

The Times

Twin Falls, Idaho/95th year, No. 257

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

50 cents

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly sunny, light winds, high 85. Partly cloudy tonight, low 57. **Page A2**

MAGIC VALLEY



Stepping aside: A Twin Falls city deputy is resigning, citing concerns with the county's pay scales. **Page B1**

MONEY

Commuter call: A public-transportation system could help local employers fill job openings by shuttling workers around the valley. **Page D4**

FOOD & HOME



Beautiful blooms: This Twin Falls garden has been a lovely work in progress for years. **Page C1**

SPORTS



Knight speaks: Fired Indiana coach Bobby Knight says he wants to keep coaching. **Page D1**

OPINION

100th anniversary: The Friends of Stricker have kept a key piece of the Magic Valley's history alive, today's editorial says. **Page A6**

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Governor calls for housing help

Kempthorne's challenge to state's leaders comes during two-day conference



Gov. Dirk Kempthorne

The Associated Press

BOISE — Growing populations of elderly residents on fixed incomes and homeless single parents pose daunting affordable housing challenges, Gov. Dirk Kempthorne told industry and community leaders Tuesday.

He opened the two-day Governor's Conference on Housing with a call for participants to help develop

Clinton expands program — A3

strategies for addressing those problems, as well as an increasing gap between income levels and the costs of home ownership.

"How we respond to our society and what we value as a people," Kempthorne told more than 300 peo-

ple via videotape. He was in Washington, D.C., on Tuesday.

"Hopefully our efforts will count toward building individual self-sufficiency and pride for those who face these difficult challenges."

The conference brings together representatives from state and federal agencies, local governments and the private sector fields of real estate, financing and construction. Workshops all day Tuesday and

Wednesday morning, led by experts in each field, focus on such topics as qualifying home buyers for loans, economic development, industry trends, rural initiatives, manufacturing, housing, regulatory reform and the Idaho Housing and Finance Association, US Bank, Fannie Mae, First Security and the Federal Home

Please see HOUSING, Page A2

Air transport firms debate service levels

By Brandon Flala
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — The county's hospital is working to choose an air ambulance provider, but Magic Valley residents might not notice much difference in service.

"I don't believe patients will know the difference," said Magic Valley Regional Medical Center Administrator Jerry Hart, who said both providers offer nearly identical aircraft and flight crews.

Even the cost to patients could be about the same, said James Hutchens, president of Access Air, one of the companies competing for the contract.

But that doesn't mean the companies aren't engaging in a testy battle to land the contract, which Magic Valley Regional hopes to award before the end of the year.

Life Flight officials say there is a wide disparity in the level of service, and Access Air officials are quick to respond in defense of their service.

"There are three distinct differences between Life Flight and Access Air," said Dave Ensuna, spokesman for Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center in Boise, which operates Life Flight. "Life Flight has more experience, is clinically superior and is the only program backed by one of the best trauma hospitals."

Access Air offers quicker response times, though, Hutchens said.

Magic Valley Regional is waiting for more information before it chooses a provider, but air ambulance service doesn't have first priority, Hart said.

"This is not the most important thing," he said. "I'm working on our relationship with Twin Falls Clinic."

Both Magic Valley Regional and Saint Alphonsus are working on proposals to buy or lease the hospital building at Twin Falls Clinic and Hospital.

There are still uncertainties in air ambulance agreements, Hart said. A faulty analysis muddied recent negotiations.

The hospital board backed Please see AMBULANCE, Page A2

A - MAZE - ING FUN!



Kiya Fife, 6, uses a map to lead her father, Brock Fife, and little sister, Katelynn Fife, through the Kasota Korn Krazz, a large corn maze off exit 201 near Burley. The maze is open every day until 10 p.m.

BRUCE SHELLEN/The Times-News

Parents rip TF shuffling

By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Parents told the School Board Tuesday that shuffling students and their teachers to balance class sizes and meet budget requirements isn't just about numbers — it's personal.

Much of the meeting was dominated by parents of Bickel Elementary School kindergartners who were angry their children lost a popular kindergarten teacher after school had started.

But it was the tears of parents from Sawtooth Elementary School that tugged at heartstrings. Parents of four Sawtooth transfer students went to the extreme of legally turning over their parental rights to guardians who lived within the Sawtooth attendance zone so their children could continue attending school at Sawtooth.

The extreme measures were explained by parents who said they were desperate to help their primary students struggling with the move to Morningside Elementary School. These children were transfer students who lost their spots at Sawtooth because of the school's unexpected jump in kindergarten through third grade class sizes. Ironically, total enrollment throughout the entire district was down by about 150 students as of Friday.

"I respectfully request that you do not look at these children solely as numbers," Jan Simmons told the board.

Her 7-year-old daughter was transferred from a class of 24 students at Morningside, Simmons said. Her daughter suffered severe stress from the move in the form of loss of sleep and appetite, and Simmons decided to legally turn over her parental rights to a guardian who lived within the Sawtooth attendance zone. Her daughter was transferred back to Sawtooth. But then Simmons

Please see SCHOOLS, Page A2

NEW DIGS



Astronaut Richard Mastracchio checks out the Zvezda module of the International Space Station Tuesday. The Atlantis astronauts floated into the station early Tuesday and began six days of work to outfit and activate the 14-story complex before arrival of its first crew in November. The space station now features three pressurized modules and weighs 87 tons, towering 143 feet out of Atlantis' cargo bay. The Zvezda module will provide the station's initial crew quarters, computer control and the propulsion needed to keep the lab complex in a safe orbit.

Activists call for Idaho protection

The Associated Press

BOISE — Citing the area's geological, biological and historical value, a coalition of conservation groups proposed creating a 2.7 million-acre Owyhee-Bruneau Canyonlands national monument in southwestern Idaho.

"All of Idaho and the country will benefit by ensuring that one of the last great western landscapes is protected from piecemeal degradation and loss," Craig Gerhke of The Wilderness Society said Tuesday.

Owyhee-Bruneau warrants monument status, they say

Representatives of the Sierra Club, the Committee for Idaho's High Desert, American Lands Alliance, Conservation League, Idaho Conservation League and Idaho Rivers United joined Gerhke's organization in calling for the designation.

They said the Clinton adminis-

tration should use the 1906 Antiquities Act to protect the B region of Land Management area from future development in a way that would not interfere with traditional uses such as hunting, fishing, rafting and regulated livestock grazing.

But Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt said in mid-August that he was through recommending Western lands as national monuments. It has been generally at Babbitt's urging that Clinton has set aside 4 million acres across the West for such protection.

Report: Agencies wasted \$20 billion

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A dozen of the largest federal agencies reported squandering \$20.7 billion last year, with improper Medicare payments accounting for more than half of that money, according to a General Accounting Office study released Tuesday.

"It's astounding that more than \$20 billion of taxpayer money was wasted by just a handful of federal programs, and

Please see WASTE, Page A2

Money unwell spent

Government agencies reporting federal programs with the highest dollar amounts of improper payments, according to a General Accounting Office report

Agency	Program	Amount reported 1998	Amount reported 1999
Department of Health and Human Services	Medicare fee-for-service claim payments	\$12.6	\$13.6
Social Security Administration	Supplemental Security Income	1.65	1.58
Social Security Administration	Old age and survivors insurance	1.15	1.32
Department of Agriculture	Croft stamp program	1.42	1.29
Social Security Administration	Disability insurance	.94	1.12

Source: Senate Governmental Affairs Committee

THE REGION

Camas Prairie
 High: 80 Low: 43
 Mostly clear today and partly cloudy tonight. Mostly sunny Thursday, high 83.

Treasure Valley
 High: 88 Low: 65
 Mostly clear and partly cloudy tonight. Mostly sunny Thursday, high 91.

Sawtooth Mountains/Wood River Valley
 High: 80 Low: 49
 Mostly clear today, light winds. Partly cloudy tonight. Partly cloudy Thursday, high 82.

Eastern Idaho
 High: 85 Low: 48
 Mostly clear today, light winds. Partly cloudy tonight. Partly cloudy Thursday, high 89.

Northern Idaho
 High: 81 Low: 55
 Mostly clear today, light winds. Partly cloudy tonight. Partly cloudy Thursday, high 85.

Northern Utah
 High: 88 Low: 56
 Mostly clear today, tonight and tomorrow, high Thursday 88.

Northern Nevada
 High: 86 Low: 55
 Mostly clear today and partly cloudy tonight. Mostly sunny Thursday, high 90.

MAGIC VALLEY FIVE-DAY FORECAST

Today	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
High: 85 Low: 57 Mostly sunny, light winds, partly cloudy tonight.	High: 89 Low: 59 Mostly sunny and warmer.	High: 80s Low: 50s Mostly cloudy with chance of showers.	High: 80s Low: 50s Partly cloudy.	High: 80s Low: 50s Partly cloudy.

Idaho weather

Wednesday, Sept. 13
 AccuWeather forecast for daytime conditions, high/low temperatures

National weather
 The AccuWeather forecast for noon, Wednesday, Sept. 13

Forecast for various Idaho locations:
 Boise: 85/57
 Coeur d'Alene: 80/52
 Lewiston: 87/57
 Boise: 85/57
 Idaho Falls: 86/48
 Twin Falls: 85/57
 Pocatello: 88/50

FOR MORE INFORMATION
 Tune to the National Weather Service radio band at VHF-FM 162.4 or 162.55 MHz. The internet address is: <http://www.state.idaho.gov/transportation/department/roadreports.htm>

UV INDEX	FIRE DANGER	SKYWATCH
Index: 8 High: 15 Burn time: 15 minutes	The BLM's fire danger in South-Central Idaho is: Mountains: High Prairies: High	Sunset today: 7:52 p.m. Sunrise tomorrow: 7:16 a.m. Lunar phase: Full, Sept. 13, last quarter, Sept. 21, new, Sept. 27; first quarter, Oct. 5.

YESTERDAY'S WEATHER

Twin Falls	Precipitation	Highs/Lows
Yesterday: 86 52	Month in Twin Falls: 5.11	Idaho: High, 94 degrees at Lewiston, low, 28 degrees at Sunley.
Last year: 82 35	Normal to date: 2.0	Nation: High, 111 at Lake Havasu City, low, 19 at Denver.
Normal: 81 43	Water year to date: 6.13	
	Normal year to date: 10.02	

The Nation	Max	Min	Pcp
Albuquerque	89	49	0.0
Anchorage	86	67	0.0
Atlanta	83	61	0.0
Boston	83	61	1.29
Chicago	84	62	0.0
Dallas	92	82	0.0
Denver	86	50	0.0
Detroit	81	51	0.0
Honolulu	96	74	0.0
Indianapolis	77	65	0.0
Kansas City	82	64	0.0
Los Angeles	83	65	0.0
Los Vegas	88	65	0.0
Memphis	89	75	0.0
Minneapolis	87	78	0.0
Miami	84	78	0.0
Minneapolis	87	78	0.0
New York	84	71	0.0
Oklahoma City	79	46	0.0
Omaha	85	68	0.0
Portland, Ore.	83	58	0.0
Portland, Me.	81	61	0.0
Reno	79	67	0.0
St. Louis	85	67	0.0
Salt Lake City	75	51	0.0
San Francisco	81	68	0.0
Seattle	78	48	0.0
Spokane	88	70	0.0
Washington	81	61	0.0
Yuma	107	81	0.0

Schools

Continued from A1
 learned that the district wanted to transfer her daughter back to Morningstar, stating that her daughter actually must live with her legal guardian if she wanted to attend Sunset.

The School Board said it would consider each of the four student's cases individually, but it was not clear by press time whether the board would address the matter before the meeting adjourned Tuesday night.

Some Sawtooth parents said confusion over where their child legally should attend school initially led to their child's transfer status. They live in a new subdivision and their street wasn't on the city map when they moved into their homes. One parent said her residence had been reassigned school zones.

Board Chairwoman Vera Redman recommended the board re-evaluate its transfer policy and look into whether guidelines are carried out consistently at all district schools. Some schools don't allow transfer students to start classes at the transfer schools until they know for sure that there is room.

Sawtooth Principal Randy Ruchleg said this is the first year the school hasn't had room for transfer students. In the past, the

arrangement was worked out. Regarding the Bickel matter, several parents asserted Superintendent Terrell Donich over the transfer of their children's kindergarten teacher, stating that they didn't feel as if they were treated with respect when they attempted to voice their concerns. Donich said that the teacher was transferred to balance class loads.

Bickel's reputation surfaced repeatedly during parents' testimony.

Parent Roger Farr said a Realtor advised someone interested in buying his house not to choose his neighborhood because that would mean going to Bickel. Despite the perceived reputation, Farr said among his neighbors Bickel has a reputation for having good teachers and shouldn't lose them.

All of the parents said they supported the new kindergarten teacher.

Bickel Principal Gordon Armstrong, in an emotional statement to Bickel parents, told them it was time to move on.

"I thank you parents for giving us a chance. We'll do all we can for your children," he said.

School Board members expressed concern over comments voiced about Bickel's reputation.

"I am very proud of every school we have in this district," Redman said.

Ambulance

Continued from A1
 away from pursuing an agreement with Access Air in August after discovering the hospital would lose money. A false assumption skewed financial projections the proposal was based on.

A financial analyst assumed Access Air would be the area's sole provider, but later discovered Life Flight was staying in the area. Without a monopoly, Access Air's market share would drop along with revenue to the hospital.

Life Flight never considered leaving the area, Enns said.

"Our commitment is very present and can be seen through our intensification of resources," he said.

But hospital officials were correct to assume Life Flight would pull out if another company got a contract, Hutchens said.

"Life Flight would have lost money," he said.

Access Air's numbers indicate Life Flight would pull out in another 300 flights per year.

For example, if Access Air had been the provider in 1999, Life Flight would have worked only 50-150 flights out of Magic Valley Regional, Hutchens said.

"Based on pure numbers, it isn't financially feasible for a \$1 million helicopter program to stay for 50 flights," Hutchens said.

Here's Hutchens' breakdown based on 350 flights in 1999:

- If Access Air had had Magic Valley Regional's contract in 1999, it would have had exclusive rights to the 220 flights to another hospital.
- About 20 or 30 flights came out of Elko, Nev., where Access Air has exclusive franchise.
- The remaining 100 flights would have been split by 911 dispatching Life Flight with only 50 flights.
- Local 911 dispatch follows policy set by providers, said Gloria Falcnberg, operations manager for the Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center. Ambulance services divide into regions, and air ambulance providers might do the same, or have an equal split, she said.

Undersea explorer finds evidence of great flood

WASHINGTON - Artifacts found at the bottom of the Black Sea provide new evidence that humans faced a great flood, perhaps that of the biblical Noah, thousands of years ago, the discoverers say.

Remnants of human habitation were found in over 300 feet of water about 12 miles off the coast of Turkey, undersea explorer Robert Ballard said Tuesday.

Many ancient Middle Eastern cultures have legends of a great flood, including the Bible-story of Noah.

U.S. cancels Bangladeshi debt; forests will benefit

WASHINGTON - The United States is canceling a portion of Bangladesh's debt and allowing future interest payments to go into a fund that supports tropical forest conservation efforts.

The agreement will cancel some debt payments and save Bangladesh more than \$10 million over the next 18 years, the U.S. Treasury Department announced Tuesday.

Housing

Continued from A1
 Loan Bank of Seattle are sponsoring the event on a topic that Kempthorne said has implications far beyond the housing industry.

While Idaho is faring well compared to other states in coping with growth - maintaining a home ownership rate above 72 percent while the national average is 67 percent - housing costs are far outpacing wage growth for many people, he said.

"One of the things we should focus on is the need for basic shelter as one of the defining elements in the quality of our lives," Kempthorne said.

"Education, employment and

News in brief

Bangladesh is the first country to benefit from legislation passed by Congress and signed into law by President Clinton in 1998 that provides certain countries the opportunity to reduce some of the debt they owe to the U.S. and generate funds for tropical forest conservation activities.

House passes bill to honor slaves who built Capitol

WASHINGTON - More than 200 years after work began on the nation's Capitol, the House passed legislation Tuesday to honor the slaves who helped build the United States' seat of democracy.

The legislation, approved by a voice vote, authorized the speaker of the House and president pro tempore of the Senate to establish a special task force to study the history and contributions of slave laborers toward building the Capitol.

- compiled from wire reports

Waste

Continued from A1
 said "see a drop in the bucket," said Sen. Fred Thompson, R-Iowa, who ordered the study by Congress' investigative branch.

The improper payments were culled from the annual financial reports of agencies that accounted for most of the government's

\$1.7 trillion budget for fiscal 1999, according to the Office of Management and Budget. The \$20.7 billion represents 1.2 percent of the total.

"These payments include things like providing federal benefits to dead people or making duplicate payments to contractors. They may be payments made by mistake or to people defrauding the government," said Thompson.

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 Daniel Wallock, circulation director

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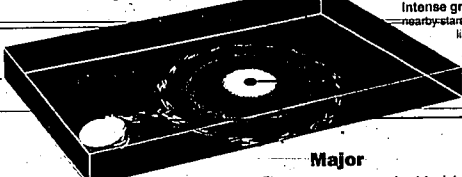
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A new dimension Black holes

Minor

A stellar black hole occurs when a single, massive star collapses, creating an area of such incredibly dense mass—about a dozen times greater than the sun—that nothing can escape.



The event horizon is the edge of the black hole. Beyond this edge, not even light escapes. Intense gravity pulls matter from nearby stars toward the black hole, like water down a drain.

Major

A supermassive black hole sits at the center of a galaxy, adding to its mass—millions to billions of times greater than the sun—by sipping up entire groups of stars.



As gas, dust and entire stars approach the event horizon at near light speed, matter heats to millions of degrees and gives off radiation, which scientists observe to study the black hole.

Midsized

The new discovery is the first black hole of its size—500 to 800,000 times the mass of the sun in a region the size of the moon—found anywhere. Probable explanations for its formation include the merger of many stellar black holes or the implosion of a large star cluster.

Sources: NASA, Sky and Telescope

With the help of NASA's Chandra X-ray Observatory, astronomers have found evidence of the existence of a new, mid-size class of black hole. Here is a look at the two types of black holes, and how the discovery fits in.

New kind of black hole found

WASHINGTON (AP) — Astronomers long have known that black holes come in two sizes: the giant and the petite. Now, 10 million light years from Earth, they've found a midsized one.

The Chandra X-ray Observatory earlier this year detected a brilliant object in a galaxy called M82 that seemed almost to flicker, repeatedly dimming and brightening.

Based on this weird behavior and other facts, astronomers announced Tuesday at a NASA news conference that there can be only one explanation: the object is

a black hole of a size never before seen.

"This is really a new class of black holes," said Philip Kaaret of the Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics in Cambridge, Mass.

Black holes, as recently as 20 years ago, existed only in theory. It was believed that enough matter clustered at a small point would create a singularity of such great mass and gravity that nothing could escape, not even light. A black hole's gravity would be so fierce that it would gobble up nearby gas, dust and other stars,

and weird things would happen.

"Time comes to a stop in a black hole," said Donald A. Knuffen, deputy program manager for the Chandra Observatory.

"Mass, space and time all get distorted until they are unrecognizable."

Since the theory was formulated, researchers have found two types of black holes, small and immense.

The smaller, or stellar, black hole is formed by the collapse of a single star. It has a mass equal to a dozen or so suns compressed into an area less than 20 miles across.

House to vote on repealing federal Boy Scout charter

WASHINGTON (AP) — A small group of House lawmakers charging that the Boy Scouts' policy toward gays was a badge of intolerance moved Tuesday to repeal the organization's federal charter. The legislation was another

challenge to the long-standing relationship between the Boy Scouts and the federal government rising out of the group's stance on excluding homosexuals. A vote on the bill, expected to be defeated, was likely today.

The bill's chief sponsor, Rep. Lynn Woolsey, D-Calif., said she was a Girl Scout and one of her sons was a Boy Scout. "We're not saying the Boy Scouts are bad; we're saying that intolerance is bad," she said.

Ford, Firestone trade shots during hearings

WASHINGTON (AP) — The century-long relationship between Ford Motor Co. and Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. unraveled Tuesday, with the two companies trading pointed charges over which is more to blame for scores of fatal accidents involving Firestone tires and Ford Explorers.

"It's like tying two cats by the tail and throwing them over the clubhouse and letting them claw each other," observed Sen. Ernest Hollings, D-S.C.

The Senate Commerce Committee hearing was the second trip to Capitol Hill in as many weeks for Ford CEO Jacques Nasser and Bridgestone/Firestone CEO Masahito Ono to dis-

cuss last month's recall of 6.5 million tires that can suffer blowouts and sudden loss of tread.

Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater said he is shifting \$1.3 billion in NHTSA's budget to cover the Firestone investigation costs, and asked Congress to add \$9 million to next year's budget request for the agency.

Slater also sought legislation to allow other things — allow unlimited civil penalties against companies that withhold information or fail to alert NHTSA to a defect, extend the period that manufacturers must provide free replacements of defective products, require manufacturers to test products before they are certified for sale.

Study finds wide disparity in how federal death penalty is employed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Wide racial and geographic disparities exist in the federal government's requests for death penalties, according to a Justice Department study released Tuesday. The White House called the findings troubling.

The report, requested by Attorney General Janet Reno, was certain to provoke renewed calls from Congress, civil rights and legal groups for a moratorium on federal death sentences. Reno imposed "new system" in 1995 requiring U.S. attorneys to

get her approval for all death sentences after a review of each case by a team of senior Justice officials.

Neither she nor the review team members are told the race of defendants but defense attorneys sometimes tell them in the course of arguing against the death penalty.

Reno's goal was to achieve a more uniform system, but the report found the first five years of experience with the system was not uniform. The numbers did show, however,

that Justice Department recommendations for death sentences in federal cases roughly reflected the racial percentages of the pool of defendants charged with capital crimes.

Between 1995 and July of this year, U.S. attorneys forwarded for review the cases of 682 defendants who faced capital charges, of which 20 percent were white and 80 percent were minorities. U.S. attorneys recommended the death penalty be sought for 183 of them, 26 percent of them whites and 74 percent minorities.

Housing program will expand

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a season of political disagreements, both parties are pushing to help low-income families afford housing, a problem worsened by the robust economy's tight rental market.

No Idaho town or city is on the initial list of communities.

The Clinton administration announced Tuesday it will use an additional \$100 million a year to expand its Section 8 rental assistance voucher program, which currently helps more than 1.4 million low-income households. Families in the program usually pay about a third of their income toward rent with the rest subsidized.

Sen. Christopher Bond, R-Mo., says expanding the voucher program is a positive step, but doesn't go far enough. He was proposing that a \$1 billion grant be given to state housing agencies to build new homes for low-income families.

Most families in the voucher program earn at or near the federal poverty line, about \$17,000 for a family of four. The vouchers are distributed by local housing authorities, which typically have long waiting lists.

Rising rents have forced some recipients to return their vouchers because they can't find an apartment cheap enough to qualify — the least expensive 40 percent of apartments in a particular market are eligible for rental by voucher recipients.

Related story - A1

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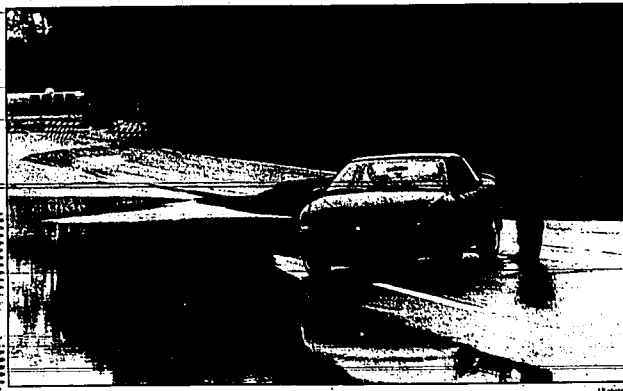
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NATION



Police officer Rick Webster gives a motorist a ticket for going through a barricade on flooded Opdyke Road Monday in Auburn Hills, Mich. Parts of the upper Midwest were drenched with more than four inches of rain, and more hit Tuesday.

Midwest storm disrupts air travel

CHICAGO (AP) — Hundreds of travelers who thought they were just passing through O'Hare International Airport were forced to spend the night on cots after storms canceled dozens of flights.

By late Monday 368 arrivals and departures at O'Hare had been canceled, according to Chicago Department of Aviation spokesman Monique Bond. O'Hare handles about 2,400 flights daily.

Flights into and out of the airport were delayed as much as two hours as thunderstorms passed over northern Illinois, knocking

out airport radar equipment and power to thousands of area residents.

A backup radar system took over until repairs were made to the main system.

Steve Scheuer of United Airlines said Monday's storm was the worst of the summer. Wind gusts of up to 50 miles per hour and sudden changes in wind direction forced the airline to cancel 246 arrivals and departures at O'Hare.

