



GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Snow in the morning. High, 36. Mostly cloudy with snow or rain tonight. Low, 32.

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MAGIC VALLEY



Gift of giving: Students at Vera C. O'Leary Junior High School are making Christmas a little nicer for other children.

Page C1

Saving salmon: Some say a federal study shows flow augmentation helps save salmon. Others disagree.

Page C1

MONEY

Business bulletin: This month's home tour and auction netted more than \$11,000 for the Jerome Chamber of Commerce.

Page E1

OUTDOORS

Quail to eat: With a long hunting season and a daily bag limit of 10, California quail are a prime southern Idaho gamebird.

Page D1

SPORTS

Walk-on runs: A Burley High grad now running at Ricks College has added All-American status to the NJCAA national cross country crown he earned last month.

Page B1

OPINION

GOP IOU: George W. Bush is the right president to govern the American West, today's editorial says.

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'Our votes may differ, but not our hopes.'

Bush clinches final victory



President-elect Bush and his wife, Laura, acknowledge applause after his address to the nation from the chambers of the Texas House of Representatives in Austin, Texas, Wednesday evening.

THREE FULL PAGES OF ELECTION COVERAGE INSIDE

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Has the contest hurt Bush?

Idaho pundits disagree on ability to overcome the disputed election

By Michael Jorumie
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - With the brutally partisan and drawn-out presidential election finally over, Idaho Republicans and Democrats agree George W. Bush has a tough road ahead.

"They just don't agree over whether he can navigate it."

"It was going to be difficult for whoever won this election," said U.S. Rep. Mike Simpson, R-Idaho. "It's going to require, quite frankly, a statesman to stand up and lead."

Bush received 69 percent of the vote in Idaho on Nov. 7 and won 43 of the state's 44 counties. Democratic Vice President Al Gore won only Blaine County. Idaho will give Bush four of the 27 electoral votes he's likely to get come Monday.

But Gore's slim victory in the popular vote nationwide - and the wrangling over Florida's 25 electoral votes - raise questions about what kind of footing Bush will have.

Factor in a slim Republican majority in Congress, and it's clear Bush has a lot of work ahead of him, Simpson said.

Idaho Democratic Chairman Carolyn Love pointed out that conservatives screamed about President Clinton's lack of a mandate among voters in 1992 and 1996, when Clinton won the popular vote, but lacked a majority.

"How about a man who won not only without a majority but without actually winning?" she asked.

But U.S. Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho, said Bush will have no problem establishing his authority. Despite lacking a mandate, Clinton was still able to pool his resources and get things done. It will be the same for Bush.

"The American people recognize that the rule of law governs and I think will rally behind Gov. Bush," Crapo said.

Bush's self-styled "compassionate

Please see IDAHO, Page A2

Texan moves to build consensus government

The Associated Press

Five weeks after Election Day, George W. Bush at last laid claim to the presidency Wednesday night with a pledge to "seize this moment" and deliver reconciliation and unity to a nation divided. Al Gore exited the tortuously close race, exhorting the nation to put aside partisan rancor and support its new chief executive.

"I was not elected to serve one party, but to serve one nation," America's soon-to-be 43rd president told Americans in a nationally televised address from the chamber of the Texas House of Representatives. The Texas governor chose that setting, he said, because he had been able to work there with Democrats and Republicans alike.

"Our nation must rise above a house divided," he said hopefully, echoing a reference from Scripture spoken by Abraham Lincoln during the Civil War. "Our votes may differ, but not our hopes."

His wife, Laura, beamed from the sidelines, and got her own standing ovation when Bush

Presidential election returns

A summary of the vote and what's next.

Final vote

Al Gore	50,158,094
George W. Bush	49,820,518

Electoral vote

George W. Bush	271
Al Gore	267

What's next?

Dec. 18 Electoral College members meet in each state, cast votes.

Jan. 5, 2001 Congress conducts official tally of electoral votes, declares winner.

Jan. 20 Inauguration Day, president sworn into office.

*Date Senate will meet; House yet to decide © 2001 NYT SOURCE: News reports

spoke of her future role as first lady.

Please see BUSH, Page A6



Vice President Al Gore and his wife, Tipper, and running mate Sen. Joseph Lieberman and his wife, Hadassah, back, are greeted by staff members after Gore gave his concession speech.

Gore's decision gels the morning after court ruling

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON - As late as 10 p.m. Tuesday, Al Gore thought he still had a chance - a chance that one of the "swinging" justices on the Supreme Court might move his way and bring his campaign back to life.

"I've been back from the dead a couple of times," he told an old friend. "Maybe all

is not lost."

But by 2 a.m. Wednesday, when Gore went to bed after a harrowing night, the Democratic nominee knew he had almost certainly lost his long battle for the presidency, advisers said.

He let eager lawyers in Tallahassee, Fla., work overnight, looking desperately for what one called "a plimber

Please see GORE, Page A2

Please see IDAHO, Page A2

Wal-Mart bags plans for Twin Falls store - for now

Some downtown merchants breathe sigh of relief

By John T. Huddy
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The retail shopping chain giant Wal-Mart has bagged its plans to set up a store in Twin Falls - at least for the time being.

"We don't have any plans on any new sites," Wal-Mart spokeswoman Amy Hill said Wednesday.

But Hill left open the door for a Wal-Mart supercenter in Twin Falls, somewhere down the road.

Wal-Mart had wanted to set

up a 205,000-square-foot supercenter on about 44 acres at Pole Line Road East and Bridgeview Drive, across the street from The Home Depot.

But city leaders in August denied Wal-Mart's request for a zone change. They questioned the proposed location, and its possible effects on an already saturated retail area.

Wal-Mart did not immediately give up on its Twin Falls plan, and apparently looked at other sites after the August vote.

Wal-Mart had looked at other sites in Twin Falls briefly, including property near Ace Canyon Hardware off Pole Line Road, west of Blue Lakes Boulevard North, City Planning and Zoning Director LaMar Orton said.

Hill said Wednesday she

wasn't aware that the chain had considered any other Twin Falls properties.

Wal-Mart would reconsider Twin Falls, if city leaders have a change of heart - and the retailer can find a good site.

"Obviously a site that we think would serve our customers and serve our needs," said Hill, who said Wal-Mart's original proposed site was "ideal," because of its proximity to Magic Valley Mall and other retail sites.

Reactions to Wal-Mart's move were mixed.

"I think that's probably a really wise move on their part because I don't think Twin Falls is ready for them," said Jann Hutchison, a local real estate agent who criticized Wal-Mart's Twin Falls plans. "All the people that I've talked to said the one in

Jerome is the one we should support - that's the Wal-Mart is enough. But if the town grows hugely in the next few years, and they want to look at it again then that's their choice."

Wal-Mart's 151,980-square-foot Jerome supercenter opened for business in August 2000.

"We really have to think about the best for this area. I think we got one too many big boxes here already and I don't think that's an appropriate thing for us right now," Hutchison said.

Tim Jones, executive director of the Downtown Twin Falls Business Improvement District, was ambivalent. A surprising number of Twin Falls merchants supported a downtown Twin Falls Wal-Mart, while others were worried.

"One of the things that was of

concern for many downtown merchants was about the increased competition," he said. "When or if they choose to come, they will bring some strengths but they will also bring some competition," said Kent Just, executive vice president of the Twin Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. "We survived the last 95 years without them, so I'm sure we can survive a few more years."

Putting the Twin Falls store on hold leaves Wal-Mart with two Magic Valley stores - the Jerome supercenter and a Burley store, which has been up and running for several years.

Times-News staff writer John T. Huddy can be reached in Twin Falls at 735-3259 or by e-mail at jhuddy@magicvalley.com

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Official moves to avert California blackouts

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Energy Secretary Bill Richardson ordered Northwest power suppliers to sell electricity to power-strapped California utilities Wednesday, a move that appeared to avert the immediate threat of rolling blackouts.

