



Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/95th year, No. 357

Friday, December 22, 2000

50 cents

GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Mostly cloudy with a few flurries or sprinkles possible. High, 38. Same tonight: Low, 28.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY

Moving up: A Lincoln County judge is getting a promotion.

Page B1

Money worries: A slumping stock market could pose problems for Idaho's endowment.

Page B1

WEEKEND



Texas-style: Order up "A Tuna Christmas" this weekend and next week at Ketchum's new Sage Theater.

Page C1

SPORTS



Take that: The Twin Falls High School girls' basketball team didn't let the Rams slip away Thursday night.

Page D1

Bye-bye Mile High: The Denver Broncos' storied stadium is about to meet the wrecking ball, but first there's this business of a game Saturday against the 49ers.

Page D4

OPINION

Yes, Virginia: Today's editorial is a reprint of The New York Sun's classic Christmas editorial of 1897.

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Locals await DEQ action

By John T. Huddy
Times-News writer

County officials welcome state's help on dairy odor issue; some expect little

TWIN FALLS - The Department of Agriculture's involvement with a local dairy's odor problem is a step forward, two county officials said Thursday.

But the Department of Agriculture should have stepped up to the plate several months ago, said Bill Crafton, the county's planning and zoning director. "Why weren't they there seven or eight months ago when it became an issue?" Crafton said Thursday. "Dairy operators really need advice when they

start these operations and I think it will take the Department of Agriculture some time to come up with these things."

The state Department of Agriculture said Wednesday that it will work with Hank Haflinger on his dairy's odor problems.

The dairy, Twin Falls County's largest, has been the center of a battle.

Haflinger has contended his odor control system is working, while neighbors say the dairy

should be shut down. State officials have said they lack enforcement capability, while residents and even some local officials contend the state Department of Environmental Quality can enforce state laws and federal clean air regulations, but hasn't.

Commissioner Bill Brockman said the Department of Agriculture will likely get something done at Haflinger's dairy. It will take some time, though.

"I know some of the residents

don't have confidence in the Department of Agriculture. But I think the Department of Agriculture will do a good job and get this problem solved," Brockman said. "And if they can't, then they have the DEQ as a backup."

The DEQ is working on guidelines to help determine if a dairy poses an odor problem.

Those guidelines should become official in about a month. Under the guidelines, complaints would be turned over to the Department of Agriculture - which regulates dairies.

The Department of Agriculture Please see DAIRY, Page A2

Speaker urges caution

Market dip might temper plans for state's surplus

By Michael Journee
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - With technology stocks continuing their dip, lawmakers must be cautious in handling the state's estimated \$300 million budget surplus, Idaho House Speaker Bruce Newcomb says.

Newcomb, R-Burley, believes the recent decline of NASDAQ stocks signals a major correction in the computer and technology industry, and might mean the state's 2001 projected tax collections are too



2001 Legislature
House Speaker Bruce Newcomb

Coupled with a number of bills the state might have to pay, the stock market's downturn could

Please see SURPLUS, Page A2

ON TO BIGGER THINGS



President-elect Bush waves from the Senate Chamber of the Texas Capitol where he announced his resignation as governor Thursday. He is applauded at right by his successor Lt. Gov. Rick Perry and his wife, Anita Perry.

Bush steps down as Texas governor

President-elect takes up national education plan

More political news - B6-7

The Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas - An emotional George W. Bush resigned from the job that helped catapult him to the presidency on Thursday. Leaving the governorship behind, he walked out of the state Capitol and plunged into the business of promoting his national education program to Congress.

"I've cleaned out my office. It's ready for occupancy," Bush said, choking up as he waved farewell to hundreds of lawmakers and supporters in the state Senate chambers.

His successor, GOP Lt. Gov. Rick Perry, was sworn in as gov-

ernor about five hours later from the same Senate podium and with Bush there to cheer him. "His shadow will loom large over this granite building, for it is the shadow of a great man," Perry said in tribute.

Bush ticked off a series of gubernatorial accomplishments in a 4.5-minute resignation speech, including two that mirrored items on his White House agenda: improving public schools and lowering taxes.

"It's an emotional moment, to leave a job I love for a state I love," Bush told reporters as he left the statehouse. "There's a lot of my friends sitting there, and people I admire. I hope I assured them that even though I'm changing addresses, Texas will always be home."

After his public goodbye, Bush

turned almost immediately to the job ahead, hosting 15 GOP and Democratic members of Congress for an education discussion at his soon-to-be-former house, the governor's mansion.

Bush and the lawmakers, meeting privately, said they addressed the president-elect's plan for local school control and accountability, literacy, special education and boosting teacher quality.

"It's safe to say we just had an extraordinary meeting," Bush told reporters. "I would characterize our meeting as very helpful."

Sen. Zell Miller, D-Ga., described the session as a real give-and-take, with Bush responding to each lawmakers' comments.

"I think it spoke volumes on how this new president is going to operate," Miller said. "It was a candid exchange."

Bush, who called education his No. 1 priority, faces an uphill bat-

tle on Capitol Hill selling controversial elements of his plan, including giving parents taxpayer-funded vouchers to attend private schools.

Almost all the lawmakers addressed school vouchers, said Democrat Rep. George Miller of California - where voters rejected a school voucher measure. He said Bush called it a matter of "state determination."

After the meeting, Bush addressed criticism from White House economic adviser Gene Sperling, who accused the president-elect of downplaying the economy's strength "to gain short-term political positioning."

Bush, who makes the case his \$1.3 trillion tax-cut plan will boost the economy, said in response to Sperling, "I have said that there are some warning signs on the horizon. I think people are going to find out that when I'm sworn in as the president I'll be a realist."



Rep. Jim Kempton

State shuffle - B3

The Northwest Planning Council has eight members: two each from Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Montana.

The time frame for Kempton's resignation is not yet clear.

"It was a hard decision for me," Kempton, a five-term lawmaker, said Thursday night. "I have really enjoyed my time in the Legislature."

Kempton will be paid \$85,500 a year for the full-time job on the council.

Please see KEMPTON, Page A2

What lame duck?

Flurry of regulations, administrative actions emerge from White House

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Departing with a flurry of activity, the Clinton administration is rushing out a stream of regulations - roping off millions of acres of federal land from developers, requiring less polluting trucks, protecting miners with black lung disease, and other actions.

The latest came Thursday as the White House and Environmental Protection Agency made public new requirements intended to cut pollution from heavy-duty trucks and buses by more than 90 percent over the

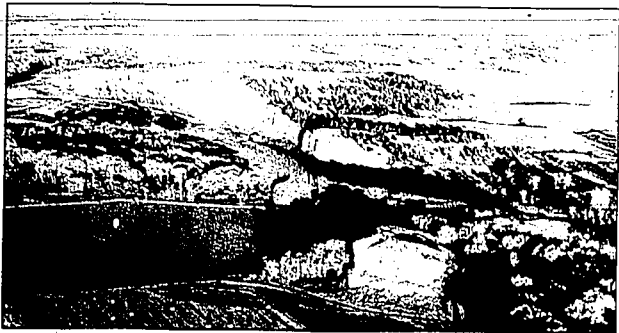
Two more monuments? - B4

next decade. Refiners also are directed to produce virtually sulfur-free diesel fuel.

President Clinton is determined to fashion a legacy of major initiatives in areas of public health, the environment and worker rights, administration officials say.

Although time is running out, Clinton is not done using his executive authority to protect more public land under the 1906

Please see REGS, Page A2



Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt said Thursday he'll recommend that Pompeys Pillar, along the Yellowstone River east of Billings, Mont., be a national monument. Explorer William Clark signed his name here July 25, 1806.

FORECAST FOR MAGIC VALLEY

AccuWeather.com

IDAHO

Idaho Extremes Yesterday: High 44° Boise Low -4° Rexburg

32/28°

Lowiston 39/34°

Misoula 28/19°

McCall 30/22°

Salmon 28/20°

Boise 38/30°

Sun Valley 35/20°

Idaho Falls 31/19°

Pocatello 37/22°

TWIN FALLS 38/28°

ALMANAC

Twin Falls through 6 p.m. yesterday
Temperature
High/Low 33/24°
Normal High/Low 36/18°
Record High/Low 51°/ 1979
Record low -22° in 1980

Precipitation 24 hours ending 6 p.m. yesterday

Month to date 0.79"

Normal month to date 0.74"

Year to date 10.16"

Normal year to date 10.16"

Humidity Yesterday at noon 64%

Barometric Pressure Yesterday at 6 p.m. 29.92 in.

Green yesterday in Twin Falls

Plants Absent Woods Absent

Press Absent

Source: Asthma and Allergy of Idaho

Shown is today's weather.

Temperatures are in the high and tonight's lows.

All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather.com.

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FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR TWIN FALLS

TODAY	TONIGHT	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
A few flurries and sprinkles possible;	Perhaps a couple of sprinkles and flurries.	Mostly cloudy; perhaps some snow and rain.	Snow possible in the morning.	Partly sunny.	Patchy fog early; otherwise, partly sunny.
▲ 38° ▼	▼ 28°	▲ 38° ▼ 28°	▲ 36° ▼ 22°	▲ 34° ▼ 14°	▲ 30° ▼ 14°

REGIONAL WEATHER

Regional Idaho: Mostly cloudy and cold today; although a couple of rain and snow showers will move across the region, they will be mainly light. Mostly cloudy tonight with a couple of snow flurries possible.

Boise: Mostly cloudy today; a couple of light showers of snow and rain will cross the areas, mainly this morning. Mostly cloudy tonight with a couple of showers of rain and snow.

Northem Nevada: Clouds and limited sunshine across the far north today where there might be a sprinkle or flurry; partly sunny across the rest of the region. Partly to mostly cloudy tonight.

Northem Utah: Clouds and occasional sunshine today as well as a couple of snow showers. Mostly cloudy tonight with a few flurries possible. Variable clouds tomorrow with a snow shower possible.

Northem Idaho: Cloudy across the region today with periods of snow; the snow will mix with rain in a few lower elevation spots in the south. Cloudy tonight with areas of snow and rain; also pockets of ice.

NATIONAL EXTREMES

Yesterday (for the 48 contiguous states)
High 76° in Chino, CA. Low -26° in West Yellowstone, MT

NATIONAL WEATHER

Shown are noon positions of weather systems and precipitation. Temperature bands are higher for the day. Forecast high/low temperatures are given for selected cities.



CANADIAN CITIES

City	Today	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Calgary	21	14	sn	27	18	sn	27	18	sn
Edmonton	21	14	sn	27	18	sn	27	18	sn
Regina	4	-18	pc	4	-20	pc	4	-20	pc
Saskatoon	4	-18	pc	4	-20	pc	4	-20	pc
Toronto	15	7	pc	19	10	pc	19	10	pc
Winnipeg	3	-18	pc	4	-20	pc	4	-20	pc

SUN AND MOON

SUNSET TODAY 5:08 p.m.
MOONRISE TODAY 12:32 a.m.
MOONSET TONIGHT 12:22 p.m.

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WORLD CITIES

City	Today	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Kobe	51	43	pc	51	43	pc	51	43	pc
London	48	41	pc	48	41	pc	48	41	pc
Paris	48	41	pc	48	41	pc	48	41	pc
Rio de Janeiro	81	75	pc	81	75	pc	81	75	pc
Sao Paulo	81	75	pc	81	75	pc	81	75	pc
Seoul	44	34	pc	44	34	pc	44	34	pc
Tokyo	51	43	pc	51	43	pc	51	43	pc
Washington	30	23	pc	30	23	pc	30	23	pc
Zurich	40	28	pc	40	28	pc	40	28	pc

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo	Hi	Lo
Boise	38	30	sn	38	30	sn	38	30	sn
Butte	31	23	sn	31	23	sn	31	23	sn
Coeur d'Alene	32	26	sn	32	26	sn	32	26	sn
Elko	40	16	pc	37	17	pc	37	17	pc
Idaho Falls	31	19	sn	31	19	sn	31	19	sn
Malad	38	23	sn	38	23	sn	38	23	sn
McCall	30	22	sn	30	22	sn	30	22	sn
Salmon	28	20	sn	28	20	sn	28	20	sn
Sun Valley	35	25	sn	35	25	sn	35	25	sn
Twin Falls	38	28	sn	38	28	sn	38	28	sn
Yellowstone	2	-14	pc	0	-7	pc	0	-7	pc

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Surplus

Continued from A1
farce lawmakers to be more cautious in spending the money and less ambitious in cutting taxes.

"We need to be cautiously optimistic," Newcomb told the Twin Falls Kiwanis Club Thursday.

"I'm not convinced we have a \$300 million surplus."

Newcomb pointed to past misjudgments that forced former governors to hold back state money when income didn't live up to spending.

Lawmakers must be more cautious in spending the money and less ambitious in cutting taxes.

Idaho's construction prohibits deficit spending, forcing funding backlogs when money runs short.

A power shortage threatening California, an expected skyrocketing in heating fuel prices, and consumers' lukewarm Christmas spending also point to a more protracted economic slowdown, Newcomb said.

Much of the surplus has been generated by income taxes, from salary bonuses given to technology industry executives during recent high-profit years.

This makes the downturn in technology stocks that much more of a dark cloud for state coffers, Newcomb said.

Lawmakers will also face a number of spending possibilities, which in themselves could easily eat up the surplus, projected to be the largest in the state's history.

First on the list is a possible settlement of the lawsuit filed against the state by school districts, seeking state money to replace dilapidated school buildings.

Other likely requests include money to build prisons for Idaho's growing inmate population.

Dairy

Continued from A1
will then work with the dairy to determine the cause of the odors and develop an odor management plan - or review an existing plan for flaws.

If the problem is not solved at Haflinger's dairy, the DEQ could get involved. If it could file civil or criminal court complaints, with the attorney general's approval.

But Lewis Eilers of the Idaho Dairyman's Association questioned how much legal authority regulators at the DEQ.

"There are no enforceable odor standards," Eilers said.

Eilers said Haflinger just needs some time to get the problem under control - about a year - and it's doubtful that the Department of Agriculture will be able to do much good.

"If you talk to the Department of Agriculture, they will tell you that they don't know what to put in their odor management plan," Eilers said.

"But I guess they have a better shot at doing it than the DEQ does."

Bill Chisholm, a Bull activist who has criticized the state's handling of the Haflinger dairy, said the Department of Agriculture and DEQ are all talk.

Neither agency will take action.

Dairy

Haflinger to court, or make much of a difference, he said.

"I think there is starting to be some commitment to do something, but there is a lack of a sense of what needs to be done," Chisholm said Thursday.

Critics, like Chisholm, have argued that the Department of Agriculture has been ineffective because of the dairy industry's influence.

From July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2000, the Department of Agriculture collected \$900,825 from permit fees and other dairy-associated costs.

The money is spent on personnel and operations. And the Department of Agriculture does depend on the dairy industry to pay the bills, agency spokeswoman Julie Pipal said.

"It's as if the dairy association is driving the regulatory agencies and that has been the problem all along, both at the county and state level," Chisholm said.

"It's been about appeasement and unfortunately the attitude still leans pretty heavy towards appeasement (rather) than a solution."

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

Kempton

Continued from A1
By state statute, the Republican committee in Kempton's legislative district 25 has 10 days after his resignation to submit three nominees to Kemphorne. Kemphorne will then select one of the nominees to succeed Kempton.

Kempton said he would do his best to time his resignation to coincide with the local committee's ability to find a replacement. If he's able to resign before the new year, his successor could be installed before the 2001 Legislature gets rolling.