The storm made worse an already miserable summer for air travel out of O'Hare, largely

because of United Airlines' impasse on a new contract with its pilots union. The airline has canceled more than 23,000 flights since April due to pilots who refused to work overtime. United and the pilots agreed on a new contract last month.

At the peak of the storm, which the National Weather Service said dumped nearly three inches of rain, about 53,000 customers of Commonwealth Edison lost power. About 300 crews worked overnight to restore power, said Judy Mitchell, a spokeswoman for the utility.

FDA says chicken pox vaccine is safe so far, most problems minor

CHICAGO — Three years of data on the chicken pox vaccine since it first became available show it is generally a safe and effective way to prevent a mostly annoying but potentially serious childhood disease, the government says.

Of the 6,574 problems linked to the vaccine that were reported to the government between its approval in March 1995 and July 25, 1998, most were minor complications, such as rashes or pain at the injection site, the Food and Drug Administration said.

The FDA said that 14 deaths were reported during that three-year period but that other causes may have played a role and that it is not clear whether the vaccine was a culprit.

The agency recommended further study but said the information gathered so far "confirms that most of the vaccine's adverse effects are minor."

Nation in brief

Atlanta transit agency runs abortion rights ads

ATLANTA — Abortion rights advertisements began appearing on city buses as a result of a federal court challenge, but they will be the last issue-oriented ads on the Atlanta transit system.

The Metropolitan Rapid Transit Authority rejected the abortion ads last year, citing its policy banning ads with controversial subjects. But the National Abortion Federation sued, and a federal judge ruled in June that MARTA's reason for rejecting the ads was too vague.

MARTA previously accepted ads concerning gay rights, racial and religious tolerance, AIDS awareness, pregnancy counseling and adoption services but had rejected political ads.

screams of co-workers.

Flying enthusiasts plan to build Wright plane replica

WASHINGTON — From the delicate ash and spruce framework to the sturdy cotton fabric covering the wings, an inch-by-inch replica of the Wright brothers' 1903 flying machine is taking shape.

Retired airline pilot Ken Hyde of Warrenton, Va., is chief builder of the aircraft that a group of flying enthusiasts hopes to get airborne at 10:35 a.m. on Dec. 17, 2003. That would be 100 years to the minute after the two brothers from Ohio first saw their little wood-and-muslin-raft lift-off the dunes of Kitty Hawk in North Carolina's Outer Banks.

"It's going to be a challenge, but two people did fly this airplane — Wilbur and Orville Wright," Hyde said.

Study: Radiation better in early prostate cancer

CHICAGO — Prostate cancer patients whose disease has not spread far significantly better if treated with a combination of radiation and hormone-blocking drugs than with radiation alone, a study suggests.

Similar results were found in a previous study comparing the two treatments in men with more advanced cancer.

The latest study, led by a Harvard Medical School researcher and published in today's Journal of the American Medical Association, involved 1,586 men whose cancer had not spread beyond the prostate gland.

The American Cancer Society estimates that 180,400 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and 31,900 will die of the disease this year. It is the second-leading cause of death among U.S. men, after lung cancer.

Seven Injured in blast at East Texas plant

TYLER, Texas — A chemical used in making glue overflown and caught fire at a manufacturing plant, triggering an explosion that injured seven workers. Three remained in critical condition Tuesday.

Monday's explosion at National Casein Co. near Winona created 12-foot flames in a shop where glue is mixed, authorities said.

"I was walking inside the door and it (the blast) knocked me out of the building," said Charles Young, one of the injured employees.

He said he could hear the

Post office to start Spanish Web site for stamp payment

WASHINGTON — The Postal Service is going bilingual on the Internet and resurrecting a once popular way to pay small bills, a postage stamp.

The two were among a series of new services, mostly aimed at business, the Postal Service announced Tuesday.

USPS Micropayment revives a practice of using stamps to make small payments. It had been discouraged in recent years by businesses that primarily use metered mail and did not want to deal with large numbers of stamps.

— compiled from wire reports



Conjoined twins Deontee, left, and Mary Cole sit on their mother's lap at Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio, in this undated handout photo, made available Tuesday. The 3-month-old twin girls from Africa were in critical but stable condition after they were surgically separated.

Doctors surgically separate pair

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Three-month-old Siamese twins who were joined at their lower backs were in critical but stable condition Tuesday after they were surgically separated.

The Liberian girls, flown to the United States for the surgery, were resting after undergoing the eight-hour operation Monday at Children's Hospital. Mary Cole, weighing 10 pounds, and her sister Deontee, 7 pounds, were doing well, doctors said.

The little girls, born June 4 in a hut, were hatched because their vital organs were separate, doctors said.

The bases of their spines were fused and the bone had to be separated, and surgeons had to fashion new anal openings for both.

Through an interpreter, the girls' mother, Anna Cole, 25, praised hospital staffers "for all the generosity and love they have given my children. ... I ask you for your continued support, because I cannot afford to support them on my own."

She has a son and two other daughters, all under age 8, who remained at home with her husband, Emanuel.

Cole's trip from Africa was arranged by Liberian President Charles Taylor and a Liberian doctor who had heard about Children's Hospital's experience with Siamese, or conjoined, twins.

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Harry Potter certificate sparks objection

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — A library has stopped giving Harry Potter fans a certificate from the fictional boy's wizardry school because parents and churches complained the gimmick exposed children to witchcraft.

A branch of the Jacksonville Public Library gave the "Hogwarts" Certificate of Accomplishment" to about 200 young fans who attended a party July 8 to celebrate the release of "Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire."

The certificate, meant to encourage children to read, honored its recipient for completing a term at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry, the school young Harry attends. The books feature Harry fighting against the forces of evil aided by spells, flying brooms and magical instruments.

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Democrats smell a 'rat': GOP ad comes off the air

WASHINGTON - A GOP commercial that subtly flashes the word "RATS" across the screen is coming off the air amid allegations the Republicans were trying to send a subliminal message about Al Gore.

George W. Bush called the notion "bizarre and weird," and his campaign made light of it all. The GOP admaker said he was just trying to make the spot visually interesting.

But Gore's campaign and experts in political advertising said the word choice - as an announcer was denouncing Gore's Medicare plan - could hardly have been an accident. "I've never seen anything like it," the vice president said Tuesday in Middletown, Ohio. Running mate Joseph Lieberman called the ad "very disappointing and strange."

Bush noted that the word appears only fleetingly - for a tiny fraction of a second. Played at full speed, it's barely noticeable, particularly if the viewer isn't looking for the word.

"One frame out of 900 hardly in my judgment makes a conspiracy," Bush said Tuesday in Orlando, Fla.

FEC: Reform Party's \$12.6 million belongs to Buchanan

WASHINGTON - The Reform Party's disputed \$12.6 million in federal campaign money belongs to Pat Buchanan, the Federal Election Commission said Tuesday. But he can't get the money yet.

Buchanan, the former Republican who is counting on the money to revive his presidential campaign, is the rightful recipient of the money as the party's nominee, the FEC said in a 5-1 preliminary ruling.

The commissioners are expected

Politics in brief

To give their final approval within days, theoretically freeing the U.S. Treasury to give Buchanan a check. However, John Hagelin, who contends that the 2001 Buchanan, is the party's legitimate nominee, intends to appeal to federal court.

Gore, Lieberman chart \$170 billion education gap

MIDDLETOWN, Ohio - Al Gore and Joe Lieberman let their limos trail behind as they boarded bright yellow school buses Tuesday to persuade voters their \$170 billion education package tops presidential rival George W. Bush's ideas for schools.

Seeking to underscore the breadth of their plan, the Democratic-running mates toured across counties for in cramped buses, holding town meetings on the road and stopping at three schools.

"Both Governor Bush and I have an emphasis on new accountability and local control. The difference is my plan will start with accountability, but doesn't end there," Gore said during a noisy tour of a Middletown high school.

Clinton coaches wife for Senate debate

WASHINGTON - President Clinton is more than the "cheerleader in chief" for his wife's Senate campaign. He's also a coach.

The president has "dropped in and out" of Hillary Rodham Clinton's various sessions for her first debate in the New York Senate race, said White House spokesman Jake Siewert.

— compiled from wire reports

Bush promotes catastrophic-illness coverage

ST. LOUIS, (AP) - Texas Gov. George W. Bush promised a cancer patient Tuesday that he will expand Medicare coverage for her and millions of other older Americans suffering from age-busting illnesses.

Trying to put a human face on his public policies, the Republican presidential nominee visited Florida Hospital to hear an emotional plea from Kay Talton, an ovarian cancer patient whose private insurance is set to lapse. Her husband, Jack, is being treated for malignant melanoma at the same hospital.

"What will happen when that runs out?" she asked. "With him having cancer - and me having it - do you think another insurance company is going to take us on?"

"No," Bush replied. "I don't think so," Talton said during the discussion with the Texas governor and several doctors. "It's depending on you."

Nodding solemnly, Bush said too many Americans are in similar straits. "That won't happen if I'm president," he said.

It was the same sort of half-scripted campaign event that helped Bill Clinton drive home his initiatives in two presidential campaigns. Bush is using the stories of real Americans at every campaign stop to better sell his tax, education and health care plans as polls show Democrat Al Gore gaining the advantage on



Republican presidential candidate Tex. Gov. George W. Bush stands with his motorcycle escort as he leaves Orlando, Fla., Tuesday.

those issues.

He was campaigning here and in Missouri on Tuesday to promote the portion of his \$158-billion, 10-year Medicare plan that would provide catastrophic-illness coverage to seniors after their first \$6,000 in expenses.

Gore's Medicare plan would cover prescription drug costs

after \$4,000, but his catastrophic plan does not extend to other treatments as does Bush's.

Beneath a banner proclaiming "The Bush prescription for America - individual choice, modernization, prescription drugs, quality care," the GOP candidate in St. Louis later also promised to get tough with

Cuban President Fidel Castro and pushed his plan to spend \$2.3 trillion of the surplus to strengthen Social Security.

But health care was his message of the day as Bush made his pitch in this battleground state before heading West for three days touring Washington state, California and New Mexico.

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EDITORIAL

Friends of Stricker keep the flame of history going

This editorial page has a long history of trumpeting volunteerism, and a shining example of that is about to celebrate a major milestone.

The Stricker Home, a two-story, 16-room Victorian house located southwest of Hansen, turns 100 next month. It's the oldest house in Twin Falls County.

Celebration set

The home and its even-older-outbuildings stood aside the Magic Valley's immigrant crossroads years before I.B. Perrine organized the Twin Falls Tract. The structures might, but for the dedication of neighbors, family and local history buffs, have melted into the sagebrush long ago.

But the Friends of Stricker organized the effort to preserve them, and enlisted the Idaho State Historical Society to help. To be sure, the Historical Society's support has been critical to restoring the site, but it simply wouldn't have happened without the Stricker volunteers.

They're far from alone in south-central Idaho. The Jerome County Historical Society and the volunteers who made the Blaine, Cassia and Minidoka county historical museums a reality are other examples.

These are purely labors of love. The rewards of finding and restoring art-

facts and poring over arcane records and journals are in knowing that the legacy of this area's hardscrabble past will be passed on to people born into a settled world.

The importance of that shouldn't be underestimated. The Magic Valley was first inhabited by risk-takers and nurtured by sweat and equity. The 150,000 residents of south-central Idaho today prosper because of the hard work and sacrifice of our grandparents and great-grandparents - people without much but their dreams.

The Stricker Home is a living symbol of that dedication.

When it was built in 1900 by prosperous merchant Herman Stricker, it stood alone in an ocean of sagebrush, an improbable outpost of a future that most people couldn't have imagined.

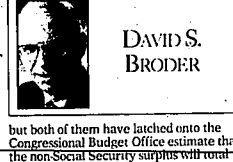
The fact that it's still there, restored to the way it looked in its heyday, neatly completes the circle of the Magic Valley's history.

Strip that history to its root, and you're left with the word "story." That's what the Stricker House tells so eloquently. It's our story, and it's there for anyone to hear because of the efforts of ordinary folks who wouldn't let the heroism of their forebears be swallowed up by time.



A budget lesson from beyond the grave

Thirty-one years after his death, that formidable legislator and frustrated Shakespearean actor, Everett Dirksen and his President, "written by University of Virginia historian Byron C. Hulsey and published by the University Press of Kansas."



DAVID S. BRODER

In addition to reminding us of the many roles played by one of the most vivid personalities to grace the Senate stage in the decades following World War II, the Dirksen biography offers a pertinent comment on an underlying issue in the current presidential campaign.

There were few constants in Dirksen's career, which saw him at various times voicing both isolationist and internationalist sentiments, opposing and supporting civil rights laws, acting as a supporter of Robert Taft and later becoming a vital ally of Lyndon Johnson. But, like his constituents, Dirksen was almost always skeptical of the way Washington dealt with spending priorities, its disdain for budgetary restraint.

Perhaps his most enduring legacy is the recklessness of the capital's fiscal policy there: "Pretty soon it adds up to real money." We need a Dirksen to inject some common sense into the current debate between Vice-President Al Gore and Texas Gov. George W. Bush about what to do with the projected budget surplus.

But is that realistic? Both the liberal Center on Budget and Policy Priorities and the business-financed Committee for Economic Development are waving caution flags in recently released reports.

The business organization says it "opposes permanently committing the non-Social Security surplus to spending increases or tax reductions." It points out that "within a few years, the aging of the population will push the budget towards large and growing deficits," with costs of Social Security and Medicare rising dramatically, while labor force growth "will virtually cease."

It also casts doubts on the realism of the projected surplus figures - a point that is well-documented in the CBPP document. The liberal group notes four major factors that are likely to cut the actual surplus by as much as two-thirds. "First, there is overwhelming bipartisan consensus ... that the annual surpluses now found in Medicare trust funds should be set aside for future Medicare needs. This reduces the surplus available for tax and program initiatives by \$360 billion." Second, the budget projections assume

that "an array of highly popular tax credits" and subsidy programs, such as farm price supports, whose authorizations expire some time in the near future will be allowed to die. They won't, and that takes another \$230 billion off the projected surplus.

Third, at least \$500 billion of the funds will likely be needed to shore up Social Security and Medicare, "since few, if any, policymakers in either party will countenance closing the long-term financing gaps in these programs entirely through benefit cuts or payroll tax increases."

Finally, the \$2.2 trillion surplus projection assumes that spending on domestic discretionary programs - all the things Congress finances annually - will actually be cut over the next 10 years when measures to reduce federal deficits, such as higher population and prices, that won't happen either. "Simply assuming that expenditures for discretionary programs remain at their current level per person in inflation-adjusted terms ... reduces the available surplus by nearly another \$400 billion."

Add it up, and you are left with a projected surplus of about \$700 billion - one-third of the amount that Gore and Bush have plugged into their budget models. True, no one can predict with confidence the behavior of the American economy over a period as long as 10 years. But prudence would dictate caution in promising either tax cuts or new spending programs. Voters should be more than enough of politicians who are unable to keep their word. They might even be ready to reward one who says he is inclined to hold back until he sees that the promised surpluses are really there.

David S. Broder is a Washington Post columnist.

The Times-News

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

LETTERS

Chisholm will let voices be heard

As an Idaho resident (albeit not a Magic Valley resident), I wish to support the candidacy of Bill Chisholm and Mike Iler. Bill believes in the town meeting model of democracy, unlike the current crop of officers who hold meetings but do not allow the participating audience to speak. I have seen this same type of official hypocrisy in Boise at various town and agency meetings. I lived for almost 30 years in the Republic, yes, state of Vermont. There the town meeting is a revered and sacred method of running a village, town or agency. In Vermont, official public meetings never forbid the public to speak. Since moving to Idaho, I have been first shocked and then appalled at the popularity in Idaho of the brutal silence of public citizens who wish to make their views known in official meetings.

Vote for Bill Chisholm and let your voices be heard.
JO KIRKPATRICK
Boise

U.S. needs boost of morality
Where was Sen. Lieberman's character

acter" when he and all the Senate Democrats, along with some glib Republicans, voted not to convict this president for his corruption? I would now have no desire for my son to become president of this nation. God's word states: "The wicked shall be turned into hell and all the nations that forget God."

To those who have stated their opposition to have Christians crammed morality down their throats, I say to you that I am one Christian who has no desire whatsoever to do so, but I am completely fed up with having your immorality crammed down my throat: babies murdered by the thousands, teenage pregnancies, live-ins, sexual perversion, rampant crime, rotten politicians, etc.

The return of a little morality to this nation would be most refreshing and would harm no one.

If misguided voters dominate our next election, it could very well lead to a complete takeover of our nation by the United Nations and the demise of our U.S. Constitution.
HENRY E. SINGLEY JR.
Twin Falls

More testing isn't the answer for education

BARBARA MINER

Sharpen those pencils, kids. It's test-taking time again. This month, millions of children will head back to school. Throughout the year, they will confront the hottest trend in education reform: the use of standardized tests not only to evaluate students and schools but to reward high achievers and punish those at the bottom.

Giving standardized tests is akin to taking a person's temperature. The tests don't really improve learning; they merely measure whether a student is "healthy" or "sick." Or, as farmers might say, "You don't fatten a hog by weighing it."

But the tests are even worse than that because they don't necessarily reflect what a student knows. Whether students are smart, stupid, lazy or hardworking is being reduced to how quickly and accurately they can darken the circles on a multiple-choice test.

The consequences of doing poorly are dire. These tests are increasingly being used as high-stakes assessments. Students who do not do well on them may be flunked, denied access to a preferred high school or, in some cases, even

refused a high school diploma. Currently, 49 states have standards in core academic subjects, up from 14 in 1996. (Iowa is the only holdout.) A growing number of states - more than half at last count - are implementing high-stakes tests. In addition, many school districts are choosing to adopt the high-stakes approach.

One of the most disturbing twists in the testing game is to reward high-performing schools and punish low-performing schools. A variation on this twist is the merit pay play - giving extra money to those teachers whose students are already performing well.

It's not hard to guess who will win this game. High-performing schools tend to be clustered in affluent districts where the students are already situated with privileges and resources, while low-performing schools are much more common in poverty-stricken urban and rural areas.

The overemphasis on testing places schools in a Catch-22: It takes resources and support for schools and students to

perform well. But until they perform well, society will not give them the resources and support necessary to perform well.

This obsession with test scores is not likely to go away anytime soon, despite growing criticisms from parents, students and teachers. Too many politicians, corporate leaders and think tanks have wrongly embraced test-based reform as the only way to shake up our public schools and get more bang for the taxpayer's buck.

Yes, there are problems in our schools, particularly in urban areas. But more tests are not the answer. Better solutions are easy to figure out: Let's start with smaller classes, improved teacher training, a rigorous curriculum for all children and additional resources to help level the inequalities between urban and suburban schools.

If we want all children to reach high standards, we need to ensure that they receive the resources and support necessary to meet those standards.

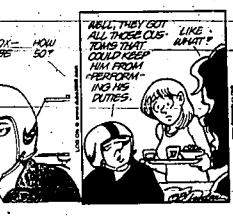
Otherwise, we end up punishing those who are already getting punished.

Barbara Miner is managing editor of Rethinking Schools, an education newspaper based in Milwaukee.

Doonesbury



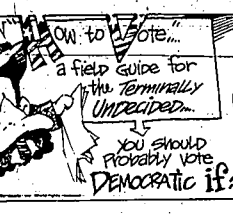
By Garry Trudeau



By Garry Trudeau



Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



More words to the wind at the United Nations

The foreseeable happened: Americans last week paid much more attention to 88 highway deaths attributed to defective Firestone tires than to the biggest summit in history—a summit to try to stop the wars that caused five million deaths over the past decade and to help save the 1.2 billion people around the world on the verge of starvation.

While the more than 150 heads of state gathering in New York for the United Nations' anti-poverty "Millennium Summit" dominated the news almost everywhere else, Americans barely got a glimpse of the U.N. conference in their nightly television news.

On Wednesday, when the presidents, kings and generals arrived in New York, two of the largest U.S. networks—CBS and NBC—led their evening news programs with the Firestone tires problem. The third-largest network, ABC, led with the American cargo ship that discovered stowaways trapped in a container, followed by stories on the upcoming

ANDRES OPPENHEIMER

Summer Olympics in Australia and the Firestone tires controversy.

Later that night, I tuned in to CNN's Larry King show, thinking that—with so many world leaders at hand—he would have a luxury guest. I was wrong: the guest was Dr. Laura, a popular radio talk-show psychologist who was being interviewed live about her upcoming television show.

Has economic growth turned Americans into the world's most insensitive people? Or was the summit an exercise in empathy rhetoric?

After reading the summit's final declaration, some of my worst fears were confirmed: it was largely words to the wind.

It contained a long list of lofty goals to reduce poverty and AIDS by 2015 and even paragraphs committing heads of state "to promote democracy and the rule of law," as well as the U.N. Declaration of Human Rights. Yet there is no punishment—such as suspension from future summits—for transgressors.

It's irony, because the United States, Europe and Japan are highly unlikely to fork out billions for countries run by dictators who waste their countries' resources in weapons, costly security organizations or ridiculous propaganda campaigns to feed their megalomania.

There is a growing consensus within industrialized countries that democracies, while not guaranteeing prosperity, do a better job reducing poverty than dictatorships. It is no coincidence that the world's richest countries are democracies, while the poorest ones are authoritarian regimes. While the first have systems of checks and balances that tend to prevent their leaders from doing crazy things, the latter spend billions on absurd wars or internal repression.

Increasingly, poverty experts are supporting 1998 Nobel Prize-winning economist Amartya Sen's studies showing that the world's worst famines—with no exceptions—have taken place in countries with no legal opposition.

China's 1958-61 famine left nearly 30 million dead, largely because nobody there could challenge the disastrous government policies that were causing it.

The same goes for wars. Will American taxpayers support major U.S. economic assistance to the Congo, a country rich in diamonds and oil whose strongman Laurent Kabila and his opponents are spending millions on a bloody internal war while malnutrition, AIDS and violence are killing their countrymen?

In New York with an entourage of 100 people, while the Cuban people survive on an average income of 33 cents a day?

By comparison, a German U.N. mission spokesman told me that Chancellor Gerhard Schröder's delegation was 42 people, including security guards.

Many of us think that the United States should do much more to help reduce world poverty.

But unless the United Nations places safeguards to ensure that dictators become accountable for how they spend international aid, rich countries will continue to demand that anti-poverty programs be kept out of U.N. hands, and continue to be run by the World Bank and other institutions that put certain conditions on their loans.

Until the United Nations gets serious, Americans are likely to continue watching news about their defective tires, or about the travails of Dr. Laura.

Andres Oppenheimer is a columnist for the Miami Herald.

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley offices, mailed to P. O. Box 549, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5338; or e-mailed to twins@mln.com.

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MICKY DOLENZ

SEPT 26 - OCT 1

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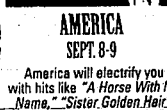
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NOV 15-18

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OCT 11-14

The compelling voice of Mickey Thomas' (of Starship) became a dominant musical force with mega-hits such as "We Built This City," "Sara" and "No Way Out."



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NOV 29 - DEC 2

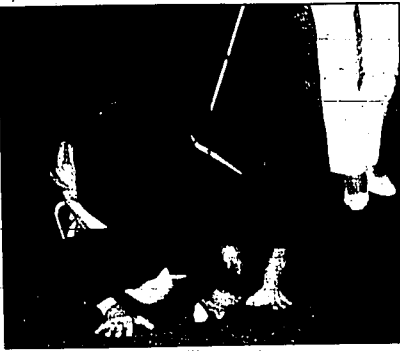
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WORLD



AP photo

Former Finnish hostage Risto Vahanen celebrates his return at Helsinki airport Tuesday after flying from Tripoli, Libya.

Freed hostages celebrate; Libya enjoys publicity coup

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP) - Four men held captive in the Philippines for 140 days gathered at a historic fortress on the Mediterranean to offer thanks to Libya for arranging their release, then finally headed home to be reunited with family and friends.

Libya reportedly paid the Abu Sayyaf rebels of the southern Philippines \$10 million in exchange for the freedom of the four men and six other hostages released last month.

"We are now facing the sunrise after a long time of darkness," said Risto Vahanen, who spoke for the hostages freed Saturday during the hour-long ceremony at the Red Palace, bordering Tripoli's ancient walled quarter.

Former captives German-Marc

Wallert, Frenchman Stephane Loisy and Finn Seppo Franti attended, as did three senior officials from Finland, France and Germany who also expressed their gratitude to the Libyan government for its work to free the men.

Some speakers wore dark glasses against the glare of the Mediterranean sun, and their hair and clothes were stirred by sea breezes during the outdoor gathering.