The announcement came as state regulators warned rolling blackouts were imminent due to power shortages within the state

and an inability to buy more electricity from the Northwest.

The warning came from the Independent System Operator, keeper of California's power grid. It said that electricity supplies were so perilously low that it might declare a Stage 3 power emergency for only the second time ever. At Stage 3, the grid can impose blackouts.

Richardson said at a

Washington, D.C., news conference he was using emergency powers to force wholesalers to sell power to California at a price he deemed fair.

He said he would also request that two large Pacific Northwest power generating associations send more power to California.

"Our objective is to keep the lights on in California through

this emergency situation," he said. "We're dealing with a potentially very serious situation here."

California has been caught in a power crunch over the past several days, in part because of cold weather in the Northwest — where California buys much of its power — and the shutdown of some generating plants for maintenance.

Budget package heads toward congressional vote

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress was headed toward a Friday vote on a spending package that would bring the 106th Congress to a close and give President Clinton a parting claim to some of the education spending he has sought.

White details remained to be worked out, lawmakers and aides said they tentatively agreed on a spending bill for education, health and labor programs, the last major obstacle to Congress completing its budget work for the year.

"I think we're home free," said Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

House and Senate approval Friday of the education-health bill and other unfinished spending bills and related issues would allow the 106th Congress, which began with the impeachment trial of the president, to adjourn. That would make way for the new Congress in January that, for the first time in eight years, will be working with a Republican president. Clinton and congressional leaders last Monday agreed to a \$108.9 billion ceiling for those education-labor programs that are not automatic benefits such as Medicare and Medicaid. That

figure was \$3.7 billion less than the total reached in a tentative compromise that fell apart shortly before the election.

In a gesture to conservatives upset over high spending levels in this year's budget, they also agreed to a small across-the-board cut of \$1 billion in non-education health programs.

Negotiators this week had the task of deciding how to allocate the \$3.7 billion in cuts.

Those close to the talks said the tentative agreement would give the Education Department a boost of \$6.6 billion, or 18.5 percent, over the fiscal 2000 budget. That increase would be \$1.3 billion less than the figure reached in the pre-election agreement.

Among Clinton's top education programs, money to reduce class size would be \$1.6 billion, up 25 percent from last year, and money for school repairs would be \$1.2 billion, compared with nothing last year.

The maximum Pell Grant awards for needy college students would increase from \$3,300 to \$3,750. Funds for after-school programs would rise from \$453 million to \$851 million. A program to hold failing schools more accountable would get \$225 million, up from \$134 million.

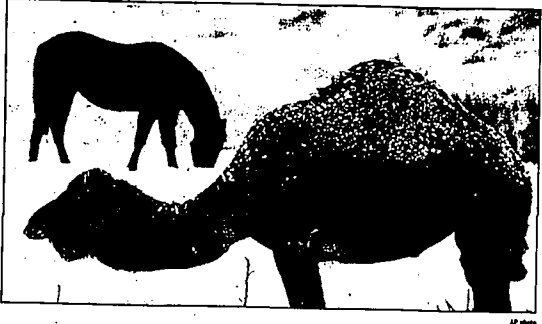
Shuttle problems prolong mission

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — The crew of the international space station, Alpha, will have to spend two extra weeks in orbit because of space shuttle problems.

Station commander Bill Shepherd and his two Russian crewmates were supposed to return to Earth in late February, four months after rocketing into orbit. But their ride home, space shuttle Discovery, has damaged thrusters that need to be replaced, and the unexpected work will delay the flight by two weeks, NASA said Wednesday.

Discovery's launch with a space station replacement crew is now targeted for March 1, which would have Shepherd and cosmonauts Yuri Gidzenko and Sergei Krikalev returning 11 days later.

SAHARAN SNOWS



A camel and a horse share a snowy pasture near Manhattan, Kan., Wednesday. A winter storm dumped about four inches of snow on central Kansas overnight.

Clinton urges Northern Ireland peace process

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — President Clinton's last presidential visit to Northern Ireland ended Wednesday with a peace process still stalled and politicians feuding, yet citizens still longing for a violence-free future. He told the people of Belfast to "claim your moment" for peace.

Clinton succeeded in recharging the talks to resolve 30 years of sectarian and political violence over Britain's rule of Northern Ireland. He left with an informal agreement between the Republic of Ireland and the United Kingdom to do more to counter terrorists unhappy with the new and fragile power-sharing government in the north.

"I believe in the peace you are building. I believe there can be no turning back. I believe you are committed to that," Clinton said

before leaving for London where he planned to meet Thursday with Queen Elizabeth II and make a foreign policy speech. "And I think it's very important that people the world over see what you are doing and support you along the way."

The president met for nearly three hours with members of the Northern Ireland Assembly but none of the leaders made any announcements about how they can surmount key issues — disarmament by terrorist groups and police reform — that are threatening to unravel the 1998 Good Friday Agreement.

"It is still for you to claim your moment," Clinton told more than 6,000 people who packed a brand new sports arena along a revitalized city waterfront.

David Trimble, Protestant first minister in the new Northern

Ireland government, warmed up the audience for Clinton, saying he would "stand firm" in his demand for gradual Irish Republican Army disarmament. "I do not intend to let the slip of peace sink on the rocks of old habits and hard grudges," he said. "We are learning to define ourselves by what we are for, not what we are against."

British Prime Minister Tony Blair defended his government's cautious approach to scaling down its military forces in Northern Ireland in response to the Irish Republican Army's 1997 ceasefire. Despite IRA dissidents' continuing effort to wreck the ceasefire, Blair said, Britain had already reduced British forces in the province to around 13,000, the lowest level in three decades.

Adams, who sat in the audience, said even though there are

still wrinkles in the process, Clinton can rest assured that he has blazed a solid trail for his successor. "The USA now has a peace policy toward Ireland. I can't see any president abandoning that," Adams said.

MALL HOURS THIS WEEK						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Dec. 10	Dec. 11	Dec. 12	Dec. 13	Dec. 14	Dec. 15	Dec. 16
10-7	10-10	10-10	10-10	10-10	10-10	10-10

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NATION

Man wins in Titanic antique case

TACOMA, Wash. (AP) — A man who sold a Titanic boarding pass he inherited to an antique dealer for \$1,000, then saw it bring \$100,000 at auction, has been awarded \$18,700 from the profits.

A Pierce County Superior Court jury returned the verdict Tuesday in a lawsuit brought by Vern Westby, 72, of Parkland, against Alan Gorsuch of Sanford & Son Antiques in Tacoma.

Gorsuch was ordered to pay a share of the auction profits to Westby, who inherited the pass from his wife, a cousin of Titanic survivor Anna Sofia Sjöblom. Michael Schwartz, Westby's lawyer, said Gorsuch told Westby the pass was worthless and that it wouldn't bring in as much as \$500.

But Gorsuch, who said he planned to appeal, testified it was Westby who set the \$1,000 price and that he knew little about the value of Titanic memorabilia at the time. Sjöblom's pass, an inspection card, showed she had been quarantined for syphilis and tuberculosis. The card also served as her boarding pass because Sjöblom, a third-class passenger, transferred onto the Titanic at the last minute after being bumped from another liner because of a coal strike.

Judge dismisses charges against tree defender

NASSAU, N.Y. (AP) — A town judge dismissed charges against a woman who used an unloaded shotgun to chase off a work crew sent to cut down trees near her property last year.

Hildegard von Waldenburg, 81, could have spent a year in jail on menacing charges in the February 1999 incident in this town's suburb.

At the time she was unrepentant. "A tree is not an ornament for me. A tree can't run away. You can replace shrubs and flowers, but once a tree's gone, it's gone," she said.