Distri 25 takes in Cassia County and portions of Minidoka and Twin Falls counties.

Kempton picks up his new duties with the council in mid-January.

Kempton said the volatility surrounding the Northwest's power industry and the discussion over salmon recovery makes the new job appealing.

"It sounded like a place I would really want to be," Kempton said.

Although Kempton has never dealt specifically with the issues surrounding the Northwest's power industry, he said his experience negotiating agreements with other countries wanting access to American military hardware and markets will help in his new post.

Kempton, who chairs the House Transportation and Defense Committee, will replace retired Potlatch Corp. executive Todd Maddock as one of Idaho's two council members. Maddock was appointed to the council in 1995 by then Gov. Phil Batt.

Times-News political reporter Michael Journe can be reached at (208) 735-3231, or by e-mail at mjourne@magicvalley.com

Final salmon plan puts off breaching

Calling for immediately restoring habitat and reforming hatchery practices, but not breaching Snake River dams, the federal agency's final version of its latest plan for saving Columbia Basin salmon runs from extinction.

It also calls for a review of recovery efforts in three years, now as proposed in a preliminary plan.

"Breaching those dams remains an option if the recovery efforts don't meet strict performance standards included in the strategy," said Donna Darm, acting Northwest regional administrator of the National Marine Fisheries Service.

"This approach challenges hydropower system operators, hatchery and fishery managers, users of habitat and virtually everyone

Officials: U.S. won't formally apologize for Korean War

A deal with North Korea could happen

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Clinton administration has decided not to issue a formal apology to South Korea for the U.S. Army's role in the shooting of civilians at No Gun Ri early in the Korean War, nor will it offer financial compensation to the survivors or families of the victims, three senior administration officials said.

The administration is, however, considering more modest gestures, including erecting a monument - presumably in South Korea - in honor of all civilians killed in the 1950-53 war and establishing a scholarship fund in memory of the No Gun Ri victims, the officials said.

The officials, interviewed separately, spoke on condition they not be identified.

Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said Thursday that it was premature to say what actions the administration would take in response to the findings of a recently completed U.S. Army investigation into No Gun Ri.

Later, an administration official said the meeting ended with "broad agreement" on "follow-on measures" to be taken by Washington and Seoul in response to the investigation's findings. "We've agreed on a way ahead," the official said, adding that numerous non-contentious details remained to be resolved.

The points of agreement included no U.S. apology and no U.S. financial compensation, the official said.

In a Pulitzer Prize-winning series of reports on No Gun Ri, the AP quoted ex-GIs and Korean survivors as saying a large number of refugees were killed by U.S. troops over a three-day period in July 1950. Ex-GIs spoke of 100, 200 or simply hundreds killed. The Koreans say 300 were shot to death and 100 died in a preceding air attack.

The investigation's findings and the U.S. measures in response are likely to be announced in early January, he said.



Secretary of State Madeleine Albright speaks to journalists in her office at the State Department Thursday, during an exclusive interview with the Associated Press. With Israeli and Palestinian negotiators in Washington trying to bring an end to the current violence in the Middle East, Albright said, "there has been some evolution by both sides, but that it was not useful to get into details at this point."

WASHINGTON (AP) - There is a "genuine possibility" that North Korea will agree to limit its production and export of missiles and missile technology, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright told The Associated Press Thursday.

President Clinton continues to weigh a visit to North Korea during his last month in office - quite possibly to clinch a deal. Many senior Republicans on Capitol Hill oppose such a visit.

White House spokesman Jake Siewert said Clinton will make a judgment based on whether he thinks a trip would advance the process of curtailing Pyongyang's missile program. Asked when a decision will be made, Siewert said, "As soon as we can."

According to an official who asked not to be identified, an interim trip to Pyongyang by Wendy Sherman, Albright's top aide to North Korea, is under consideration. The White House raised the possibility of a Clinton visit to North Korea more than two months ago. His decision has been awaited by Korea-watchers with great anticipation.

At a State Department press Christmas party hosted by Albright on Wednesday night, Sherman showed up with a sign hanging from her neck that said: "No decision yet." Another sign, hanging on her back, said, "Don't ask, don't tell."

Albright faces return to life in private sector

WASHINGTON (AP) - Looking forward to returning to private life after nearly eight years in the Clinton administration, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright says driving a car will pose a challenge but she anticipates no problem doing her own food shopping.

"I know how to go to the grocery, shop and check out, and do all those things," Albright said Thursday as she pondered the imminence of her return to life as a private citizen.

"I am ready to go out and cross the street by myself," Albright

said firmly.

For almost four years as secretary of state, and for four years before that as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Albright's life has been protected but also restricted by an ever-present armed security detail.

They escort her in a long motorcade and from her home in the Georgetown section of Washington, keep crowds away and do not let her get behind the wheel of a car - ever.

"I have not driven in seven years, so I think they better take me somewhere and teach me to drive," Albright said.

She is also looking forward to writing a book, perhaps two. One will focus on the rise of democracy around the world, particularly in eastern and central Europe since the breakup of the Soviet Union, and also in Latin America, Africa, and Czechoslovakia.

Albright is a university professor-turned diplomat whose interest in Europe was honed by fascist and then communist control of her homeland. Her family was forced into exile twice when she was still a young girl and Europe remained a natural focus for her as secretary of state.

She has lived in the same

house in Georgetown since 1968 and will remain there as a private citizen. Beyond the books and articles, her plans are largely undetermined.

"I am going to keep talking to

the American people because I think that has been helpful," Albright said. "Beyond that, I haven't made any very specific plans," as the job has kept her busy.

Sighting of Santa Claus is on the way

The Gazette

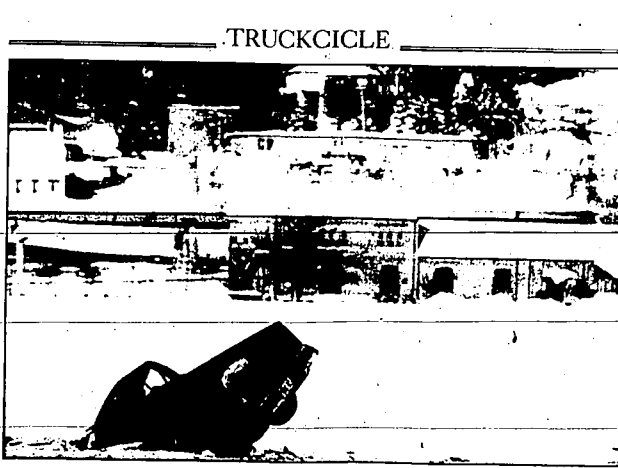
COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. - In a highly sensitive Defense Support Program mission, NORAD officials based at Cheyenne Mountain said this week they've detected unusual activity in the northern hemisphere. The system, used for missile launch detection, has identified a radiant and shining object they believe to be coming from family forces.

Rudolph's pose is the first sighting this year of Santa Claus by the North American Aerospace Defense Command, a joint U.S.-Canadian military organization responsible for the aerospace defense of the two nations that housed - inside - Cheyenne Mountain south of Colorado Springs.

The tracking operation, which is supported by a corps of 100 volunteers who answer a Santa hotline on Christmas Eve, added a Web site in 1997. The response has been overwhelming. The North American Aerospace Defense Command will track Santa's flight from 4 p.m. to midnight on Christmas Eve. Find Santa's location by logging on to www.norad-santa.org.

Last year, it drew 52 million hits from across the planet. That's nearly one for every American child 14 or under, or one in 35 youths worldwide. Since the site went online last Friday, it's gotten 53 million hits - about 60 percent from the United States and 40 percent from overseas. That's about 1.5 million a day.

NORAD spokesman Air Force Master Sgt. Larry Lincoln said there are no tax dollars spent tracking Santa or answering the calls. All Web services were donated. "We're preserving some of the magic of Christmas," Lincoln said. "It's a sign of good will around the world."



A 1995 Chevrolet pickup truck belonging to Jamie Reynolds, 21, of Oquawka, Ill., lies in the frozen Mississippi River early Thursday. Reynolds lost control while driving west on U.S. 34. A cold snap across the East and South is blamed for four deaths, including two people whose car slid into a lake. For a related story, please see page B8.

Far-right groups extend Neo-Nazi contentions to Web sites in U.S.

The Washington Post

BERLIN - Germany is becoming increasingly frustrated over the new best friend of its neo-Nazi groups: the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

To escape German law, which makes it a crime to deny the Holocaust or disseminate Nazi propaganda, far-right groups are setting up Internet sites in the United States. They post material, much of it in German, that can be seen by Internet users in Germany but enjoys legal protections that are unavailable here.

The number of neo-Nazi sites based outside Germany but directed at Germans has risen to nearly 800, according to the latest Interior Ministry survey. That is a sharp jump from last year, when there were 330 such sites, and an exponential increase from the discovery of the first U.S.-based German language site with fascist content six years ago. In frustration, German and other European courts have begun trying to extend their national laws into the borderless world of the Internet. Last week, Germany's supreme court said that German laws against Nazi incitement could apply to people who put Nazi material "on the Internet on

a foreign server (central network computer) that is accessible to Internet users in Germany." That, in theory, could lead Germany to seek the extradition of people from the United States, including Americans.

"The U.S. government is skeptical about that approach," in

... the ruling is part of a very disturbing trend of courts imposing their laws on companies outside their borders who may have no knowledge of those laws.

- Alan Davidson
of the Center for Democracy and Technology in Washington, D.C.

order to have extradition, you have to have dual criminality in both countries, and this doesn't meet that standard," said John Russell, a U.S. Justice Department spokesman.

Alan Davidson of the Center for Democracy and Technology in Washington, D.C., said that "the ruling is part of a very disturbing trend of courts imposing their laws on companies outside their borders who may have no knowledge of those laws."

"It stands, the Internet on its head. The issue is how will the German government respond if

the governments of Saudi Arabia or Singapore or China seek to impose their very restrictive laws on a German publisher? What if China wants to prosecute a German publisher for putting a human rights report on the Internet? I cannot imagine the German people wanting their free speech limited in that way."

Davidson said Germany should seek to identify which of its citizens are using the Internet to post neo-Nazi material on computers located in the United States, then prosecute them in Germany rather than make a grab for jurisdiction outside its borders.

But in Germany, officials say enough is enough: "Our impression is that the majority of those sites - 90 percent - are nourished by American companies," Otto Schily, Germany's interior minister, said in an interview.

At issue is a clash of values between two democratic societies with different views on the limits of free speech. The United States sees it as legally protected, however odious it may seem; Germany holds that rights of expression stop when the boundaries of Nazism are reached. For these differences, there is no clear technical or legal solution.

President Clinton signs long-delayed budget

WASHINGTON (AP) - President Clinton signed the most contentious element of the \$1.8 trillion federal budget Thursday, giving generous spending increases to education programs that he said will provide "more modern, more dignified, more functional schools" for the nation's children.

With a group of youngsters standing behind him, Clinton signed appropriations legislation for education, labor and health and human services programs during a ceremony in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building adjacent to the White House. Clinton previously signed spending bills covering other federal agencies.

"In so many ways, it could truly be said we've saved the best till last," Clinton said. "It's a bill about these children behind me today - about their hopes, their dreams, their capacity to learn and their need to learn. ... This budget takes the long look ahead. If we stay on this course, our best days are ahead."

John Feehery, spokesman for House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., said the speaker was happy that more than 90 percent of the budget surplus remained devoted to debt reduction, "as we fulfilled our promises to increase education spending and spending on health research."

The budget, completed last week in a postelection session of Congress, was put into place nearly three months after the start of the fiscal year. It contains an estimated \$63.4 billion in spending, roughly \$48 billion higher than last year, \$11 billion more than Clinton requested and \$34 billion more than Republicans set in Congress' budget.

The president said he is most proud of the \$44 billion set aside for the Education Department, nearly double the \$23.9 billion devoted to education programs when he took office in 1993. He said he hopes that will help education become "priority number one for any administration" after his.

As Clinton spoke, President-elect Bush met with a group of senators in Austin, Texas, to discuss education policy. The priorities that emerged from that meeting included a focus on literacy and special education, said Sen. Jim Jeffords, R-Vt., chairman of

the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee.

Clinton praised Democrats and Republicans for agreeing to devote \$1.2 billion for public school repairs, special education programs and technological upgrades. "Over 10 million more children will attend more modern, more dignified, more functional schools," Clinton said.

Also included are increases for hiring teachers, operating after-school centers and conducting research at the National Institutes for Health. There is more money for Pell grants for low-income college students, community health centers, the Job Corps and substance abuse programs.

During Clinton's speech, a girl collapsed behind him. He stepped over to attend to her, but someone from the audience got there first and carried the child off stage. "She's OK, she just fainted," Clinton told the crowd before resuming his remarks.

The budget includes a \$25.8 billion package of tax credits and venture capital initiatives to spur economic investment in neglected inner cities and rural areas.

Clinton praised the program, a blend of one of his proposals and a GOP-touted community renewal plan, as "a triumph of bipartisanship."

"It's a terrific idea, and I only wish I was going to be around when all the results come in," Clinton said.

The budget also penalizes restrictions that could help nearly 1 million immigrants become legal residents, and raises Medicaid reimbursements to hospitals, health maintenance organizations and others by \$35 billion over five years.

The package provides \$30.3 billion for the Treasury Department and smaller agencies and \$2.5 billion for Congress. There also is about \$1.1 billion for hundreds of projects in the districts and states of members of Congress, such as \$9 million for a Boys & Girls Club national training center in South Carolina named for Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-S.C., \$75 million to preserve tortoise and other species in the Mojave Desert and a \$1 million grant to the National Museum of Jazz in New York City.

Marines rule fuel shortage caused Osprey crash

WASHINGTON (AP) - The Marine Corps ruled out several possible causes Thursday for the Dec. 11 crash of an MV-22 Osprey aircraft in North Carolina, including fuel shortage, but its investigation continues.

In a statement, the Marines said an initial review of information extracted from the aircraft's flight data recorder showed the Osprey experienced a "hydraulic malfunction" related to the flight controls. Added, however, that the magnitude of this problem is unclear and may not have been instrumental in bringing down the aircraft.

Read more about what's going on in the nation on Pages B6-8.

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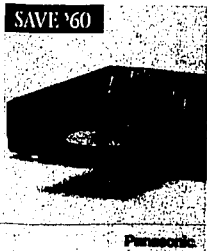
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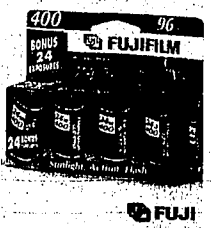
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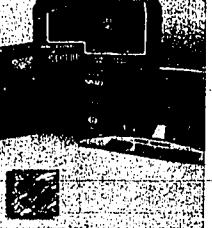
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EDITORIAL

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus

We take pleasure in answering at once and thus prominently the communication below, expressing at the same time our great gratification that its faithful author is numbered among the friends of The Sun:

"Dear editor:
I am 8 years old.
Some of my little friends say there is no Santa Claus.
Papa says 'if you see it in The Sun, it's so!'
Please tell me the truth, is there a Santa Claus?"