The ceremony appeared to bring the Libyans the results they hoped for - maximum publicity for their role in the hostage saga to win international respectability for their country, long accused of sponsoring terrorism and meddling in the affairs of other nations.

Dutch lawmakers OK gay marriage rights

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP) - The Netherlands, long among the gay rights vanguard, enacted a bill converting the country's "registered same-sex partnerships" into full-fledged marriages, complete with divorce guidelines and wider adoption rights for gays.

Proponents say the legislation will give Dutch gays rights beyond those offered in any other country.

Lawmakers thumped their desks in approval when the vote passed 109-33, and some of the scores of witnesses in the packed public gallery applauded and embraced.

Parliament had discussed the bill last week, when only a few small Christian parties offered opposition during an emotional and often heated three-day debate. It gained speedy approval Tuesday.

"I'm very happy. What happened today represents changes in our society," said Mark Wagenbuur, 34.

He said he and his partner, who came with him to watch the vote, will now formally wed, but their immediate problem is "we don't know who should ask whom."

In Norway and Sweden, gay couples can

already register their partnerships and Denmark has gone a step further - it was the first country to allow gay marriages in 1989. Two years ago, the Netherlands enacted a law allowing same-sex couples to register as partners and to claim pensions, social security and inheritance.

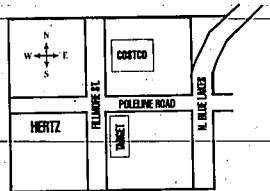
But the new Dutch legislation goes farther, creating full equality for gays, activists said. Same-sex couples will be able to marry at city hall and adopt Dutch children. They will be able to divorce through the court system, like heterosexual couples.

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Government assails power grid for cutting power to missile unit

MOSCOW (AP) - Under intense pressure to collect unpaid bills, a Russian electrical utility cut off power to a strategic missile base... which retaliated by sending troops to seize a switching station and turn the lights back on.

The drastic moves were a symptom of Russia's chronic web of nonpayment, in which large companies and government agencies don't pay cash for energy, raw materials and taxes - a habit that economists say drags down the economy.

A local branch of the national electricity utility, Unified Energy Systems, cut power Monday to a Strategic Rocket Forces base about 60 miles northeast of Moscow, saying it owed about \$683,000.

"We have been pushing them for one year to pay for the energy on time, with no result," Yuri Kozlov, the head of the Teikovo power grid, said on RTR government television.

The military responded quickly, capturing a switching station. "We have orders not to let any operator switch off the power," said Lt. Sergei Nikiforov, who commanded the platoon that occupied the station.

The military later agreed to talks on settling debts and recalled the soldiers, and the utility agreed to keep the power on, according to a power company statement.

Dmitry Korshunov, the power company's spokesman, told The Associated Press the cutoff had only affected non-combat units.

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The Times-News

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Decline of aspens
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MAGIC VALLEY

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Comics B5

City Editor: Kevin Richert—733-0931, Ext. 234

The Times-News

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Section B

AROUND THE VALLEY

CSI's enrollment goes up more than 500

TWIN FALLS — College of Southern Idaho officials were gearing up all along for another healthy enrollment hike, but not the 10.7 percent hike recorded earlier this week.

Fall semester enrollment has totaled out at 5,647, up from about 5,100 in 1999, said John Martin, the college's director of admissions and records.

The biggest increase came in technical programs, where enrollment is up 23 percent. Martin attributes the steep climb to a combination of new programs — such as a paramedic training program popular with many students — and an effort to market CSI's programs.

"The recruiting staff has just put a lot of effort into recruiting students," Martin said. "We've just kept it before the public."

Enrollment in academic programs were up by about 8.3 percent.

The enrollment increase was not unexpected. Martin last week said CSI expected the numbers to increase, but officials were gearing up for more of a typical 3 to 6 percent enrollment hike.

"This is quite a bit larger increase than we had expected," Martin said.

Three residents await drug-charge sentencing

TWIN FALLS — Three Magic Valley residents will be sentenced in federal court in Boise on Oct. 10 on drug trafficking and money laundering charges, according to the U.S. attorney's office in Boise.

Charles Raney, 47, of Twin Falls, pleaded guilty to conspiring to distribute cocaine, methamphetamine, heroin and marijuana and conspiring to launder drug profits, according to a U.S. attorney's office news release.

Raney's wife, Diana Raney, 26, of Burley, pleaded guilty to conspiring to launder drug money and is on electronic monitoring pending sentencing. Jose Silva, 32, of Buhl, pleaded guilty to conspiracy to distribute drugs and launder drug money.

Silva has been in custody since December 1999 and was recently placed on electronic monitoring, according to the news release. Before being put on monitoring, Silva posted a bond consisting of his and his parents' real and personal property, the release said.

Judge sends Kimberly man to prison on sex charge

TWIN FALLS — A 33-year-old Kimberly man, charged with fondling the 5-year-old boy he was baby-sitting, was sentenced last week to three to 10 years in prison.

Fifth District Judge Roger Burdick sentenced Mike Clifford Jay, who on July 10 pleaded guilty to a charge of sexual abuse of a child under 16.

The case was referred to the Idaho Attorney General's Special Prosecutions Unit by Twin Falls County Prosecutor Grant Loebs, according to a news release from the attorney general's office. Deputy Attorney Ken Stringfield prosecuted the case.

Sun Valley resort sets lift fees one dollar higher

SUN VALLEY — You'll have to shell out \$59 — one dollar more than last year — to ski at Sun Valley this year.

But you can save with early- and late-season specials and discount cards available beginning Oct. 2.

A regular lift ticket for adults this year will cost \$59; it'll cost \$33 for children 12 and under.

Lift tickets purchased through Nov. 19 cost \$38 for adults and \$23 for children. The tickets are good from Nov. 27 through Dec. 16 and from April 2 to the resort's closing.

Weekend discount cards, which knock the price of daily adult tickets on Saturdays and Sundays to \$40, can be purchased throughout the season. The cards cost \$39 for one person, \$29 for two people and \$10 for the third card in a family.

Season discount cards, good for any day of the week, cost \$150 and are available through Dec. 17 only.

Season passes cost \$1,650, or \$1,575 if purchased between Oct. 2 and Jan. 31. Blinn student season passes cost \$320.

Compiled from staff reports

United Way day goes on tour

By Ruth Stroeter
Times-News writer

RUPERT — There's a free power breakfast today in Rupert. It's not only for the dozens of volunteers spending today hard at work, but for anyone who wants to help the United Way launch its 2000 United Way Campaign.

The kickoff breakfast is from 8 to 10 a.m. at the American Red Cross building in Rupert; a similar kickoff breakfast is planned for Thursday in Twin Falls.

It's the start of a campaign aimed at raising more than \$400,000. The United Way of

More Information

United Way "Day of Caring" Kick-off Breakfast
When: 8 to 10 a.m., today
Where: American Red Cross building, 707 F St., Rupert

Magic Valley raised \$343,000 in 1999.

"Although last year was a record-breaking campaign, there are still more community needs to be addressed, such as feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, providing counseling for abused and neglected children, delivering meals to home-bound

seniors and assisting victims of domestic violence," the United Way said in a news release.

The breakfasts prepare volunteers for the annual Day of Caring, a day when local businesses and individuals give back to the community, said Patty Hansen with the Mini-Cassia chapter of American Red Cross.

Wal-Mart employees are painting the Minidoka County Senior Center, Kmart employees are painting the Red Cross office and McCain Foods U.S.A. is getting in on the action at Head Start in Burley. Costco and the United Parcel Service are donating backpacks to children and

D.L. Evans Bank and First Federal Savings are donating supplies for the projects.

Also on tap today and Thursday are free immunizations at South Central District Health Department offices:

• Burley: today, 2311 Parke Ave.

• Rupert: today, 1218 Ninth St., Suite 14.

• Twin Falls: Thursday, 1020 Washington St. N.

• Gooding: Thursday, 145 Seventh Ave. E.

Of the money the United Way raises, 99.5 percent stays in the area. Please see UNITED, Page B3

COUNTY OFFICER QUILTS



Sgt. Todd Peterson's last day on the job as resource deputy for Filer High School is Sept. 22. He said his pay as a deputy is what drove him to find another job. He is making his resignation public to draw attention to the poor pay county employees receive. Peterson is giving up his badge to take a job as a Baptist youth-camp minister north of Ketchum.

Resigning deputy cites poor pay, benefits

By Mark Halz
Times-News Writer

TWIN FALLS — Sgt. Todd Peterson wants his resignation from the Twin Falls County Sheriff's Department to echo beyond his absence.

He hopes to draw the county government's attention to what he sees as chronic sub-par compensation for county employees.

But long-time Twin Falls County Commissioner Marvin Hempleman said he's heard many times over the story Peterson is trying to tell. And although the commission has tried to be sympathetic, the money to change things simply isn't there.

Peterson, who works as the school resource deputy in Filer, says his parting from the sheriff's department isn't bitter.

"I am sitting right now with the best job in the Twin Falls

County Sheriff's Department," said Peterson, whose last day of work is Sept. 22.

He also had lots of praise for his boss, Sheriff Wayne Tousey, and his fellow officers.

But a recent offer to work as a Baptist youth camp minister in Ketchum was too good to pass up, he said. In fact, it's his dream job.

Even so, Peterson — who said he's now paid about \$15,400 an hour, or \$32,032 a year — said he would not have even been looking for another job in the first place if he'd thought he'd been getting just compensation from the county.

Tousey said he usually starts trained deputies out at \$2,078 monthly, and pays untrained newcomers about \$100 less per month.

Tousey said he's worried that if the trend continues, his deputies might be making less

than police in the smaller towns the county helps out with patrol duties.

Besides comparatively low wages and poor benefits, deputies give up lots of time to training and recertification, Peterson said.

"Everything an officer carries on his belt, he has to be trained for yearly," Peterson said.

Peterson decided to go public with resignation in hopes that it will better the lot of the remaining deputies and other county employees.

That's not likely to happen any time soon, said Hempleman.

"Every year, we've given each employee everything that was available and still allowed us to pay everything else," he said.

Commissioners have often agreed that's not enough, Hempleman said.

"(County employees) are not really paid what they're worth, but we've always given them what we could."

Still, the county might be playing a game of catch-up, Peterson said, because poor wages and benefits have caused excessive turnover.

In the case of a sheriff's deputy leaving, it might cost thousands of dollars to recruit and train a replacement, Peterson said. Also, it's generally accepted that an officer must be on duty for about two years to gain enough public trust to be truly effective, he said. The rate of turnover in Twin Falls County generally hasn't allowed for that, Peterson said.

Tousey said it's rare for any of his deputies to stay more than two years.

Hempleman agreed that in the long run, the county probably throws a lot more money through

Please see DEPUTY, Page B3

Historic building's fate is unclear

Prospective new location lacks the approval of council

By Karen Boslack
Times-News correspondent

KETCHUM — The future of a former church and Italian restaurant will revert back to the Ketchum City Council Monday night after this week's meeting before the Ketchum Planning and Zoning commission failed to provide much direction.

If something doesn't get decided soon, the former Louie's building won't be moved before the snow flies, said a frustrated Floyd McCracken, who has been heading up a grassroots effort to save the historical building.

Mayor Guy Coles has recommended that McCracken, and others raising money on own, grass roots effort among many citizens to save building and other historic preservationists show some guarantee that they can get the \$100,000 they need to move and restore the building before the church is moved.

But McCracken, who has \$32,000 in hand, says he needs a guarantee of the church's location before he can raise all the money.

The council indicated in August that they'd like to put the church at the end of East Avenue, which is currently being used as a parking lot, if the city attorney says such a move would conform to city regulations.

The faster the better, said McCracken, who'd like to restore the outside of the white clapboard building before winter sets in.

Meanwhile, some residents of River Street, where St. Bernards the proposed site, are protesting the move of the church to East Avenue.

"They say it is illegal for the city to put the church on a city street. If the city doesn't use the street as a street, it should revert to property owners, they say."

"I'm all for the preservation of the building," said Sue Jacobson. "I'll even volunteer to help paint it. But I don't think it belongs on a city street," said Sue Jacobson, resident of River street. "It's setting a terrible precedent because the city is not conforming to its own rules."

McCracken says he hoped to sit down with those who are protesting the move and try to appease their concerns.

"I can think of a number of projects, like the floating bridge in Seattle, where somebody wasn't happy with it at the onset," he said. "After they're finished, everyone's perfectly happy with it."

Pesticide disposal programs begin

By Aaron Brock
Times-News writer

BURLEY — If pesticides are accumulating in your barn or garage, then a safe opportunity to get rid of them has arrived.

The Idaho Department of Agriculture is sponsoring a pesticide disposal program today in Burley.

Any pesticides that need to be destroyed can be taken to the Bureau of Land Management's Burley field office at 15 E. 200 S. The collection will begin shortly after 2 p.m.

"This is just for whoever wants to get rid of some pesticides," Minidoka County Extension Educator Matthew Schuster said.

There is no fee for the disposal

of under-1,000-pounds of pesticides. There has been some pre-registration for the event, but Schuster said the Department of Agriculture will take pesticides from people who aren't registered as well.

Pre-registration allows organizers to plan for how much pesticide it will receive, but Schuster said, the department would rather take the pesticides than have homeowners trying to dispose of it on their own.

As well as helping to protect the environment, the program also is cost-effective.

"It's a lot less expensive to collect the materials and dispose of them than it is to clean up a spill or an accident," state agriculture program manager Rodney Awe said.

Since 1993, when the program started, more than 262,000 pounds of unusable pesticides from farmers, homeowners and lawn-care companies have been collected and destroyed.

The collected pesticides are incinerated.

The more people we have, the more help, and effective the program is," Awe said.

Two similar programs are scheduled for Thursday in the Magic Valley. The first takes place at 8 a.m. in Twin Falls, and the other at 2 p.m. in Jerome. For more information, call Awe at 332-8915.

Times-News writer Aaron Brock can be reached at the Mini-Cassia Bureau at 677-4042, ext. 110, or by e-mail at abrock@magicvalley.com



The Bureau of Land Management's Burley field office, 15 E. 200 S., will host a pesticide disposal program today. Anyone can participate in the program, sponsored by the Idaho Department of Agriculture.

MAGIC VALLEY WEST

Buhl project moves ahead

By Mary Lou Potts Times-News correspondent
-BUHL - After two years of preparation, Buhl's downtown revitalization project is moving ahead.
A proposed local improvement district was outlined Monday at a public hearing.
Plans include improved downtown structures, streetscapes, curbs, gutters, sidewalks and storm drains. A new stop light is planned for Main and Broadway, featuring left-turn lanes and signals. New streetlights, trees, tree grates, benches and trash receptacles are also planned.
The project is expected for the year 2003.
The district will go from the intersection of Main and Broadway for two blocks in each direction.
It's unclear if much of the project could cost, but some money is already in place.
The Idaho Transportation Department has pledged

\$800,000 because Broadway is a section of U.S. Highway 30.
The city of Buhl promised \$360,000 and will seek a \$500,000 block grant from the state Department of Commerce. About \$309,000 is expected from landowners within the LID.
'The town has to re-think how we do business in Buhl, competition is out there and we must keep our customers,' said Paul Hamilton, one of the project's leaders.
Gordon Christophersen, representing the Moose Lodge, said the lodge has already decided to do its own improvements, such as a new sign and sidewalks.
Christophersen said he will meet with the consultants to see if the lodge projects would comply with the new planned requirements.
In other business:
An ordinance governing recreational vehicle parking and recreational vehicle parking was approved. The ordinance governs parking vehicles in parks and

homes and updated by the Planning and Zoning Commission.
A resolution discussing the city's deteriorated or deteriorating areas was approved, and Mayor Barbara Gletzen appointed a city Urban Renewal Commission. John Crawford, Kent Alexander, Karen Clark, Loraine Hill and Jim Wilson will head up the agency.
The council heard about areas that qualify for urban renewal.
The first project will address upgrades at the McCollum area. Buhl is the 23rd city in the state to form an Urban Renewal Commission.
The council approved a plan for assigning numbers to each apartment or house on Kacy Meadows Lane. Since the company will contain homes, apartments and senior complexes, letters will be assigned to each area to help fire and police departments.



Phelps Elementary School Principal Max Tolman says the school's population fell dramatically after the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints urged its members to home-school students.

Man tied to Gooding murder pleads guilty to Texas slaying

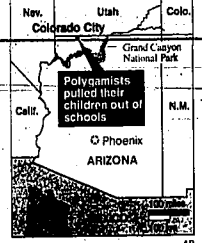
DEL-RIO, Texas (AP) - A drifter who has confessed to 13 slayings in Idaho and six other states pleaded guilty Tuesday to attempted murder for slaying the throat of a 10-year-old girl.
Tommy Lynn Sells, a 36-year-old former carnival worker and ex-convict, entered the plea as he went on trial for that crime and for the slaying of her 13-year-old friend Kaylene Harris.
Earlier this year, Sells confessed to killing three people in the Magic Valley 12 years ago: two in Twin Falls County and one in Gooding County.
Sells led investigators to a spot

along the Snake River near Bliss where he said he buried a woman in 1988. But a landslide had added 40 feet of soil since then, and no body has been found.
Gooding County Sheriff Shaun Gough said Monday there have been no further efforts to locate the body.
Although Sells has admitted killing Kaylene, he pleaded innocent to the capital murder indictment, which accuses him of breaking into her house to rape her. For Sells to get the death penalty, prosecutors must show that he committed another felony while killing her, such as break-

ing and entering.
'This is a very cruel crime, a very serious crime,' Victor Garcia, Sells' attorney, said as the trial began. 'But Tommy Lynn Sells is going to tell you what he's guilty of, and it's not capital murder.'
Sells is accused of slitting the throats of Kaylene and her friend Krystal Surles after breaking into the home of Kaylene's mother near the border city of Del Rio on Dec. 31 while the girls were asleep.
Kaylene died, but Krystal survived with her vocal cords severed.

Polygamist group pulls kids out of school, perhaps to await apocalypse

COLORADO CITY, Ariz. (AP) - Hundreds of members of a polygamist Mormon splinter group have pulled their children out of the public schools along the Utah-Arizona state line - preparing, perhaps, for the end of the world.
Only about 350 students have enrolled in the four schools in the desert towns of Colorado City and Hildale, Utah, compared with 1,400 last year. Dozens of teachers belonging to the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints have also quit.
They acted at the direction of Warren Jeffs, who speaks on behalf of his aged father, Rulon Jeffs - the church's prophet - in mid-July. Warren Jeffs ordered followers to take their children out of school and cut off contact with former church members.
Church members said they are taking charge of their children's education and schooling them at home, just like other parents across the country. Other people,



Around the twin communities, the End of Days is rumored to be either a few days or a few months away.
In a statement issued through their Salt Lake City attorney, the Jeffses said: 'The Fundamentalist Church and its officers have not made any predictions in regard to the exact date of the Second Coming. It has long been the teaching of the church that no man knows the hour or the date of that event.'
The twin towns were settled in the late 1800s by ranchers who followed the Mormon doctrine of polygamy. In 1950, the mainstream church disavowed the practice of plural marriage under pressure from the federal government, which threatened to refuse Utah statehood if it didn't.
But some people have clung to the practice - among them the fundamentalist sect, founded in 1929 - and have been excommunicated by the Mormon Church as a result.

particularly former members, said the Jeffs' followers are preparing for the apocalypse their leaders say is at hand.
Delroy Bateman, a former church member and a science teacher at the Colorado City high school, said church leaders are preaching that the towns will be lifted into heaven with the Second Coming of Jesus Christ.

SERVICES

Shirley Ann Harkins-Peterson, of Dallas, Texas, memorial graveside services at 11 a.m. Monday, Sept. 18, 2000, at the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding.
Arrangements are under the direction of Demaray's Gooding Chapel.
Madena Wilson, of Paul, funeral services at 11 a.m. today at the Paul LDS Stake Center.
Friends may call today from 6-8 p.m. at Hansen Mortuary Chapel, 710 6th and one hour prior to the service on Wednesday at the church.
Jean Booth King, of Burley, funeral services at 2 p.m. today at the United Methodist Church, 450 East 27th Street, Burley.
Friends may call today, from 6-8 p.m. at the Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 East 16th Street, Burley, and from 1-1:45 p.m. on Wednesday at the church.

Patricia Ann Harkins-Smith, of Dallas, Texas, memorial graveside services at 11 a.m. Sept. 18 at the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding (Demaray's Gooding Chapel).
Elizabeth 'Betsy' Spencer BURLEY - Elizabeth 'Betsy' Spencer, 82, of Burley, died Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2000, at her home.
Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by the Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 East 16th Street, Burley.
Ivah Bailey WENDELL - Ivah Bailey, 93, of Wendell died Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2000, at her home in Wendell.
Services pending under the direction of Demaray's Wendell Chapel.

at the Elmwood Cemetery in Gooding (Demaray's Gooding Chapel).
Terry Rae Southern ALOHA, Ore. - Terry Rae Southern, 41, of Aloha, Ore. died Friday Sept. 8, 2000, in Aloha, Ore.
Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.
Merlin Meyers JEROME - Merlin Meyers, 61, of Jerome died Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2000.
Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary of Jerome.

DEATH NOTICES

Proposed EPA rule could affect West's water systems

IDAHO FALLS (AP) - More than 2,000 homeowners in Bonneville County could see their water bills triple - the cost of removing arsenic from their drinking water.
The Falls Water Co., which provides water to suburban Idaho Falls, estimates its customers could pay an additional \$23 to \$53 a month if a new rule to reduce arsenic in the country's drinking water supply is approved.
The Environmental Protection Agency has proposed lowering the acceptable levels of arsenic in drinking water from 50 parts per billion to five parts per billion. The old limit was set in 1942, before anyone knew the element is toxic. A panel of national scientists recommended tightening the standard last year after finding arsenic caused unacceptable health risks and cancers.
The new standard will affect water systems throughout the West that rely on groundwater and wells. Water suppliers have not disputed that the arsenic standard needs to be lowered but have questioned how much.
The industry has opposed the five-parts-per-billion limit, arguing the science is too incomplete to justify setting the limit that low. Arsenic occurs naturally in

rocks and soil, and is used in industrial processes to make paints, dyes, drugs, soaps and semiconductors. Long-term exposure can cause skin, bladder, lung and prostate cancer, as well as anemia, nerve damage and circulatory problems, according to studies.
The EPA contends lowering the national standard to five parts per billion could prevent between 65 and 125 cancers in the general population each year.
Idaho officials estimate about one in five community water systems in the state would not meet the proposed standard. The cities of Idaho Falls, Blackfoot and Rexburg say arsenic levels in their wells are so low customers will not be affected.

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WHITE Mortuary & Crematory. 'Cared by the Faith'. TWIN FALLS 733-6640 KIMBERLY 423-8350. Reynolds Funeral Chapel. Twin Falls 733-4900.

HOSPITALS

Magic Valley Regional Med' al Center. Some names are omitted at patient's request. Dismissed. Joan Morris of Twin Falls.

OBITUARY

For obituary rates and information, call 733-0931, Ext. 278, between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4:30 p.m. for next-day publication. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 1 p.m. every day.

BURLEY Eduardo U. 'Chapo' Rodriguez. 61 of Heyburn died Monday, Sept. 11 at Casa Memorial Hospital. 'Chapo' Rodriguez was born in Menard, Texas on May 26, 1935. He married Elna Mae Thompson in May of 1955. Together they had six children; four made their home in Burley. They later divorced, and he was married in 1983, to Tina

of the church band. He was loved by many and brought great joy to many lives. He will be dearly missed. Chapo is survived by his children, Edward Michael Rodriguez of Cheyenne, Wyo.; Daniel Alton Rodriguez of Salem, Ore.; Hector Martinez of Ontario, Ore.; Sony Lopez of Salem, Ore.; Gary Rodriguez of Lincoln, Neb.; Phillip Rodriguez of Rupert, Pamela Nicole Rodriguez of Houston, Texas; 21 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren; siblings Damian Rodriguez, St. Angelo, Texas; Guadalupe Rodriguez, Oakley, Pete Rodriguez, Burley, Tomas Rodriguez, Flurgerville, Texas; Robert Rodriguez, Burley; Corina Rodriguez-Stowell, Houston, Texas. He was preceded in death by three sons, Paul, John and Troy, mother, Julia and father Elpidio. Rosary will be at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 13 at Saint Nicholas Catholic Church, 802 St. Rupert. Funeral Services will be at 11 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 14 also at Saint Nicholas Catholic Church. Burial will be at the Oakley Cemetery. Chapo's children wish to thank everyone who was there for him and never let him walk alone.