She still says she did nothing wrong, but warns others against following her lead.

"I'm only worried that someone else will think it is OK because I did not go to jail for it," she told the Times Union of Albany.

Five judges heard the case over time — three recused themselves for conflict of interest, and one retired. North Greenbush Town Justice Raymond J. Elliot III finally ruled Tuesday that "justice delayed is justice denied."

Elliot, nevertheless, rebuked von Waldenburg for her actions. "This is not the Wild West," he said.

Debriefing ends for former Los Alamos scientist

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — The official government debriefing of former Los Alamos National Laboratory scientist Wen Ho Lee has ended, The Associated Press learned Wednesday. There was no word on whether he will take his detector exams.

The questioning of Lee under oath ended Tuesday night, according to a source familiar with the case who spoke on condition of anonymity. Earlier this year, Lee pleaded guilty to one count of illegally downloading restricted government data and agreed to make himself available for debriefing and to possible polygraph tests.

Lee was arrested a year ago and held in solitary confinement for nine months. He has maintained that he destroyed 17 portable computer tapes he used to download data while working at the nuclear weapons lab.

FBI agents searched in the Los Alamos County landfill from late November through last Friday.

FBI spokesmen declined to say whether anything was found, but a federal law enforcement official in Washington said Friday that some portable tapes that might contain Lee's downloads were found and sent to the FBI laboratory for testing.

The official, who also spoke on condition of anonymity, mentioned that other items found earlier were tested and turned out not to be the Lee tapes.

A plant joins the genome family

The first plant to be genetically sequenced is a humble member of the mustard family: *Arabidopsis thaliana*, or thale cress. Its DNA — chromosomes packed with genes made up of base pairs of amino acids — joins the well of genetic information previously decoded for other organisms.

	Yeast	E. coli bacteria	C. elegans worm	Fruitfly	Thale cress	Human	Mouse
Sequencing							
Began	1989	1991	1990	1999	1996	1990	1989
Completed	1996	1997	1998	2000	2000	2003*	2005
Number of:							
Chromosomes	16	1	6	4	5	23	40
Base pairs	12 million	4.6 million	100 million	180 million	118.7 million	Over 3 billion	3 billion
Genes	6,241	4,405	19,000	13,600	25,500	Estimates vary widely	About 40,000
Genes with characteristics similar to human genes	120 of 289 human genes that mutate to cause disease	Unavailable	About half, or 9,500	177 of 289 human genes that mutate to cause disease	About 100		A majority have relative similarities to human genes
Some applications	Genetic functions in this simple organism translate to much more complex organisms	Introducing insulin-producing genes into E. coli turns the bacterium into insulin factories.	More advanced than yeast, the worm shows how gene sequencing could be applied to the human DNA.	Showed that the shotgun technique of gene sequencing could be applied to the human DNA.	Could boost yield and nutritional content of crops. Provides reference for other plants.	May make it possible to target the genetic sources for disease in individuals.	Mice provide ideal models for drug experiments on genes associated with disease.

*More than 90 bacteria have been sequenced. *Estimated completion date for the publicly funded Human Genome Project. Sources: The Journals Nature and Science; National Institutes of Health; Human Genome Project; University of Wisconsin-Madison; Washington University School of Medicine; Howard Hughes Medical Institute; J. Jurges/AP

Scientists complete first genetic map of a plant

The Associated Press

Scientists for the first time have mapped the entire genetic sequence of a plant. It's neither a towering redwood tree nor a fragrant rose, but an obscure, spindly weed with leaves resembling mouse ears.

Arabidopsis thaliana — gardeners know it as the thale cress — joins the fruitfly, yeast, the nematode worm and two dozen bacteria as organisms that have revealed their entire DNA blueprints.

Scientists selected *Arabidopsis* as the poster plant for the genetics revolution over 250,000 flow-

ering competitors because it's biologically simple and grows quickly — as many as eight generations per year. Like the animal models, it is easily manipulated in laboratory experiments and widely used as a reliable stand-in for more complex organisms.

In the wild, this homely member of the mustard family sprouts innocuously along pathways and dry, rubble-strewn hillsides in Europe.

Suddenly, *Arabidopsis* is indispensable. The small plant's 25,500 genes already are being manipulated in some of science's

most revolutionary — and controversial experiments. Chief among them, to boost the yields and nutritional content of rice, wheat and other staple crops that feed billions of people in poor, crowded countries.

Even medicine could benefit by learning how the plant's DNA repairs itself after infection or injury.

"*Arabidopsis* now is the reference plant for all others," said Jeff Dangl, a plant geneticist at the University of North Carolina. He works extensively with *Arabidopsis*, but did not contribute to the mapping report.

Bidding runs sky-high for planned memoir

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Her official titles are first lady and senator-elect. Officially, Hillary Rodham Clinton these days is also the most sought-after author in the publishing business.

Bidding for the first lady's planned memoirs has topped \$7 million, according to a source who works at one of the publishing companies bidding for the book. The source spoke on condition of anonymity.

The auction for the book is being conducted by Washington lawyer Robert Barnett, who declined comment. Clinton spokesman Howard Wolfson also declined comment.

Interest in the first lady's book is especially strong because she has indicated she would discuss President Clinton's impeachment and his affair with Monica Lewinsky. Her contract will likely exceed the \$7.1 million given to General Electric chairman Jack Welch last summer.

In 1989, President Reagan received more than \$8 million for a



First lady Hillary Clinton

two-book deal. One person familiar with the situation, and speaking on condition of anonymity, said Wednesday the first lady wants a large advance to help with the purchase of a house in Washington. The New York Times reported Wednesday that the first lady wants most of the money for the book paid to her before the end of this year.

Following then-House Speaker Newt Gingrich's agreement to a \$4.5 million book advance from HarperCollins, the House of Representatives in 1995 amended its rules so that members "may not receive an advance payment on copyright royalties."

Gingrich later gave up the advance for a deal that gives him royalties on book sales. The Senate has no such rule.

Report highlights need for more child care money

WASHINGTON (AP) — States need more federal money to pay for child care, an advocacy group argues in a new report that focuses on the South but highlights problems across the country.

"There ought to be sufficient funds to serve all families who need and seek it," said Sarah Shuptrine, president of the Southern Institute on Children and Families, which released its report Wednesday.

But Shuptrine said the Southern task force, which spent a year studying the issue, was unable to estimate how many children need child care and are not getting it.

Last week, the Department of Health and Human Services reported that just 12 percent of U.S. children who are eligible for federally subsidized child care got it last year.

But that report also did not attempt to estimate the actual need. It did not say whether the families without subsidies were paying for child care on their own, didn't need it or had made other arrangements.

"The data have got to be collected so we're more informed about what kind of decisions to

make," Shuptrine said. The report also recommends that states make it easier for families to apply for child care help, noting the trouble programs such as Medicaid have had signing up children who qualify for aid. That, of course, would not become a significant problem unless there becomes more money available.

The federal government sent states \$5.2 billion last year to help subsidize child care. State spent another \$1.6 billion of their own money, which was required to get the federal dollars.

Nationally, more than 14.7 million low-income children were eligible for child care subsidies last year using federal standards, but fewer than 1.8 million children got the help, according to the Department of Health and Human Services.

Under federal standards, families are eligible for the subsidies if their incomes fall below 85 percent of their state's median income. But most of the states in the report set more stringent eligibility rates due to the shortage of available funding, Shuptrine said.

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Looks like we have a winner with a mandate

George W. Bush will take office with a strong mandate. He can expect the cooperation of Congress, including many Democrats. He will unify the nation behind bold reforms. He stands every chance of looking back in 2008 on two terms of great accomplishment.

That brief narrative is as accurate in its assessment of the 2000 election results and as plausible in its prediction of the next eight years as the narrative of doom that you probably know by heart.