- Virginia O'Hanlon

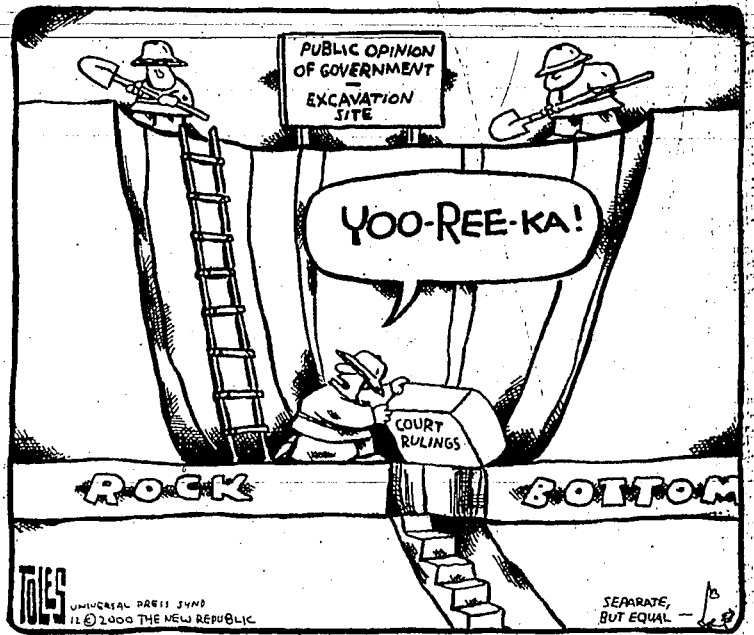
Virginia, your little friends are wrong. They have been affected by the skepticism of a skeptical age. They do not believe except they see. They think that nothing can be which is not comprehensible by their little minds. All minds, Virginia, whether they be men's or children's are little. In this great universe of ours man is a mere insect - an ant - in his intellect, as compared with the boundless world about him, as measured by the intelligence capable of grasping the whole of truth and knowledge.
Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus. He exists as certainly as love and generosity and devotion exist, and you know that they abound and give to your life its highest beauty and joy.
Alas! how dreary would be the world if there were no Santa Claus! It would be as dreary as if there were no Virgins. There would be no child-like faith then, no poetry, no romance, to make tolerable

the existence. We should have no joyment, except in sense and sight.
The eternal light with which childhood fills the world would be extinguished.

Not believe in Santa Claus! You might as well not believe in fairies! You might get your papa to hire men to watch in all the chimneys on Christmas Eve to catch Santa Claus, but even if they did not see Santa Claus coming down, what would that prove? Nobody sees Santa Claus, but that is no sign that there is no Santa Claus. The most real things in the world are those that neither children nor men can see. Did you ever see fairies dancing on the lawn? Of course not, but that's no proof that they are not there. Nobody can conceive or imagine all the wonders that are unseen and unseeable in the world.

You tear apart the baby's rattle and see what makes the noise inside, but there is a veil covering the unseen world which not the strongest man, nor even the united strength of all the strongest men that ever lived, could tear apart.

Only faith, fancy, poetry, love, romance can push aside the curtain and view and picture the supernal beauty and glory beyond. Is it all real? Ah, Virginia, in all this world there is nothing else real and abiding.
No Santa Claus! Thank God he lives, and he lives forever. A thousand years from now, Virginia, nay, ten times ten thousand years from now, he will continue to make glad the heart of childhood.



What would a real man do?

This is a true story. He was a relatively young man, and he had a very difficult decision to make. It wasn't too long ago that they had first met. And from the moment he laid eyes on her, he just knew she was the one. After a relatively brief courtship, he asked her to marry him. To his delight she said yes, and they quickly began making plans for the wedding.

WADE F. HORN

Neither of them were from wealthy families, and so the wedding wasn't going to be a very elaborate one. Just a few friends and relatives. Maybe some wine and a bit to eat. But that didn't matter. It wasn't the wedding he was looking forward to, it was the marriage. He, a rather ordinary fellow, was going to marry the most beautiful woman he had ever seen. He couldn't imagine being any happier. But then, something unimaginable happened. She became pregnant. And he wasn't the father.
When his friends learned of this state of affairs, they counseled him to call off the wedding. How could you even think of marrying her, they asked. She's already beginning to show. Everyone will know. Think of your reputation.
Besides, they said, times were hard. Don't you have enough to worry about without taking on the added responsibilities of a wife pregnant with someone else's child? No one would blame you, they reassured him, if you called the whole thing off. After all, there's lots of fish in the ocean. Find someone else to marry - someone with less, well, you

know, baggage.
He had to admit they had a point. No one would blame him if he canceled a marriage to a pregnant woman. This wasn't his fault. Why should he have to suffer because of her situation?
And times were hard. Services for struggling families were few. And although taxes were high, they mostly went to benefit the wealthy. Making matters worse, the local political situation was pretty unstable. Some of the most important policies, he was told, might even be downright dangerous - especially to young families. Better to wait to get married until things settled down a bit.
And what if he did go ahead and marry her? What then? Would he resent her for putting him through this for the rest of his life? And whose about the baby? What if he couldn't bring himself to love the child? That wouldn't be very fair to the baby, now would it?
But something told him none of that really mattered. He loved her and couldn't imagine living without her. He would grow to love this child, he told himself. He would have to.
So they got married. And soon thereafter, the child was born. A son.
A good many visitors came by to see his wife's new son. Some he couldn't recall ever having seen before, but familiar or not, he invited them all in to see his wife's newborn child. And as he looked

down upon his bride holding her newborn child, he knew - just knew - he had made the right decision. He would be a father to this child, he told himself. He just would.
The years went by, and by all accounts he was an excellent father, doing all the things that fathers and sons do. He took the boy fishing, talked with him about life, even taught him the family business. And despite the fact that neither he nor his wife ever pretended he was the boy's real father, the boy grew to love and honor him as well.
The boy eventually grew into a fine young man, the kind of man that would make any father proud. And even after it became clear that his wife's son would not enter the family business, his love for this child of another stood steadfast and strong, as did his love and faithfulness to his wife.
Although the son would die at a relatively young age, his reputation lasted well past his death. Indeed, his life changed history.
But so did the stepfather; the man who decided to forgo prejudice and marry an already pregnant woman out of faith and love, and in doing so, Joseph, husband of Mary and earthly father to Jesus, provided an example to men everywhere and throughout time of the extraordinary power that faithfulness in marriage and loving, devoted fatherhood has to literally change the world - one child at a time.

Wade F. Horn is president of the National Fatherhood Initiative.

The Times-News

Stephen Hartgen, Publisher

Clark Warlow, Managing editor; Mike Smith, Advertising director

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

LETTERS

A dog's life can be a good one

I'm one lucky dog! I am an 8- or 9-year-old Brittany spaniel. My new name is Pippen. A nice lady picked me up late one cold night on Highway 40 and River Road. She must have felt sorry for me, as I looked a mess. One eye swollen closed and infected, my shoulder had been injured some time ago and went untreated, so I was walking on three legs. She thought I had been hit by a car; little did she know.
When we got home, the old gray-haired guy was not too happy, as I was dog No. 4. That night, I got to know my new pals, Chico, Paxson and Jordan. And I went to bed with a full stomach on the floor next to her. The next day, she gave me a bath. The following day, she put me in the car and we went out for a long drive. I thought, "Oh no, not again, take me out in the country and drive off." But she took me to see a nice man named Randy.
He looked at my eye and shoulder, and I didn't like what I heard - surgery the next day on both. Boy, did I feel like heck the next day when she picked me up. The eye hurt, same with the shoulder and neck. On top of that, they pulled some teeth and cleaned the rest.
Then he told her that I was not hit by a car, I had been shot with a shotgun as the pellets were still in me. On the way home, I heard her talking to herself. She was trying to figure out how to tell the old gray-haired guy she had just spent \$600 on me.
Each day, I got to feeling a little better. The eye has healed, but I still don't see too well with it; I run into a chair now and then. The leg is much better. I can run and play with my pals. I do still limp. I guess I am here to stay. Several weeks ago, I got up on the bed and she didn't kick me off.

She covered me, put her arm around me and I went to sleep with my head on her pillow.
That's where I sleep each night. My only problem is the noise the old gray-haired guy makes at night. I think I will stay. All the food I want - pigs' ears each day and a visit several times a week from Mammie and Coco, and a warm bed. I never knew it could be so good.
PIPPEN SIMMONS
(As told to Lauren Evans)
Buhl

Disqualify untruthful candidates

Like most Americans at this time, I'm convinced that our method of electing a president is terribly flawed. This election has brought out the worst in a lot of people - I think one of the basic problems lies in the fact that many millions of uninformed people cast votes on emotional issues and rhetoric rather than facts. Small pressure groups make a lot of noise, and some people are influenced by them.
The inequities in our present system are really frightening. We should never allow anyone to win the presidency if they only win in a few large cities as in this last election. One of our problems lies in the fact that candidates can tell lies and make false statements as in the last election.
A candidate who knowingly lies or makes false statements should be expelled immediately from the campaign. Some elections are won on lies, and that, my friends, is terribly wrong. The most important man in the world should not be a liar.
WILLIAM COFFEY
Richfield

Thanks for creating Ride Share

Thank you, Beth Callister, for creating Wood River Ride Share. The morning traffic crawl from points south is all too populated with one person per vehicle. The WRKS program offers a clearing-house to match up commuters and decrease the rush hour numbers of cars on the road. This low-profile solution to reduce traffic is uncomplicated, affordable, sensible and something that many of us can actually do today. After all, we are out there on the road and, therefore, the problem, so why not empower ourselves to contribute to a strategy that can really help.
Computers from Shoshone, Bellevue, Hailey - give WRSS a call at (866) 470-RIDE or 725-0963 to learn how you can participate.
CATHY BAER
Ketchum

Support food programs

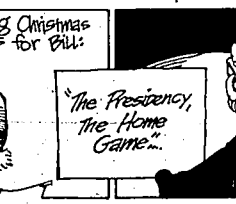
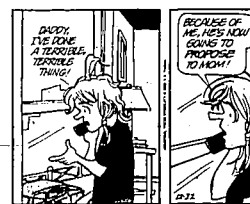
We were bemused, yet saddened, by the article on Blaine County Recreation District's gift catalog: bench - \$5,000; interpretation sign - \$4,000; district marker (1) \$220. Compare these gift values: a lifetime of clean water for someone in a developing country - \$4 from Lifestwater International (www.lifestwater.org) or a flock of ducks for a village - \$20 from Heifer Project International (www.heimer.org).
You can support food for the poor through America's Second Harvest (www.secondharvest.org), sponsor of "Foodchain," which rescues leftover perishable food and resues it to the hungry. Volunteers do almost all of the work, so efficiency is 99.3 percent.
Our gift can become an endlessly recycling micro-loan to the poorest people in the world through Gramene (www.gramene.org). For example, a loan to a woman in Bangladesh to purchase a cell phone makes her the "phone ladies" - four times the average of their communities and the phones give villagers access to outside markets and emergency services. "Village com-

LETTERS

puters" provide access to the Internet. Gramene's repayment rate for micro-loans to villagers is 97 percent.
Most amazing of all in its success in changing the world on a shoestring is Ashoka (www.ashoka.org). See the article at <http://www.theatlantic.com/issue/98jan/ashoka.htm> for an astonishing glimpse of a successful model for world change. Give to any or all of these superb, efficient charitable organizations and you won't get a plaque with your name engraved on it, but you'll feel good about having wisely invested some of your capital in a better world.
JOHEY AND MAUREEN BOLING
Hazelton

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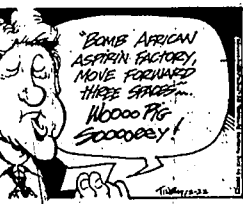


By Garry Trudeau

Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



OPINION

Dickens does America in 1842

In 1842, only one year before he wrote "A Christmas Carol," Charles Dickens came to America. To say he took the country by storm is a gross overstatement. Beaudelaire, circa 1964, paled by comparison. There never was a king or emperor upon the earth so chered and followed by the crowds, and entertained in public at splendid balls and dinners, and waited on by public bodies and deputations of all kinds," Dickens boasted in a letter to a friend. "You cannot imagine what it is."

In 1842, "Boz" was a revered figure in this country. Regarded far more than a wonderful storyteller, Dickens seemed to be the very voice of kindness, good humor and benevolence. Unlike other literary gentlemen, he gave struggling, unsophisticated people an even break—their people America had in abundance, despite its astonishingly high literacy rate. Like the reformed Scrooge, Dickens seemed a man of whom it might have been said that he honored Christmas in his heart—it's a legend of joy, faithful love and unstinting dedication to the poor. Who would understand America better?

He came here, expecting to adore the country as much as its people adored him. When he departed five months later, he was filled with loathing, and he poured his disgust into a book called "American Notes," which I have finally gotten around to reading. It is interesting to follow a great writer, whose artistic genius is not unworthy of comparison to Shakespeare, making his way through some familiar haunts: from Boston, to Lowell, to Worcester, to Hartford (somehow missing Providence). But I can't say how Americans of the 1840s were hurt and disappointed by "American Notes." It is disheartening to find this writer of seemingly infinite broad-mindedness, generosity and comic invention becoming increasingly snide, and small, and haughty, and even dull as he goes along. The Dickens sparkle is nowhere to be found in the book.

EDWARD ACHORN

Not that many of his criticisms of America do not ring true, even 160 years later.

For example, he was appalled by the barbaric manner in which rushed, bloated Americans wolfed down their food, later writing this scene into the novel "Martin Chuzzlewit": "All the knives and forks were working away at a rate that was quite alarming; very few words were spoken; and everybody seemed to eat his utmost in self-defense, as if a famine were expected. ... Great heaps of indigestible matter melted away as ice before the sun."

Could anyone who has visited McDonald's say we are all that different today?

He described Congress thusly: "I saw in them, the wheels that move the working away at a rate that was quite alarming; very few words were spoken; and everybody seemed to eat his utmost in self-defense, as if a famine were expected. ... Great heaps of indigestible matter melted away as ice before the sun." He noticed that Americans talked of little but politics, especially of the presidency. "The great constitutional feature of this institution being, that directly the acrimony of the last election is over, the acrimony of the next one begins."

He was alarmed by Americans' tendency to settle disputes with violence, and by their inordinate love of guns. He was offended by their overweening curiosity about strangers, and their boldness in asking questions, which he considered presumptuous and ill-mannered. He didn't like Americans' crude obsession with making money,

and their willingness to get it by honest means or otherwise. After assiduously courting their admiration, he was offended by Americans' obsession with celebrity.

He found the slave states especially grim, reared by an atmosphere of "decay and gloom."

To slave owners who insisted it was in their own financial interest to treat their slaves well, he retorted: "It is not in a man's interest to get drunk, or to steal, or to gamble, or to indulge in any other vice, but he did indulge in it for all that."

Most of all, he detested the unbridled freedom of the American press, which he thought brought shame on American institutions and encouraged only unscrupulous men to seek office. But this hatred is the key to the whole book, I think, because the American press offended Dickens' fragile ego by criticizing him early on in the trip.

"American Notes" made Dickens money, but it harmed his reputation. The great British historian William Macaulay refused to review it, calling it "at once frivolous and dull." The prestigious Quarterly Review called it insipid, and denounced the "arrogant selfishness" of its author.

The Beloved Boz had revealed himself to be distressingly human. For a time, Dickens was in disfavor. But only for a time. It is hard to stay mad at someone who could write "David Copperfield," "Bleak House," "Hard Times," "Great Expectations"—and, of course, the incomparable, and incomparably loved, "A Christmas Carol."

Edward Achorn is deputy editorial pages editor of the Providence Journal, in Providence R.I.

