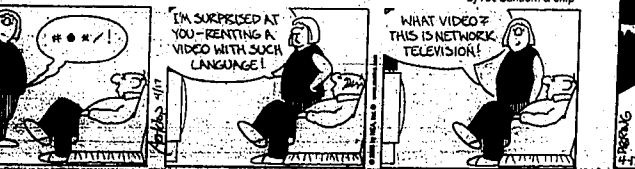
Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



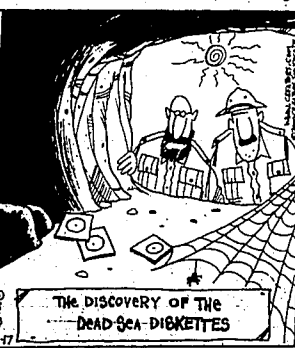
The Bom Loser

By Art Sansom & Chip



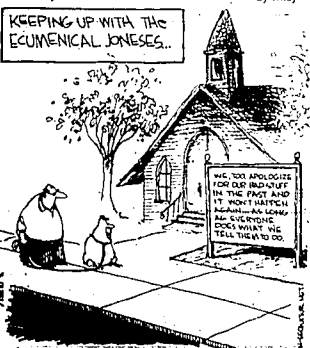
Strange Brew

By John Deering



Non Sequiter

By Wiley



Continued from B1 track where carbon-reinforced plastic that rob the cars of horsepower promote close racing.

Tracy won attribution-filled CART event for 18th win LONG BEACH, Calif. - Paul Tracy drove from 17th to victory Sunday in the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach, pulling away at the end for the victory of his CART FedEx Series career.

won from 19th in 1986 on the old downtown course in Miami. With teams trying a variety of fuel strategies on the 1.6-mile course, team owner Barry Green's crew chose to go with three pit stops and watch the race unfold. It worked as Tracy took over lead on lap 27, passing rookie Takayuki Kurosawa, the first Japanese driver ever to lead a CART event.

Green said, "I really think it's the best race that I've ever seen him drive." With most of the contenders, including Andreotti, falling out with mechanical problems or getting caught up in accidents, Tracy was able to run to the end without much pressure.

Over the final 18 laps, with Castro-Neves holding off by half a car length for second. Gilbertson races to Funny Car victory BAYTOWN, Texas - Bob Gilbertson raced to his first NHRA Funny Car victory Sunday, winning the O'Reilly Nationals at Houston Raceway Park.

Gilbertson, of Gastonia, N.C. beat Jerry Tolver in the final with a quarter-mile run of 5.067 seconds with a top speed of 304.25 mph. Tolver was disqualified for jumping the start. Larry Dixon, Greg Coughlin Jr. and Randy Daniels also won their divisions in the \$1.8 million competition, the fifth of 23 events in the \$45 million NHRA Winston Drag Racing Series.

SCORES AND STATS

BASEBALL

AL Box Scores: HOUSTON 2, BALTIMORE 1. Table with columns for team, pitcher, and statistics.

All standings

Table showing league standings for various teams.

All standings

Table showing league standings for various teams.

REDS & DODGERS

Table showing game results for the Reds and Dodgers.

CARDINALS & ROCKIES

Table showing game results for the Cardinals and Rockies.

ON THE AIR

Table listing TV and radio broadcast schedules.

Auto Racing

Table listing auto racing events and results.

Auto Racing

Table listing auto racing events and results.

RED BOX & ATHLETICS 4

Table showing scores for Red Box and Athletics.

DEVIL RAYS 7, TIGERS 8

Table showing scores for Devil Rays and Tigers.

YANKEES & ROYALS 4

Table showing scores for Yankees and Royals.

FLORIDA

Table showing scores for Florida teams.

METS 12, PIRATES 9

Table showing scores for Mets and Pirates.

BRAYS 2, BREWERS 1

Table showing scores for Braves and Brewers.

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