You've heard the catch phrases a hundred times in the last month: The election was a "tie" at best, or "stolen" at worst. The "ultimate winner" (that is, Bush) will not be

GARY GEIPEL

able to lead with a distinct agenda. He will be forced to rubber-stamp the meager efforts of a "divided Congress" in which "moderates" will be the prime movers. This "illegitimate president" will be blamed for every American hangover and hangnail for the next four years. He surely will fall to his challenger in 2004, leaving the nation "more divided than before."

Dominant narratives are vital in determining an American president's success. This is nothing new and has very little to do with the technologies or attention spans of

our wired age. Opinion leaders throughout U.S. history have shaped the expectations and perceptions that Americans held of leaders from Lincoln to Clinton. Capture this crowd early and they'll forgive you all kinds of trouble along the way.

There are two ways to secure a favorable narrative. One is to let your friends at the top of the opinion pyramid write the script, if you have such friends. This approach works beautifully if your last name is Kennedy or Clinton and the intelligentsia believes that a new age of hope and enlightenment has dawned with your presidency. The other approach is for the president and his supporters to write the narra-

tive, believe it, repeat it and make it happen, all the while ignoring all narratives to the contrary. This approach works best if your last name is Truman or Reagan and the intelligentsia believes that the nation has fallen accidentally under the sway of a dangerous and ill-prepared doer.

Bush's approach should be obvious. He needs to craft his own narrative. And Americans who wish him well make it repeat it, believe it and make it happen. Here's a start: Bush won the White House with more popular votes than any presidential candidate in American history save Ronald Reagan in his 1984 re-election. He dominated overwhelmingly among bedrock constituencies:

the individualists of the Rocky Mountains and the families of the agricultural Heartland. He accomplished all of this against an incumbent vice president in a time of economic prosperity.

In past elections, talk of modernizing Social Security was political death. This year, Bush spoke constantly of Social Security reform in his campaign and it earned him at least as many votes as it cost him.

And, yes, George W. Bush does have mandates to restore dignity to the presidency, rein in the trial lawyers, make the tax code more friendly to middle-class families and appoint to the Supreme Court some of the "strict constructionists" he talked about in the

debates. This election swing to Bush precisely on values.

The intelligentsia will scoff at all of this, of course. What's been more their own. There is that many opinion leaders sympathetic to Bush have given in to the narrative of doom as well. They throw around phrases such as "one-term president," apparently forgetting how such words can take on a life of their own. There is a much better narrative not just a GOP but also for the nation. Believe it. Repeat it. And make it happen.

Gary Geipel, a senior fellow at the Hudson Institute, worked on former Vice President Dan Quayle's campaign for the 2000 GOP presidential nomination.



We need a little Christmas right now

Haul out the holly. After this spectacle of a presidential election, we need a little Christmas. In many ways, we have brought this on ourselves. We have asked things of government that should not have been asked and we have expected things from the presidency we had no constitutional right to expect. And now we are in a predicament.

A Catholic priest friend of mine asked me if there is a "theological message" in this election. "Yes, there is," I replied. "What is it?" he asked.



CAL THOMAS

"It is God coming down again, as at the Tower of Babel, when prideful Man built a monument to his own glory. God would have none of it, so he scattered humankind, even confounding him with multiple languages." Few of us speak the same language anymore. Where is honor? Where is putting the nation's interests ahead of our petty concerns and personal privileges? Government has become a religion to too many and the presidency is our pagan god to which we pay homage, but which is incapable of fulfilling many of the requirements we ask of the office. When our political deities fail to deliver, we throw them out and install new deities who must also fail.

How empty are the lives of those who are preoccupied with who will be the next occupant of the White House, rather than paying more attention to what is going on in their house?

What would Calvin Coolidge have thought about the divisions that beset us? Yes, Calvin Coolidge, our 30th President, whom some historians have wrongly maligned.

Not Peter Hannaford, a Washington public relations consultant, who has compiled an informative and entertaining new book titled "The Quotable Calvin Coolidge: Sensible Words For A New Century" (Images From The Past, Bennington, Vt., publisher).

Speaking to the American Legion Convention in 1925, Coolidge said, "Whether one traces his Americanism back three centuries to the Mayflower, or three years to George, it is not half so important as whether his Americanism of today is real and genuine. No matter by what various crafts we came here, we are all now in the same boat." Contrast that noble sentiment with comments last week by the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who predicted an "explosion" if he and the

now hiphypenated Americans he claims to represent don't get their way.

In a statement to the press following his re-election as governor of Massachusetts in 1919, Coolidge sounds deliciously antiquated (aren't antiques valuable?) when he says, "The attempt to appeal to class prejudice has failed. The merit of Massachusetts are not labor men, or policemen, or union men, or poor men, or rich men, or any other class of men; they are Americans first."

In his 1929 autobiography, Coolidge might have been writing about today's barbarians at the political gates: "The political mind is the product of men in public life who have been twice spoiled. They have been spoiled with praise and they have been spoiled with abuse. With their minds nothing is natural; everything is artificial."

A few rare souls escape these influences and maintain a vision and a judgment that are unimpaired." Seeing the dangers of big government, which have been fulfilled in our time, Coolidge warned in a 1931 newspaper column, "The centralization of power in Washington, which nearly all members of Congress deplore in their speech and then support by their votes, steadily increases."

In another newspaper column (Dec. 25, 1930), Coolidge prescribed a remedy, which we need considerably more of, especially now: "Christmas represents love and mercy. It was ushered in by the star of hope and remains forever consecrated by the sacrifice of the cross. Christmas holds its place in the hearts of men because they know that love is the greatest thing in the world. Christmas is celebrated in its true spirit only by those who make some sacrifice for the benefit of their fellow men."

— Calvin Coolidge

Standards for counting? What standards?

Signs carried by Al Gore's supporters at the U.S. Supreme court said, "This is America. Count every vote." The vice president's partisans insisted that if a manual recount isn't completed, we'll never really know who won Florida's electoral votes — and the presidency.

Gore and his supporters have offered variations on this line for weeks now, but they know the dispute hasn't been about counting votes. It's been about how to define votes, given that we're talking about a lot of duplicated punch cards designed to be read by machines.

Some disingenuous Gore backers have said George W. Bush should have welcomed a manual count of the "under-votes" — those on which the machines found no vote in the presidential column. Regardless of who wins, they've said, the legitimacy of the next president depends on examination of the ballots. Their concern for presidential legitimacy is touching, but turn it around. What sort of legitimacy would attach to a president elected on dimples?

The whole argument has been based on the fantasy that within the stacks of punch cards, it's possible to discover clarity.

Someday, newspaper reporters and other advocacy groups will get their chance. They'll sift the stacks. They'll hold the cards up to the light, or perhaps peer at the dimples with a magnifying glass, just as we've seen county officials do on

E. THOMAS McCLANAHAN

discovered, on net, 168 more votes for Gore.

But Miami-Dade's ballots were later shipped to Leon County. When the state Supreme Court ordered the recount to begin again over the weekend, the recounting was handled by a different crew.

— Did the new counters apply precisely the same lenient standard for reading dimples as the Miami-Dade canvassing board? Or was a new, more stringent standard applied?

The unfairness is obvious, and it unmasks Gore's claims that he sought only to strengthen democracy. The hypocrisy is especially evident when you try to match the count-every-vote mantra against Gore's refusal to disavow lawsuits — since dismissed — seeking to throw out absentee ballots in Seminole and Martin counties.

Gore argued not for the rule of law but a rule of subjectivity. What could be more innocent, he asked — what could be more in accord with the "will of the people" — than being allowed to sift selected stacks of ballots in search of truth among the dimples?

But dimple-divination cannot confer legitimacy. When you bail away the bunk, Gore's position was Orwellian — an attempt to peddle subjectivity as "fairness."