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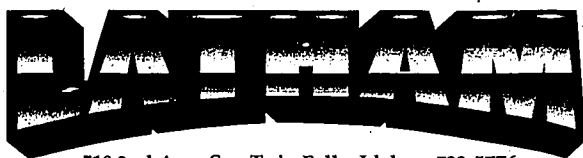
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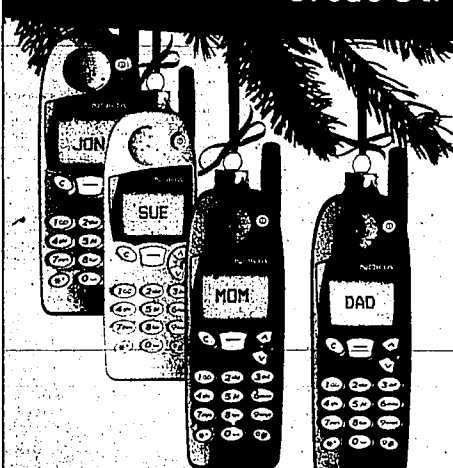
Mike Corn is excited to join the professional team at Latham Motors. He brings several years experience in the local auto business to his new position. Advertising, appraisals and inventory management were part of his previous responsibilities. Mike's career also includes many years in the grocery industry.

Mike invites his friends and customers to see him at Latham Motors and check out the terrific selection of cars, trucks, vans and SUVs.



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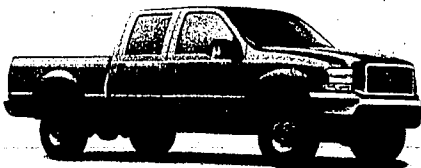
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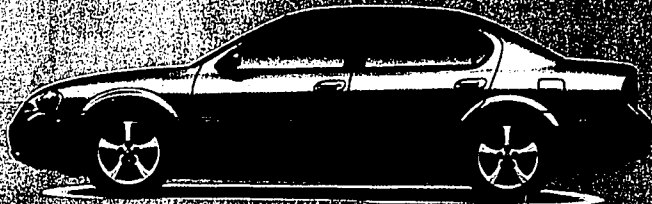


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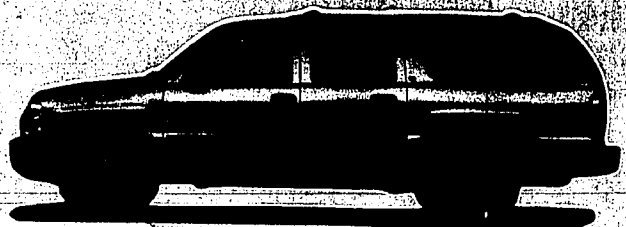


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AROUND THE VALLEY

Murtaugh Issues a boil-water order

MURTAUGH - The city has issued a boil-water order, City Clerk Jeannine Bennett said Thursday.

The city's chlorinator is not working, but officials said they hope to have it fixed or replaced by Saturday.

Until then, water should be boiled for at least five minutes, Bennett said.

Community donates more than 4,000 books

TWIN FALLS - A Twin Falls Eagle Scout project raised more than 4,000 books that have been donated to the Salvation Army.

The books have been used as Christmas gifts for children and for other community needs.

Boy Scout Anthony Wilson said he appreciated the community's help in making his project successful.

Students at Vera C. O'Leary Junior High School in Twin Falls collected more than 2,700 books. Other area schools also contributed books for the project.

Program will allow students to get credit

BLISS - About 20 high school students will participate in a new vocational program offered by the College of Southern Idaho.

Principal Bob Sauer said the program will allow high school agriculture students to receive CSI credit in oxyacetylene and arc welding, plant and animal science, equine science, Future Farmers of America and industrial safety.

"I think this program is great," said Chester Bradshaw, the agriculture instructor who will teach the classes at the high school. "It may encourage students to continue their education that might not do otherwise."

Bob Becker, coordinator of the college tech program, said CSI hopes to add business classes in the fall.

Water quality comment deadline comes today

TWIN FALLS - Today's the deadline to comment to state environmental officials on proposed solutions to water quality problems on the Bruneau River and some of its tributaries in Elmore and Owyhee counties.

The state Department of Environmental Quality is proposing to impose pollutant limits on some tributaries of the Bruneau River and restrictions lifted on others where water quality has improved.

Copies of the proposed plans are available at the Twin Falls Regional office, public libraries in Twin Falls, Bruneau and Grand View, at the Bruneau Soil Conservation District office, the Three Creek School and at the department's Internet site.

Comments are due today and should be sent to: Clyde Lay, DEQ, 601 Pole Line Road, Suite 2, Twin Falls, Idaho, 83301-3035.

Red Cross offers free training courses

TWIN FALLS - The American Red Cross of Greater Idaho is offering free courses for people wanting to volunteer.

The courses will help volunteers decide how they want to serve.

Courses start at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 9, 2001, at the Jerome Recreation District, 2444 S. Lincoln.

The courses include an introduction to disaster services, mass care, shelter operations and shelter simulation, damage assessment and emergency assistance to families.

Each class will last about three hours.

For more information, or to sign up for classes, call 733-6464 or 1-888-367-6321.

Compiled from staff reports

Find Idaho/West stories on B3, B4, and B5

Court rules for TF couple

Idaho owes compensation

TWIN FALLS - The state owes compensation to a Twin Falls couple who lost easy access from U.S. Highway 30 to their property and business when the Idaho Transportation Department took some of their land to widen the highway, the Idaho Supreme Court ruled Thursday.

But it will still take months to

determine just how much G. Carter Killenger and Donna Killenger will get, said the couple's attorney, Jeffrey E. Rolig. Rolig, Thursday declined to say just how much money he and the Killengers might ask for.

The Killengers in 1996 filed a complaint against an agreement between the Twin Falls Highway District and the Transportation Department, allowing the state to use part of the Killengers' access road to widen the highway. In the complaint, they alleged the widening project would take away parking space and easy access

to their property.

The access road provided a quick turnoff from Highway 30 to the Killengers' property and their business, the Highway 30 Garage, Rolig said. Destroying the road hurt the couple's business and lowered the value of their property, he said.

District Judge Daniel Meehl ruled against the Killengers, who appealed to the Idaho Supreme Court. The Supreme Court, in a ruling issued Thursday afternoon, ruled that the loss of parking space did not constitute a "taking" of the Killengers' property, but creating a "buffer

zone" around the highway project did.

Donna Killenger said Thursday she had not been notified of the high court's ruling and declined comment.

Transportation Department officials involved with the Highway 30 project could not immediately be reached for comment Thursday.

Twin Falls Highway District Director Dave Burgess said he also hadn't been informed of the court's ruling Thursday, and declined to comment on details of the ruling.

The highway district's position

has been that the district deeded its property in and around the Killengers' subdivision to the state when the subdivision was built, he said. So the district didn't have any real control over the property during the improvement project, he said.

The Supreme Court has left it up to the District Court to determine compensation for the Killengers.

That means the exact amount of compensation will probably hinge on a District Court trial, Rolig said. A trial date might not be available for six to nine months, he said.

ON THE RANGE



Ketchum attorney Dan Riviera and his dog walk nearly every day along the bike path running by land that could become the home of the Sun Valley Center for the Arts and Sun Valley Symphony.

Sun Valley arts could get a new home

By Karen Bossick Times-News correspondent

SUN VALLEY - The heads of two of Sun Valley's most prominent arts organizations are all smiles this week after being approached by the city of Sun Valley to see whether they might be interested in using pasture land along Sun Valley Road.

The city of Sun Valley recently traded three acres of ground that the old Moritz Community Hospital sits on to Sun Valley Company for five acres of pasture land on the edge of the resort along Sun Valley Road. The hospital was vacated in November when the new St. Luke's Wood River Medical Center opened on Highway 75. The pastoral pasture land sits

City offers three acres of pasture land to organization leaders

next to Our Lady of Snows Catholic Church and across from a landmark old red barn, offering lovely views of Baldy and a popular sledding hill.

The city of Sun Valley has talked about allowing the Sun Valley Center for the Arts and the Sun Valley Symphony to use the land. The city would retain ownership but the land might be used for a large amphitheater or building since it's zoned for commercial uses, said City Administrator Dan Pincetich. Such uses are permitted by the city's open space designation,

this is all too new to us—the board hasn't even met to talk about it yet."

The Sun Valley Center for the Arts has been looking for new digs for more than a year.

It has maxed out its current location, a modest 4,000-square-foot facility in the heart of Ketchum. Workers must rearrange the art gallery to sandwich in folding chairs every time they hold a lecture or small musical performance. And classroom and office space is limited, as well.

"It doesn't serve us well for providing quality programs," Weake said.

Ketchum philanthropists Tim and Mary Mott purchased nexStage Theatre on Main Street

Stock market drop worries school officials

By Aaron Brock Times-News writer

RUPERT - An endowment fund, set up by the state to provide money for public schools and other beneficiaries, are taking a hit with the struggling stock market.

And if the current trend does not reverse, the endowment and its reserves might not be able to cover payments expected in 2001, said officials who met in Boise Thursday to discuss the situation.

Although the NASDAQ composite index, the Dow Jones Industrial Average and the Standard and Poor's 500 index all rose slightly Thursday, all three have dropped sharply this week. The stock market has steadily declined since early September.

"We've had a couple of really

bad days in the market, but so has everybody else," said Sen. Dean Cameron, R-Rupert, a member of the Endowment Fund Investment Board.

But unless things rebound, it could spell trouble for public schools and the endowment's other beneficiaries.

In 1998, Idaho voters approved a plan to move a portion of the endowment of roughly \$900 million out of a fixed market, where it earned around 7 percent interest. The amendment allowed a shift into equity funds, which provide a greater return over time, but are less predictable.

The shift into equity funds went into effect on July 1.

"The market does go up and down," Cameron said. "We expect it to do that."

Recently the market has gone

down more than up, causing some concern.

But despite the current setback, Endowment Fund Investment Board Chairman Nick Hallett said the move into equity funds makes sense. The board manages the investments of funds from Idaho public land leases and timber sales.

"In the short term, this has produced a cash-flow problem," he said. "In the long term, we'll come out way ahead. We know that."

When this plan was formulated, officials set up a reserve fund, to cover expenses if the stock market took a downward turn.

But the reserve fund has been in place for only six months, and contains only \$15 million. And it wouldn't be able to cover the

Magistrate moves to higher court

By Dan Fields and Ruth Streeter Times-News writers

RUPERT - A Lincoln County magistrate judge was selected Thursday to fill a 5th Judicial District judge's job, succeeding J. William Hart.

John Melanson, chosen Thursday by Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, will take over the position on Jan. 8, 2001. Hart announced his retirement from the bench in early September.

"I was impressed with Judge Melanson's strong, solid record as a magistrate. He is well-regarded in the region he will be serving," Kempthorne said. "He is a compassionate yet firm judge, who allows individuals who appear in his courtroom to maintain their dignity."

Melanson told The Times-News that he was honored to be picked for the position over finalists Randy Stoker, a Twin Falls attorney, and Minidoka County Magistrate Judge Larry Duff.

"I'm really



Judge John Melanson



Judge J. William Hart

Please see ARTS, Page B3

Please see JUDGE, Page B3

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

SERVICES

James S. Martin of Pocatello and formerly of Twin Falls, Mass at 1 p.m. today at St. Anthony's Parish in Pocatello (Downward Hansen - Funeral Home - in Pocatello).

Creola Pearl Core of Thornton, Colo. and formerly of Burley, graveside service at 2 p.m. today at the Pleasant View Cemetery in Burley (Payne Mortuary in Burley).

Dorothy Colleen Huza of Rupert, services at 11 a.m. today at Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel. Friends and family may call one hour before services today at the chapel.

Mickla Delgado, infant daughter of Julene and David Delgado of Burley, graveside services at 1 p.m. today in Boise.

Robert A. Stevens of Declo, services at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Declo Slake Center. Friends and family may call from 6-8 p.m. Friday at Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel and one hour before services at the church.

Lorin Dee Walker of Rupert, services at 2 p.m. today at

Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel. Friends may call one hour before services today at the chapel.

Mabel Bonnie Lee Austin of Wendell, memorial services at 1:30 p.m. Saturday at Demaray Funeral Chapel, 164 E. Main in Wendell.

DEATH NOTICES

Lee E. Walton
RUPERT - Lee E. Walton, 82, of Rupert, died Thursday, Dec. 21, 2000, at the Park View Care and Rehabilitation Center in Burley.
Funeral arrangements are pending and will be announced by the Rasmussen Funeral Home, 1350 E. 16th St. in

Burley.
Jacqueline Haston
FILER - Jacqueline Haston, 65, of Filer, passed away Thursday, Dec. 21, 2000, at Twin Falls Clinic and Hospital.
Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farmer Funeral Chapel of Buhl.

HOSPITALS

MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER
Some names are omitted at the patient's request
Admitted
Kay Gabica of Twin Falls, Diane Johnson of Twin Falls, Debra Conger of Jerome
Dismissed
Michelle Nielson of Twin Falls, Anna Stowe of Jerome

OBITUARIES

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 6 p.m. every day.



Darwin Pfeifer Neibaur
Darwin Pfeifer Neibaur, 73-year-old Twin Falls resident, died Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2000, at Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley.
Darwin was born April 16, 1937, in Newdale, Idaho, to Daryl William and Sophie Pfeifer Neibaur. He graduated from Sugar Salem High School in Sugar Creek, Idaho. He served in the United States Army after high school. He attended Ricks College in Rexburg, Idaho. He married June Slaker on March 28, 1956. They were divorced. He married Jean Smith on Dec. 19, 1991. He was a farmer-rancher and loved to spend time at his ranch at Leadore with his family. Darwin also enjoyed golfing, fishing and horseback riding. He was a member of the Idaho Potato Commission for several years where he served as chairman. He was a member of the LDS Church where he held various positions throughout his years.
He was survived by his wife Jean of Rupert; his children, Conno (Ron) Jones, Steve (Ponney) Neibaur, Renea (Doug) Hartley, Burke Neibaur and Ira Lynn Neibaur all of Paul, and Dana Lee (Thom) Dorsey of Marsing, Idaho; three sisters, June West, American Falls, Idaho; Joyce Schofield, Idaho Falls, Idaho; and Alton Wescott Rowing, Idaho; three brothers, Grant Neibaur of American Falls, Idaho; Warren Neibaur of Paul, Idaho; and Bruce Neibaur of Salt Lake City, Utah; 26 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.
Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23, 2000, at the Paul LDS Slake Center with Bishop Mike Woodland officiating. Burial will follow in the Paul Cemetery. Friends may call at Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel from 6-8 p.m. and at the church one hour prior to the funeral on Saturday. Arrangements are under the direction of Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel.