Times change, things move on, small personal business is swallowed up by large conglomerates that eventually over spend and experience the downfall of Bankruptcy and Foreclosure. We at Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home are Twin Falls only locally owned and operated mortuary, and because of this, we can offer the one on one personal service that your family desires at its most difficult times. Our asset base is here in Idaho, all of our business is done locally and we are grateful to the families of Twin Falls for their loyalty and support. Come and see why more and more families in the Magic Valley are choosing Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home as the funeral home of choice in our community.

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A withering Aspen grove stands in Yellowstone National Park, Wyo., in this file photo, date unknown. Scientists have been trying to figure out the mysterious decline of aspen groves in Yellowstone National Park, and they might have come up with possible reason: fewer wolves.

Yellowstone wolf decline might have harmed the aspen groves

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Scientists trying to figure out the mysterious decline of aspen groves in Yellowstone National Park have come up with a possible reason — the absence of wolves.

Wolves preying on elk herds not only keep down the number of animals grazing on young aspen trees, but change elk foraging behavior by their very presence, the scientists reported in the journal *Biological Conservation*.

"It's probably too soon to make any conclusions," said William Ripple, an Oregon State University researcher who led the study. "But it is very interesting that while wolves have been disappearing, aspen stands have stopped maturing."

Ripple, working with fellow OSU researcher Eric Larson, used

historical documents, aerial photographs and tree-ring dating techniques to determine that aspen growing in Yellowstone and other areas of the Rocky Mountains grew strong from about 1751 to 1928 — but have been on the decline since.

Wolves in and near Yellowstone Park were eliminated by 1926 as they came to be seen as a threat to local herds of elk and bison. Researchers determined that the 1920s were also the last decade in which mature aspen trees were able to regenerate.

Federal wildlife officials began reintroducing wolves, listed as an endangered species in 1974, in the Northern Rockies in 1995. Ripple said it is too soon to tell whether aspen groves have since begun to recover.

Aspen, biologically rich with

herbs, shrubs, insects, birds and berries, add a golden fall color to the landscape. Often, they are the only source of hardwood in their conifer-dominated ecosystems.

Most scientists agree that elk browsing has suppressed the growth of young aspen. But some question whether a warmer, drier climate or forest fires aren't also to blame.

Ed Bangs, the federal government's wolf recovery coordinator in the Rocky Mountains, said other influences — such as the loss of millions of American Indian hunters who once roamed the region — may also be linked to the decline of the tree.

"To say that aspen plants are just delightfully happy because wolves are back, that may be a stretch," he said.

Hailey clinic will assume nursing facility management

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

HAILEY — The Hailey Medical Clinic will begin managing the Blaine Manor nursing care facility when the Wood River Medical Center closes its doors in November.

The clinic will also work with St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center to set up an urgent care center at what is now the Wood River Medical Center, so Hailey's 6,000 residents can continue to have a health facility. Blaine County Commissioner Mary Ann Mix told the Hailey City Council this week.

You won't be able to take an ambulance to the urgent care center, said Rob Harding, who will

serve as the new facility's administrator. But you will be able to get broken arms and caroties treated there.

Hailey Medical Clinic, which proposed managing Blaine Manor for 7 percent of the total revenue, is the valley's largest primary care group, consisting of six family practice physicians, one pediatrician and two physician assistants.

It is owned by four physician partners — Drs. Randall Coriell, Carl Barbee, Richard Paris and Kaylyn Vaden, said Greg Green, Western Health Care Corp., a long-term care management company based in Boise, will serve as consultant for three or four years until the clinic feels confident about managing Blaine Manor, Harding said.

Mix said the South Central District Health Department would also be located at the facility.

The future of Blaine Manor, the county's only long-term nursing facility, has been up in the air, since the Wood River Medical Center will close when the new St. Luke's Hospital opens south of Ketchum.

Mix said the county hopes to do a better job of marketing. It also plans to add an assisted living wing in the next few years, and four or five more skilled nurses.

To do that, she said, county commissioners, Hailey city officials and school-board officials needed to resolve some property ownership issues so the manor can expand.

Cassia sheriff fires deputy, alleges act of insubordination

By Ruth Streeter
Times-News writer

BURLEY — Sheriff Billy Crystal says an act of insubordination led him to fire a Cassia County sheriff's deputy.

Crystal said he fired Deputy Joyce A. Green on Aug. 16, after consulting with county prosecuting attorney Al Barrus.

Green did not return several Times-News calls for her home seeking comment on her firing. She also did not respond to a registered letter mailed by the newspaper on Aug. 22.

Barrus said he could not comment on Green's firing because it is a personnel matter. He said his conversations with Crystal were primarily to determine whether the sheriff's department had legal grounds for the firing.

An off-duty incident the week before Green's firing led to her dismissal, Crystal said. He did

not elaborate on the incident and only said was that "she was insubordinate."

Cassia County commissioners said they could not comment on Green's dismissal. City Administrator Ernest Hirst did not confirm whether Green was fired, but he did say she was no longer employed by the county. The sheriff's department serves both the city and the county.

Green had been employed by the county since July 1997. Her ending salary was \$25,875.

Crystal said Green's dismissal was unrelated to a misdemeanor reckless driving charge she is facing. That charge stems from a Green incident that took place during an emergency medical services expo in the Wal-Mart parking lot.

Following that incident, Green was placed on unpaid leave pending the disposition of the charges and an internal investigation by the sheriff's department.

ment. She was still on leave at the time of her dismissal.

Eight witnesses, including Minidoka County Deputies Vic Watson and Richard Koyle and Lt. Dan Kindig, said Green was driving too fast through the parking lot, in an area with considerable pedestrian traffic because of the expo.

The misdemeanor charge carries up to a 90-day jail sentence and a fine.

Four people said they had seen Green's pickup stop about two feet from where a small child was sitting.

Green has pleaded innocent in court documents. A trial had been scheduled for Tuesday morning, but it has been postponed.

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

Report: Paperwork completed for seizure of Aryan property

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — The Kootenai County Sheriff's Department Tuesday received a court order to seize property from the Aryan Nations compound under a \$6.3 million civil judgment against the white supremacist sect, a television station reported.

KREM-TV of Spokane, Wash., said the order was signed by the clerk of the 1st District Court, where jurors returned the judgment last Thursday following a nearly two-week trial.

The award was made to a woman and her son who were assaulted by Aryan Nations security guards outside the compound near Hayden Lake in 1998.

Sheriff's officials have not decided when to seize property from the compound, KREM said. Aryan Nations leader Richard

Butler, reached at the 20-acre compound by phone Tuesday evening, told The Associated Press that no property could be legally seized until the expiration of a period during which his lawyer can appeal the verdict.

"Nothing can be moved until then," he said.

Butler's lawyer, Edgar Steele, has until next Monday to file motions, which could include a request for a new trial. If Judge Charles Hoseck denies such a request, Butler would then have 54 days to file an appeal. Butler would have to post \$900,000, or 10 percent, to obtain the estimated \$9 million appeal bond required by Idaho law. Butler has said he doesn't have that kind of money.

He has been ordered to appear at an Oct. 13 hearing to testify under oath about his assets.

The plaintiffs could then pursue a court order to force a sheriff's sale of the Aryan Nations' assets. Or Butler could be forced to file for bankruptcy protection.

On Friday, lawyers for plaintiffs Victoria and Jason Keenig sent a certified letter to Butler, saying they intend to move immediately to claim the neo-Nazi group's assets.

In another development Tuesday, the sheriff's department said it would not cover the expenses for sheriff's deputies who provided security during the trial were \$94,276. Deputies worked 12-hour shifts to maintain the service level in the rest of the county during the trial.

The Idaho State Police assisted with trial security, and that agency's wages related to the trial were \$13,178, the sheriff's department said.

Handyman spared death penalty in plea bargain

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Motel handyman Cary Stayner has agreed to plead guilty to the murder of a Yosemite naturalist in a deal that will spare him a federal execution, but he still faces a possible death sentence for a conviction of killing three sightseers.

The plea is scheduled to be entered Wednesday afternoon in federal court in Fresno before Judge Anthony W. Ishii. In a charge, Stayner will be sentenced at a later date to life in prison without parole, federal law enforcement sources told The Associated Press on Tuesday on condition of anonymity.

Stayner, 39, initially pleaded innocent to charges of kidnapping, attempted sexual assault and murder in the July 21, 1999, death of Joie Armstrong, who led children on nature hikes.

The case was being prosecuted in federal court because she was killed in Yosemite National Park.

A change of venue had been granted and a trial date set for April 10.

U.S. Attorney Paul Seave and Assistant Federal Defender Robert Rainwater did not immediately return phone calls for comment.

Leif Armstrong, who has said publicly that she would prefer not to sit through a trial and hear the details of her daughter's murder, could not immediately be reached. She is expected to attend Wednesday's hearing.

Prosecutors considered the sentiments of the Armstrong family in agreeing to drop their pursuit of a death sentence in return for the plea, according to a federal source.

The plea bargain will not affect the state's plan to seek the death penalty against Stayner in the murders of Carol Sando, 42, her daughter Juli, 15, and family friend Silvin Peluso, 16, of Cordoba, Argentina.

The three women were killed five months before Armstrong, during a sightseeing trip to Yosemite National Park. Stayner was staying at the Cedar Lodge in El Portal, where Stayner lived and worked.

Stayner is a brother of Steven Stayner, the center of a highly publicized kidnapping case two decades ago.

Stayner was arrested in 1972 in 1972. He remained in prison for seven years, then was hailed as a hero for finally going to police when his abductor kidnaped another boy. He died in 1985, at age 24, in a collision with a hit-and-run driver.

Report: Drug abusers can work as nurses

CHICAGO (AP) — Drug abusers and child molesters have been allowed to remain on the job as nurses in Illinois despite being caught or admitting their crimes, according to a newspaper investigation.

The Chicago Tribune reported Tuesday that Illinois is one of 37 states, including Utah, that do not require hospitals and clinics to report cases of nurse misconduct.

As a result, nurses who have made deadly mistakes on the job or have been convicted of felonies — including stealing drugs from patients — continue to work across the country. And nursing crunch makes it even less likely they will be fired, experts say.

"If there is any chance ... state licensing boards will always lean towards re-employment. A nurse is a valuable resource," said Vicki

Sheets, director of policy and credentialing for the National Boards of Nursing.

The Tribune found a pattern of law enforcement in nursing cases handled by the Illinois Department of Professional Regulation — the state's licensing and disciplinary board.

For example, in at least 43 cases over the past six years, nurses suspected of committing felonies were not referred to prosecutors. One case involved a nurse who forged more than 50 prescriptions in the Chicago area, investigative reports showed.

The agency also hasn't disciplined nurses who have settled lawsuits alleging that their incompetence or impairment led to the death or injury of a patient, the Tribune reported.

In fact, more Illinois nurses lose

their licenses for failing to repay student loans than for drug use or felony convictions. And while most states determine discipline for drug use based on how severely a nurse was impaired, Illinois almost always gives nurses probation the first time they are caught high or intoxicated.

One reason for the lack of discipline may be the state disciplinary agency's staffing. Although there are about 110,000 registered nurses in Illinois, only six workers are assigned to investigate the profession.

Even nurses who are investigated often are protected by the state. Of the 524 case files on nurses closed since 1995, three of every four lack basic information, including the allegations against a nurse or where the violation occurred, the Tribune found.

Senator wants repeal of school loan program

CALDWELL (AP) — With leaders anticipating a record state budget surplus, Sen. Darrel Deide wants to repeal a school building loan program he co-wrote six months ago.

The Caldwell Republican said the state could help districts construct adequate school buildings, taking the burden off property taxpayers.

"To some degree it's a reversal," said Deide, who has consistently opposed distributing state tax revenue to schools to meet their building needs.

Lawmakers last spring dismissed Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's plan to pay interest on school

loans, prompting Deide and Rep. Lawrence Denny, R-Midvale, to craft the revolving loan concept.

But the school district has inquired about using any of the \$20 million from the state-financed loan program. The money was meant to help protect the state from a lawsuit alleging that the legislature failed in its responsibility to provide safe schools for children.

"It's not being used and apparently is not going to be used," Deide said on Monday.

Now Deide, a member of the Senate Education Committee, wants to adopt a program that

would distribute at least \$30 million to districts based on such factors as district population and available property tax base.

Districts could use the money to reduce debt and construct buildings. If officials decided not to use the money, they could keep it in account for the district future needs.

"Never before were we looking at legislation that treated all districts equally," Deide said.

Senate Education Chairman Gary Schroeder of Moscow said he funds Deide's new plan surprised because Deide fought so hard against any proposal that would draw from the general fund.

Man claims EPA employees made threats

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — A Harrison man who testified at last month's Environmental Protection Agency's National Ombudsman hearing in Coeur d'Alene, filed an affidavit alleging an EPA regional administrator threatened him following his testimony.

L. Rogers Hardy sent his affidavit detailing that incident to EPA National Ombudsman Bob Marin after receiving word that the actions he alleges could amount to felony charges.

The ombudsman's office plans to forward the allegation to the

U.S. Attorney in Idaho.

Hardy alleges that Mike Gearheard, director of Superfund in EPA's Seattle office, took offense to his testimony at the hearing.

During that hearing, Hardy — speaking for Citizens Against Rails for Trails — urged the ombudsman to recommend moving staff and replacing them with new people who are less tied into local politics and less concerned with self-promotion.

In an informal discussion after his testimony, Hardy claims

Gearheard told him he was inappropriate to testify about Internal EPA personnel issues.

According to the affidavit, Gearheard told Hardy he took his statements personally, and then, in a menacing manner, said he would not forget Hardy's testimony.

Gearheard, allegedly inadvertently stepped on his foot during that exchange.

Gearheard said he took exception to Hardy's attack on his staff, but maintains that he did not threaten the man.

Deputy

Continued from B1

...a revolving personnel door that it could spend retaining its best employees.

"The trouble is, the county can't budget for the long run, he said.

"The county must budget according to tax and fee collections, which happen every six months. Typically, the commission is left scrambling trying to keep up with the county's ever-increasing bills for power, water and such," he said.

"That leaves precious little flex in payrolls and benefit funds, Hempleman said.

Sheriff's deputies around the state seem to make significantly less than city police officers, Tousey said. That

might be because deputies are often lapped in with other county employees.

"We're not any better than any other county employee, but we are in a 'different class of work' that is typically more dangerous and requires lots of special training and certification," he said.

But the politics behind county commissions probably won't allow change any time soon, Tousey said.

"Maybe it's that old stigma of 'Oh gee, if spend too much money, I won't get elected next time.'"

Times-News reporter Mark Heinz can be reached at 733-0131, ext. 238, or by e-mail at mhinz@magicvalley.com

United

Continued from B1

...area, according to United Way literature.

The United Way says a \$1 donation every week for a year provides 35 hot meals for the hungry, while \$10 donations every week will give food, shelter and crisis intervention services to seven battered women and their children.

Times-News writer Ruth Streeter can be reached at the Mini-Cassia Bureau at 677-4042, ext. 109, or by e-mail at rstreeter@magicvalley.com

IDAHO

Prof's back Idaho pay increase

Educators say state's salaries trail those of comparable colleges

LEWISTON (AP) — Administrators and professors at Idaho's four-year colleges and universities are asking Gov. Dirk Kempthorne to support the Idaho Board of Education's budget request to make faculty salaries more competitive.

They say a 16 percent salary gap between faculty in Idaho and professors at similar schools in other states has grown even wider over the past six years.

Faculty have started leaving Idaho for positions in other states at an increasing alarming rate as a result, the state faculty leaders say.

For example, about 20 percent of Boise State University's assistant, associate and full professors have either resigned or taken early retirement during the past five years. "Moreover, the rate at which faculty members are leaving is rapidly accelerating," Idaho Council of Higher Education Faculty Chairman Randy Earles warned Kempthorne in a letter last month.

Idaho State University, Lewis-Clark State College and the University of Idaho are experiencing similar problems, said Earles, an associate professor of music at Idaho State.

Faculty leaders at Boise State University, Idaho State University, Lewis-Clark State College and University of Idaho approved Earles' letter. They serve on the governing board for the Idaho Council of Higher Education Faculty.

The Idaho Board of Education is seeking \$2.5 million to make faculty salaries more competitive in its request for the budget year starting in July.

The board wants to boost state support for four-year schools by nearly \$24 million to \$237.8 million in the next budget year.

Kempthorne did not ask the legislature for money to make faculty salaries more competitive earlier this year.

This year's Legislature boosted state support for the four-year schools by \$12.9 million to \$214.9 million and appropriated enough money for 3.5 percent raises.

Earles said a letter asking for raises was sent to Kempthorne last year.

He said continued economic growth in Idaho depends partly on having an educated workforce and producing an educated workforce depends on sustaining quality instruction in Idaho's colleges and universities.

Kempthorne has yet to respond to Earles' letter, said Mark Sneider, the governor's spokesman.

But, he said the governor intends to take up the faculty leaders on their offer to meet and talk about the issue.

AUCTION LISTINGS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 30
11:00am
Bannett Brown
Pickup - Household - Misc - Blas
Advertisement - September 17
MASTERS AUCTION SERVICES
www.mastersauction.com

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 - 1:00pm
Larson & Thompson
Antiques - Collectibles - Oak Furniture
- Household - Rupt
Advertisement - September 14
MASTERS AUCTION SERVICES
www.mastersauction.com

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 16 - 10:00am
Hitch Haven Antiques
Large Antique & Collectibles Auction
Twin Falls
Advertisement - September 10 & 14
MUSSER BROS. AUCTIONEERS
www.mbauction.com

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17 - 1:00pm
Lowell & Mary Carol Gard
Shop - Household - Twin Falls
Advertisement - September 15
MASTERS AUCTION SERVICES
www.mastersauction.com

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 18 - 11:00am
Vivian Knighton Living Estate
Real Estate - Antiques - Collectibles
Household - Travel Trailer - Twin Falls
Advertisement - September 16
JMA AUCTIONEERS
www.jmauctions.com

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 - 5:00pm
Household-Tools-Antiques
Consignments Welcome-Jerome
KLAAS AUCTION BARN
208-324-9521

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19 - 4:00pm
Lawn & Garden - Burlap
Advertisement - September 17
US AUCTIONS
www.us-auctioneers.com

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21 - 3:00pm
Sterling & Elva Vaughn Living Estate
Household - Twin Falls
Advertisement - September 19
MUSSER BROS. AUCTIONEERS
www.mbauction.com

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 - 11:00am
Power Tools & Accessories - Bait
Advertisement - September 17
US AUCTIONS
www.us-auctioneers.com

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 - 11:00am
Blanche Novacek Estate
Furniture - Antiques - Collectibles Household -
Twin Falls County Fairgrounds
Now Taking Select Consignments
Advertisement - September 17 & 21
ALL AMERICAN AUCTION CO.
www.auctionsideaho.com

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 23 - 11:00am
Magic Valley Breeders Association
Horse & Tack Sale
Powers 1100am - Goodley Co Fairgrounds
JOE BENNETT, AUCTIONEER
837-4589

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30 - 11:00am
Smith Drilling & Pump Company
Liquidation Auction - Jerome
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Or get a \$500-\$1,000 Cash Allowance*

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Up To
Cash Allowance*
Or 0.9% APR Financing*

this → \$4,549
Savings Up To
With \$1,000-\$1,500
Cash Allowance plus 5.9% APR Long-Term Financing*
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Up To
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COMICS

Classic Peanuts



By Charles M. Schulz

For Better or For Worse



By Lynn Johnston

Dilbert



By Scott Adams

Blonde



By Dean Young & Stan Drake

B.C.



By Johnny Hart

Pickles



By Brian Crane

Garfield



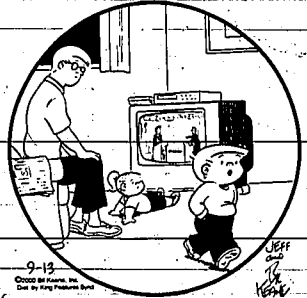
By Jim Davis

Dennis the Menace



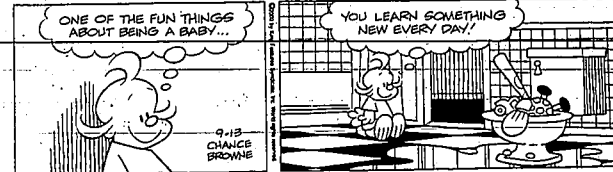
By Hank Ketcham

The Family Circus



By Bil Keane

Hi and Lois



By Chance Browne

The Wizard of Id



By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart

Rose Is Rose



By Pat Brady

Hagar the Horrible



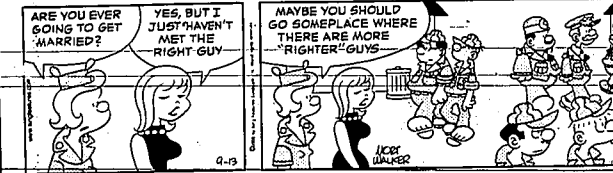
By Chris Browne

Zits



By Jim Borgman & Jerry Scott

Beetle Bailey



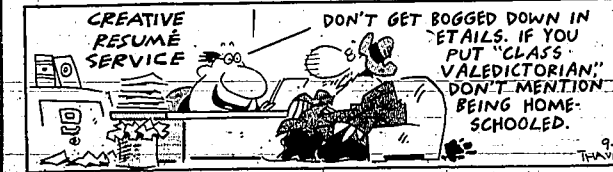
By Mort Walker

Luann



By Greg Evans

Frank and Ernest



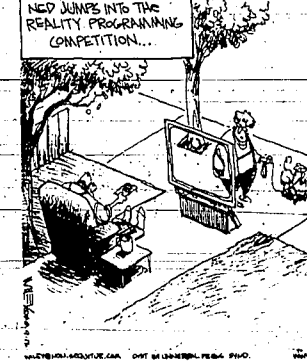
By Bob Thaves

Strange Brew



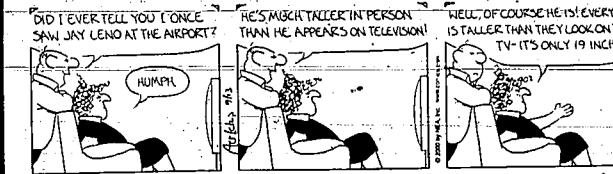
By John Deering

Non Sequitur



By E. Wiley

The Born Loser



By Art Sansom & Chip

IDAHO/WEST

Undesirable plant takes over lakes

PRIEST RIVER (AP) — The pile of Eurasian milfoil in the parking lot looked like long, moldy rat tails.

The plant is about as desirable as a bunch of diseased rodents and has taken hold in Idaho and eastern Washington lakes in recent years.

Divers pulled the pile from the Pend Oreille River bottom at the Priest River confluence on Monday.

"Pouring more chemicals in the water doesn't seem to be the answer," said Doug Freeland of Kootenai County Weed Control, during a demonstration on how to dive for weeds.

When Bonner County tried treating milfoil in Abbot's Cove with chemicals, it appeared to have no effect, Freeland said. So local officials are coordinating with Kootenai County to hire divers who attack Eurasian milfoil infestations at their roots.

Divers reach into the bottom sediment, yank out the invasive plant, then stuff the long stalks in a vacuum tube that sucks them to a barge on the surface.

The small barge collects the weeds while allowing the water to drain out.

"We just pulled up a 25-footer out of here," a worker called out to visitors drifting nearby.

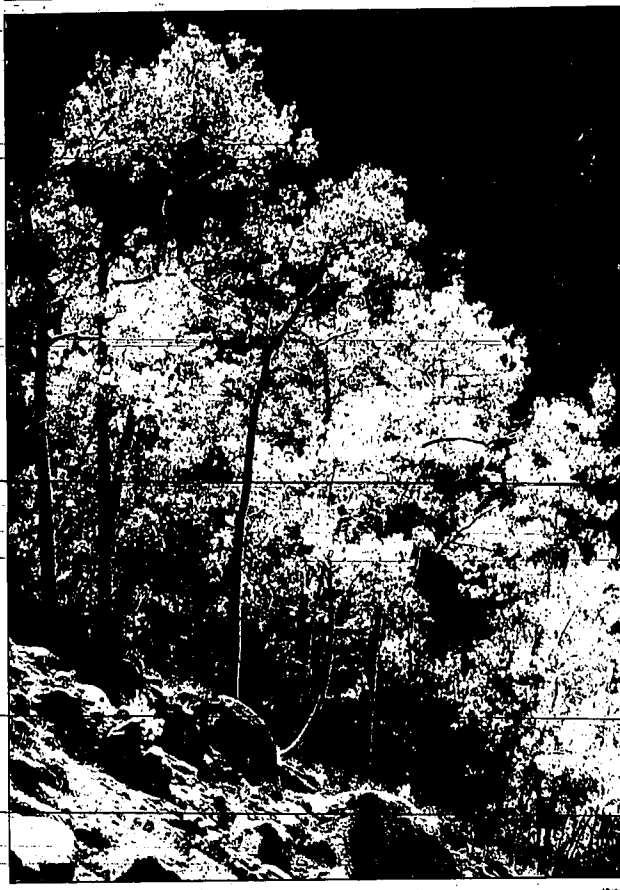
Milfoil spreads mainly by boats. The tiny bits of weed travel on boat trailers or motors from waterway to waterway.