Gore's position seemed grounded in the idea of equality under the law, but he could not succeed except through a process that allowed different standards for different votes — a point highlighted in Monday's oral arguments before the U.S. Supreme Court. A dimple of a certain depth or shape that might count as a vote in one locale could count as an abstention in another.

In at least one instance, the recount process created divergent standards in the same county. State's Mickey Knus recently noted, before halting its hand count, the Miami-Dade canvassing board had worked its way through ballots from about 135 of the county's 800 precincts. Those precincts happened to be the most heavily Democratic.

The "dimple" standard employed by the canvassers was relatively lenient, and before the count was halted, officials had

discovers that the Supreme Court's decision in *Rehnquist v. State of Florida* was a landmark. The court ruled that the state's recount process violated the Equal Protection Clause of the U.S. Constitution. The court's decision was a clear victory for the Bush campaign, as it effectively ended the recount process. The court's ruling was based on the fact that the recount process was not uniform across all precincts in Miami-Dade County. The court found that the recount process was "arbitrary and capricious" and therefore unconstitutional.

The court's decision was a landmark because it established that the state's recount process was not uniform across all precincts in Miami-Dade County. The court found that the recount process was "arbitrary and capricious" and therefore unconstitutional.

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The legal mumbo-jumbo finished Gore

And now it's over. Five weeks of historic bedlam finished on the doorsteps of a splintered U.S. Supreme Court.

For Al Gore, the end came on a flurry of legal mumbo-jumbo.

For George W. Bush, the presidency begins under the cloud of an ideological, friendly boost from the U.S. Supreme Court. They're the cold day and deep into the night, the Supreme put Gore, Bush and the country through a nerve-racking ordeal Tuesday.

Then when the court spoke at 11 p.m., it was with a voice that was as unified, confused but indisputably partisan. The Supreme put their 200 years of majesty and integrity at grave peril by, in effect, handing the presidency to Bush.

Let champagne corks pop in the Bush mansion where Bush is snoring and fretting and assembling his Cabinet. But the lasting bitterness of the 2000 postelection combat has only been exacerbated by the Supreme's. Sure, by legal sleight-



SANDY GRADY

of-hand, the justices tried to hide their fingerprints on their gift to Bush. They wanted to avoid the slur of being the first Supreme Court to tilt a presidential election.

But their dodge of a complex decision didn't work. The court's conservative ends won the real engine that crushed Gore.

The Supreme tried to duck by sending the recount mess in the Gore v. Bush case back to the Florida Supreme Court, saying in Rehnquist's words, "There's no basis for counting improperly marked ballots." Then they body-slammed Gore with a Catch 22: "A recount could not be part of an appropriate remedy."

Translated: Gore's lawyers could make another pitch in

Florida, but they couldn't count more votes. The door was banged shut.

No shock that the Supreme went like everyone else in this 2000 marathon — divided and baffled. The election was almost 50-50, the Florida Supreme were split 5-4, the Florida vote went to Bush by a few hundred votes, and the U.S. Supreme in their marble palace were just as muddled.

Nobody lasted the court in fiercer, more blistering words than dissenting Justice John Paul Stevens, who blasted his brethren: "Although we may never know with complete certainty the identity of the winner of this year's presidential election, the identity of the loser is perfectly clear. It is the nation's confidence in the judge as an impartial guardian of the rule of law."

But the Gore team, increasingly gloomy as hours dragged on Tuesday night, saw finally once it unraveled the court's arcane logic. Said Gore lawyer Dexter Douglas, "If we can't recount, it's over."

This has been known as the "Rehnquist Court," but the decision that handed Bush the White House was engineered by the Scalia Squad. The combative, right-tilting Scalia flashed his colors earlier when he said counting Florida votes "threatens irreparable harm to (George W. Bush) by casting a cloud ... on the legitimacy of his election."

No coincidence that Scalia and protégé Clarence Thomas were jabbed by Gore in campaign speeches as "the kind of justices Governor Bush would put on the Supreme Court." That prediction may come true.

Reverence toward the Supreme has been squandered by this partisan final margin, the Olympians in black robes battered away dignity by cheating voters of a full Florida count.

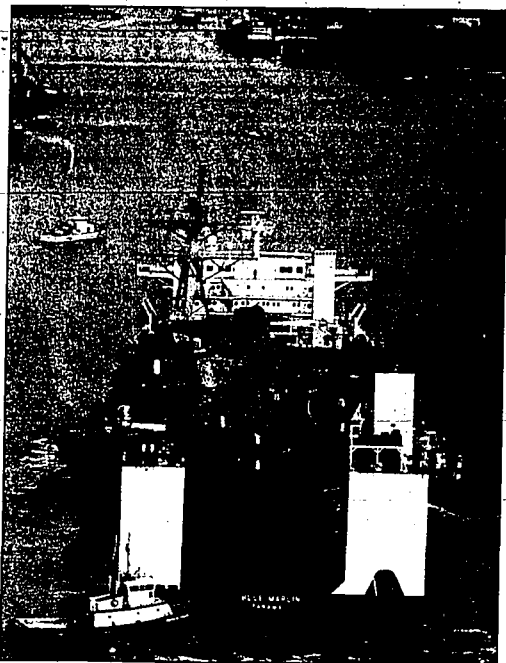
A restless nation wanted the 2000 madness to end in the worst way. And it did.

Sandy Grady is Washington columnist for the Philadelphia Daily News.



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NATION



The USS Cole arrives in Pascagoula, Miss., early Wednesday, riding piggyback on a Norwegian-owned heavy-lift ship because of the damage to its port side.

USS Cole returns to shipyard

PASCAGOULA, Miss. (AP) — With a shroud covering the gaping hole in its side, the bomb-damaged USS Cole returned for repairs Wednesday to the shipyard where it was built, arriving piggyback aboard a heavy-duty transport ship.

Spectators gathered in cold, overcast weather outside the gates to watch the arrival of the destroyer.

"I hate to see it coming back in that shape," said B.C. Lee, a carpenter who helped build the Cole. "It makes me feel good the Navy chose us to repair it."

The \$1 billion Navy warship was attacked by terrorists in Aden, Yemen, on Oct. 12, and 17 U.S. sailors were killed. It arrived in Pascagoula on a Norwegian-owned heavy-lift ship because of the damage to its port side.

The destroyer was christened here in 1995 and built by Ingalls Shipbuilding.

At least 100 employees in hard hats worked alongside a huge crane that pulled the heavy-lift ship Blue Marlin and its cargo to the dock. As sailors standing on the deck of Cole looked on, metal bumpers designed to ease the docking snapped as the Blue Marlin bumped the dock.

"It's a sad occasion when you think of the 17 sailors who died," Rep. Gene Taylor, D-Miss., said as he stepped onto the dock.

A patch for the hull's ragged 40-by-40-foot hole will be welded in place before the Cole is taken from the transport ship, and weapons will be unloaded. The destroyer will go into dry dock for repairs next month.

The work is expected to take about a year at a cost of \$150 million to \$170 million.

American and Yemeni authorities are still investigating the bombing. Yemen's prime minister has said that three to six Yemenis suspected of belonging

to an international terrorist network will go on trial next month in connection with the attack.

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Intensive health campaigns aim at large surge in teen population

Chicago Tribune

LOS ANGELES — Bracing for a dramatic rise in the youth population over the next decade, California, Illinois, Colorado and other states are introducing intensive health campaigns aimed at preventing an escalation of violence, drug abuse, pregnancy, truancy and other teen and preteen problems.

Between 2010 and 2020, the population of 10- to 19-year-olds is expected to rise to 44 million, the highest level in U.S. history. After a 25-year decline in the numbers in that age group, the surge in the group's population threatens to overwhelm everything from health-care services, afterschool programs and juvenile justice systems to schools and colleges.