PAUL
Walter was born on July 14, 1961, in Heidelberg, Germany, the son of Earl and Virginia Jones Short. He graduated from Twin Falls High School in 1979, then attended the College of Southern Idaho and Boise State University. On Sept. 13, 1998, Walt married Lacey Wagner at Ste. Chappelle Winery. They resided in Boise where Walt was employed at Sylvania Bank. He loved music, movies, sports, theatre and life. Walt enjoyed meeting new people and loving old friends.
Survivors include his wife, Lacey Wagner; Short of Boise; parents, Earl and Virginia Short of Twin Falls; siblings, Dave Short and his wife, Elaine; and children, Amanda and Phillip of Boise, and Bruce Short and his wife, Karen and daughter, Maria of Twin Falls; uncle, Walter Jones and his wife, Rheia of Twin Falls; mother-in-law and father-in-law, Richard and Joanne Wagner and sons, Devin, Rich Wagner and his wife, Renee and children, Matthew and Jacob; Brad Wagner and his wife, Alicia and son, Jacob; Bobbi and Greg Campbell and daughter, Leslie Wagner; and Walt's boys, Rosco and Shako.
He was preceded in death by his beloved sister, Janice Snc.; grandparents, Orpha and Walter Jones and Pearl and Horace Short.
Memorials are suggested to the Idaho Humane Society, 4775 Dorman, Boise, Idaho 83705.
Friends may call at the Alden-Waggoner Funeral Chapel today, (Friday) from 5-8:30 p.m.

years and then he went to Seele Lake, Mont., where he ran the Gordon Ranch. The Gordon Ranch was a cow, Arabian horse, and Dude Ranch. He trained and showed the Arabian horses for 15 years. He later came back to Idaho and worked for the Pickett sheep and cattle ranch for a few years. He then worked for Henry Jones in his feed yard and on his ranch at Murphy Hot Springs for 11 years. He finally retired in Filer, Idaho, with wife Louise. He will be greatly missed by his family and friends.
He was preceded in death by his wife, Shirley Louise (Davis) Peterson; his parents, Sven and Margaret (Poulton) Peterson; one sister, Kerma Olsen, and one brother, Ernest (Birdie) Peterson of Filer, Chuck (Donna) Peterson of Buhl, and Neil (Ruhi) Peterson of Nampa, Ore., one sister-in-law Vera, and several nieces and nephews.
Visitation will be held from 6-8 p.m. Friday, Dec. 22, 2000, at the Shirley Louise (Davis) Peterson Home, 2551 Kimberly Rd. in Twin Falls. Funeral services will be held at Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home Saturday, Dec. 23, 2000, at 2 p.m.

FILER



Swen Merwin Petterson
Swen Merwin Petterson, 81, of Filer, Idaho, died Thursday, Dec. 21, 2000, at Sunbridge Care Center in Twin Falls.
He was born on Jan. 5, 1919, at Churchill, north of Oakley, the son of Swen and Margaret (Poulton) Petterson. He attended school at Greenwood and Hazelton; Idaho. He spent most of his younger years growing up and working on various farms in the area. He married Shirley Louise Davis at Hazelton on Feb. 14, 1942. He loved horses and spent many years teaching young boys how to handle horses and how to ride. He served in the Navy during WWII aboard the USS Columbia. After returning home, he spent most of his adult life working as a cowboy for ranchers in the Oakley area (Becke, Picketts, and Gosse Creek Coo Association). He worked at the Robison Bar Ranch for two

HAZELTON

Ferrell John Chambers
Ferrell John Chambers, 85-year-old Hazelton resident, passed away Thursday, Dec. 21, 2000, at the Burley Care Center.
He was born June 13, 1915, in Yakima, Wash., the son of Ralph and Kate Irene Livengood Chambers. When he was four they moved to Drowsey, Ore., where he ranched with his father raising hay, grain, cattle, and sheep. In 1940, Ferrell enlisted in the Army and served our country until the end of World War II. Ferrell married Edna R. Hansen. They moved back to Oregon where Ferrell attended Oregon Vocational School in Klamath Falls taking refrigeration. He also worked for Edward Hines saw mill in Hines, Ore. Ferrell drew a farm in the Hunt area northeast of Hazelton. They moved to Idaho in 1949. Ferrell loved the land, his entertainment was always work. He had sheep and cattle and raised hay and grain. Sometimes he had potatoes or even beets. Edna passed away in 1970. Ferrell married Lydia Deanna Liston in 1971.
He is survived by his wife Deanna; a sister Irene (Oscar) Davis; a nephew Bob McDonald and four nieces Mona (Roland) Prefontaine, Reta (Bob) Lessard, Renesa (Robert) Swigert, and Sheila (Ken) Brown.
He was preceded in death by his father and mother; sisters Lou (G. W.) Milner, Viola (Henry) Grant; nephew Carl John Davis and niece Dorothy Jean McDonald.
Funeral services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 23, 2000, at Hansen Mortuary Burley Chapel. Burial will follow in the Hazelton Cemetery. Friends may call at Hansen Mortuary one hour prior to the funeral on Saturday. In lieu of flowers Ferrell has requested memorials be sent to Edon Senior Citizens Center at 210 E. Wilson in Edon, Idaho 83325. Ferrell will be greatly missed by his family and friends.



A new four-stroke Arctic Cat snowmobile, left, sits in the Old Faithful parking lot at Yellowstone National Park, in Wyoming on Tuesday.

New 'clean' snowmobiles arrive

WEST YELLOWSTONE, Mont. (AP) - The first of 50 "environmentally clean" snowmobiles have arrived for test runs in the background over their use in national parks.
Called the "Yellowstone Special," the four-stroke Arctic Cat snowmobiles have been in production as a potential alternative to noisier, two-stroke sleds that cause considerably more pollution.
The National Park Service has decided to phase out snowmobiles in Yellowstone and Grand Teton

national parks because of environmental and wildlife concerns.
Though exact noise and pollution numbers are not yet available, the four-stroke Arctic Cat snowmobiles clearly were quieter and cleaner than traditional two-stroke sleds during demonstrations Wednesday.
Arctic Cat has worked on the four-stroke technology since 1996 to address customer requests for snowmobiles that are less noisy and produce less smoke.
The company loaned two prototypes to the National Park

Service last January for testing in Yellowstone, and made 50 available this winter.
During a 70-mile test ride in the park, only occasional whiffs of exhaust fumes were detected, and while idling, no characteristic cloud of bluish smoke rose from the machines.
Four-stroke machines are the future of snowmobiles, said Donn Eide, manager of development for Arctic Cat.
Yellowstone spokeswoman Marsha Karle called the arrival of the sleds good news.

Utah to disband its state militia

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - In 1941, Utah Gov. Herbert Maw created a state militia to defend Utah from "the ravages of foreign enemies within our borders."
But Utah never had a need for a militia and nobody was drafted into it. Legislators now are moving to disband the Utah Defense Force.
"It was never used. We just felt it was archaic," Rep. Neal Hendrickson, D-West Valley City, said Thursday.
"There's always the National Guard the governor can call out. I don't think there would be a need for a militia," said Hendrickson, sponsor of repeal legislation.
It's part of a larger effort in the

Legislature to clean up the Utah Code. An interim government operations committee has voted to abolish 15 obsolete laws, removing more than 350 dusty pages from the state code.
At the time, the Utah Defense Force may have seemed like a sensible precaution. The European War was under way and "Japan was occupying Indochina, though Pearl Harbor had yet to be attacked, triggering U.S. involvement in World War II."
Maw introduced the idea almost as an aside during a second session of the 1941 Legislature to pay off some debt and take care of unfinished business.
In May of that year, Maw wait-

ed until the end of an address to the Legislature to bring up the defense force.
He asked for a militia "in order that our people and industries might be preserved from the ravages of foreign enemies within our borders and in order that Utah might be in a position to cooperate fully with national government."
It played no role in rounding up Japanese-Americans during World War II because that was a federal action, said Max Evans, director of the Division of State History.
The Topaz internment camp in Utah's West Desert held nearly 8,000 Japanese-Americans, nearly all from California, starting in 1942.

Agencies focus on reducing sediment

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality wants to limit sediment choking fish and degrading water quality in the North Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River by focusing on runoff from logging roads.
But researcher from the U.S. Forest Service and the Idaho Department of Lands are questioning the agency's analysis.
An average of more than 30,000 tons of sediment a year dumps into the North Fork, said Geoff Harvey, who wrote Environmental Quality's plan and blames logging roads that cross and parallel the river's tributaries.
"We need about a 10,000-ton-

per-year reduction, overall," Harvey said during Wednesday's meeting of the Panhandle Basin Advisory Group.
The North Fork section of the Idaho Panhandle National Forests is known as one of the country's most heavily roaded national forests. The Forest Service manages more than 90

percent of the North Fork, and some restoration work already is under way.
But Rick Patten, a hydrologist for the Panhandle National Forests, and Douglas Fitting, an Idaho Department of Lands forest hydrologist, said Environmental Quality's plan does not factor in all possible sediment sources.

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Help Idaho's kids this season by supporting the Idaho Youth Ranch

BOISE

Walter Douglas Short
Walter Douglas Short, 39, of Boise, died Wednesday, Dec. 20, 2000, in a Boise hospital of natural causes.
Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 23, at the Alden-Waggoner Funeral Chapel. Burial will follow in Dry Creek Cemetery.

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Mountains are still Rivers are flowing Mike is fifty And still going Happy 50th Birthday, Dad! Love, Jill & Andy

State job shuffle takes place at year's end

BOISE (AP) — In the waning days of 2000, Gov. Dick Kempthorne Thursday announced a range of state appointments.

Two appointments had Magic Valley ties, as Lincoln County Magistrate Judge John Melanson was named a district judge in Minidoka County, and REP. Jim Kempton, R-Albion, was named to the Northwest Power Planning Council.

Here's a rundown of the other changes:

- Idaho Lands Director Stan

Hamilton is retiring after 17 years at the job and his responsibilities go to Assistant Director Winston Wiggins for the next 18 months, as a special panel considers a permanent replacement.

"We thought Stan was the best of all and he still is," Secretary of State Pete Cenarrusa said.

The new panel not only will look for a new director, but also evaluate whether the Lands Department's role will change as much of its finances shift from state lands to investments.

"I don't know if the current

model is the right model to carry us into the new century," Kempthorne said.

Included on the panel are: chairman Don Curtis, a former Hewlett-Packard manager; outgoing state Sen. Margarita McLaughlin of Orofino; former state schools superintendent Jerry Evans; Robert Maynard, investment manager for the state retirement fund; Deputy Agriculture Director Mike Everett; John Cowden, former human resources director for Boise Cascade Corp.; and Boise

developer Gary Christensen.

• Severina "Sam" Haws of Boise has been named to the Idaho Tax Commission. A former bank branch manager and officer, she serves on the State Board of Education.

"She comes from a migrant family and worked to achieve great professional success, while at the same time raising a family and being committed to her community," Kempthorne said.

She fills the seat formerly held by Mike Southcombe.

- To replace Haws on the

Board of Education, Kempthorne appointed Gen. Darrell Manning, who has been interim administrator of the Division of Financial Management for the past year.

Manning has a long history of service to the state under four governors. He has been director and acting director of four departments and boards, Idaho adjutant general, and spent four terms in the Idaho House and one in the Senate from Bannock County.

- Manning's job as Financial

Management administrator will be filled by Kempthorne's policy director — Brian Whitlock. Whitlock has been Kempthorne's communications director as Boise mayor, U.S. senator and governor. He has been policy director since last December.

• Joining Kempthorne's staff as policy director is Bill Ruud, a management professor at Boise State University. Ruud also has worked as dean of the College of Business and vice president for institutional advancement at the school.

Serial arsonist gets more aggressive

PHOENIX (AP) — Flames licked the night sky, sending burning ash falling over homes and dry desert brush as another luxury home under construction burned to the ground.

Wednesday was the eighth time since January 1998 a home has caught fire at the foot of a desert mountain preserve in north-central Phoenix, where urban sprawl and environmental protection meet face to face.

The most recent fire is still under investigation but Phoenix Deputy Fire Chief Bob Khan said it fits the profile of the other seven. Investigators believe evidence points to a serial arsonist who may have environmental motives.

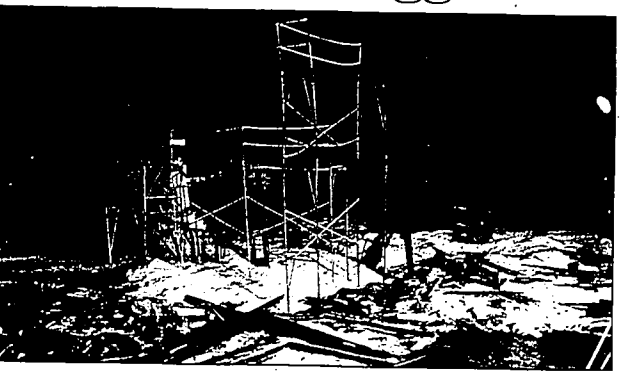
The evidence is slim — no one has caught a glimpse of the apparent arsonist, though some communication has been left behind.

Scrawled across a sign in April was: "If you build it again, we will burn it again." After an October fire, a typed letter was left at the scene with references to Bible verses and warnings against building in the desert.

The suspected arsonist also has written a promise not to harm individuals or firefighters — a claim Khan calls hollow.

"All of the burned homes have been warehouse size — 5,000 square feet or larger — and were about half completed," Khan estimates damage from the first seven fires at about \$4 million.

One of the most recent to burn was a nearly finished \$1.5 million home on Dec. 10 located at the edge of the Phoenix Mountain Preserve. Another home was



Smoke rises from the remains of a home on the edge of the Phoenix Mountains Preserve in Arizona Wednesday. It is the seventh home in the area to go up in flames since April, apparently at the hands of a serial arsonist.

burned twice.

"It could be a sign that the arsonist — besides having a mental problem — could be involved with an environmental group and is seeking his own thrills and has his own agenda," said Don Perkins, a certified fire investigator in San Jose, Calif., and a member of the International Association of Arson Investigators.

While environmental groups such as the Center for Biological Diversity in Tucson have said they don't support such acts, a group called the Earth Liberation Front has claimed

responsibility for 11 eco-terrorism acts across the country since 1996.

The most prominent was a 1998 fire in Colorado that caused \$12 million damage to buildings at the Vail ski resort. The group said the fire was set because Vail had expanded into lynx habitat. No one has been arrested in that fire.

But some neighbors of burned homes in the Phoenix Mountain Preserve say they don't buy the excuse of environmentalists, in these apparent arson attacks. Fran Glasper, who lives two

houses away from the one that burned Wednesday, said the arsonist could spread fire across the desert.

"Big chunks of ash were falling down on our house and in our pool ...," she said. "He's going to end up burning the whole desert."

The home burned in less than 20 minutes and only the chimney remains, Glasper said.

Meanwhile, a group of local residents fearing for their safety have discussed starting a large reward fund for the arsonist's capture.

Engineer corps issues draft highway decision

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The Army Corps of Engineers intends to sign a permit allowing the destruction of wetlands to make way for Gov. Mike Leavitt's proposed Legacy Highway.

Corps officials on Wednesday sent a 100-plus page report to the Environmental Protection Agency's regional office in Denver, indicating intent to allow 114 acres of wetlands in Davis County to be filled in.

"That's exciting," Davis County

Commissioner Dan McConkie said.

The corps' draft decision does not mean the \$370 million project, which would skirt the eastern shore of the Great Salt Lake, has cleared the environmental hurdle though.

Environmental groups expect the EPA to block the permit for the 13-mile project that would connect Interstate 215 in Salt Lake County to Interstate 15 in Farmington.

"We actually are very disappointed in the Army Corps of Engineers," said Marc Heileson, assistant representative of the Sierra Club's regional office. "We feel they made a huge mistake. We expect the EPA to correct that mistake or have a court correct that mistake."

Heileson contends the Utah Department of Transportation did not select the least environmentally damaging route and other transit options were ignored.

Man's fate rests with Moscow jury

MOSCOW (AP) — Sequestered jurors in the 2nd District Court trial of Dale Carter Shackelford continued deliberating Thursday on two counts of first-degree murder for the May 1999 slayings of his ex-wife and her boyfriend.