Freeland said Idaho is one of only three states not overtaken by the weed. Milfoil turned up in Spirit Lake five years ago, about two years after the Pend Oreille River, and also has infested Hayden Lake.

Divers so far have weeded about 17 miles of Hayden Lake's shoreline and another 15 miles along Spirit Lake, yielding about 26,000 pounds of slimy harvest.

Now the Pend Oreille River is getting the hands-on treatment. Local weed supervisors do not want to attack this kind of weed with chemicals because the intake for Priest River City's water supply lays downstream.

COLORS IN THE WIND



Aspen trees stand dressed in their fall colors on the Mt. Evans Scenic Byway west of Idaho Springs, Colo., Monday.

Environmentalists sue over new salmon rules

SEATTLE (AP) — Several environmental and fishing groups sued the federal government Tuesday, trying to force officials to strengthen rules intended to protect Northwest and California wild salmon runs from extinction.

"Salmon are in serious trouble, yet the federal government is not doing what the law requires to ensure salmon survive and recover," said Patti Goldman, lead attorney on the case from Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund. "Instead they propose to continue to allow the harm and claim to have recovery at the same time. That won't work, and it's illegal."

Government officials said they are prepared to defend the rules in court. A timber industry group accused the environmentalists of inviting chaos by trying to get federal courts to take over salmon protection.

The National Marine Fisheries Service issued salmon-protection rules in June after 14 salmon and steelhead species were listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

The rules tell people, companies and governments what not to do if they want to avoid being sued under the Endangered Species Act for harming salmon and steelhead. They're called the 4(d) rules, named for the authorizing section of the Endangered Species Act, and apply to nearly 60,000 square miles in Washington, Oregon, Idaho and California.

The rules do something new by giving local and state governments more flexibility. If local and state governments approve their own plans to regulate activities such as logging, road-building and urban development in a way that protects salmon, the federal government will let them be "exempt" from the 4(d) regulations.

NMFS has tentatively approved one such exemption in Washington, the Forest and Fish Agreement. The agreement, passed by the Washington State Legislature last year, limits logging on hillsides and near streams on 8 million acres of private land. By following the agreement, loggers on private land won't have to worry about getting sued under the Endangered Species Act for harming salmon.

The federal government points to the Forest and Fish Agreement as a model for other sites, but environmental groups say it's a sweetheart deal for the timber industry and a bad deal for salmon. Their lawsuit asks the court to block the timber exemption.

Pathologist investigates puzzling dairy cow disorder

CALDWELL (AP) — University of Idaho pathologist Bruce Anderson is investigating a mysterious intestinal disorder responsible for sudden death in some Idaho dairy cows.

Called "jejunal hemorrhage syndrome," or "dead gut disease," the ailment is characterized by swollen, blood-filled sections of the small intestine, or jejunum.

Anderson first reported the disorder in 1991 and has since seen 16 more cases in Idaho. He even placed a query in a scientific journal and learned that veterinarians and researchers in Washington state, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Prince Edward Island, Canada have reported similar cases.

"We are very early in the investigation of what may be an important problem," Anderson said. "On the other hand, it may prove to be of little or no consequence to animal agriculture."

Anderson is asking Idaho dairy producers and veterinarians to notify him if any of their cows progress rapidly from producing high volumes of milk one day to none the next.

Spruce Goose migrates to aviation museum — its new, permanent home

McMINNVILLE, Ore. (AP) — More than half a century after billionaire Howard Hughes took the wheel in its one and only flight, the "Spruce Goose" — the world's largest wooden airplane — is about to make its final move.

The 219-foot-long flying boat has been undergoing restoration at Evergreen International Aviation since 1992, when Evergreen founder Del Smith decided to give the massive troop carrier a permanent home.

Early in World War II, ship-builder Henry Kaiser suggested building a giant sea plane to replace ships being sunk at a high rate by German U-boats.

Kaiser brought Hughes on board for his aircraft expertise, and it was Hughes and his staff who designed, engineered and built the Spruce Goose — a misleading nickname because it was built mostly of laminated wood. Kaiser dropped out of the airplane project when the war ended in 1945, but Hughes doggedly continued until it was completed.

Hughes piloted the plane for its only flight in 1947, a journey recorded by newsreels, lasting only about one minute and covering about a mile along the coast at Long Beach, Calif.

It was never flown again. Hughes spent \$11 million a year keeping it in flight-ready condition until a few years before his death in 1976.

The Spruce Goose was moved to a custom-built dome near Long Beach Harbor. It was disassembled in 1992 and barged to the Evergreen International Aviation campus, to be restored and put on display.

Now that the airplane has been stripped and repainted, it is about to be carted in large pieces across a highway to an aviation museum where it will be the main attraction.

Huge iron cradles were specially built to hold and transport the airplane's gargantuan pieces. The wings will be moved into the museum, then the fuselage, and finally the tail and stabilizer. They will be mated 800 feet at a walking pace, to the glass-and-steel-trussed museum.

The move is scheduled Saturday. The trip will probably take about 30 minutes. But reassembly of the plane will take six to seven months.

"It comes apart easier than it goes together," said Terry Naig, Evergreen director of properties.

The museum is called the Capt. Michael King-Smith Evergreen Aviation Educational Institute for Smith's son, an Air National Guard pilot and avid auto racer who died in an auto accident in 1995.

A total of 37 vintage planes will be on display at the museum, which opens in the spring.

The new museum is 120,000 square feet, and has four acres of roofing to accommodate the Spruce Goose.

The Spruce Goose's wingspan stretches 320 feet, longer than a football field. The cockpit rises nearly three stories from the keel of the airplane, which was designed to take off and land in water.

"They had to kind of build the building around the plane, taking everything into account," said construction project manager Mike Coven.

The plane's tail will reach up between two ceiling beams. Its wings will be carefully positioned between pillars. A swimming pool-sized pit will hold a cradle for the plane, allowing the bottom to be level with the museum floor.

Man petitions for Boy Scout gay ban

PROVO, Utah (AP) — A Provo man who started a Web site to oppose the Boy Scouts' ban on gays in leadership positions within the organization says he's receiving national support for his cause.

"I wanted to do something," Gavin Grooms said. "The attacks on the Boy Scouts are utterly unfair."

Grooms says starting the Web site and its accompanying petition became necessary as a backlash to a June U.S. Supreme Court ruling that affirmed the Boy Scouts' standing as a private organization with the right to ban gay leaders.

A growing number of businesses and civic and church groups refuse to support the Scouts because they say the ban is discriminatory. A bill was introduced in Congress that would repeal the Scouts' federal charter, and flag-carrying Scouts were booted at the Democratic National Convention.

Grooms brainstormed with retired Brigham Young University professor Kent Harrison and Harrison's wife, Janice — who both have Silver Beaver awards, a prestigious Scout leadership badge — before launching the Internet site. It also has the support of Rep. Chris Cannon, R-Utah, and Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, R-Calif.

"At stake are the values that built America," Cannon says. The site began Sept. 1 and was promoted on the radio talk show circuit, including conservative talk show host Michael Reagan's nationally syndicated talk show, Grooms said.

It offers advocacy and monetary support to the Scouts and solicits donations to replace money the Scouts are losing as traditional support is withdrawn, Grooms says. The Web site has spawned a nonprofit organization in Utah.

About 8,000 people, mostly from outside Utah, signed the petition in within one week and about \$10,000 in donations was raised, Grooms says. About 80 percent of the money will go to various Scout councils and troops around the country and the rest to administration.

Even so, a spokesman for the national Boy Scout office was unaware of the site's existence.

It also has its detractors, who say gay men have always been in the organization and have successfully completed the requirements to earn the highest rankings.

David de St. Germain, a past-president of the University of Utah's gay and lesbian club and an Eagle Scout says some of the best Scouters discovered they were gay after adolescence. "They just want to give back," he says. "It's tragic (they are) being kept out."

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We want you to meet **Tari Freiburger**




Tari Freiburger is a native of Rupert, Idaho and is a graduate of Milnes High School. Tari joined First Federal in 1997 as a teller, and currently works as a new accounts representative and head teller at our newly remodeled Rupert office. Along with her husband Jeff, she is involved in the family farming operation and the busy lives of their three children. Tari and her family enjoy camping, water sports, gardening, and crafts. Including ceramic and floral arrangements. In addition to her many activities, Tari is a member of the Rupert Kiwanis Club.


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The Times-News

Wednesday, September 13, 2000

Add a sense of style with monograms

Q: What are your tips for designing monograms?

A: Monograms were first used in the Middle Ages, as a means of identifying laundry. A king's linens might have been embroidered with a coat



ASK
MARTHA
Stewart

of arms or a crown. It was so until the 19th century, when a well-stocked linen closet became the ultimate sign of prosperity, that the middle class embraced the idea of using monograms as a decorative element. Royal symbols were replaced with stylized initials on table linens, sheets and towels, china, glass, silver and other household items.

Today, adding a monogram is still a perfect way to turn an anonymous item into something that is indisputably yours.

DESIGNING YOUR MONOGRAM

You may not be able to choose your initials, but you can customize.

Typeface: Browse through typography books, such as the series published by Dover. Look for these books in the art/graphic design sections of major bookstores. Or experiment with a computer word-processing program to find typefaces.

Initials: A single monogrammed initial has a bold look, while two or three are more traditional. A three-letter monogram can be designed in several ways: For a single person, the letters can all be the same size, representing the first, middle and last names. Alternatively, a large center-initial can stand for the last name, flanked by smaller letters for the first and middle names. Many married couples choose to include both of their first initials with that of the shared last name, while others use just one initial. Still others choose to design their own unique monogram - such as their individual initials separated by an icon when the wife has elected to keep her maiden name.

Images: Another way to personalize a monogram is to include an image above, around or between the initials. For ideas, look for books on decoupage or clip-art; custom stationery stores also have banks of images from which to choose.

PROJECTS

Transform the plainest item into a keepsake with a monogram.

Etched glasses: Customize glasses by creating your own designs with etching cream (sold in art-supply stores). For safety, wear plastic gloves and an old shirt with long sleeves, and be sure to work in a well-ventilated area. Create a design with your monogram on paper, enlarging it with a photocopier if needed. Place it on a square of Con-Tac paper and cut out the letters with a utility knife, creating a stencil. Peel off the adhesive back, and press the stencil onto the glass and rub hard. With a paintbrush, apply a thick layer of etching cream to the glass inside the stencil. Wait five minutes, then rinse the cream off with warm water and remove the stencil, revealing your etched monogram. For other designs, try using adhesive "looseleaf" hole reinforcements to create polka dots or masking tape for stripes.

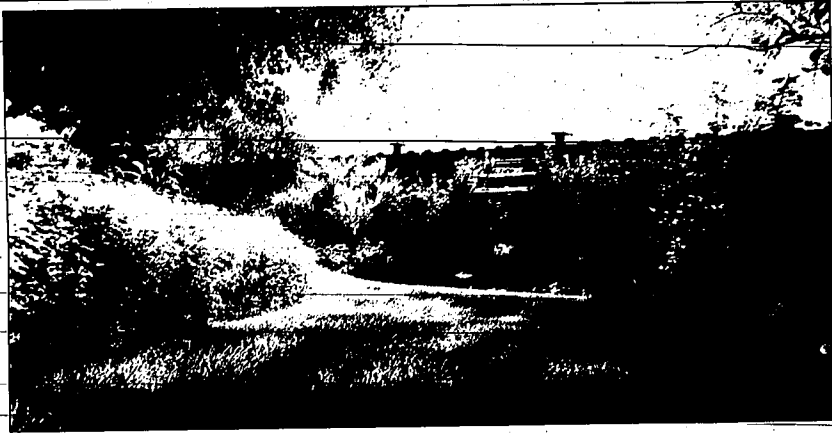
Sheer curtain: Dress up a sheer curtain with an opaque letter applied to the center. A simple letter with straight edges works best. Photocopy the letter and enlarge it to the desired size. Mark a 1/4-inch hem allowance around the letter's shape on your photocopy, then cut it out along this line. Iron a piece of fusible interfacing (available at fabric stores) onto a piece of high-thread-count cotton shirting (which adds stability), and pin the pattern to the interfacing. Cut out the fabric at an angle so you can turn the edges under 1/4 inch; iron flat. Pin to the curtain, and slip stitch in place. For further embellishment, you can stitch dots around the monogram, using loose-leaf paper reinforcements. Place the reinforcements on the fabric, fill in the holes with a pencil; remove the stickers, and stitch over the marks with embroidery floss.

Questions should be addressed to Martha Stewart in care of The New York Times Syndication Sales Corp., 122 E. 42nd St., New York, N.Y. 10168. Or visit Martha Stewart at www.marthastewart.com. "Martha Stewart Living" is on KSAW-TV at 9 a.m. weekdays and 10 a.m. Sunday.



Above, Carol Brockway has been perfecting her gardening skills, and her backyard, for more than 30 years. She pots her own plants and has experimented with many exotic plants in her shrub beds.

Right, Brockway's yard is an artful blend of shade-loving grass, shrubs and large trees.



Story by
Dixie Thomas
Reale

Photos by
Bruce Shields

Garden of a lifetime

Twin Falls couple turns their yard into a charming retreat

TWIN FALLS—Carol and Charles Brockway have lived in their Twin Falls home for about 30 years. The garden is just the way Carol Brockway likes it, because she's been working on it for more than 20 years.

When the Brockways moved into their house, they were young and newly married. And they didn't have much money.

Carol Brockway begged and borrowed starts of plants from family and friends, she said. A silver leaf maple that dominates a corner of the back yard grew from a start off her grandmother's maple tree in Ketchum. Baby elm trees from her church's parking lot are now huge.

On a trip to England, years ago, Brockway fell in love with English gardens and has since tried to recreate one in her own back yard.

"An English garden has lots of different plants all growing together," she said, "larger plants with smaller plants growing among them, lots of ground cover and perennials to keep the weeds down."

She fills in around bushes with little surprises - special little flowers and annuals tucked among the larger plants.

A large rock waterfall is the



Sleeping-old-men, toads and shy maidens are just a few of the statuettes that populate Brockway's garden.

center focus of her backyard - with a profusion of evergreens, hostas, sweet woodruff, creeping Jenny, marigolds, daisies, cornflowers, mums, pointellas, snapdragons, Oregon grape and ground cover surrounding it. Carpet roses, a new variety that hugs the ground, are planted among the taller flowers and bushes.

Ivy and other climbing plants grow profusely, hiding electrical cords, sprinkler systems and other mundane utility devices. Hanging baskets fill the house.

Ceramic elves, alligators, squirrels, frogs, beaver, ducks and

deer hide among the flowers.

A fun little fountain made of a watering can hooked up to a water pump sprinkles a miniature water garden in a planter where lilies and other water plants live.

Brockway's potting shed looks like a small child's playhouse. A ceramic girl sits on a bench across from a sun dial among the impatiens, wisteria, prayer plant, Jacob's ladder, Rhododendrons, honeysuckle, spirea, bluebells and viburnas.

Brockway has spaced butterfly houses, bird feeders and birdbaths throughout the yard,

too. And she has scattered strawberries, raspberries, cabbage and tomatoes here and there among the flowers.

Through the years, Brockway has learned a thing or two about plants. Now, she grows a few specimens - houghtwillow and gardenia - that don't normally do well in this climate. She takes them indoors for the winter.

Before the first frost, she puts them into an insulated, but unheated garage, trims the bougainvillea back, waters well and lets it go dormant. After the last frost in the spring, she brings both specimens back out

into the garden.

She offers advice to the beginning gardener: "Before you do anything, make a plan. Look at magazines and books for ideas and cut out lots of pictures. Draw it all out on paper."

Brockway reminds gardeners to consider the plants' habits and characteristics.

She said, "Ask yourself how big the plants are going to get. Do they like shade or sunshine? Do they need lots of water or very little water?"

She said to plant taller plants to the back, medium-sized plants in the middle and shorter plants to the front of the grouping. And consider a plant's watering needs, to group the plants accordingly.

Also important is a good gardening book. Many nurseries or garden magazines or seed companies have plans for all sorts of gardens. From shade-loving gardens to sunny gardens to desert gardens. The plans tell what grows where and how to care for the various plants.

Find a good nursery person to consult regularly, Brockway said.

She also noted, "Arborvitae makes a nice privacy screen, and marigolds discourage bugs."

Brockway doesn't like to see woody branches showing under bushes, so she plants smaller plants around the base of the bushes and uses lots of ground cover.

She also stresses the necessity of a good watering system; and a good spraying program - to keep the bugs down.

FOOD & HOME

Plants need to slow down for the winter

There's a lot of growing time left, but it's time to help plants slow down. If the plants in your yard and garden were "out in the wild" they'd be taking all their cues from nature. They would respond to the ups and downs of rainfall, the shortening day length and cooler temperatures. Plants know that it's time to slow down, toughen up and prepare for winter. Let them.

Slow down the water. If you've been watering every week, go to a two-week cycle now. If you can easily stretch it to a month. You get the idea. By Thanksgiving, you should be soaking the root zones once a month.

When the ground is frozen and won't accept any more water, the roots are snug for the winter. We want to keep roots moist and cold during winter.

DEAR CATHY: I am having trouble with my raspberries. This year my plants are getting all brown leaves and look like they are dying. I was advised to use a foliar spray for nutrient mixes. I've sprayed twice but this doesn't seem to help. I was told to add iron to the soil, then someone told me it was blight. I



GREEN THUMBPRINT'S
Cathy Walworth

was told to water them deeply. I pray you have an answer for me.

-FRUITLESS

DEAR FRUITLESS: Raspberries won't tolerate highly alkaline soil - like ours. Their leaves will look scorched and discolor as a result of iron, magnesium and manganese deficiency. Raspberries prefer a nice loamy soil, in a sunny spot with a little shade to protect them from our hot afternoons.

Raspberries will not put up with wet feet, so if your soil is clay, they'd appreciate it if you could amend the soil with manures and other organic materials to improve the drainage. On the other hand, if your soil is sandy, poor and stony, raspberries need the

organic materials to help retain moisture. Adding organic matter to the soil will lower the pH, but it would be a lot smarter if you had the soil tested first. When you know what the soil needs, you can correct it for a better season next year. Thanks for writing.

TIP OF THE WEEK: Got a computer? Check out www.nationalgardening.com. You'll find lots of good, timely gardening information there - tailored to our region. Look for the regional map at the bottom of the page and click on "Inland Northwest/High Desert." That will bring you to my column, "In My Garden," and links to current tips, photos of my garden, even an occasional recipe. New information is added every two weeks, so you'll want to check back regularly. Try clicking on a few other regions, and check out the article library, horticultural dictionary, seed swap and many other resources offered, just for fun. See you on the web.

What's bugging your garden? Write to Cathy in care of this newspaper, or Tendril Communications, 3262 E. 3210 N., Twin Falls, ID 83401. Or e-mail her at: cathy@tendril.com.

Spice up your table with this bean dish

Taste of Home

Most everyone has memories of satisfying, home-style dishes prepared by "Mom." Jennifer McQuillan, of Jacksonville, Fla., remembers the recipe for Salsa Green Beans when the family was stationed with the Air Force in Turkey. She said she loved the delicious vegetable side dish since she was a little girl.

SALSA GREEN BEANS
4 cups fresh or frozen cut green beans
2 small onions, chopped
1/4 cup butter or margarine
3 medium tomatoes, cut into wedges
2 tablespoons salsa
1 garlic clove, minced
1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon salt
In a saucepan, cover beans with water. Bring to a boil. Cook, uncovered, 8-10 minutes or until crisp-tender. Meanwhile, in a skillet, saute onions in butter until tender. Drain beans. Add tomatoes, salsa, garlic, salt and onions. Heat through. Makes 6-8 servings.



This simple side dish is fresh-tasting and nicely seasoned.

This snack food grows on the vine

By Adrienne Cook
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - A lima-bean-like snack called edamame is the latest craze among health-conscious and trendy gourmet gardeners. Swept to North America on the wave of fascination with Asian cuisine, this lowly soybean from Japan is a hugely popular and reputedly addictive, snack throughout the Pacific Rim.

The melodious name, edamame (pronounced eh-doo-MOM-ay), refers specifically to the mature in which the green, edible soybeans are prepared: boiled in salted water and cooled to room temperature so snackers can pop open the pods and scoop out the tasty beans inside.

Sampled thus, the beans have a rich, buttery flavor that goes especially well with a frosty mug of beer. In fact, another name for edamame is beer nut. September and October are the traditional months of edamame harvest and consumption.

The word edamame has evolved into a generic term for all edible soybeans. Green soybeans have been around in the country for a while at health-food markets, roasted soybeans are a staple. What makes edamame a new phenomenon is the snack itself, and the broader acceptance of the edible soybean as an ingredient in cooking.

ture to dried or fresh shell beans, such as lima butter, pinto, kidney, Johnny's Selected Seeds (www.johnnyseeds.com; 207-437-4301) lists three varieties, one black and two green, referring to the green as edamame. The green are Envy, which matures in 75 days, and Butterbean (95 days), not to be confused with the generic butterbean, a great American pole bean closely related to the lima. The black soybean is called Black Jet. The Butterbean variety also is available from the Natural Gardening Co. (www.naturalgardening.com; 707-766-9303).

A California-based seed catalog that specializes in Asian vegetables, Evergreen Seeds (www.evergreen-seeds.com; 714-637-5769), offers five varieties: Early Hakucho, Green Legend, Lucky Lion, the white-seed-

ed White Lion and a black-seeded variety, Late Giant Black Seed.

Edamame are easy to grow and widely adaptable. Seeds are sown directly into average garden soil after the last frost; germination is optimal when soil temperatures reach about 80 degrees. Plants grow to 2 to 3 feet in height, and the pods appear in large clumps, like grapes. On most varieties, all the pods mature at the same time. Thus, edamame should be sown several times during the summer to ensure a continuing supply.

To harvest, clip plants at the base, strip off pods and drop in boiling salted water for about five minutes. The pods are now ready for shelling of their beans or for freezing (they freeze well both in the pod or already shelled).

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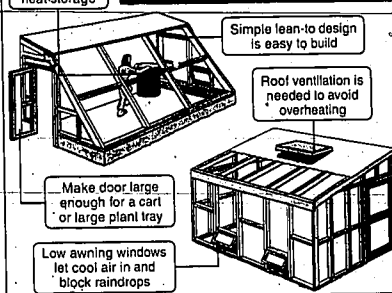
DEAR JIM: At a home show, I saw some beautiful attached sunroom/greenhouse kits. They are out of my budget, but I would like to try to build one from scratch myself. What are some of the key factors to consider?

-TONYA F.

DEAR TONYA: By the term "sunroom/greenhouse," I assume you plan to use it for both living space and some gardening. Container gardening can be productive while still leaving space for a few comfortable chairs and a TV.

Before you totally write off pre-made kits, consider some of the less expensive modular ones. They often have aluminum frames and low-cost clear acrylic glazing. As your budget allows, you can add on more bays or modules. If you plan to build a sunroom/greenhouse yourself, using lumber, expect to spend a minimum of \$500 for the materials for one. Locate the door, windows, vents, fans, etc. in one end or in the front. This leaves one simple end for expansion at a later time when your budget allows.

High humidity and temperature variations are concerns. Use pressure-treated lumber throughout and paint or stain all the surfaces of each



Greenhouse/sunspace can be used for growing plants or living space

Barrels filled with water for heat storage

Simple lean-to design is easy to build

Roof ventilation is needed to avoid overheating

Make door large enough for a cart or large plant tray

Low awning windows let cool air in and block raindrops

Many greenhouses are easy to build.

piece after it is cut to size. Don't forget the cut ends. This increases the overall construction time for the project unless you can cut and paint all the frame members at one time.

To minimize material costs, design your sunroom/greenhouse in multiples of 4-feet. Since most lumber is available in 8-foot lengths, this reduces waste. Check out your home center or building supply outlets for any pieces of discounted scratched acrylic. You can locate a vent or door in the damaged areas.

In the design phase, consider how you plan to use it. If you are

using it primarily for living space, you will get the most usable floor space and headroom with a vertical clear front wall. Clinging only part of the roof is good to provide enough light for a few plants and shade for occupants.