While the growth is attributed mainly to children of Baby Boomers, experts are worried because some of these youths are from immigrant and minority groups that experience social problems stemming from poverty in higher proportions than the general population.

In 1993, one-third of youths were Hispanics or other minorities, according to federal officials. By 2030, Hispanics, blacks and Asian-Americans will comprise

more than half of that population.

Already schools and colleges are spending large sums to prepare facilities and a workforce to meet the demand, while coping with a nationwide shortage of teachers and professors that is expected to worsen after a wave of retirements in the next few years.

Education, health and juvenile justice officials are devoting significant resources to redesigning their approaches. They are concentrating more on the root causes of risky behavior, attempting to prevent problems and reduce the potential strain on public services from the population surge.

Rather than focusing on punishment, the new strategies call for promoting healthy lifestyles and developing youths' leadership potential and other attributes.

And instead of continuing to operate disparate programs in piecemeal fashion, the new approaches call for coordinating efforts by the numerous agencies, institutions and programs that serve young people, in the hope of making enrichment programs more comprehensive and accessible.

Over the last 30 years, "motor vehicle accidents, suicides and homicides have become the

major causes of death among teens; all three are preventable," said Dr. Trina Anglin, chief of the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Adolescent Health.

"The problem could be an even bigger deal with the projected number of kids," said Anglin, who is involved in a federal program that helps states address the surging youth population.

The growth spurt of this decade follows the youth gang and drug epidemic of the 1980s and early 1990s. Youth crime soared and many states built new prisons and introduced new laws allowing prosecutors to try violent juveniles as adults.

But even as youth crime dropped sharply in the late 1990s, school shootings in Littleton, Colo. and elsewhere prompted youth advocates to call for new approaches emphasizing positive development on the front end instead of costlier punishments on the back end.

While the country's overall population will grow by 9 percent from 2010 to 2020, the number of youths will rise by 11 percent. Fears that this youth boom will drive up the juvenile crime rate again have spurred states to focus on mentoring, job training and health.

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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“Why should we be surprised Polynice has been impersonating a policeman in Salt Lake City? He has been impersonating an NBA center for years.”

—Peter Vasey of the *New York Post*, on the recent problems of Utah Jazz center Olden Polynice

TRIVIA

QUESTION:

Name the University of Southern California forward-turned-actor who played basketball opposite UCLA's Lew Alcindor in the 1960s.

...answer below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Boys' high school basketball
Buhl at Filer, 4:15 p.m.
IF Christian at Hagerman JV, 5 p.m.
Rockland at Raft River, 6 p.m.
Twin Falls at Century, 6 p.m.
Minico at Idaho Falls, 6 p.m.
Burley at Jerome, 6 p.m.
Wood River at Declo, 7:30 p.m.
Richfield at Oakley, 7:30 p.m.

Girls' high school basketball
Declo at Wendell, 4:15 p.m.
Hansen at Murtaugh, 6 p.m.
Kimberly at Buhl, 6 p.m.
Hagerman at Valley, 6 p.m.
Richfield at Twin Falls Christian, 7:30 p.m.
Wood River at Gooding, 7:30 p.m.

High school wrestling
Filer/Kimberly at Buhl, 5 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Former CSI athlete tops steer roping money
COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. — Taylor, Ariz., cowboy Cody Hancock, who competed two years ago at the College of Southern Idaho, finished as the highest-ranking bull rider in the Pro Rodeo Cowboys Association's final standings released Wednesday.
Hancock, a 1998 CSI graduate, netted an unofficial \$139,583 in winnings this season. His world-title run culminated with last week's National Finals Rodeo finals, which he entered as a 15th-place qualifier.
Hancock's hard-charging finish was fueled by a whopping \$83,355 in prize money at the NFR.
For more final PRCA results, see Page B3.

Happy Hundley comes home to Wrigley Field
CHICAGO — Todd Hundley remembers ditching school on more than a few spring days as a kid so he could go to Wrigley Field and watch his dad play. Hundley was back home Wednesday, donning a Cubs jersey and hat as his father, Randy, watched with pride.
The youngest Hundley agreed to a \$23.5 million, four-year deal. Randy Hundley spent 10 of his 14 seasons with the Cubs, from 1966-73 and 1976-77, and was a Wrigley Field favorite. He still has close ties to the club, and a possibility to fill Steve Stone's spot as the Cubs' TV analyst.

TRIVIA ANSWER:
Tom Selleck, who went to USC on a basketball scholarship and later starred in *Magnus 7.1* and a host of Hollywood films.

Hurricanes take America by storm

The Associated Press
The University of Miami is back in the All-America business. Led by triple award-winning linebacker Dan Morgan, Miami joined Florida State with three players selected Wednesday for The Associated Press All-America team.
Wide receiver/punt returner Santana Moss and safety Edward Reed were the other Hurricanes on the 26-player squad, which

Miami contributes three to Associated Press team

Complete team — 83
also features Florida State's Helaman Trophy-winning quarterback, Chris Weinke.
It's the first time since 1992 that Miami had as many as three All-Americans; Florida State had four players on last year's team.

Along with Weinke, wide receiver Marvin Minnis and defensive end Jamal Reynolds were the other Seminoles chosen for the 2000 team.
Weinke led the nation with 4,167 yards passing and threw 33 touchdown passes, with just 11 interceptions. He guided the third-ranked Seminoles (11-1) to a national title game against No.

1 Oklahoma (12-0) in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 3.
The Sooners' Josh Heupel made second team, with Purdue's Drew Brees the third-team quarterback.
TCU's LaDainian Tomlinson and Northwestern's Damien Anderson, the nation's top two rushers, were the running backs.
The 5-foot-11, 217-pound

Tomlinson ran for 2,158 yards — the fourth highest season total in I-A history — in leading the Horned Frogs (10-1) to the Western Athletic Conference title and a berth in the Mobile Alabama Bowl. The 5-11, 208-pound Anderson ran for 1,914 yards as the Wildcats (8-3) took a share of the Big Ten title and earned a trip to the Alamo Bowl.
Minnis, who stepped in for two-

Please see MIAMI, Page B2



Newly signed slugger Manny Ramirez gives two thumbs-up and says 'bueno' after putting on a Boston Red Sox cap and jersey during a news conference to introduce him at Fenway Park in Boston Wednesday. Ramirez signed an eight-year, \$160 million contract.

It's all 'bueno'

Ramirez arrives to Fenway fanfare

The Associated Press
BOSTON — Manny Ramirez buttoned his brand new Red Sox jersey, smiled, gave a double thumbs-up and uttered the \$160 million word.
"Bueno."
It was a sight and a sound his new bosses were thrilled and relieved to see.
Less than three days after Boston general manager Dan Duquette thought the slugger would spin the Red Sox' more lucrative offer and stay with Cleveland, Ramirez arrived Wednesday on the field where he had been a feared enemy.
Now he's part of a fearsome group, with two-time AL batting champion Nomar Garciaparra and three-time Cy Young award winner Pedro Martinez, as

Boston gears up for another run not far from Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, jumped headfirst into the rivalry.
"I'm just jured to see New York always win," he said.
The Indians and Red Sox both missed last year's playoffs. In 1999, Boston beat Cleveland 3-2 in the first round but lost to the Yankees for the AL pennant.
Ramirez found it hard to leave the Indians because I've been in Cleveland for seven years," he said. "It was like a roller coaster."
But conversations with Martinez, also born in the Dominican Republic, and Garciaparra helped sway him. And he thinks Boston is closer to a World Series title than Cleveland.
"Over here we got the best pitcher in both leagues (Martinez) and the best hitter (Garciaparra)," Ramirez said. "I

think if we get another guy, we've got a great chance to win it all."
Ramirez isn't worried about his subpar performances in Fenway Park, where he has a lifetime .278 batting average with 16 RBIs in 37 games, his lowest numbers in any AL park. He was 0-for-8 there in the 1999 AL playoffs and 1-for-18 in the series against Boston.
"It doesn't matter," Ramirez said. "I think I can make that change."
Ramirez, 28, hit .351 last season with 38 homers and 122 RBIs in 439 at-bats. He missed 44 games with a hamstring injury, but led the league in slugging percentage and was third in on-base average.
After returning from the disabled list, Ramirez, a .313 career hitter, batted .371 with 25 homers and 75 RBIs in his final 71 games. In the last three years, only Sammy Sosa (437) has driven in more runs than Ramirez's 432.