There were more than 60 witnesses and 250 exhibits during 54 days of testimony in one of the longest, most expensive and complex trials in Latah County history. Deliberations began Wednesday evening after closing arguments.

Shackelford faces the death penalty or life in prison if convicted of shooting Donna Fontaine, 44, of Pilot Knob, Mo., and Fred Palahniuk, 59, of Newman Lake, Wash., then burning their bodies in a two-story building on Fontaine's property about 30 miles from Kendrick.

Prosecutors contend Shackelford killed Fontaine because she was the only witness in a rape charge against him in Missouri that could have resulted in 30

years to life in prison for Shackelford since he already had served time on a sodomy conviction. They said Shackelford killed Palahniuk out of jealousy.

Defense attorneys said someone else was the real killer and that prosecutors had failed to make their case beyond a reasonable doubt.

Prosecutor Robin Eckmann told jurors Fontaine was killed because she refused to bend to Shackelford's will. Unlike the other women in his life — fiancée Sonja Abitz and future mother-in-law Mary Abitz and former lovers Bernadette Lasater, Martha Miller and Helen Hays — Fontaine was not as easily manipulated, Eckmann said.

"Donna was different. She was stubborn, she was a fighter and she stood up to him," she said. "He couldn't stand it, so ultimately he killed her."

Special prosecutor Rich Christensen said Shackelford's "nefarious plan was set in motion" when he found out Fontaine and Palahniuk were in

town for Kendrick's annual Locust Blossom Festival.

He reminded the jury of testimony from Proctor James Baker, a neighbor of the Abitz family and Fontaine, who said Shackelford asked him how to get rid of some bodies and if he would give Shackelford an alibi.

Sonja and Mary Abitz joined in the scheme, said Christensen, and kept Fontaine's brother, Gary Fontaine, away from the crime scene while the murders took place.

Shackelford shot Fontaine with a shotgun, hitting her in the arm, Christensen alleged, and then switched to a .32-caliber pistol he had already taken from Fontaine's home or truck. "At some point in the proceeding minutes the defendant shoots Fred Palahniuk in his left side, the bullet traveling through his lung."

Then, Christensen said, Shackelford turned to Fontaine and "virtually executes her," shooting her once in the back of the neck.

Arts

Continued from B1

Earlier this year with the idea of donating it to the center. But three architects who recently examined that facility told Weake that the center wouldn't fit.

In the interim, nextStage Theatre has become a beehive of activity for community theater groups and other special events. Just this week it housed a film fund-raiser for the Sun Valley/Ketchum Historical Museum. It's also been a venue for the Swing'n'Dixie Jazz Jamboree and other film festivals.

"It's used all the time. The marquee out front is constantly announcing something new," Weake said.

"We went back to the Mort family and said, Thank you so much for your very generous offer — you've really set the model for really true philan-

thropy — but we can't fit." Sun Valley Center for the Arts, which turns 30 next year, was once located in Sun Valley where the Community School is now.

The center still holds several functions on resort property in Sun Valley, including its annual wine auction, arts and crafts festival, writer's conference and symphony and chamber music series.

Wilkins said the Symphony would continue its commitment to outdoor venue regardless of what the organization decides to do about the land offer. She added that she doesn't know if traffic along Sun Valley Road would interfere with the performances, which are currently held on a grassy lawn behind the Sun Valley Mall.

Dan Riviera, of Ketchum, was enthusiastic about the land swap when he heard about it.

"As long as such an attractive

space can be used by the public," he said. "I wouldn't want to see condos put on it. I hope they keep at least part of it as just land."

Pinchetich said he didn't know whether anyone would object to the buildings that might cluster the view. Residents will have ample opportunity to comment at Sun Valley's annual town hall meeting in January and at public hearings, as they arise, he said.

Sun Valley Company plans to convert part of the hospital into employee housing for the 500 or so employees it imports into the valley to run lifts and bus tables. The company may use a portion for administrative offices, as well, once two medical clinics currently housed in the hospital building leave.

Times-News correspondent Karen Boeckel can be reached at Hailey at 578-2111.

Judge

Continued from B1

"I think John Melanson will be a very good judge," Harr said. "He and his wife Pam will fit very well in the community."

Melanson has been a magistrate judge since January 1995. He received his bachelor's degree in business administration from Idaho State University and his juris doctorate from the University of Idaho College of Law. He was in private legal practice in Buhl from 1981 to 1994 and also worked as Buhl's part-time city prosecutor.

Retained in the November elections, Melanson received high marks in an October Times-News survey rating the magistrate

judges on the ballot. According to the survey of area attorneys, Melanson scored a 3.8 on a four-point grading scale. His highest grade, a 3.97, came in the category of political independence.

Melanson's annual salary will be \$91,596.

The 5th Judicial District consists of Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka and Twin Falls counties.

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

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Babbitt to recommend two national monuments in Montana

HELENA, Mont. (AP) - The Interior Department said Thursday that it will recommend to President Clinton that he declare two sites in Montana as national monuments, possibly the first of a flurry of last-minute preservation decrees from the White House.

The Montana proposal would involve the upper Missouri Breaks in north-central Montana and Pompeys Pillar east of Billings. Both areas have ties to the Lewis and Clark Expedition that passed through Montana almost 200 years ago, and large numbers of visitors are expected at the sites in connection with that bicentennial.

The department gave advance notice to Montana Gov. Marc Racicot of the rec-

Other possible monuments include:

- The **Coyote-Shoshone Canyonlands** in southwestern Idaho, a 2.7-million-acre expanse of mountains, rivers and high desert that national environmental groups have pitched to Babbitt and Clinton as a possible monument.
- A **half-million acres** in southwestern Arizona proposed as the **Sonoran Desert National Monument**. Babbitt visited his home state last week and said creating that monument - which would be the fifth in Arizona designated by Clinton - was "virtually the last thing" on his agenda.

An area of cone-shaped rock formations in northern New Mexico known as Tent Rocks.

Sen. Jeff Bingaman, R-N.M., asked for permanent status for the 6,300-acre area. An Idaho Republican Gov. Gary Johnson also supports.

- The **Jack Morrow Hills**, a 622,000-acre region of Red Desert in southwestern Wyoming. Babbitt was greeted by protesters when he toured the area last month, and said then he would ask the Bureau of Land Management to come up with a more restrictive management plan for the area that would require approval by the next president and Congress.

the department said the timing of Babbitt's recommendations was uncertain.

Environmentalists are strongly urging Clinton to declare the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge a national monument to prevent oil drilling on the refuge's coastal plain in the Arctic. President-elect Bush strongly supports drilling in the refuge, and opponents of the monument plan say a law governing federal land in Alaska prohibits new monuments there without congressional consent.

The Breaks proposal would affect 149 miles of the Missouri River from Fort Benton downstream to the Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge, and adjacent federal lands mostly owned by the

Bureau of Land Management. Monument status would apply to 377,346 acres on a stretch of the Missouri already designated a wild and scenic river. The sparsely settled region is largely unchanged since Meriwether Lewis and William Clark led their expedition through the area in 1805.

Pompeys Pillar, a large sandstone outcrop 25 miles east of Billings along the Yellowstone River, carries William Clark's signature. He carved his name and the date - July 25, 1806 - into the 150-foot-high pillar during his return trip to St. Louis. He called the rock Pompey's Tower. In his journals, after the nickname he gave the son of the party's interpreter, Sacagawea.

ommendations, saying Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt would present them to

Clinton Thursday. Racicot's office released the notice here. In Washington,



California Public Utilities Commission President Loretta Lynch, right, and advisor Tina Horn discuss an issue Thursday in San Francisco.

California regulators back rate hike to aid companies

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - In the strongest sign yet that electric bills will soon rise sharply for millions of Californians, state utility regulators said Thursday customers should pay more to keep the state's largest electric companies from going bankrupt.

"We believe that retail rates in California must begin to rise. It's our intent to maintain the utilities' access to capital on reasonable terms," the Public Utilities Commission said in a recovery plan that includes an independent audit of the utilities' books.

The commission said it will resolve the question of just how much customers will pay on Jan. 4. In ongoing negotiations with

Gov. Gray Davis and other key politicians and regulators, the utilities have asked that customers pay for 20 percent or more of the companies' debt.

Before making any such deal, the commission wants to know just how bad the financial picture is for Pacific Gas and Electric and Southern California Edison. Both utilities have taken on more than \$8 billion in debt, buying energy on the open market, but a rate freeze prevents them from passing the costs on to consumers.

The commission will hold emergency public hearings next Wednesday and Thursday on the utilities' finances, allowing consumer advocates to have their say.

Court questions charging Ruby Ridge sharpshooter

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - The 1992 Ruby Ridge standoff was briefly relived in a courtroom Wednesday during a closely watched case that tests whether federal agents are immune to state prosecutions.

While two prominent attorneys recounted the death of white separatist Randy Weaver's wife from an FBI sharpshooter's rifle, 11 judges of the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals did not indicate whether Boundary County prosecutors could try Agent Lon T. Horiuchi on allegations of manslaughter.

Inside an ornate San Francisco courthouse heavily guarded by federal marshals, the panel heard arguments to review its June decision that the Idaho county could not prosecute the sharpshooter for "actions taken in pursuit of his duties as a federal law enforcement officer."

Solicitor General Seth Waxman told the judges that it didn't matter whether Vicki Weaver's death was the result of excessive force.

"These federal law enforcement officials are privileged to do what would otherwise be unlawful if done by a private citizen," Waxman told the panel during an hour-long hearing. "It's a fundamental function of our government."

Judge Alex Kozinski was perplexed by the argument.

"If the Constitution does not provide limitations for federal agents' actions, then what does?" he asked.

Boundary County attorney Ramsey Clark, who was attorney general under the Johnson administration, said the court must reverse its earlier decision in a case defining "when government agents can kill with immunity."

Much of the discussion focused on the facts surrounding Vicki Weaver's killing. Clark contended that if the facts are under dispute, the only way to resolve them is through a trial.

Judge Susan Graber and other judges asked whether Horiuchi, who was not present in the courtroom, knew that the unarmed woman he killed was in the line of fire when he fired into Weaver's cabin.

"Reasonable people could differ over whether Agent Horiuchi's actions were reasonable or not," she said.

"You really don't know the facts until you go to trial," Clark responded.

Waxman said the facts were irrelevant and said federal agents subject to various state laws could "chill" the government's ability even to guard the president.

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Julie Hammerquist, 18, left, and her sisters, Leah, 9, center, and Rebecca, 6, walk along the Flathead River outside of Kallispell, Mont., Wednesday.

Idaho agency plans to test for fumes

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality plans to take air samples this spring at an Oldtown pole yard to determine whether pesticide fumes are making residents sick.

Tim Teater, an air toxicity regulator analyst in Boise, said details about how and where the tests will be performed, as well as who will pay for them, are yet to be determined.

Many teachers at Idaho Hill Elementary and a few neighbors fear stinky fumes from the nearby pole yard are making them sick.

Students and teachers complain of headaches, dizziness,

nausea and runny eyes and noses on days when Poles Inc. soaks its logs in a thermal insecticide treatment. The larger concern is long-term health effects.

"My gut feeling is, there probably is pretty minimal, if any, real exposure," Teater said. "But a gut feeling is inadequate."

Plant Manager Howard Fiedler has worked for Poles Inc. for 45 years and maintains there is no health risk. The company has already volunteered to treat poles on evenings and weekends, when school is out.

"We just want to make sure we are responsible for all these children," said Gary Go, principal of the 220-student school.

"We want to make sure they are in a safe area."

Dan Redline, a state air-quality analyst in Coeur d'Alene, and other agency officials visited the 60-year-old pole yard in October after receiving several complaints about the odors.

A pesticide used in the operation - pentachlorophenol - prevents insect infestation and rot in the wood, which is used for utility poles. The chemical is on Environmental Quality's list of toxic air pollutants and is a possible human carcinogen.

State inspectors found Poles Inc. in compliance with all regulations after similar complaints in 1993.

Idaho company to pay penalty for violations

SODA SPRINGS (AP) - The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality has reached an agreement with Jack B. Parsons Ready Mix to resolve

two air quality violations at its Soda Springs facility.

Jack B. Parsons Ready Mix was cited for failure to address fugitive emission violations at the

site, the agency said. A consent order announced on Thursday calls for the company to obtain an air quality permit and pay a \$4,000 cash penalty.

Charter board discusses the use of R-rated movies in Idaho school

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) - Anne Solomon does not allow R-rated movies to be shown in her home. She said that if the films are allowed at the Coeur d'Alene Charter Academy, the issue could become explosive.

Wednesday, she and other members of the school's board of directors discussed whether R-rated movies should be viewed at the school. Principal John Sarchio asked the board members to consider amending the academy's current policy, which prohibits all R-rated movies.

He used the movie "Amistad," as an example. Even though the film carries an R-rating, he said

only two scenes are inappropriate for students.

"I think there is a value to utilizing videos," Sarchio said. "I wouldn't want to throw out the whole movie based on a couple of segments that could be edited out."

Board member Alan Golub argued that by editing out scenes, the academy could change an R-rated movie to less-than-R-rated.

But board member Peter Erbland said that he was unsure that parents, or the community, would see it that way. Even after editing, the movies would still carry the R-rating, Erbland said. That could cause the school to

develop a bad reputation, he argued.

He said he had watched "Amistad" and found it disturbing.

Sarchio said images can be powerful and that it is important to carefully screen what students watch.

Board members suggested sending home permission slips whenever an R-rated movie would be shown in class, restricting the movies to certain grade levels and offering alternative projects and assignments to students whose parents objected to the films.

Parents are being asked for their opinions.

Decorations disappear from street

POCATELLO (AP) - For the past decade, residents along Myrl Street have each put up 3-foot lighted candy canes. But the holiday decorations are fast disappearing.

Late last Friday, someone took six of the plywood ornaments and another went missing early Monday.

"I'm not sure why someone would do something like that," said Norman Reece, a Myrl Street resident. "It doesn't seem very festive."

The tradition was started by a resident who has since left the street, but asked that remaining neighbors carry on the custom.

So Reece and his wife, Mona, have given a cane to every new resident.

He said they encourage the new inhabitants to display them during Christmas.

This is not the first time canes have disappeared from Myrl Street, but it is the first time so many were pilfered.

"They were taken carefully," Reece said. "They weren't ripped from the ground and all the cords were carefully unplugged."

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NATION

Officials: Governor accepts EPA post

WASHINGTON (AP)—New Jersey Gov. Christie Whitman, a moderate Republican and avid outdoorswoman, has accepted President-elect Bush's offer to head the Environmental Protection Agency, officials close to both politicians said Thursday.

Bush will announce his decision Friday, along with several other personal appointments, officials said. Whitman allies told associates Wednesday that she had landed the job, but sources in Bush's camp didn't confirm the decision until Thursday.

Whitman declined to comment on whether the president-elect had formally asked him to take the Health and Human Services job. The governor also said he had not yet made a decision and did not expect to make one until he returned from a Christmas vacation in Mexico with his family.

Thompson said the HHS position is the one Bush would like him to fill, while transportation secretary is "the one I would like to be able to do."

Whitman, 54, is in her second term as New Jersey's governor. Her term expires in January 2002.

Environmentalists view Whitman's selection with skepticism, though she championed open-space preservation in the nation's most densely developed state.