A lean-to design with a completely slanted front or a low kneewall is simpler to build and reduces the material costs since less roofing is needed. This design is ideal for mainly growing plants with a smaller living space. Its main drawback is that, with a slanted front, it tends to overheat.

If you are planning to grow plants year-round or to use it to provide some free passive heat for your home in the winter, true solar south is the best orientation. Check with your local weather service because solar south varies from compass south. An orientation within 15 degrees to either side of south is acceptable.

Plan on using a brick, stone or concrete floor for thermal mass. Without it, it will surely get uncomfortably hot in the summer and not stay warm in the winter. Decoratively-painted barrels, filled with water, work well too.

Write for instantly downloadable sunroom/greenhouse plans at www.dulley.com. Update Bulletin No. 529 - do-it-yourself instructions, diagrams, and materials list to build a low-cost sunroom/greenhouse and a cold frame, a thermal mass chart and a common greenhouse plants growing guide. Please include \$3 and a business-size SASE.

Write to James Dulley, 6906 Royalgreen Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45244.

Try this quick salmon dish

Seattle Times

SALMON WITH ORANGE AND TOMATO SAUCE

- 4 servings
- 1 pound salmon fillet, cut into 4 serving pieces about 1-inch thick
- 1/3 cup fresh orange juice
- 2 teaspoons tomato paste
- 1/2 teaspoon paprika
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- Optional: 1 tablespoon chopped cilantro or parsley

Put the salmon pieces into a glass pan, cut side down. Whisk together the orange juice, tomato paste and paprika. Pour over the

salmon and set aside 15 to 30 minutes at room temperature, or refrigerate if marinating longer. Remove the salmon from the marinade, reserving the marinade. Pat the salmon with paper towels. Heat the olive oil in a 10-inch non-stick skillet on medium heat. When hot, put the salmon into the pan, reduce heat to medium-low, cover and cook 4 minutes. Turn the salmon with a wide spatula and continue cooking 4 minutes. Drain off any fat from the pan and add the marinade. Simmer 4 minutes uncovered, spooning the liquid over the salmon. Season with salt and pepper. Test the salmon for doneness. Sprinkle with cilantro or parsley if using and serve.



SENSIBLE HOME
James Dulley

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Soap project is good clean fun for kids

By Kathy Antonelli
Akron Beacon Journal

Ever notice how adults like to keep those fancy little soaps in their bathrooms? You don't dare use them, even though you know they would be great fun to play with in the tub.

You can easily make your own like you could with candles in your bath water or be the commander of a submarine. You can make them look like designer soaps and you get to be the designer.

Lately, many area craft stores have been stocking coconut and glycerine melt-and-pour soap bases. These products make soap-making a whole lot easier than ever before and without harsh additives or chemicals. With an adult's supervision, microwave ovens make melting the soap-base a cinch.

Directions can be found on soap base packages. Fun variations can be found on project sheets avail-

able at craft stores. Supplies you need:

- Coconut base for opaque (solid color) soap.
- Glycerine-base-for-a-transparent (clear) soap.
- Soap colorant in solid or liquid form or food coloring.
- Scents or fragrances.
- Soap or candy-making molds.
- Vegetable oil.
- Microwave-safe, glass measuring cup.
- Spoon.
- Paper towels.

Assemble your supplies. Pour a small amount of vegetable oil into each mold, coating all the nooks and crannies. Blot the excess oil with a paper towel. Have an adult help you cut the soap into small, 1-inch squares. Place them in a measuring cup with a spout and place the cup inside your microwave oven. Melt-only-enough-soap-base to fill one set of molds at a time. Set the time on the microwave on high for 20 seconds. Continue heat-

ing at 20-second intervals until the soap melts.

Carefully remove the melted soap from the microwave or ask an adult to do it for you. Stir in a few drops of food coloring or liquid soap colorant. If you are using a solid colorant, stir in a few shavings. Add a small amount at a time until you reach the desired color. Carefully pour the mixture into the molds and allow to set for 3 to

4 hours or overnight.

If you want to make your soaps more than one color, partially fill the mold with your first color and allow it to set. After the soap is hard, melt more soap base, add a second color and pour on top.

To release the soap from the mold, turn it over and flex the mold. If the soap doesn't release, run warm water over the back of the mold.

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FOOD & HOME

Eagleton features best of indoor, outdoor living

Outdoor and indoor living spaces are well-supplied in the Eagleton, a contemporary log home designed as a vacation retreat. But this plan is also spacious and well-equipped enough to be used as a year-round residence or retirement home.

In addition to rustic charm, log homes are renowned for their longevity, ease of maintenance and inherent insulating qualities. Inside, the logs can be left visible, or covered by flat walls.

A wide V-shaped deck echoes the shape of the richly windowed front facade, while mirroring the structure's generally A-frame shape. The deck transitions into a wide covered porch that wraps around one side.

The vaulted great room is easily the most striking living area. Sparkling windows, stacked three high, fill most of the front wall, creating a cathedral-like ambience.

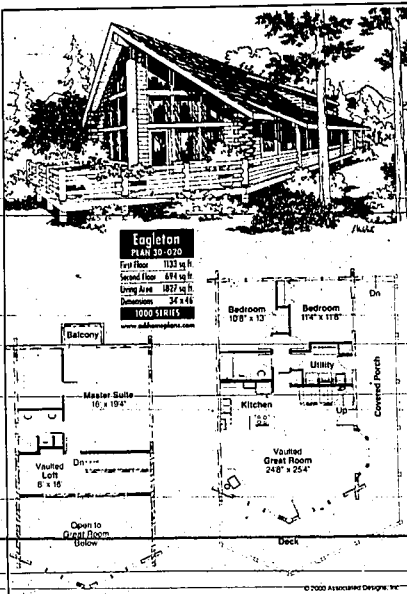
When the sun is in hiding, a free-standing wood stove offers warmth and color. Framed by brick tiles, it nestles in a front corner by the fireplace. Built in a cold-climate and you can enjoy

watching a cozy fire and softly falling snowflakes at the same time.

The L-shaped kitchen is totally open to the great room, with large and open built into a range work island. Lazy Susan shelving keeps your items organized and makes it easy to reach everything in the corner cabinet. Laundry appliances, plus cabinets, a deep sink and a folding counter are across the hall.

Secondary bedrooms are at the rear. Upstairs, the Eagleton's master suite has a double walk-in closet as well as a dual vanity. From the wide open overlook the great room or gaze out at the landscape beyond.

For a review plan, including scaled floor plans, elevations, section and artist's conception, send \$20 to Associated Designs, 1100 Jacobs Drive, Department W, Eugene, OR 97402. Please specify the Eagleton 30-020 and include a return address when ordering. A catalog featuring 3000 home plans is available for \$12. For more information, call (800) 634-0123.



Variety perks up good ol' apple pie

By Sylvia Rector
Detroit Free Press

If you think one apple pie is pretty much like another, drop by the Michigan State Fair's Michigan-Apple Pie Contest sometime.

Among this year's 17 entries are a rectangular apple pie, an upside-down apple pie, single-crust pies and double-crust pies, pies topped with streusel or nuts or crumbs, thin pies and double-deck ones, one made like a stuffed pizza and another whose crust framed a map of Michigan.

When the judging was over, the winner was Melody Soave of Rochester Hills, whose Caramel Apple Pie was made with Paul Redd and Ginger Golds. Her easy-to-make pie's special ingredient—prepared caramel apple dip—complemented the apples' tartness, and a cinnamon-nut topping added textural interest.

The pie turns out well with other varieties of apples, too.

and Ginger Gold apples

2 teaspoons all-purpose flour
1/4 teaspoon apple pie spice
Topping:
1 cup caramel apple dip
3/4 cup all-purpose flour
1/3 cup sugar
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
1/2 cup butter
1/2 cup chopped walnuts

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. In a large bowl, combine all the crust ingredients and mix well to form a soft dough. Divide dough in two portions, making the one for the bottom crust slightly bigger. On a lightly floured work surface, roll out the larger portion to fit into a 9- or 10-inch deep-dish pie plate. Use the other portion of dough for decorations on the pie or as a half of the apples over the pie crust. Sprinkle the flour and apple pie spice over the pie. Top with the remaining apples. Drizzle the caramel dip over the pie. In a small bowl, combine the butter, sugar and cinnamon. Cut the butter into the mixture until crumbly. Stir in the walnuts. Sprinkle the topping over the filling. Bake the pie for 55 to 65 minutes. Tent the pie with aluminum foil if it browns too rapidly. Remove from the oven and cool.

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Start the day right with a good breakfast

By Teresa J. Farney
The Gazette

Research shows that school-age breakfast skippers often feel tired, irritable or restless in the morning, but those who regularly consuming meals have a better attitude toward school and have more energy by late morning.

If that weren't a strong enough argument for a morning meal, consider this: Breakfast also can help control weight and reduce the risk of heart disease.

No one ever said breakfast had to be a big production. A good breakfast is fast and full of nutrients. Here are some other quick-hit breakfast ideas:

- A slice of cold pizza and a glass of 100 percent fruit juice.
- A cup of toast with peanut butter and a glass of low-fat milk.
- A parfait glass filled with alternating layers of yogurt, granola, and seasonal berries or fruit.
- Smoothies, made with yogurt and fruit.
- Cheese toast.

Serves 4

2 pounds of rolled outs
3/4 cup of raisins
1/2 cup of almonds
1/2 cup of crushed walnuts
2 cups of sugar
1 cup of water
1/2 stick of butter
1/4 cup of honey
1 tablespoon of salt
1/2 cup of dried cranberries

In a large mixing bowl, combine oats, raisins, almonds, dried cranberries, walnuts, salt and honey. Stir until well incorporated.

For more information, call (800) 634-0123.

Cheddar cheese

About 2/3 cup of milk

Preheat the oven to 425 degrees. In a food processor mix the flour, mustard, salt and baking powder. Add the butter and process until the butter is in pea-sized pieces. Add the cheese and process. Add almost all of the milk and process until it comes together in a soft dough; do not over process. If dough is dry, add more milk. Pat the dough out to 1/2-inch thickness. Cut into square biscuits or with a cutter or glass. Cut into 2 1/2-inch rounds. Set on a baking sheet and bake for 15 to 17 minutes.

CRISSANT-FRENCH-TOAST

Serves 4

6 eggs, cracked
1 cup whole milk
1 tablespoon of cinnamon
1 tablespoon of vanilla
Clarified butter
4 large crissants, split
1 pint blueberries
1 pint strawberries

In a medium-sized bowl, mix eggs, milk, cinnamon and vanilla. Whisk until well combined. With large Teflon pan over medium heat, add one ounce of clarified

butter. Then take one crissant at a time and dredge in egg mixture and grill cut side-down first for approximately 3 minutes. Then carefully flip with a spatula. Do not press the crissant. After all crissants are cooked, carefully single each crissant on a serving platter. Cover with a handful of fresh berries.

DATE-ORANGE MUFFINS

Yields 12 muffins

1 whole orange (well washed)
1/2 cup orange juice
1 egg
1/2 cup butter
1 1/2 cups flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 1/2 cups brown sugar
3/4 cup honey or white sugar
1 teaspoon salt
1/2 cup chopped dates

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Cut orange in pieces and remove pits. In food processor, put in first 4 ingredients. Blend for 3 to 4 minutes. Stir dry ingredients into a bowl. Mix in chopped dates. Blend again until mixed. Spoon into muffin pans. Bake at 400 degrees for 15 minutes. (If using honey, add with first 4 ingredients, if using sugar, add to dry mix.)

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Southerners raise pimento cheese to art form

By Carol J.G. Ward
Knight Rider News Service

When I was growing up in a rural community outside the Upstate town of Clover, S.C., family entertainment was simple. A night at the town meant going to eat supper at Howard Johnson's Drive-in. We would pile into the car, windows down, and make the 8-mile trip to the drive-in. We'd park under one of the big trees or along the overgrown hedge surrounding the drive-in parking lot. Daddy would blow the horn, and presently someone would come out take our order.

"Usually, at least three of the four of us would get grilled pimento cheese sandwiches. When the carhop brought our food, we couldn't wait to dive in and eat. We had to be so careful to remove only half of the sandwich paper, so the melted pimento cheese wouldn't ooze out all over us. The best part was getting to the little picnic slices that were in the middle of the sandwiches.

To someone unfamiliar with the finer points of living in and around Clover, Howard Johnson's is probably the national hotel chain probably would have been described as a dive. The building was rickety, the paint on the outdoor menu was peeling, and the drive-in parking lot was packed with middle-class cars.

But, oh, those grilled pimento cheese sandwiches.

Southern author Reynolds Price once wrote about pimento cheese, "I suspect it is a Southern invention."

At its simplest, pimento cheese is little more than grated cheddar

cheese, mayonnaise and a jar of pimentos – all ingredients mixed in quantities to your taste. Some folks like to sneak in a little mustard, sugar, sweet relish, pecans, salsa or other favorite ingredients.

As for serving suggestions, spreading pimento cheese on crackers and sandwiches or stuffing it into celery are the standard.

PIMENTO CHEESE SPREAD

8 servings

1 small can evaporated milk
1/2 pound cheese, shredded
1 small jar pimentos, mashed
1/2 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon sugar
1 heaping tablespoon mayonnaise

Place milk in top of a double boiler. Just as the water in the bottom of the boiler begins to boil, add cheese to milk. When it starts to thicken, remove from heat. Continue to stir. Add sugar, salt, mayonnaise and mashed pimentos. From Kate Keuley of Camden and Jane Sox of McBea

"As a child, I did not like the strong taste of cheddar cheese," wrote Betty Layson of Columbia. "My mother made up this recipe. It is still my favorite pimento cheese recipe."

PIMENTO CHEESE

6 servings

2 tablespoons butter or margarine
2 tablespoons flour
1 cup milk
1/2 cup chopped Velveta
1 small jar pimentos
1/8 teaspoon garlic salt, or to

taste
1/8 teaspoon onion salt, or to taste
1/8 teaspoon celery salt, or to taste
Salt, to taste

Melt the butter or margarine in a heavy saucepan over low heat. Spoon in the flour and stir. Cook uncovered, stirring occasionally with wooden spoon over medium low heat for 2 to 3 minutes. Gradually add the milk, 1/4 cup at a time. Whisk to prevent lumps. Cook until thickened. Stir in Velveta cheese and stir until melted. Add seasonings to taste and pimentos. Let cool and put in refrigerator. It should be thick enough to spread but not run.

FOUR-CHEESE SPREAD

16 servings

12 ounces white cheddar cheese, finely shredded
8 ounces mild cheddar cheese, finely shredded
4 ounces finely shredded Parmesan cheese
4 ounces feta or gorgonzola cheese
2 teaspoons sweet pickle juice
1 1/4 ounce jar of cold pimentos, drained
1 cup mayonnaise

Stir together all ingredients. Chill-if desired.

TANGY PIMENTO CHEESE FONDUE

16 servings

1 (12-ounce) can evaporated milk
16 ounces cheddar cheese, grated
1 tablespoon vinegar
1 teaspoon dry mustard
1 (7-ounce) jar pimentos
1/2 teaspoon salt

Cayenne pepper sauce to taste

In top of a double boiler, heat milk. Add cheese and stir until melted. Let cool until lukewarm. Add vinegar, mustard, pimentos, salt and pepper sauce; stir together. Transfer to a fondue pot to keep warm and serve with crackers, assorted vegetables or pieces of crusty bread.

—From Family Features

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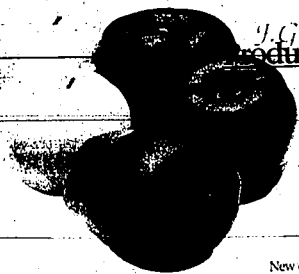


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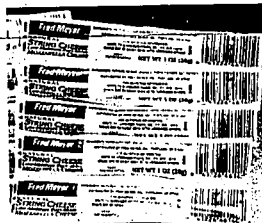


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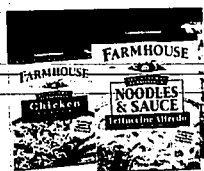
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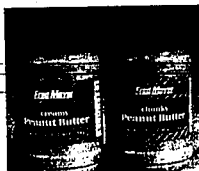
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MORNING BREAK

CROSSWORD puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down sections.

TUESDAY'S PUZZLE SOLVED section containing a completed crossword grid and a list of words.

Fun, folklore, facts fill Farmer's Almanac

DUBLIN, N.H. (AP) - How do you change your pants in the woods? Why are foul-ups on your IBM called "computer bugs"? Oh, and what's the weather going to be?



Jud Hale looks through a copy of the Old Farmer's Almanac that is more than 100 years old last week at Yankee Publishing in Dublin, N.H. The almanac is the oldest continuously published periodical in North America - 1792.

Like the newer Farmer's Almanac published in Maine, the 2001 edition of the Old Farmer's Almanac predicts more snow than normal this winter from New England all the way to Washington state.

They often say something like, 'August 21st, we're outside Oklahoma City and we're wondering whether to rent a tent or not. Is it going to rain that day?' Hale said.

His favorite article in this year's edition tells how to change your pants in the woods without getting your socks or feet wet. The key is always having at least one shoe on, and having one leg of each pair on at one time.

Details on page 251.

Today's your birthday? You are independent

IF SEPTEMBER 13 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You were mentally, emotionally on your own at relatively early age. Taurus, Libra, Scorpio persons play key roles in your life - could have these letters, initials in names: D, M, V.

HOROSCOPE Sydney Omarr

ability to come back after apparent defeat. Funding will be made available. Gemini involved. LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Dig deep for information. Don't be discouraged by naysayers.

Well-meaning remarks add guilt to stress

DEAR ABBY: My 9-year-old sister witnessed our mother's murder and her killer's suicide, and she now suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder. She has since come to live with me and has become an important part of my life.

my sympathy for the tragedy that befell your mother. When well-meaning but insensitive people start talking about how grateful your sister should be, simply say: 'I'm the one who's grateful. I need my sister at least as much as she needs me. We're fortunate to have each other.' It's the truth.

children to play together constantly. When our kids aren't playing, she is calling me. I like her, but enough is enough. I have my own family and friends, and I don't have time to talk to her 24/7.

shouldn't blame her for using them. If you want your life back, put some starch in your spine and explain to this needy (and presumptuous) woman that you don't have time to fulfill all her needs - you already have a family and social life.

I think their comments are inappropriate and more than a little insensitive. How do I firmly cut these people short before they stress my sister more undue. Please, but gently, to also spare their feelings? - PROTECTIVE IN FLORIDA DEAR PROTECTIVE: I offer

DEAR ABBY: I recently moved to a new neighborhood with my husband and children. It's a nice street, nice neighbors, no complaints really - except one. My neighbor "Cheryl" won't leave me alone. She wants our

It's getting to be too much. I don't know how to say anything without hurting her feelings. I actually pray for rainy days so I can stay indoors. Other than moving, what can I do? - PRISONER IN MY NEW HOME DEAR PRISONER: Some of this is your own fault. You gave Cheryl your cell phone number and e-mail address, so you

boundaries around your life and kindly (but firmly) insist that she respect them. Your life will not be your own if you don't, and you'll have nobody to blame but yourself.

Mafia boss. Gott's daughter files for divorce. NEW YORK (AP) - Victoria Gotti, best-selling novelist daughter of mob boss John Gotti, is seeking a divorce from her jailed husband, a syndicated columnist reported Tuesday.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): You have waited for this day. Focus on promotion, distribution, added responsibility. Relationship serious. Know when to say, "Enough is enough."

Image of Native Americans as violent is wrong. Another little known fact about Native Americans is many were utter pacifists. Some wouldn't fight even when their villages were raided.

WHAT'S WHAT L.M. Boyd. Coyote Lily. Perfect Storm. Nutsy Professor 2. What Lies Beneath. Autumn in New York. The Crew.

Friends, the Shakers, more exactly named the United Society of Believers in Christ's Second Appearance. In 1774, a woman named Ann Lee brought eight believers from Manchester, England, to Watervliet, N.Y., where she attracted numerous converts.

do you know how he came to be legendary? Owen Wister wrote "The Virginian" in 1902. That's what started it. What the whale has in common with the owl is fixed eyeballs. Still, there's a difference. To look behind it, the owl can turn its head, but the whale has to turn the whole whale.

Mafia boss. Gott's daughter files for divorce

Take a break Morning break - The Times-News

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Fall means apples and apple recipes

Apple season is almost here. It's a great time of year, when the pumpkins are turning more orange than yellow, when the corn stalks are drying out and looking like they're ready to be harvested, when the air is just as crisp as the apple fresh from the tree.

I planted two little apple trees this year, and they seem to be doing pretty well. They survived the horrible wind/hail storm we had in July, and they even produced a couple of apples. Unfortunately, my 3-year-old picked all the Jonathan's back in early August while I was picking beans.

She was helping. Although I don't collect apple money, there are plenty of people who do. I came across a web site - www.the4cs.com/~cathy/Apples/ - where you can learn all about Cathy and her love of apples.

She has a tiny Johnny Appleseed postage stamp glued to a piece of wood and cut into 24 pieces. It's a puzzle not much bigger than a penny.

Cathy of the web site isn't alone. Type "apple" into a search engine and, once you filter out all the web sites and the Apple computers, there are hundreds of sites dedicated to apples.

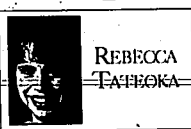
Plus, many country magazine shows plates and wall hangings and household decorations with apple themes, simply because the apple is so popular.

It's as American as apple pie! Now, I love eating apples just as they are, but every once in a while it's fun to cook with apples. As my tribute to that wonderful fruit, here are a few recipes you might enjoy, too.

CHICKEN AND APPLE SAUTE

4 teaspoons vegetable oil
2 tart apples, thinly sliced
1 onion, sliced
1/2 teaspoon dried thyme
4 skinless, boneless chicken breast halves
1 cup apple juice
1 tablespoon cider vinegar
1 tablespoon cornstarch
Salt and pepper to taste
In heavy skillet, heat 2 teaspoons oil over medium-high heat; cook apples, onion and thyme for about 4 minutes or until tender-crisp. Remove to bowl and set aside. Heat remaining oil in skillet; cook chicken, turning once for 2 to 3 minutes or until golden brown. Reduce heat to medium low.
Set 1 tablespoon apple juice aside; pour remaining in skillet along with vinegar. Cover and simmer 6-8 minutes or till chicken is no longer pink inside. With slotted spoon, remove chicken to platter; keep warm. Combine cornstarch with reserved apple juice; stir into skillet and cook over high heat, scraping up any browned bits, for 2 minutes or till thickened. Return apple mixture to pan and heat through; season with salt and pepper. Spoon around cooked chicken.

ROAST PORK WITH APPLE TOPPING
2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon dry mustard
1 teaspoon caraway seed
1/2 teaspoon sugar
1/4 teaspoon pepper
1/4 teaspoon ribbed sage
1 pork loin roast (4 to 5 pounds)



REBECCA TATEOKA

1 1/2 cups applesauce
1/2 cup brown sugar, packed
1/4 teaspoon ground nutmeg
1/4 teaspoon salt
In small bowl, combine flour, 1 teaspoon salt, mustard, caraway, sugar, pepper and sage; rub over roast. Cover and let stand for 30 minutes. Place on a greased baking rack, fat side up, in a roasting pan. Bake, uncovered, at 325 degrees F. for 1 hour. Combine applesauce, brown sugar, nutmeg and 1/4 teaspoon salt; mix well. Spread over roast. Roast 1 hour longer or until internal temperature reaches 160-170 degrees. Let stand 15 minutes before slicing. Serves 8 to 10

APPLE BROWNIES

1/2 cup butter, softened
1 cup sugar
1 egg, beaten
2 apples - peeled, cored, chopped
1/2 cup chopped pecans
1 cup flour
1/2 teaspoon baking soda
1/2 teaspoon baking powder
1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
Cream butter and sugar. Beat in egg; then mix in apples and pecans. Sift dry ingredients and work into the first mixture. Pour into a buttered, 8-by-8-inch baking dish and bake at 350 degrees for 40 minutes. Yields 12 to 16.

SPICY APPLE DUMPLINGS

4 Apples (baking)
2 tablespoons sugar
1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg
1/2 teaspoon ground cloves
1 teaspoon grated orange rind
1/4 cup walnut pieces, toasted and coarsely ground
2 tablespoons raisins
2 tablespoons brown sugar
2 tablespoons butter
2 whole pastry dough (enough for 2 pie crusts)
1 egg yolk - mixed with 1 tablespoon water
Preheat oven to 450 degrees. Lightly grease 12-by-8-by-2-inch baking dish. Pare and core the apples; combine sugar and 1 teaspoon cinnamon on sheet of waxed paper. Roll apples in mixture to coat. Combine remaining 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon, nutmeg, cloves, orange rind, walnuts, raisins, brown sugar and butter in small bowl. Set aside.