And Ramirez, who grew up not far from Yankee Stadium in the Bronx, jumped headfirst into the rivalry.
"I'm just jured to see New York always win," he said.
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Title run

Burley graduate Davidson earns crown the hard way

The Times-News
REXBURG — Last week, during the Ricks College winter sports banquet, the Vikings' cross country coach recalled the request he fielded last spring from a runner looking for a home.
The runner was 1997 Burley High School graduate Jeff Davidson and Doug Stutz was mildly interested at best.
Responding to Davidson's letter, Stutz wrote back, "Frankly, I think your chances of making the team are not good. If you want to be guaranteed an opportunity to run in college next year, I suggest you consider looking for another school."
Stutz's reply wasn't all negative, however. "I will also tell you," the coach added in his letter, "that there is a 1 percent chance you will make the team and run incredibly well."
Suffice to say Davidson has done exactly that.

On Nov. 18, after winning the Region 18 men's cross country title in a sizzling 25:44, Davidson blitzed to the National Junior College Athletic Association championship in Levelland, Texas in a time of 25:53 — becoming just the third Idaho runner in 42 years to win a national crown, Stutz said.
Stutz also believes Davidson, just the second Ricks runner to win a championship, is the first American to win the individual men's national title in 13 seasons.
And in the time since, Davidson has been named an NJCAA Div. I All-American.
"Jeff walked on, was our first-place finisher in five of six races, and the rest is history," Stutz said at the awards banquet.
But the individual national title, which helped the Ricks men to their second team title in as many seasons, did not come easily. At the banquet, Ricks athletic director Garth Hall told how Davidson spent the day before the national race sick in bed.
When the race arrived, Hall said, Davidson started out slow but worked his way to the middle of the pack halfway through.
With two miles of the five-mile course remaining, the speedy freshman had worked his way to the front, and from there he built

Please see TITLE, Page B2

Picabo's comeback continues at St. Moritz

The Associated Press
ST. MORITZ, Switzerland — Italy's Isolde Kostner had the fastest time Wednesday in training for two World Cup downhill races this weekend, but one of Idaho's own was not far behind.
Kostner, who won one of two downhill at this resort last year, was timed in 1 minute, 39.36 seconds Wednesday on the demanding 5,124-foot Corviglia II course. She finished 0.08 seconds ahead of Switzerland's Corinne Rey-Bellet.
Sun Valley's Picabo Street, working hard to come back from leg injuries that sidelined her the past two seasons, finished 37th in

1:41.86. Street was one place behind — Sweden's Pernilla Wiberg, the 1997 overall World Cup champion.
Street, 29, finished 34th last week in a Super-G race in France, her first competition since returning to the World Cup circuit.
She hopes to compete in the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, and maybe even collect a medal or two.
The overall World Cup leader, Martina Eril of Germany, finished 11th in 1:40.27.
Alexandra Meisnitzer of Austria, the 1999 World Cup overall champion, was 26th.
The World Cup races will be held Saturday and Sunday.

Wooden's guys

Former players honor living legend

The Associated Press
NEW YORK — They came to him as teenagers, undisciplined kids who could run, jump and shoot. They left as adults, equipped with the tools they would need for life.
John Wooden explained the intricacies of basketball and life to each of them and, while he was at it, established one of the great dynasties in sports.
His UCLA teams won 10 NCAA championships in 12 years, a stretch of success unlikely to be repeated. There were four undefeated seasons and 88

Starry night
Sports Illustrated's Sportsman of the Year program will air tonight at 9 p.m. on CBS.

straight victories. Twenty-five years after he coached his last game, his old players still worship the man they call "Coach."
Sports Illustrated presented Wooden with its Legacy Award this week as part of that Sportsman of the Year show that will be aired by CBS tonight. Many of his ex-players flew to New York for the event.
No one speaks more eloquently about Wooden than Bill Walton, who played for UCLA at a troubled time in America, a time of



Former UCLA basketball coach John Wooden accepts the Legacy Award during Sports Illustrated's award ceremony Tuesday at the Beacon Theater in New York.

Please see WOODEN, Page B2

SPORTS

Bucks gain momentum with win over Jazz Seton Hall scrapes by winless Penn

SALT LAKE CITY (AP)—Glenn Robinson scored 24 of his season-high 32 points in the second half as the Milwaukee Bucks beat the Utah Jazz 111-102 on Wednesday night.

Ray Allen added 23 points to help the Bucks win for the second straight night on the road. Milwaukee beat the Lakers 109-105 on Tuesday night in Los Angeles.

Utah pulled within five at 95-90 with 3:29 to play, but Allen's jumper sparked a 5-0 run to make it 100-90 with 2:22 to play.

Milwaukee improved to 11-11, the first time it has been at the 500 mark this season.

Karl Malone led Utah, which has lost two straight, with 35 points. John Stockton had 15 points and recorded his 14,000th career assist in the final minute.

Pacers 97, Mavericks 92 INDIANAPOLIS — Jalen Rose scored 24 points, Reggie Miller added 27 and the Indiana

NBA Pacers used a 10-0 run midway through the fourth quarter to beat the Mavericks. With three of their key players seeing extended minutes for the second straight night, the Pacers evened their record at 11-11. It's the sixth time this season, not including 0-0, that the Pacers have had a .500 record.

Suns 103, Spurs 93 PHOENIX — Shawn Marion had 17 points and 16 rebounds Wednesday night as the Phoenix Suns never trailed in a 103-93 victory over the San Antonio Spurs.

Jason Kidd had 17 points and nine assists and Cliff Robinson added 15 points as the Suns won their third in a row and fifth in six games.

Rodney Rogers scored 12 of his 14 in the first half and fouled out with 3:46 to play.

Bulls 104, Celtics 86 BOSTON — Ron Mercer scored 27 points to lead the Chicago Bulls to just their third win of the season and their biggest since Michael Jordan retired.

Ron Artest added 19 points and 10 rebounds for the Bulls, who snapped a six-game losing streak.

Chicago, which has the worst record in the NBA even with the win, topped 100 points for the first time this season and improved to 1-13 in games decided by 10 points or more.

Pistons 92, Hawks 69 AUBURN HILLS, Mich. — Jerry Stackhouse scored 30 points to lead Detroit.

The game was played in front of possibly the smallest crowd ever to watch the Pistons at the Palace of Auburn Hills.

Sixers 102, Wizards 82 WASHINGTON — Allen Iverson scored 25 points to lead five scorers in double-figures as the Philadelphia 76ers beat the Washington Wizards 102-82 Wednesday night.

Iverson scored 13 in the first half and has scored 20 or more points in nine straight games after being held to a career-low seven against Charlotte on Nov. 24.

Hornets 101, Kings 90 CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Jamal Mashburn scored a season-high 33 points and Baron Davis added a career-high 25 to lead the Charlotte Hornets to their first victory over Sacramento in over three years, 101-90 on Wednesday night.

The Hornets had dropped four straight to the Kings since a 121-102 victory on Dec. 2, 1997, Pacific Division-leading Sacramento lost consecutive games for the first time this season.

Collegiate basketball after Dixon snapped a 4-4 tie with seven straight points. It was Maryland's 73rd consecutive non-conference home win, the longest such streak since 1969.