Whitman's selection with skepticism, though she championed open-space preservation in the nation's most densely developed state.

Thompson, on the other hand, is an opponent of abortion and would be welcomed by conservatives at an agency where social issues are critical.

Environmentalists view Whitman's selection with skepticism, though she championed open-space preservation in the nation's most densely developed state and refused to abandon an unpopular auto emission test designed to reduce air pollution.

Critics say that in the name of attracting business, she compromised water pollution protections and cut spending for state offices that prosecute environmental abuses by industry.

It was not known whether Bush would elevate the EPA to Cabinet status.

Bush hoped to make several appointments Friday, but aides cautioned that he would need another week or two to complete work on his Cabinet.

He has already filled two of the four biggest jobs: secretary of state went to retired Gen. Colin Powell and business executive Paul O'Neill is his secretary of treasury nominee. Bush's top choice for attorney general, Montana Gov. Marc Racicot, said Wednesday he did not want the job.



New Jersey Gov. Christie Whitman has reportedly accepted a position as head of the EPA.

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The development came as Republicans in Washington and Wisconsin said another GOP governor - Tommy Thompson of Wisconsin - Accepted Bush's offer in a Thursday morning telephone call to be Health and Human Services secretary. They said the announcement would be made next week.

However, sources close to Bush said they could not immediately confirm the deal was closed, and Thompson himself was sending mixed signals.

The sources spoke on condition of anonymity. Even as rumors of the Bush telephone call circulated, Thompson told reporters that the president-elect wants him to be HHS secretary, but he would prefer to be secretary of transportation.

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NATION

Bush's appointments reflect promise

President-elect's ideas of 'inclusion' infuse his Cabinet

WASHINGTON (AP) — Bill Clinton worked with gusto to create a Cabinet that looked like America in 1992, and got so frustrated by the demands of rival constituency groups that he lashed out at "bean-counters" playing "quota games."

Now President-elect Bush is promising Americans a government of "inclusion" — encompassing ideological and regional balance as well as racial and gender diversity. So far, at least, the bean-counters are in check, although conservatives are keeping a watchful eye on jobs yet to be filled.

Bush's earliest Cabinet and White House appointments included two blacks, two Hispanics, two women and three white men.

There are veterans of past Republican administrations, figures from state government and relative newcomers to public service. There are Texans and inside-the-beltway types.

Future appointments are expected to fill out a range of ideological views as well, including Democrats as well as different wings of the Republican Party.

"I think it shows a general commitment to searching widely for talent," said Paul Light, a scholar at the Brookings Institution and authority on presidential transitions. "He'll let the diversity speak for itself."

Some refuse administrative invitations

WASHINGTON (AP) — When President-elect Bush came calling, Republican Montana Gov. Marc Racicot said, "No, thanks."

Sen. John Breaux, D-La., widely rumored as a Cabinet choice, perhaps as energy secretary, met with Bush at the Texas governor's mansion, but chose to stay in the Senate.

Not many turn down the power and influence of joining a presidential Cabinet — or even a lower rung in the administration — but many balk at the agonizing confirmation process or prefer drawing private sector salaries to government pay.

Then there's the day job, which Breaux cited. Rep. Scott McInnis, R-Colo., also told Bush he'd rather stay in Congress than be considered for jobs managing public lands or emergencies.

Colby College professor G. Calvin Mackenzie, an expert on the politics of presidential appointments, said he has been "hearing over the years" from White House personnel directors that the turndown rate is getting higher.

"Most of the people that are considered for these jobs really do want to do public service and really think it's an honor," Mackenzie said.

But then they consider the assault on your integrity and reputation and the months and months you have to wait to get through confirmation," not to mention the potential scrutiny that extends to spouses, associates and finances, said Mackenzie.

PROFILE Ann Veneman

President-elect Bush nominated Californian Ann Veneman as agriculture secretary on Wednesday.

Age: 51; born June 1949.

Education: Bachelor's in political science, University of California, Davis; master's in public policy from the University of California, Berkeley; law degree from Hastings College of Law, San Francisco, 1976.

Experience: Public defender, Stanislaus County, Calif.; attorney, Bay Area Rapid Transit District; U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1986-1993, eventually becoming deputy secretary; attorney with Patton, Boggs & Blow, Washington, D.C., 1993-95; secretary of California Department of Food and Agriculture, 1995-99; attorney with Nossaman, Guthrie, Knox and Elliott, Sacramento, Calif., 1999-present.



Source: Compiled from AP wire reports

Florida said his nomination shows the possibilities America

The fact that Bush's appointments make up such a diverse group is a reflection of the nation's progress as a whole, many believe.

Condoleezza Rice, a black woman appointed Bush's national security adviser, said the nicest thing about her appointment and that of Colin Powell as secretary of state was that Bush "did this for the right reasons."

"Maybe it says something about where we are 140 years after slavery, which is pretty remarkable," she said.

Mel Martinez, nominated Wednesday to be Bush's housing secretary, came to America as a 15-year-old refugee from Cuba, part of an airlift known as Operation Pedro Pan.

The county official from

offers "regardless of where you come from, what language you speak, the color of your skin or your economic circumstances."

Californian Ann Veneman, a former state and federal agriculture official, is the first woman ever nominated for agriculture secretary.

One reason more women and minorities are rising to the top is that they have been able to gain crucial experience in sub-Cabinet positions and in state and local government, observers say.

Although posts like treasury, commerce and defense secretary are still largely seen as male bastions, the nation is "pretty much past the time where people are going to have to worry too much" about racial and gender representation, said Light.

"This may be the last transition where this is even an issue," he said.

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NATION

Weather, full flights make travel hard

Knightridder News Service

If you will be one of the 39 million passengers on U.S. airlines this holiday season, you've probably already steered yourself for a travel nightmare. And your fears may be justified.

A combination of full flights, wintry weather and a record number of passengers could lead to delays, cancellations and other holiday travel headaches. This year, ongoing labor disputes at several major airlines are adding to the uncertainty.

There is one bright spot: There won't be a strike against a major airline in the next month, because federal law requires a 30-day cooling-off period before any strike. Although some of the labor disputes could lead to strikes, for the holidays are over, none has progressed to that point yet.

Several airlines, however, are having labor-related problems that may cause delays and cancellations. For example, Delta Air Lines, Northwest Airlines and United Airlines have been in court in recent weeks asking judges to order various unions to stop what the airlines call illegal job actions, such as refusing to work overtime.

Although individual workers generally have the right to refuse overtime, it's illegal for unions to organize such an effort. In some cases the judges have granted the orders; in others they have not.

In response, some of the affected airlines are cutting back their flight schedules. Northwest has had to cancel flights, for example, and Delta is moving to reduce delays by taking between 3 percent and 5 percent of its 2,700 daily flights off its schedule.

Travelers may also see informational picketing by some airline workers. For example, American Airlines flight attendants, who are currently in negotiations with the airline, have scheduled informational pickets for 10 airports for Dec. 22. The pickets don't disrupt the operation of the airline.

Despite the labor unrest, weather and overcrowding are more likely to cause glitches in holiday travel plans.

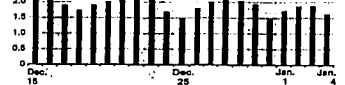
Every seat on every plane will probably be sold, said Joe Galloway of Trans-Continental Travel in Houston, who is immediate past president of the American Society of Travel Agents.

And when winter storms hit, they can cause the highest rate of flights to be canceled or delayed all at once.

Travelers who experience such

Taking flight for the holidays

The airlines expect an average of 1.7 million passengers per day to fly within the United States during this year's holiday travel season. Here are daily estimates of domestic air travel for that period.



Holiday travel tips

Since airlines are busier than usual at this time of year, the Air Transport Association has issued some holiday travel tips.

- Check the status of your flight before you leave for the airport.
- Send gifts in advance to reduce your baggage. If you do carry gifts, wait until after your flight to wrap them, as they may need to be inspected.
- Check with your airline in advance if you need to travel with pets. Some airlines restrict pet travel during cold weather periods.
- Keep carry-on baggage to a minimum, since heavier passenger loads mean less overhead storage space.

Source: Air Transport Association
cancellations or delays may be disappointed to discover that they have few legal rights to compensation.

There are two types of delays: those that are caused by the airline itself, and those that the industry terms "acts of God," said Bill McGee, editor of Consumer Reports' Travel Letter in Yonkers, N.Y.

His publication analyzed the policies of most major airlines for its December issue and found that airlines consider labor problems to be in the "acts of God" category—in other words, out of their control. So are weather delays.

If the airline is responsible for the delay, it will generally either book travelers on the next available flight (even if it's on another carrier) or refund the unused portion of their tickets, although McGee cautioned that the airlines' promises about this tend to be couched in vague language. Whether the passengers get hotel accommodations, meals or free phone calls in addition depends on the circumstances.

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HOLIDAY SHOPPING TIPS

- Always lock your vehicle
- Place packages in the trunk or out of view
- Don't leave children in vehicle

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POOL CLOSED
December 24, 25, 31 & January 1

FITNESS OPPORTUNITIES
January Special
Buy individual annual pass and receive 25% off. A savings of \$45. Children 4-12 \$150/\$160 outside city limits, adults \$180/\$200 outside city limits. Passes are good for aerobic classes, lap swimming and open swimming.

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Fire Department

CHRISTMAS TREE SAFETY

- Make sure base of Christmas tree trunk is kept in water.
- Never use candles on your tree or place them near your tree.
- Keep Christmas tree away from heat sources, i.e. fireplaces, woodburning stoves, etc.
- Prevent tripping hazards by keeping extension cords out of pathways.
- Keep electrical wires out of the reach of youngsters.

WOMEN'S AEROBICS CLASS
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Sanitation Dept.

Public Awareness

PSI WASTE SYSTEMS CLOSED
The trash hauling firm for the City of Twin Falls will be closed December 25, 2000. Trash pick up will be one day behind schedule the week of December 25-30. They will also be closed January 1, 2001; they will be one day behind schedule the week of January 1-6. The week of January 8 they will be back on schedule.

Public Library

A WREATH OF "READS"

TWIN FALLS PUBLIC LIBRARY
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CHRISTMAS TREE CHIPPING
Residents of the City of Twin Falls will once again be able to participate in our ongoing waste reduction program having their Christmas trees chipped. This program helps reduce waste ordinarily deposited in a landfill, and will be conducted by the City of Twin Falls Street Department. The trees will be chipped into mulch in the interest of environmentally sound waste management.

Trees need to have all ornaments, wire, lights, and plastic bags removed.

The drop off site is at 6th Avenue West, east of the Animal Shelter and it will be open from December 25, 2000 to January 15, 2001. If you have any questions call Sherry Jeff, Sanitation Inspector, at 735-7264.

THE CITY OF TWIN FALLS CITY HALL WILL BE CLOSED DECEMBER 25 AND JANUARY 1.

We wish each of you a Happy Holiday!

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Man, oh Mannheim

You're running out of time before Christmas to go "Steamrolling Through the Holidays," the Faulkner Planetarium's seasonal show to the soundtrack of Mannheim Steamroller. You'll get one more chance tonight and two more on Saturday. The production wraps up next week.



Heard it in a love song

The Marshall Tucker Band, a unique '70s fusion of Southern rock and jazz, will play Cactus Petes Resort Casino in Jackpot Tuesday through New Year's Eve.

Still caroling

Hailey's Company of Foods continues its take on "A Christmas Carol" post-Christmas next week at the Liberty Theater.

Sunday night fever

Kool Year's Eve, the Boise Center on the Grove's annual New Year's Eve mega-blowout, still has tickets available.

See times, dates and details in Everlist Spotlight on Page C2

Fish out of water



Veteran actors David Blamplend and Scott Creighton kick off 'A Tuna Christmas' with a radio broadcast from Radio Station DKKK.

Wood River Valley theater groups ask you to consider 'A Tuna Christmas'

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

KETCHUM - Forget the wise men. They're not a part of Christmas in Tuna, Texas.

Venture into this cross between Gomer Pyle and "Deliverance" and you're likely to encounter a diverse pageantry of oddball characters you've never seen in any Christmas pageant before.

Characters such as Bertha Bumiller, who decorates her Christmas tree with license plates her son made in reform school. Didi Snavelly, the crotchety proprietor of Didi's Used Weapons, who tops her tree with gas mask and trims it with hand grenades, pistols and shotgun shells.

And Vera Carp, who is trying to win her 15th Christmas yard-decorating contest with a nativity scene that features Bing Crosby and the Grinch Who Stole Christmas right alongside Mary and Joseph and the shepherds.

Actors David Blamplend and Scott Creighton bring all 22 characters to their thigh-slapping, side-splitting conclusion in "A Tuna Christmas" on display through the holiday season in Sun Valley.

The play runs tonight and Saturday and Tuesday through Dec. 31 at nextStage Theater in Ketchum.

"A Tuna Christmas," a co-production between New Theater Company and the Sun Valley Repertory Company, opened in New York City for Christmas 1994.

Written by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard, it's part of

If you go:

- **What:** The new Christmas comedy and the Sun Valley Repertory Company will present Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard's "A Tuna Christmas."
- **Where:** nextStage Theater, Ketchum.
- **When:** Tonight and Saturday and Tuesday through Dec. 31, 8 p.m.
- **How much:** Tickets, which are \$15, are available at Atkinson's in Ketchum and at Read All About it bookstore in Hailey, or online at www.newtheatrecompany.org.

a trilogy of Tuna plays that also feature "Greater-Tuna" and "Tuna Red, White and Blue."

But you need not have seen the other two to have a rollicking good time at "Tuna Christmas." Blamplend and Creighton change out of brassieres and beehive hairdos into mustaches and cowboy boots faster than Rudolph can blink his red nose.

And, with the help of long-time Laughing Stock Theater Company artistic director Kathy Wylie, they've become equally adept at transforming mannerisms and vocal inflections from a fast-talking Southern-drawling radio announcer for Radio Station DKKK to an elderly old lady who gets her jollies well, you have to see the play to find out just how.

"It's a lot of fun doing all the roles," Creighton said. "It's like doing little plays within a play. It sure keeps things interesting backstage with all the costume

changes." The play opens on Christmas Eve. Vera Carp is trying to figure out how to keep the Christmas Phantom from sabotaging her Christmas decorations. The Smut Snatchers are cleaning up the script of the local community theater's production of "A Christmas Carol."

Didi Snavelly is singing Christmas carols as best she knows how - "riding one-armed in an open Christmas sleigh." And The Drop Back and Punt Club is holding a 24-hour prayer vigil for the town's head football coach - if he flunks the Texas State Teachers competency exam one more time he's going into politics. Even hard-core Democrats are counted on having a blue Christmas thanks to the recent election fiasco can get a chuckle out of that, beings we're talking Tuna, Texas - the birthplace of presidents.

"It's a very funny play, a look at a small town and everyday people who live in it. It's a great alternative to the regular Christmas pageants, perfect for Christmas here," said veteran actor Chris Millsap.

"It's funny but real," agreed Brenda Janot, one of the nimble-fingered costume-changers. "There are a lot of people who really are this way."

But the humor contains a certain poignancy - and that's what Wylie is trying to bring out.

"Besides being a funny play, it's also a really sweet play," she said. "A motorcycle nephew and his aunt drawing close together. Two



Scott Creighton and David Blamplend top a unique tree trimmed in gas masks and hand grenades during 'A Tuna Christmas.'

lonely old ladies sharing remembrances. It's a wonderful slice-of-life play."