Divide pastry into five equal pieces. Reserve one piece to make leaves to decorate the top of each dumpling. Roll each piece of pastry into 8 1/2-inch rounds. Set an apple in the center of each round. Stuff with 1/4 teaspoon cinnamon mixture. Bring pastry up around apple, folding and pressing to fit. Place in greased baking dish. Repeat with remaining apples. Roll out reserved dough and cut out leaf shapes with cookie cutter. Score veins on leaves with dull edge of knife. Brush each pastry-wrapped apple with egg yolk-water mixture. Bake in 450-degree oven for 15 minutes. Reduce oven temperature to 350 degrees.

Rebecca Tateoka welcomes comments on recipes. You may e-mail her at tateoka@coyborhigh.com



It's apple season, and this apple salad contains some unusual, and yummy, ingredients.

Try a fresh, flavorful side dish

Taste of Home
Nutty Apple Salad, from Maryellen Hays of Fort Wayne, Ind., is a Waldorf salad with a new twist.

NUTTY APPLE SALAD
2 cups cubed tart apples
2 cups thinly-sliced celery
2 cups halved seedless grapes
1 cup miniature marshmallows
1/3 cup cold evaporated milk
1/4 teaspoon vanilla extract
3 tablespoons mayonnaise
3 tablespoons peanut butter
1/2 cup mixed nuts, optional
In a large bowl, combine apples, celery, grapes and marshmallows. In a chilled mixing bowl, beat milk until frothy. Add sugar and vanilla. Beat in mayonnaise and peanut butter. Pour over apple mixture. Stir until coated. Cover and refrigerate. Just before serving, stir in nuts (if desired). Makes 12-14 servings.

Light ingredients give new flavor with less fat

By Charlotte Balcomb Lane
Knight Ridder News Service

Many Americans grow up eating one form of tuna casserole or another. This recipe for Tuna and Shells has a similar creamy flavor and comforting texture as traditional casseroles but contains substantially less fat and sodium.

TUNA AND SHELLS

8 ounces dry shell pasta, cooked according to package directions (about 3 1/2 cups dry)
3 cups fresh broccoli florets (about 3 stalks)
1/2 tablespoon olive oil or other oil
1 small onion, peeled and finely chopped (about 1 cup)
1 (6-ounce) can chunk light tuna in water, drained and liquid reserved
1 (6-ounce) can evaporated skim milk
1 1/3 cup 2 percent milk or skim milk
1/2 tablespoon lemon juice
1 1/2 tablespoon flour
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/4 teaspoon dill
1/8 teaspoon nutmeg
Dash white pepper
While the pasta is cooking, steam the broccoli for 4 to 5 minutes, or until tender but still bright green. Rinse the broccoli under cold running water to stop the cooking and preserve the color. Drain. Set aside the pasta and the broccoli. In a measuring cup, combine the liquid from the tuna, evaporated skim milk, milk and lemon juice. Set aside. In a medium-size saucepan, heat the olive oil over medium-low heat. Add the onion and cook until tender and transparent, about 5 minutes. Combine the flour, salt, dill, nutmeg and white pepper and stir into the onion; cook for 1 minute or until the mixture begins to clump.
Pour in the milk mixture all at once and stir well. Bring mixture to a boil and stir until the sauce thickens. Stir in the tuna. Heat through. In a large bowl, combine the cooked pasta and broccoli. Pour the hot sauce over all and toss to combine. Serve hot or at room temperature. Serve with parmesan cheese if desired. Makes 4 to 6 servings.

Cranberry sauce will grace public school cafeteria menus

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Cranberry sauce won't be just for Thanksgiving or Christmas anymore, if the government has anything to do with it. To help cranberry growers, who have seen prices drop sharply because of overproduction, the Agriculture Department is buying 5.5 million pounds of sauce at a cost of \$2 million to add to the menu it offers the nation's schools. "What we're hoping to do is to work with schools to introduce students to the idea of cranberry sauce, as not merely a seasonal treat around the holidays but as a year-around source of nutrients," the USDA says.

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FOOD & HOME

Wallpaper's time may have come again

By Jura Koncius
The Washington Post

Wallpaper may finally be on a roll. After decades of lackluster sales, wallpaper may be shaking its fuddy-duddy image.

As consumers in a booming economy look for ways to customize or add detail to their homes, more are choosing paper over paint or other decorative finishes, according to industry sources.

But this is not your grandmother's scattering of posies. Improved printing processes and other technical innovations are creating a more vivid, durable product that is often washable or scrubbable — a key in children's rooms, kitchens, bathrooms, hallways and foyers. And pre-pasting has made paper easier to install.

Wallpaper borders, to be used with contrasting patterns and coordinating fabrics or by themselves on a painted wall, have emerged as one of the hottest new categories in the industry. They are easier to put up (and take off) than a full wall of paper and add architectural interest in rooms devoid of crown molding or wainscoting.

The selection of patterns has broadened. You like wrestling? Bible sayings? Moose? And going way beyond the folk and Mylar on walls past, some of the newer patterns even glow in the dark.

Sorting through those tens of thousands of patterns in unwieldy sample books has always been one of the stumbling blocks that sent do-it-yourselfers back to the paint department. In one of the most important innovations to revive the industry, online sites are helping consumers pick and choose.

Big-box super stores have also expanded their wallpaper departments.

A new collection for Waverly, called Williamsburg Pure and Simple, based on adaptations of 18th- and 19th-century designs from Colonial Williamsburg's archives, offers history with a kick: a rich palette of hues like



Photo courtesy Target

Turn a small room into a lovely sitting room, with a twin bed placed against the wall and turned into a day bed, and with lots of pretty flowers on the fabric and wallpaper.

More information

Helpful Web sites for your paper chase

- www.wallcoverings.org This is the official Wallcoverings Association Web site. For do-it-yourselfers, there are answers to frequently-asked questions: How to fix bubbles or blisters. What causes seams to open. Includes hints and a good glossary of terms.
- www.wallpaperguide.com This site is a Web version of a popular wallpaper-pattern guide published in book form.

See section called Wallpaper News On

Line provides the latest industry headlines.

- www.waverly.com A lively, frequently updated guide to decorating products from Waverly, a popular mid-priced manufacturer. A "wallpaper search" section allows you to plug in variables
- color, pattern, style — and see possibilities. In the area called Great Rooms, click on a specific room and you can buy a \$9.95 sample kit of wallpaper, fabric and paint chips used in the photos.

berry and gold.

According to Marita Thomas, editor of Wallpaper News On Line, which appears on www.wallpaperguide.com, the

price range for wallcoverings is similarly wide. Mid-range patterns go from about \$13 to \$30 for a single roll, while discount home centers have papers starting for as little as \$3. The upper end of the market for designer papers goes from \$30 to \$300 a roll.

Wallpaper bashers always come up with the same list of reasons pooh-poohing the product: It's bad for small rooms — it closes them in. It's bad for large rooms — it makes them look crowded.

It's too busy a backdrop for paintings or photographs. But decorators say there are no hard-and-fast rules and that wallpaper can provide drama and color without hiring a staff of master painters.

Dinner in minutes

By Linda Gassenheimer
Knight Ridder News Service

You can whip up a quick Southwestern dinner without all the fat found in tacos and burritos by making quesadillas. Though quesadillas usually are served as an appetizer, these are large and filling enough for supper.

Jicama is a root vegetable with a thin brown skin and white crunchy flesh. Served raw or cooked, it retains its crisp water-chestnut-like texture. If difficult to find, substitute green cabbage in the slaw.

JICAMA SLAW

- 1 small jicama (about 2 cups sliced)
- 1/4 medium-size red onion, chopped (1/2 cup)
- 2 tablespoons low-fat mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon white vinegar
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper

Peel jicama. Either process it using the grating or julienne disk of your food processor or cut it by hand into matchstick-size pieces. Chop the onion in the food processor or dice it by hand. Blend mayonnaise, vinegar, mustard and sugar together in a small salad bowl. Stir in jicama and onion. Add salt and pepper to taste. Toss well. Let marinate

while you prepare quesadillas. Makes 2 servings.

PAN-GRILLED QUESADILLAS

- 3 medium cloves garlic, crushed
- 2 tablespoons diced red onion
- 1 7-ounce can pimiento drained (1 cup)
- 1 cup canned navy or cannellini beans, rinsed and drained
- Several drops hot pepper sauce
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 6 8-inch flour tortillas
- 2 ounces low-fat ham, diced (1/2 cup)
- 2 ounces Monterey Jack cheese, grated (1/2 cup)
- 1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

Combine garlic, onion, pimiento and beans in a food processor and puree. (Or mash beans with fork, chop pimiento and mix together with garlic and onion.) Season to taste with pepper sauce, salt and pepper. Spread 3 tortillas with bean mixture. Sprinkle ham, cheese and cilantro on top. Cover each prepared tortilla with one of the 2 remaining tortillas. Heat a nonstick pan over medium heat and add quesadillas. Heat 1 minute and turn over. Heat another minute and remove to cutting board. Cut each quesadilla into 3 wedges. Serve on individual plates with jicama slaw. Makes 2 servings.

Magazine says 'No cholesterol' is meaningless when it's bread

The Philadelphia Inquirer

The words "low in fat and no cholesterol" that you see on bread labels are meaningless, Reader's Digest New Choices magazine says. Nearly all breads baked with yeast

have less than one gram of fat per slice and are made with vegetable oil, which has no cholesterol. New Choices says, "Diet," "Lite" and "Reduced Calories" may simply mean thinner slices, according to the magazine.

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Knight breaks his silence

Ex-Hoosier wants to keep coaching

The Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. - Bob Knight wants to coach again "in the worst way." He's just not sure where.

Knights, fired by Indiana for a pattern of "unacceptable" behavior, said Tuesday night he was surprised by the school's decision but that perhaps it was time to move on.

"I thought I'd stay here till I was done coaching," Knight told ESPN in a sometimes contentious interview broadcast live.

"I haven't retired. I'm an unemployed teacher right now, and I'm looking for a place to



Bob Knight

Knights' line

Excerpts from interviews Tuesday with former Indiana coach Bob Knight:
On taking a coaching job elsewhere: "There was a time when I would never have dreamed that I'd coach anywhere but Indiana University, but things have changed."
On where he might end up next: "Delaware, really appealed to me."
On the possibility of taking a job under new Indiana Pacers head coach and former Hoosier Isiah Thomas: "Isiah called me and I told him, 'All you have

to do is ask."
On toning down his in-your-face coaching style: "I've always felt I've got to be me. I can't be something that someone's trying to construct."
On the sometimes-probing interview style of Jeremy Schaap, son of veteran sportsman and broadcaster Dick Schaap and the ESPN reporter who interviewed Knight Tuesday: "You got a long way to go to be as good as your dad. You better keep that in mind."

Davis hired - D2

unemployed teacher right now, and I'm looking for a place to

teach. There are too many things that I have yet to explore about the game of basketball."

Knights said he had thought about leaving Indiana at times,

but his love of the basketball team was too strong. He had wanted the Hoosiers, who

Please see KNIGHT, Page D2

Olympic television schedule
TODAY: MSNBC Sydney 2000
Men's soccer: USA vs. Czechs
Starting Thursday, find each day's listing in Scores and Stats.

Olympic kickoff

U.S. upstart won't start today

Associated Press

CANBERRA, Australia - He's young, he's confident and he's being groomed as The American goalscorer, but Landon Donovan couldn't force his way into the U.S. starting lineup for today's Olympic opener.

The 18-year-old Donovan has a knack for scoring goals but he was left on the substitutes' bench as U.S. coach Clive Charles bolstered defense for the first match against the Czech Republic.

The Olympic soccer tournament kicks off with eight men's and women's matches in four cities today, two days before the opening ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Games.

Despite missing the opening kick, Donovan is expected to make his mark as an impact player off the bench.

"Landon will be seeing action this week," Charles said. "If he's going to play, he's got to make an impact."

Donovan is already making an impact at training with the under-23 Olympic squad.

After firing a goal in practice Tuesday, the 5-foot-8, 148-pound teenager dropped to his knees and pedaled his shirt over his head in a remake of Brandt Chastain's goal celebration in the women's World Cup.

"That's just for fun, you know," said Donovan, an admirer of the women's team's success.

"When we win a gold medal I guess we'll get the credit," he said. "They're great girls and they deserve everything they get. If we can be there with them, it'll be great too."

At 16, Donovan became one of the youngest players in U.S. history to sign a professional contract overseas. He said he isn't putting any limits on his Olympic campaign.

"I came here to enjoy it," he said. "I would hope to play every minute, if not the full length of the match."

Donovan already has been called up for the national men's team and has scored six goals in nine games for the under-20's this year.

And that comes as finishing his 17th career with 35 goals and 16 assists in 41 international appearances, capping it with the Golden Ball award for the No. 1 player at the FIFA under-17 world championship in New Zealand.

COUNTDOWN to Sydney

2 Days until opening ceremonies

Olympic update

After acknowledging that nearly all of the 27 athletes banned from their team had failed drug tests, Chinese Olympic officials charged that the problem is not limited to their team.

March to the medals

The Olympic soccer tournament was set to begin with eight men's and women's matches in four cities today. The U.S. men play their first match against the Czech Republic.

Olympic footnote

President Clinton gave his daughter, Chelsea, a lift to the airport in his limousine and sent her off with a hug as she headed for Sydney as a member of the official U.S. Olympic delegation.

MORNING LINE

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

High school cross country

Kimberly Invite, at Magic Mtn, 4 p.m.

High school boys' soccer

Highland at Twin Falls, 4 p.m.

Burley at Blackfoot, 4 p.m.

Jerome at American Falls, 4 p.m.

Pocatello at Minico, 4 p.m.

Twin Falls at Highland, 4 p.m.

Blackfoot at Burley, 4 p.m.

Minico at Pocatello, 4 p.m.

American Falls at Jerome, 4 p.m.

Ketchum at Wood River, 4:30 p.m.

High school volleyball

Bliss JV at ISDB, 6 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Chicago Cubs

claim Boise Hawks

BOISE - The single-A Boise Hawks, who through this season played as a minor league affiliate of the Anaheim Angels, have signed a two-year player development contract with the Chicago Cubs.

The rest of the Cubs' 2001 farm system will consist of triple-A Iowa of the Pacific Coast League, double-A West Tennessee of the Southern League and single-A Lansing of the Midwest League, three of the Cubs' minor league affiliates advanced to the postseason this year.

Counting single-A Eugene, the Northwest League affiliate for Chicago through the 2000 season, three of the Cubs' minor league affiliates advanced to the postseason this year.

Bruin Booster Club

meets at bank tonight

TWIN FALLS - The Bruin Booster club will hold its weekly meeting tonight at 7:30 at the First Security Bank Main Street branch.

The meeting will be held upstairs. Entry is through the rear doors. On the agenda will be the upcoming golf tournament, season passes and other topics. For more information, call Bob Maloney at 734-9969 or 733-6765.

Boosters plan tailgate

party at Minico

RUPERT - The Minico High School Booster Club will host a tailgate party Friday before the Spartans' home football opener against Pocatello.

The party, which starts at 6 p.m., includes free hot dogs, chips and pop.

Larsens, Petersons

rule at 93 Golf Ranch

JEROME - If your last name wasn't Larsen or Peterson, you didn't collect a club championship at 93 Golf Ranch over the weekend.

Tom Larsen and Shanon Peterson captured the men's and women's championships, respectively. Meanwhile, Janice Larsen and Ed Peterson - Tom's wife and Shanon's husband, respectively - took the senior championship.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

PUNCHING IT THROUGH



MATT PETERSON/THE NEWS

Bruins outlast Bobcats in slugfest

By Matt Peterson Times-News writer

More high school sports - D2

BURLEY - It took the Twin Falls High volleyball team five games to beat Burley Tuesday.

That's about two more than the Bruins might have expected.

Few could blame them. The last time the two teams met, Twin Falls swept Burley and allowed the Bobcats no more than eight points in any one game.

And that was just three days previous to their Tuesday night meeting.

But what a difference 72 hours made. After dropping two of the first three games, Twin Falls rallied to defeat a feisty Burley squad 10-15, 15-5, 12-15, 15-10, 15-13 in a non-conference contest in Burley.

"Yeah, it was a lot closer than we expected," said Twin Falls coach Kelly Youree. "Burley came prepared to play the match and I've got to give (Burley coach Hal) Sirain credit for preparing them. He did a good job reading our defenses and finding out where the holes were."

With the two teams knotted at two games apiece, Twin Falls took the opening serve of Game 5 and rattled off four straight points, the last coming on a Marci

Danielson kill. Two sideouts later, Twin Falls extended its lead to 6-0.

Though they didn't know it then, the early lead might have been what saved the Bruins the match.

Like it had done all evening, Burley fought its way back into the game, first working the score to 7-3, then closing it to 10-6 and eventually forcing an 11-11 tie

Please see BRUINS, Page D3

Broncos reinvent themselves

Denver welcomes new kicker, Terrell Davis's return

The Associated Press

DENVER - The Denver Broncos waived backup running back KiRon Coleman on Tuesday, a move that indicates Terrell Davis is ready to return for Sunday's game against Oakland.

Denver made another big move in signing kicker Joe Nedney, who was cut by the Oakland Raiders two weeks ago.

The Broncos also waived wide receiver Andre Cooper and signed offensive tackle Melvin Tuten to replace Trey Teggie, who was placed on injured reserve with a torn-knee ligament.

Mike Anderson ran for 131 yards in place of Davis, but was set to return to a backup role this weekend. The Broncos also signed veteran Raymont Harris on Tuesday as the team's third running back.



Denver Broncos running back Terrell Davis shouts encouragement to teammates from the sideline in the first quarter against the Atlanta Falcons at Denver's Mile High Stadium Sunday.

Nedney was one of three kickers the Broncos invited to their headquarters as they sought a

temporary replacement for Jason Elam, who is expected to miss 3-8 weeks because of two fractured bones in his lower back.

Elam, who has scored more points than any NFL kicker in the last seven seasons, was injured Sunday when he was hit while trying to make a tackle against the Atlanta Falcons. He spent one night in the hospital and was recuperating at home.

Nedney will have an immediate chance to seek revenge against the Raiders when the Broncos play at Oakland on Sunday. He was cut in the final week of training camp after losing his job to first-round draft pick Sebastian Janikowski.

"He handled it with great professionalism," Nedney's agent, Bob LaMonte, said. "I know (coach) Jon Gruden liked him as a kicker, but when you take a kicker in the No. 1 hole, your guy becomes expendable. That's business. He wished the Raiders well, and they wished us well."

Please see BRONCOS, Page D2

Judge sentences Strawberry

to two-year house arrest

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. - Suspended Yankees star Darrell Strawberry was sentenced to two years' house arrest Tuesday after admitting he violated probation by driving under the influence of medication and by leaving the scene of an accident.

Strawberry, who is fighting the spread of colon cancer, apologized during a brief hearing before Judge Florence Foster for causing a Monday morning traffic accident. He said he blacked out from his medication while heading to a meeting with his probation officer.

"I used the wrong judgment in taking medication because I didn't feel well," he told the court. "I just blacked out. I didn't know if I hurt anybody. I feel really bad about that."

Strawberry was released from jail Tuesday, slipping out a side door to avoid crowds.

Foster was the judge who placed the suspended slugger on All-Star on probation last year in a drug- and solicitation case. Prosecutors requested house



Darrell Strawberry

arrest, although Strawberry could have been sent to prison.

Assistant State Attorney Robin Fuson said that Strawberry will still have to face the misdemeanor charges from Monday's accident - driving under the influence and leaving the scene of an accident - as separate crimes that could bring additional punishment.

House arrest means the 38-year-old outfielder leaves home only to go to a doctor's office or for work. Should he attempt to rejoin a major league baseball team, he would need court permission, Fuson said.

"There's a lot going on there," Yankees manager Joe Torre said before Tuesday night's game against Toronto. "You have to wonder how he's going to make a living."

Bruins

Continued from D1... five consecutive points off the serve of Amber Aston... Burley failed to win a game.

A conference win on the road against Blackfoot Sept. 7, however, seemed to ignite the team which went 3-3 at the Twin Falls Tournament last weekend.

visitors played all evening. If the Bruins led early, they won. If they fell behind or played close, they lost.

energy it takes to get out of a hole like that. That's something we're working on... Like they have most of the season, Twin Falls played Tuesday without its 6-4 middle blocker Kerl Coats...

"Obviously, I wish she was on the team and she does a lot," Youre said... "Next up for the Bruins - a crucial home conference showdown with the Century conference. Both teams are undefeated in league play.

SCORES AND STATS

BASEBALL

American League Boxes... Tigers @ White Sox 3-1

AL Standings... New York Yankees 95-54

NL Standings... New York Yankees 95-54

IN THE BLEACHERS... Buried up to our necks in a sand trap and abandoned by our so-called buddies...

ON THE AIR TELEVISION... Summer Olympics NBC 4:30 PM

AUTO RACING... NASCAR Leaders... Dale Earnhardt 1,843

RODEO... Rodeo World Leaders... Scott Johnson 1,143

TENNIS... Gator Open... Andre Agassi 4-1

SOCCER... Major League Soccer Playoffs... Colorado Rapids 2-0

NATIONAL LEAGUE BOXES

Cardinals @ Pirates 1-0

Phillies @ Braves 4-1

Montreal @ Florida 3-1

Atlanta @ Florida 3-1

Florida @ Atlanta 3-1

Atlanta @ Florida 3-1

Florida @ Atlanta 3-1

Atlanta @ Florida 3-1

Florida @ Atlanta 3-1

MINOR LEAGUE BOXES

San Diego @ Los Angeles 1-0

Los Angeles @ San Diego 1-0

San Diego @ Los Angeles 1-0

Los Angeles @ San Diego 1-0

San Diego @ Los Angeles 1-0

Los Angeles @ San Diego 1-0

San Diego @ Los Angeles 1-0

Los Angeles @ San Diego 1-0

San Diego @ Los Angeles 1-0

FOOTBALL

American Conference... Buffalo 27-0

National Conference... Buffalo 27-0

American Conference... Buffalo 27-0

National Conference... Buffalo 27-0

American Conference... Buffalo 27-0

National Conference... Buffalo 27-0

American Conference... Buffalo 27-0

National Conference... Buffalo 27-0

American Conference... Buffalo 27-0

WILD CARD RACES

American League... Oakland 1-0

National League... Oakland 1-0

American League... Oakland 1-0

National League... Oakland 1-0

American League... Oakland 1-0

National League... Oakland 1-0

American League... Oakland 1-0

National League... Oakland 1-0

American League... Oakland 1-0

BizFACTS

CD players

The average cost of a CD player in selected countries

Country	Price
Japan	\$22
Denmark	\$22
U.S.	\$22
U.K.	\$22
France	\$22
Germany	\$22
Italy	\$22
Spain	\$22
Sweden	\$22
Netherlands	\$22
Australia	\$22
Canada	\$22
South Africa	\$22
India	\$22
China	\$22
South Korea	\$22
Argentina	\$22
Brazil	\$22
Mexico	\$22
Colombia	\$22
Venezuela	\$22
Peru	\$22
Ecuador	\$22
Chile	\$22
Uruguay	\$22
Paraguay	\$22
Bolivia	\$22
Ecuador	\$22
Peru	\$22
Chile	\$22
Uruguay	\$22
Paraguay	\$22
Bolivia	\$22

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Fire victims can claim tax deductions

JEROME — Idaho taxpayers sustaining losses from wildfires are eligible to claim deductions on their federal income tax returns.

The Internal Revenue Service announced the deduction after President Clinton declared nine counties — Bannock, Boise, Clearwater, Elmore, Idaho, Jerome, Lemhi, Lewis and Power Counties, as well as the Fort Hall Indian Reservation — as major disaster areas.

For immediate relief, Idaho residents can claim a loss deduction for amending their 1999 income tax returns now. Or taxpayers can wait to claim the loss on their 2000 income tax forms due in April. Each loss must be for at least \$100, and must exceed 10 percent of the taxpayer's adjusted gross annual income.

Currently four major fires are burning 453,000 acres in Idaho, a drop from 19 fires burning 696,000 acres last week.

Mini-Cassia chamber plans Friday picnic

BURLEY — The Mini-Cassia Chamber of Commerce is trying something new.

The chamber is inviting members to an event Friday that it bills as the "1st Annual Chamber Member & Family Picnic."

"The get-together is set for 6 to 8 p.m. at the Burley boats docks and Elks Pavilion. Cost is \$3 for an adult and \$1 for a child. The chamber plans live music and a fly-in appearance by an emergency medical helicopter.

It asks folks who plan to attend the picnic to call 679-4793.