Freshman Peter Mulligan scored 20 for UMBC, which fell to 0-13 against Maryland in the intrastate rivalry that began in 1987.

Miss. 58, SE Louisiana 46 OXFORD, Miss. — Rahim Lockhart scored 21 points, grabbed 14 rebounds, and sparked a 13-0 run in the second half for Mississippi.

Ole Miss (8-0) extended its non-conference home winning streak to 41 games by beating Southeastern Louisiana (2-4) to one basket in the final 12 minutes.

BASEBALL

NBA Standings table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams and their records.

MLB Standings table with columns for American League and National League, listing teams and their records.

WNBA Standings table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams and their records.

UFL Standings table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams and their records.

HL Standings table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams and their records.

UHL Standings table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams and their records.

WHL Standings table with columns for Eastern Conference and Western Conference, listing teams and their records.

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SCORES AND STATS

Table with columns for Team, W, L, T, P, G, A, Q, listing various sports teams and their statistics.

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IN THE BLEACHERS By Steve Moore



Goat tournament marshals tryouts.

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ON THE AIR TELEVISION

Table listing television programs, channels, and times.

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YOUR SPORTS

YourSports Desk: 733-0931, Ext. 229 (Hours: 2-11 p.m.)

Holiday bowling hits local lanes

On Dec. 2 and 3, the men were given an opportunity to participate in the 2nd Annual Men's Doubles Challenge at the Bowladrome.

The reason it is called a challenge is because the ladies host a Columbus Day Tournament and the men are challenged to exceed their entries each year. They didn't succeed in 1999 and guess what? They didn't in 2000 either.

But a good time was had by all as the Idaho Falls team of Dean Lewis and Brice Holmes rolled 1,980 for the four-game format, capturing the first-place prize money of \$200. Earning second place and \$130 were Nathan Griffin and Steve Elston, Twin Falls, 1,963. Tory Trujillo and Victor Beron, Pocatello, were third with 1,948 for \$100.

Beron also teamed up with Jeremy Pincock, of Pocatello, taking the fourth-place prize of \$80 with their 1,899. Fifth was Brian Birrell and Charles Henning, Twin Falls, for \$60 at 1,878. Maury Miller Jr. and Mark Breyer, Twin Falls, finished sixth with 1,861 and \$40. Finishing seventh was the father-son team of Ian & Jim DeVries, Filer, at 1,859 earning \$30 of the \$640 total prize fund.

In other news... 'Tis that time of year when we are busy with Christmas shopping and Christmas parties. Have you tried a bowling party? Say Game 1 is 8-pin, no-top. Knock down eight pins with your first ball of the frame and it records a strike. Nine pin in it the same—however, you must knock down nine pins on your first ball to get that strike.

Or how about 3-6-9? That's where you automatically get strikes in the third, sixth and ninth frames. There is always S.O.B. (better known in the bowling world as "Should Of Been"). Three times during a game you can roll your first ball and turn around and say "S.O.B." and you are given a strike.

There's Bingo Bowling and Scotch Doubles for more fun. Call your local bowling center today and schedule a Christmas bowling party before the time slots are all filled up.

And what are you doing New Year's Eve?

•Magic Bowl will be hosting open bowling.
•Bowladrome has a Spaghetti Supper planned and party favors for all.
•Sunset Bowl, in Buhl, will be holding its regular moonlight bowling until 10 and then continue on with moonlight and party plans till 1 a.m.

•Call Jerome Bowl for information on its plans.
•Cedar Lanes, in Filer, will be holding a New Years Hawaiian Luau from 9 p.m. to midnight. With unlimited bowling and free shoe rental, you can specter bowl from 10 p.m. until midnight. Finger foods, one free drink and party favors will be furnished.

Call the centers for prices and get your name down for reservations for a fun time.

A recent phone call from the North Pole requested we tell all the bowlers that Santa will be at Sunset Bowl Dec. 23 from 2-4 p.m.

•And on Dec. 22-23 and 27-30, Jerome Bowl will be hosting its annual Holiday Adult/Junior Fun Day Tournament—a four-game format, two games of 9-pin, no-top, one game of 3-6-9 and one game of "No Splits" (splits are recorded as strikes). The average of the junior bowler will determine the number of pins needed for a strike during the two games of no-top for the juniors.

Contact Thelma at 733-4357 or by e-mail at trucker@magic-link.com.



LET'S GO BOWLING
Thelma Tucker

MUSTANG RUN



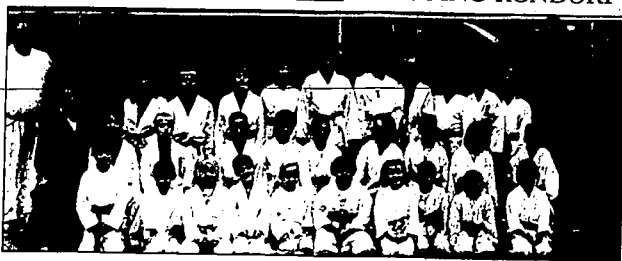
Twin Falls runners Britany Ward, above, and Tyler Jones, right, both of O'Leary Junior High, competed in the Running With The Mustangs event in Reno, Nev., last Saturday. Jones ran the 4K in 16:23 and finished 45th out of 248 boys. He was in great position until the dreaded sidechase hit him. Ward finished 22nd out of 240 entrants, running the 4K course in 17:05 in helping the girls' Team Idaho to a ninth-place finish. She was honored at the awards ceremony with a medal and trophy.

GOING BLUE



Charles Colby, right, recently received his blue belt ranking in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu under famed Jiu-Jitsu instructor Pedro Sauer of Salt Lake City. Blue belt is the first ranking. Colby trains at American Self Defense Systems in Twin Falls under instructor Keith Owen, left.

GOODING RONDORI



Gooding hosted its second Rondori Tournament Nov. 11. The tournament attracted students from around the Magic Valley, who attended to show their skills and learn more about the art of Jiu-Jitsu. The students also received instruction from Master Shephard Reale, who taught self-defense knowledge on the art of Sansoryu. Pictured, top row: Jason Dains, Master Shephard Reale, Jessica Thatcher, Chris Erickson, Colton Knopp, Renee Howells, Eric Carter, Susie Schoessler, Shelby Schoessler, Millie Zarile, Joshua Payton, Karissa Johnson, Mr. Matt Shaw, Mr. Ken Bryant; Middle row: Sessel Scott Stockham, Jacob Bow, Josh Rex, Ethan Winter, Luel Schoessler, Ethan Ervin, Scott Zarate, Ryan Stockham, Maggie Crowell, Mathew Beck; Front row: Chad Johnson, Caleb Aoi, Crystal Thatcher, Alex Bow, Luke Vlasar, Kyle Bryant, McKenna Knopp, Stephanie Stockham, Megan Stockham, Michelle Aoi; Not pictured: Brogan Bennett, Sessel Gary Phelps.

YOUR SCORES AND STATS

BOWLING

SHANE R. BOWLING
THIRD PLACE
SHEILA J. BOWLING
SECOND PLACE
LINDA J. BOWLING
FIRST PLACE

CEEDAR LAKES, FILER

CECILIA K. BOWLING
THIRD PLACE
TERRY J. BOWLING
SECOND PLACE
JOHN D. BOWLING
FIRST PLACE

MAGIC BOWL, TWIN FALLS

BRYAN J. BOWLING
THIRD PLACE
MICHAEL J. BOWLING
SECOND PLACE
KEVIN J. BOWLING
FIRST PLACE

SUNSET BOWL, BUHL

DAVID J. BOWLING
THIRD PLACE
CHRISTOPHER J. BOWLING
SECOND PLACE
ANDREW J. BOWLING
FIRST PLACE

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