TF chamber plans ribbon-cuttings this week

TWIN FALLS — A couple of Twin Falls business will get ribbon-cutting help from the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce this week and next week.

The chamber announced these ribbon cuttings:

Orthodontist Dr. Michael Gold, 4 p.m. today, 1431 N. Fillmore St., No. 100.

Daylight Donuts, 11 a.m. Sept. 20, 1563 Fillmore St.

Also this month, the Twin Falls chamber plans an unusual Business After Hours social event — a bus trip to a Jackpot, Nev., casino — the evening of Sept. 28. Buses will leave from the chamber office starting at 5:30 p.m. Call 733-3974 to sign up.

Times-News changes YourBusiness deadline

TWIN FALLS — The Times-News this week changed its deadline for submission of news items to print in the Money section's YourBusiness column.

For the upcoming Sunday edition, the deadline for YourBusiness submissions is noon today.

Next week, the deadline will return to the customary noon on Thursday.

Americans accumulate more credit cards

WASHINGTON — The proportion of American families having at least one credit card jumped by more than 40 percent between 1970 and 1998, research by the Federal Reserve shows.

In 1998, 73 percent — or nearly three-fourths — of American families had one or more credit cards, up from 51 percent in 1970, according to the surveys of consumer finances, a series sponsored by the Fed, sometimes jointly with other agencies.

Groups seek unification

Downtown BID board meets for the last time

By Julie Pence
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS — Two business groups in central Twin Falls are about to act as one.

The Historic Downtown Business Improvement District board met for the last time Tuesday, Oct. 1, the group will join the Old Towne BID in a nonprofit corporation. The new, unified board will be known as the Historic Old Towne Board of Directors.

Carter Wilson of Hagerman won a recent contest giving the united area its "HOT" new name.

New board members for the nonprofit will be elected by ballots due Sept. 18. And when the new board does take over, it will have 15 regular members — nine representatives elected from member downtown businesses, the unified board will govern the Old Towne district, and a final three members elected at large by the

Board of director candidates

Candidates running for the Historic Old Towne Board of Directors from downtown:

- **Elna Anna** — marketing director at Cooper Norman and Co.
- **Ron Thompson** — owner of Cain's Furniture; chairman of downtown BID
- **Janet Key** — vice president of First Security Bank
- **Dan Brizeo** — owner/operator of Brizeo Heating and AC and Brizeo Fireplaces
- **Lilla Anderson** — manager of SavMor
- **Pat Donnelly** — president of Donnelly Sports
- **Mike Donnelly** — co-owner of Donnelly Sports
- **Richard Crowley** — owner of Crowley's Soda Fountain and Crowley's at the Quad
- **Robert Curtis** — advertising sales at the Times-News
- **Gerard Myland** — attorney; owner of Uptown Bistro

Those running for Old Towne:

- **Jim Wickars** — owner of Wickars Western Wear
- **Greg Villa** — manager of Willis Motor Store
- **Terril McCall** — owner of Intermountain Old Towne Inc.
- **Dan West** — president of BICO of Idaho
- **Dave Woodhead** — owner of Lamphouse Theatre; chairman of Old Towne BID

other 12.

In the meantime, downtown BID board members are sorting through bookkeeping complications accumulated over the past two-or-three-years. Chairman Ron Thompson told the BID board Tuesday that problems keep surfacing as he reconciles amounts due from past assessments and old parking tickets.

On Thursday, downtown BID board members will hold a

closed work session from 8 to 11 a.m. to try to resolve the bookkeeping problems.

In other business at Tuesday's downtown meetings:

- Thompson said the July and August "Twin Falls Tonight" musical events were successful. He recommended the events be upgraded next year with a better sound system.
- Dave McAlindin, Twin Falls' economic development director,

Bus agency offers help

Trans IV considers factor in employment

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Public transportation as a factor in labor availability?

Not until now, at least in south central Idaho. But the local business community has started thinking about public transportation as a way to recruit more employees, said Kent Just, executive of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce.

"They're pretty interested in looking at any alternative means to filling jobs," said Just, who said medical and manufacturing businesses, and even some retailers, have expressed that sentiment.

One reason could be Magic Valley's extremely low unemployment rates.

The Idaho Department of Labor reported 3.1 percent joblessness in Blaine and Twin Falls counties for August, for example, 3.2 percent in Jerome County, and 3.4 percent in Lincoln County.

A Twin Falls-based transportation service says the valley's low unemployment — and increased fuel costs — have brought many inquiries lately from companies interested in runs between the valley's cities as a tool for expanding their pools of available workers.

So the Trans IV bus system is inviting local employers to a public meeting Thursday to explore their needs for public transportation for groups of workers, and perhaps to begin coordinating bus, van or carpool schedules.

A route between Twin Falls and Burley could be at the top of the list, Trans IV Director Jim Vining said, and Trans IV has seen interest — from both the north and the south — in Twin Falls-Sun Valley routes for commuters.

Vining said Trans IV always has carried individual commuters to work. But folks on the way to their jobs account for only about 10 percent of current ridership.

With "quite restricted" funding, Trans IV must tailor its activity as much as possible to the demand — not run fixed, Please see BUS, Page D6

Heating costs trouble homeowners

Natural gas prices could rise 50 percent

The Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. — With high energy prices forecast this winter, many homeowners around the country are already insulating, tuning up or replacing heaters, and looking for price breaks well before the first frost.

Usually, it takes some good stiff cold to get homeowners to snap into action.

Ron Dumas Vazquez of Holyoke, Mass., was shopping Tuesday for attic insulation on 70-degree morning in short sleeves at a Home Depot. He said he expects to pay over 50 percent more this winter to heat his house with natural gas.

"I think these gas prices are outrageous," he said. "We're paying too much as it is."

He converted his home from oil eight years ago to save money. Now, he said, he feels it was all for nothing.

In northern Minnesota, Herb Benz, superintendent of the Rosch School District, said he will have to raid other parts of the budget to cover increases for natural gas this winter.

"You have no choice. You have to heat the building," he said.

Some homeowners are servicing their furnaces and boilers to make sure they operate efficiently. Others are replacing their heating systems, hoping for future savings.

"In the last two weeks it really hit people," said Rick Peterson, sales manager of Berkshire Air-heating contractor in West Springfield. "They're very, very alarmed."

Heating-oil-dealers said they are seeing more customers than usual choose fixed-price contracts, price caps or payment plans that spread out bills over the entire year. Other oil companies, jittery over the up-and-down market, are refusing to offer such deals at all.

"It's like running a casino right now," said Victor Allinello, who operates East Providence Oil Co., R.I. "The house has to cover its bets."

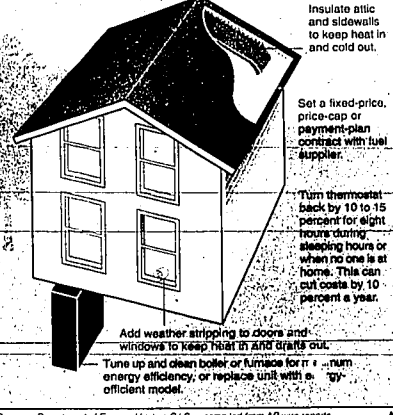
The Department of Energy



Citizens Energy Corporation founder and former Massachusetts U.S. Rep. Joseph P. Kennedy addresses the Massachusetts Energy Committee at the Statehouse in Boston Tuesday. Kennedy said citizens should look into signing price-capped contracts with home heating oil dealers to keep their energy costs down this winter.

Lowering the cost of home heating

Warnings about high heating bills have sparked an early scramble by homeowners to find ways to cut this winter's home heating costs. Here are some common ways homeowners can lower their costs.



Sources: Department of Energy; Hughes Oil Co.; compiled from AP wire reports

Kroger profits rise 21 percent on savings from Fred Meyer buy

BridgeNews

KANSAS CITY — Kroger Co., the largest U.S. grocer, said Tuesday that second-quarter earnings not only met Wall Street expectations but rose 21 percent from last year, citing savings from its buyout of rival Fred Meyer Inc.

Excluding one-time costs, Kroger reported earnings of \$233 million, or 28 cents a share, which is in line with consensus estimates by First Call/Thomson

Financial. During the year-ago period it earned \$192 million, or 24 cents a share.

The Cincinnati-based grocery giant — with Smith's Food and Drug stores in Twin Falls and Burley and a Fred Meyer in Twin Falls — said it realized quicker-than-forecast cost efficiencies from its \$13.5-billion buyout of West Coast rival Fred Meyer. It said savings from the May 1999 acquisition totaled \$237 million at the end of the quarter ended Aug. 12 — \$59 mil-

lion more than the company had reported at the end of its first quarter.

The Fred Meyer acquisition boosted Kroger's total supermarket and multi-concept store count to about 2,300 and sent a shock wave that rippled throughout the U.S. food industry chain.

The acquisition sparked the most active spate of consolidation in the food processing industry in more than a decade, with rival retailers Allergon's

and Food Lion responding with their own large buyouts.

Tuesday's results came just three months after analysts expressed concern about the amount of money Kroger had spent on melding Fred Meyer's check waver that rippled throughout the U.S. food industry chain.

However, Joseph Pichler, Kroger's chief executive, said the company now expects to exceed its combined fiscal 2000 savings goal of \$260 million from the deal.

Moreover, the company expects to reach its final savings goal of \$380 million from the deal in fiscal 2001, a year earlier than expected.

Profit margins after all non-tax expenses rose to 3.5 percent from 3.3 percent last year. Revenues during the quarter also rose 7 percent to \$1.1 billion while net debt fell \$205 million to \$8.1 billion.

The company also operates 790 convenience stores, 397 fine jewelry stores and 42 food processing plants.

More firms adopt family-friendly policies

Mothers aren't the only ones to take advantage

Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO — When Lesley Corydon accepted her job at First USA in 1993, she had a special request: She wanted to come to work each day at 6 a.m.

No more eager than anyone else to awaken at dawn, Corydon simply wanted to leave for home at 3:30 p.m. each day to spend time with her toddler, Lindsey.

Her only option was to work for a company that allowed flexible hours, and First USA, a unit of Chicago-based Bank One Corp., was open to it, not just with Corydon, but with many of its employees.

"I just didn't want to have the job if they didn't offer flex-time," said Corydon, a marketing analysis manager in Wilmington, Del., who lets one of her employees work from 3:30 a.m. until noon so he can spend the afternoon with his child. Corydon, a marketing analysis manager in Wilmington, Del., who lets one of her employees work from 3:30 a.m. until noon so he can spend the afternoon with his child.

Having a family focus does not hurt employees at the company, Corydon says.

"I see people getting aggressive promotions who are still leaving on time to see their families," she said. "I put in 45 to 50 hours a week, and people see my work/life balance as being an attribute for success."

Indeed, studies show that employee satisfaction is related to customer retention and corporate



Top companies on Working Mother magazine's annual list

- 1. Allstate Insurance Co. 10
2. Bank of America Corp. 2
3. Eli Lilly and Co. 6
4. Fannie Mae 7
5. IBM Corp. 16
6. Life Technologies Inc. 5
7. Lincoln Financial Group 14
8. Merit Lynch & Co. Inc. 5
9. Novant Health Inc. 1
10. Prudential 11

© 2000 KRC. *Fortune Magazine Best Places to Work for Mothers magazine

profitability. But Corporate America, by and large, has not always been so open-minded about families and work. More companies have come converts as the tight labor market made it increasingly difficult to find good employees and keep them.

As a result, many companies now compete on family-friendly benefits, with more employers offering child care, flexible work arrangements and adoption and domestic partner benefits.

They even compete publicly to recruit employees. In October issue of Working Mother magazine, for example, lists the 100 best U.S. companies for working mothers all the firms had to apply to be considered for the list.

Corydon's employer, Bank One, was among 10 employees based in the Chicago area that made the list, which also included Allstate Insurance Co., Arthur J. Gengerich & Co., Motorola Inc.; Northern Trust Corp.; Northwestern Memorial Hospital; Sara Lee Corp.; Sears, Roebuck and Co.; and analytical software firm SPSS Inc.

Lisa — Bensonsen, Working Mother's editor in chief, said the 15-year-old list is not just about mothers anymore.

"It's grown to encompass singles and fathers, so it's less about work-

ing mother than employee-friendly benefits," she said.

Experts say it's not likely to be a passing fad: Employee-friendly benefits are becoming so imbedded in companies nationwide that they are likely to stay even if the economy slows and the tight labor market eases, said Mary Ellen Gornick, president of the CPA Group, a workforce consulting firm in Chicago.

"As long as the employee-customer-profit connection continues, work/life is proving itself every day," Gornick said.

Although companies vary in the ways they try to accommodate workers' family lives, it is increasingly common to allow flexible hours and provide day-care centers on or near work sites.

Ill.-based Motorola has 14 such centers caring for an average of 170 children each, said Rick Dorazi, who is in charge of global rewards and benefits at the electronics behemoth.

Employees whose children do not attend the on-site centers, or who want to take their children on a business trip, are eligible for a discount, at roughly 25% off other child-care centers nationwide.

To help improve employees' health, Motorola also offers them money to pay for gym memberships, and is rapidly expanding its own network of 13 on-site fitness centers.

It's grown to encompass singles and fathers, so it's less about work-

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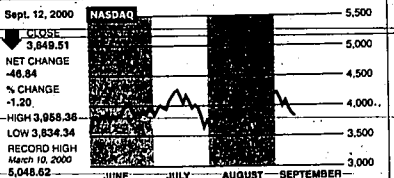
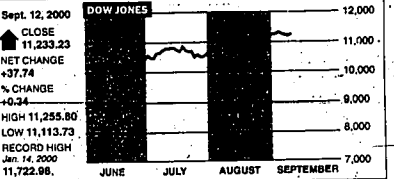
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Stocks close mixed in uncertain trading

NEW YORK (AP) — Stocks were mixed Tuesday, with blue chips driving higher and technology issues giving up early gains as investors remained uneasy about their near-term earnings.

The Dow Jones industrial average closed up 37.74 at 11,233.23.

The Nasdaq composite index fell 46.84 to 3,849.51 and the Standard & Poor's 500 index was down 7.27 at 1,451.03.

The major indices changed course several times during the day, reflecting the uncertainty many investors felt in advance of corporate earnings reports due to be released over the next six weeks.

With more data suggesting economic growth is slowing, the likelihood of another interest rate hike this year by the Federal Reserve is fading. But investors remain wary of what the slowdown will do to corporate profits.

"I can understand why the market would be concerned about earnings, but I think it's misplaced," said Kevin Carran, an associate strategist with Gruntal & Co. "By the end of the year, you'll see a (profit) growth rate of about 4 percent ... What we're seeing is a return to a more normal rate of growth that is clearly sustainable."

Unification

Continued from D4 merchants a chance to donate to the project.

Bonnie Lezami who is heading up downtown's Christmas decorations committee, presented ideas for decorations. Last

year, Twin Falls had none. "We were the least decorated town in Idaho," Thompson said.

"Definitely something needs to be done," he said.

He said he budgeted \$5,000 for the coming season and suggested maintaining an ongoing plan for festive decorations.

Downtown's and Old Town's special projects manager, Delea Miller, updated the board on October and sug-

gested bringing in numerous children's activities and presentations.

Times-News correspondent Julie Perce can be reached in Murtaugh at 432-5334.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various stocks like ACE, AIG, ALK, AMZN, AAPL, etc.

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, NASDAQ, GAINERS, LOSERS, DIARY, and INDEXES.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various NASDAQ stocks like ACD, AIG, AMZN, etc.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg. Lists local stocks like Albertson, Amco, etc.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 525 most actively traded stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most active on the Nasdaq National Market and 100 most active on American Stock Exchange. Mutual funds are 1,118 names. Stocks in bold indicate significant price or volume changes.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg. Lists various American Stock Exchange stocks like AIG, AMZN, etc.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns for contract type (e.g., Soybean, Corn, Wheat), price, and change. Includes sub-sections for Beans and Grains.

SUGAR

Table showing sugar futures prices for various contracts like NY/ICE, London, and others.

LIVESTOCK

Table listing livestock prices for cattle, hogs, and sheep, including categories like Cattle, Hogs, and Sheep.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table showing fossil fuel prices for oil, gas, and other energy products.

POTATOES/ONIONS

Table listing prices for various potato and onion varieties.

METALS/CURRENCY

Table showing prices for metals (gold, silver) and various currencies.

Forecasters: Fed's string of rate hikes near end

WASHINGTON (AP) - A group of top economic forecasters believes the Federal Reserve's 15-month string of interest rate boosts to ward off inflation is near an end.

Economists "seemed increasingly optimistic that the Fed has successfully averted any inflation threat to the economy and they have adopted an optimistic outlook for interest rates," the National Association for Business Economics said in its quarterly economic outlook.

Panelists are increasingly convinced that the run-up in interest rates is at its end, the group said in its survey, which is based on forecasts made by 30 of the association's 3,000 members in the last two weeks of August.

The Fed has boosted interest rates six times since June 1999 to slow the economy and keep inflation under control.

The forecasters, citing solid advances in business investment and both exports and imports, revised upward their forecasts for the economy's growth this year as measured by the gross domestic product, the total output of goods and services within the United States.

They said they now expect GDP to increase 5.2 percent in 2000, up from their previous estimate of 4.9 percent.

The forecasters also said they were bullish about the prospects of continued strong gains in productivity - the amount of output for each hour of work.

Big gains in the services companies can't pay more and still hold the line on prices. Computers, satellites and other technological advances are credited with helping boost workers' efficiency.

It helps set up carpoools, Vining said. And it offers a vanpooling arrangement: Trans IV offers a vanpooling arrangement with 11 commuters agree to participate, and one of those commuters volunteers to drive after getting the necessary training. The vanpool driver rides free, and the other riders each pay something between 4 and 7 cents per mile, depending on route lengths and rider numbers.

Trans IV has been receiving more inquiries from routing vendors about commuter service. And it's ready to tackle the task of identifying companies that could put a number of workers on the buses, then try to coordinate a workers' schedule so Trans IV can transport several business' employees at a time.

"It's really a huge area to try to put that together," Vining said. "Trans IV hopes commuter traffic will become a bigger portion of its activity, Vining said, but he's not making any predictions yet."

He said Trans-IV also has received interest from manufacturers and hospitals wanting to transport medical personnel from other communities.

"We're also waiting to see who shows up at the meeting," Vining said. "Trans IV isn't just about bus rides."

Essentially, he said, that arrangement is a worker benefit attractive to both parties.

Times-News Business Editor Virginia S. Hutchins can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 242, or by e-mail at virginia@qtcidley.com

BEANS

Table showing bean futures prices for various types like Soybean, Pinto, and Black.

GRAINS

Table showing grain futures prices for wheat, corn, and other grains.

CHEESE

Table showing cheese futures prices for various types like Cheddar and Swiss.

WHEAT

Table showing wheat futures prices for different grades and origins.

NEW YORK (AP) - Futures trading on the NY Merc

Table showing NY Merc futures prices for various commodities.

CHICAGO (AP) - Futures trading on the Chicago Board

Table showing Chicago Board futures prices for various commodities.

WHEAT

Table showing wheat futures prices for different grades and origins.

CORN

Table showing corn futures prices for various grades.

SOYBEAN

Table showing soybean futures prices for various grades.

NEW YORK (AP) - Sugar futures trading on the NY

Table showing NY sugar futures prices for various contracts.

LONDON (AP) - Sugar futures trading on the London

Table showing London sugar futures prices for various contracts.

NEW YORK (AP) - Soybean futures trading on the NY

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Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2000

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolff

"A teacher is better than two books." — German proverb

dummy's remaining trump entry provides South a diamond discard on dummy's fifth heart, and the fastpitch plan pays off.

Any player who has access to a computer can enjoy supervised play with an expert tutor... Today's example, which is of intermediate difficulty, is taken from the CD-ROM.

North 09-13-A, South 09-13-B, East 09-13-C, West 09-13-D. Includes bidding and opening lead information.

BID WITH THE ACES. South holds: A 7, J 10 8 5, K 9, Q 10 5 3, K Q 10-9. Answer: Pass. When game is beyond reach, stop in the lowest playable partnership.

CHEVY '99 Silverado 34... Dodge '91 Slant six engine, AT, good tires... CHEVY '2000 Silverado 2-71... CHEVY SUBURBAN, 1994, 4x4, 1/2 ton, leather...

DOGE '91 Slant six engine, AT, good tires... DODGE '94 Dakota 60K... DODGE '1998 Cummins diesel, 2500, 4x4 PU in good shape...

FORD 150 XL, 1992, blue & white, V-6, AT, cruise, tilt, AC, sharp pickup... FORD BRONCO, 1986, 4x4, AT, runs great...

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NEW CHEVROLET ASTRO AWD. Save... \$3,699. Table of vehicle prices: 1999 FORD EXPEDITION \$33,635, 1999 CHEVROLET SILVERADO \$28,580, 1998 CHEVROLET 2500 EXT CAB \$25,505, 1999 DODGE DURANGO 4X4 \$24,055, 1998 MERCURY MOUNTAINEER \$24,715, 1996 CHEVROLET 1500 EXT CAB \$21,885, 1995 CHEVROLET SUBURBAN \$21,990.

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SERVICE SPECIAL: LUBE, OIL & FILTER ONLY \$17.95

ALL PRICES PLUS TAX, TITLE AND DEALER DOC. FEE OF \$94.50 O.A.C. ALL VEHICLES SUBJECT TO PRIOR SALE.

DAEWOO

of TWIN FALLS (formerly CARCO)

1437 Fillmore Street
Twin Falls
735-2127 • 1-800-340-2126

LATHAM'S

RIGHT IN TARGET

5 BIG DAYS

TODAY THRU SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

IN THE TARGET PARKING LOT

FOR EVERY VEHICLE SOLD DURING THIS SPECIAL SALE, LATHAM MOTORS WILL DONATE \$100.00 TO THE MAGIC VALLEY BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

Register To Win These GREAT PRIZES!!!⁵
 One Prize Will Be Given Away Each Day. Drawings To Be Held At 6:00 P.M. Daily and At 4:00 P.M. Sunday.

- DVD Player valued at \$300.00 compliments of Mel Quale's Electronics
- Boom Box valued at \$150.00 compliments of Wilson-Bates
- Haro Bicycle Pkg. valued at \$400.00 compliments of Blue Lakes Cyclery & Fitness
- Hammock w/Wooden Frame valued at \$500.00 compliments of Brizee Fireplaces
- 48" Oak Computer Desk valued at \$599.00 compliments of Cain's Home Furnishings
- Pillow Top Queen-Sized Mattress Set valued at \$499.00 compliments of Everton Mattress

5 Adults 18 years or older with a valid driver's license may enter. You must be present to win. Contest rules posted at the Target Sale. One entry per household per contest. Any duplicate entry will be automatically disqualified from all contests.

Receive A Case Of Any

PEPSI Product On Display

Or A Pizza from Papa Murphy's

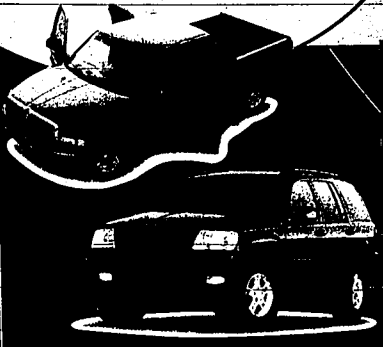
With Any Test Drive¹
 One per household per test drive

4.9% APR

FINANCING ON ALL USED VEHICLES²OAC

AS LOW AS 0.9% APR FINANCING OAC ON SELECTED NEW VEHICLES UP TO 24 MOS.
UP TO \$4000 IN FACTORY REBATES ON SELECTED NEW VEHICLES

ALL REMAINING NEW 2000 VEHICLES PRICED AT FACTORY INVOICE³
 Choose From Cars, Vans, Trucks, Sport Utilities
• CHRYSLER • DODGE • DODGE TRUCK • JEEP
(Vipers, Prowlers and PT Cruisers Not Included)



\$0 DOWN 0 PAYMENTS 'TIL JANUARY 2001⁴

Latham/Target Parking Lot Phone **733-8500**

10 AM - 8 PM TODAY THRU SUNDAY



LATHAM

CHRYSLER • PLYMOUTH DODGE • JEEP • DODGE TRUCKS

510 2nd Ave. S. • Twin Falls, Idaho • 733-5776

Register For A Chance In The

LATHAM MONEY MACHINE

All The Money You Can Grab In 30 Seconds Is Yours To Keep

UP TO \$1000

DRAWING



1 One per household per year. Adults 18 years or older with a valid driver's license may enter. 2 4.9% APR on financed purchases. 3 Factory Invoice Price of Vehicle. 4 In-store financing only. Not subject to credit review. 5 In-store payment, included in purchase price.