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

New Blaine County troupe spins a homegrown tale

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

KETCHUM - Need to shake the Bah-Humbung doldrums? "A Family Christmas" might provide just the spirit you need.

The two-act drama is an original Christmas play by Ketchum's newest theater group - the Forge Ahead Theater Company - in conjunction with Baggy Pants Theater Company of New York.

It features Angela Hess - BlackJack Ketchum's wife in the Wagon Days Celebration shoot-out. Also, Gar McLean and Ben Blachly, who played BlackJack Ketchum in the Labor Day Weekend event.

Blachly, a new comer to Ketchum from New York where he attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts - the school that trained Spencer Tracy and Jason Robards - wrote the play.

Set on Christmas Eve morning in 1925, it revolves around two orphans who live in a shack. One of the orphans, Mitch, doesn't have the Christmas spirit but finds it as the play evolves.

"My idea was that people don't have enough Christmas spirit anymore," Blachly said. "Families used to sit around the Christmas tree and sing carols and these days few do. The play talks about how people being all together can become a family on

* Yule enjoy it *

• **What:** The Forge Ahead Theater Company will present Ben Blachly's "A Family Christmas."

• **Where:** Old Magic Lantern Theater, Second and Washington streets, Ketchum.

• **When:** Tonight and Saturday, 7:30 p.m.

• **How much:** Tickets, which are \$10 for adults and \$5 for youngsters aged 12-18, are available at the door. Younger children get in free.

Christmas whether they're related or not. "You don't need money for a gift when you can give some

thing of yourself." The play is designed for the entire family - no need to leave the kids with a babysitter or even drop them off to see the play while Mom and Dad do something else.

The audience is recruited at various points throughout the play to join in as part of a choir or in some other fashion. "It's just a fun, upbeat show," Blachly said. "I want people to go away saying, 'You know, I haven't caroled in a long time, and it was fun!'"

The play takes place in the old Magic Lantern Cinema, a former movie house owned by Bruce Willis and Demi Moore until recently.

Sofas and love seats have been substituted for hard theater chairs. Theatergoers can help themselves to a glass of Chardonnay or Merlot, some beer or bottled water. Just leave a donation in the basket.

The Magic Lantern Cinema - the former Odd Fellows building, closed in November 1998 after showing "The Last Picture Show," according to local play critic Susan Bailey Moore and Willis sold the building last July to a Kirkland, Wash., development company that donated the space, to Blachly through the winter.

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

Don't miss the New Year's Eve Party!

It's just 20 days from 2001. And if you're planning to see in this New Year with a party, tell us about your plans.

The Times-News will publish a roundup of New Year's Eve parties and activities in our WeekEnd section on Friday, Dec. 29. Get the information to us by next Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. to have it included in that wrap-up.

Send it to Rainwater Jones, The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls 83303, fax it to 734-5538, or e-mail it to crump@magvalley.com

WEEKEND

There will be 'Heartache Tonight' at Cactus Petes

ROCK 'N' ROLL

Tonight, Saturday and Sunday

Heartache-Tonight-Tribute to the Eagles will play at Cactus Petes Resort Casino. Jackpot. Prices for the 8 p.m. dinner show start at \$14.99 tonight and Sunday and \$19.99 on Saturday. Cover charge for the 11 p.m. cocktail show is \$7.50 tonight and Sunday and \$10 on Saturday. For reservations and information, call (800) 821-1103.

Last Ride will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at The Oasis, 1007 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., Twin Falls. No cover charge.

Raising Cain will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Honker's Place, 121 Fourth Ave. S., Twin Falls. Cover charge is \$3.

EZ Loader will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Muggers Brewpub, 516 Second St. S., Twin Falls. Cover charge is \$3.

The Marshall Tucker Band will perform two shows a night at Cactus Petes Resort, Jackpot. Prices for the 8 p.m. dinner show start at \$14.99 tonight and Sunday and \$19.99 on Saturday. Cover charge for the 11 p.m. cocktail show is \$7.50 tonight and Sunday and \$10 on Saturday. For reservations and information, call (800) 821-1103.

Armaggeddon will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Honker's Place, 121 Fourth Ave. S., Twin Falls. No cover charge.

Banyan will play at 8 p.m. at Newberry's, 150 N. Main in Old Town Pocatello. Tickets, which are \$15 in advance or \$18 the day of show, can be purchased at Music Exchange in Twin Falls or reserved by phoning (800) 965-4827.

Partners with Soufly and Morbid in a metal will play 8 p.m. in the Idaho Center. Tickets, which are \$27, can be reserved by calling Select A Seat at (208) 426-1766 or (800) 965-4827. The Idaho Center is located at 5000 Garrity Blvd. on Nampa's east end.

Planetarium

"Steamrolling Through the Holidays," the Faulkner Planetarium's holiday show, will continue through the end of the year at the Herrett Center for Arts and Sciences on the campus of the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. "Steamrolling" is a soundtrack of Christmas-time favorites by the popular instrumental group Mannheim Steamroller. The program will be shown at 7 p.m. tonight, 4 and 7 p.m. on Saturday, 7 and 8 p.m. on Tuesday, and at 12 and 3 p.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. The educational program "The Explorers" will also be shown at 2 p.m. Saturday. Admission is \$4 for adults, \$3 for seniors, \$2 for children or \$9 for families. The Herrett Center will be closed Christmas Day, but plans

Chip Davis of Mannheim Steamroller

New Years Eve at THE BALLROOM 2001
Downtown, Twin Falls, Idaho
December 31st
8:00 pm - 11:00 am
Music By: FMR - Bootscopler's D.J. Forrest Anderson
Gourmet Buffet Prepared By: THE BALLROOM
The Ballroom, Mama Inez and Aroha's Restaurants
Memories: Photographer on hand to record your image into the New Year
Fun Stuff: Trivia Card & Palm Readings
A QUIET ROOM for games
YOU MUST BE 21 OR OLDER TO ATTEND. SEND CHECKS TO: THE BALLROOM 205 SHOSHONE. PO BOX 2603, TWIN FALLS, ID 83401

EVENTS SPOTLIGHT

tarium staff will have their specially-equipped solar telescopes set up in front of the center from 8:15 to 10:45 a.m. to give residents a free, up close look at the partial eclipse of the sun, weather permitting. For more information, call the Herrett Center at 733-9554, Ext. 2655.

MISCELLANEOUS

Tonight
Jan Olsen will play from 6-8 p.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Tonight and Saturday
Bob Nora Band will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Tonight and Saturday
The Echos will play from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. in the Lantern Lounge at Weston Plaza, 1350 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., Twin Falls.

Saturday
Whitehorse and Montgomery will play at 8:30 p.m. at Trout's Saloon, 113 Broadway Ave. N., Buhl.

Saturday
Randy Egner will play from 7 to 9 p.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Tuesday
Saxophonist Brian Blanford will play from 6 to 8 p.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Tuesday
Milestone will play from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Tuesday through Thursday
The Echos will play from 8:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. in the Lantern Lounge at Weston Plaza, 1350 Blue Lakes Blvd. N., Twin Falls.

Wednesday
A disc jockey will provide the music for a disc night from 8 p.m. to midnight at Honker's Place, 121 Fourth Ave. S., Twin Falls. No cover charge.

Wednesday
Guitarist David Santistevan will play from 6 to 9 p.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Wednesday
Bob Nora Band will play for ladies night from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Thursday
Pianist Jimmy Cooper will play from 6 to 8 p.m. at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Thursday
Comedy night will be featured at 8:30 p.m. followed by a guest band at Sax Fifth Avenue, 213 Fifth Ave. S., Twin Falls.

Jan. 10 - Boise
James Brown and his 20-piece band will play at 8 p.m. at the grand opening celebration of the Big Easy Concert House, 416 S. 9th St., Boise. Tickets, which are \$79.50, go on sale at 10 a.m. today and can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1766 or (800) 965-4827.

Jan. 27 - Boise
The Boise Valley Chordsmen will present "The Melody Lingers On" at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. at the Morrison Center. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$10.50 for seniors (60 and over) for the 2 p.m. perfor-

mance or \$15 for the 7:30 p.m. performance. Tickets can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1766.

THEATER

Tonight, Saturday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

"A Tuna Christmas" will take the stage at 8 p.m. tonight and Saturday and Tuesday through Dec. 31 at nextStage Theater on Main Street, Ketchum. Tickets are \$15, available at Atkinson's in Ketchum, Read All About It bookstore in Hailey and at www.newtheatrecompany.org

Thursday through Dec. 30
"A Family Christmas" will hit the stage at 7:30 p.m. tonight and Saturday at the Old Magic Lantern Theater, Second and Washington streets, Ketchum. It will resume Jan. 4-6. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for youth ages 12 through 18, available at the door. Younger children get in free.

Wednesday through Dec. 30
Company of Fools presents "A Christmas Carol" at 7 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Dec. 30 at Hailey's Liberty Theater. Tickets, which are \$10 for adults and \$7 for children 4-12, can be reserved by a credit card by calling 788-6520 or purchased at Read All About It Bookstore in Hailey and Chapter One Bookstore in Ketchum.

COMEDY

Jan. 21 - Utah

Rodney Dangerfield will perform at 7:30 p.m. in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$35 and \$45, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Feb. 10 - Boise

Bill Cosby will perform two shows at 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. in the Morrison Center on the campus of Boise State University. Tickets, which are \$40 and \$45, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1766.

COUNTRY

Tonight
Pocket Change will play country and classic rock from 8 p.m. to midnight at the Pioneer Club, 1519 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

Saturday
Dusty and the Nomads will play from 8 p.m. to midnight at Spanbauer's Barn on U.S. Highway 93, east of Jerome. Cover charge is \$7. Call 324-7366.

Sunday
Pocket Change will play country and classic rock from 7-11 p.m. at the Pioneer Club, 1519 Kimberly Road, Twin Falls.

Tuesday
Country dance lessons will be given from 7-9 p.m. at Honker's Place, 121 Fourth Ave. S., Twin Falls. Lessons are free.

CLASSICAL

Dec. 30 - Utah
The Utah Symphony will play a program of waltzes, polkas and songs by Johann Strauss, Franz Lehar and other Viennese composers, 8 p.m., in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$16, \$22 and \$29, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-

2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Jan. 56 - Utah
The Utah Symphony will play Kurt Weill's Violin Concerto at 8 p.m. nightly in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$15, \$20, \$24, \$31 and \$35, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Jan. 11 - Utah
The Utah Symphony will perform Mozart's G Minor Symphony at 8 p.m. in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$15, \$24 and \$31, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Jan. 19-20 - Utah
The Utah Symphony will present a program of American songs at 8 p.m. in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$21, \$27, \$33 and \$41, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Jan. 26-27 - Utah
The Utah Symphony will perform Vivaldi's "Four Seasons" at 8 p.m. in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$15, \$20, \$24, \$31 and \$35, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Jan. 31 - Utah
Utah Opera will sing Giuseppe Verdi's "Rigoletto" at 7:30 p.m. Jan. 13, 15, 17 and 19 and at 2 p.m. on Jan. 21 in Salt Lake City's Capitol Theater. Tickets, which are \$12-\$57, can be reserved by phoning (888) 451-2787. Capitol Theater is located at 50 West 200 South.

FOLK MUSIC

Jan. 18 - Utah

The Chieftains will perform at 7:30 p.m. in Salt Lake City's Abravanel Hall. Tickets, which are \$22, \$32, \$39 and \$49, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. Abravanel Hall is located at 123 West South Temple.

Tonight, Saturday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Ballet West will perform Peter Tchaikovsky's "The Nutcracker," choreographed by William Christensen, in Salt Lake City's Capitol Theater. Performances are scheduled for 7 p.m. on Dec. 8-9; 13-16, 19-23 and 26-30 and for 2 p.m. on Dec. 9, 16-17, 23, 26 and 30. Tickets, which range from \$10-\$55, can be reserved by phoning (801) 355-2787. The Capitol Theater is located at 50 West 200 South. The production continues through Dec. 30.

DANCE

Jan. 19-20 - Boise

Idaho Dance Theater winter performance will be held at 8 p.m. Jan. 19 and 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. Jan. 20 in the Special Events Center at Boise State University. Tickets, which are \$12 and \$16 for adults and \$8 and \$12 for seniors and students, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1766.

KARAOKE

Tonight
Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Blue Room, 613 Fremont, Rupert. Nightly except Sunday and Monday. Karaoke will be featured from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Klover Klub, 402 Main N., Twin Falls.

Saturday
Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Big Kahuna, 9 E. Main, Declo.

Saturday
Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at the Moon Bar, 306 Main St., Filer. No cover charge.

Sunday and Tuesday
Full Moon Music Madness will play from 5 to 8 p.m. at the Riverside Bar and Resort, west of Burley.

Wednesday
Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at 610 Club, 1054 Overland Ave., Burley.

Thursday
Kroakers Karaoke will be featured from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. at Kimmy's Riverside, west of Burley.

SHOW

Tonight
Children's artwork will be displayed from 1-7 p.m. at the Twin Falls Creative Arts Center, 249 Main Ave. W., Twin Falls. The artwork will include drawing, painting and sculpture by students in kindergarten through sixth grade. For more information, call 737-9111.

FILM FESTIVAL

Jan. 18-19 Feb. 18
The Magic Valley Arts Council's Foreign Film Festival 2001, featuring "Solomon & Gaenor," "Macdaddy," "Goya in

Bordeaux," "The Wind Will Carry Us," and "Yi Yi," will be held at the Lamphouse Theater in Twin Falls. Each film will be shown four times, on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. Punch cards are available for \$60 for a 10-punch card and \$32 for a five-punch card. Individual tickets are \$7.50 for adults and \$6 for senior citizens and children. Punch cards are available at the Magic Valley Arts Council office and at the Lamphouse Theater.

Jan. 31, Feb. 1 and 2 - Boise
Banff Mountain Film Festival World Tour will be held at 7 p.m. at the Boise Center on the Grove, 850 W. Front St. Tickets, which are \$15 for adults and \$12 for seniors and students, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat at (208) 426-1766.

ICE SKATING
Jan. 3 - Utah
Target Stars on Ice will perform at the E Center in West Valley City, Utah, at 7:30 p.m. Tickets, which are \$58, \$45 and \$35, can be reserved by phoning (800) 888-TDXX. The E Center is located at 3200 Decker Lake Drive.

HOLIDAY CONCERTS
Dec. 31 - Boise
Kool Year's Eve 2001 celebration will be held at 8 p.m. at the Boise Center on the Grove, 850 W. Front St. Tickets, which are \$15, can be reserved by phoning Select A Seat (208) 426-1766.

MONSTER TRUCK SHOW
Jan. 5-7 - Utah
The Monster Truck Nationals will be held at the E Center in West Valley City, Utah. Tickets, which are \$21, \$16 and \$11, can be reserved by phoning Smith's Tix at (800) 888-TDXX. The E Center is located at 3200 Decker Lake Drive.

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'Cast Away,' 'Family Man' hit theaters for holiday viewing

Combined wire services

Movies playing in south-central Idaho this weekend. Opinions are by Los Angeles Times, Associated Press and Knight Ridder Newspapers reviewers and other sources. Ratings by the Motion Picture Association of America are: (PG) for general audiences; (PG) parental guidance urged because of material possibly unsuitable for children; (PG-13) parents are strongly cautioned to give guidance for attendance in children younger than 13; (R) restricted, younger than 17 admitted only with parent or adult guardian; (NC-17) no one younger than 17 admitted.

'Billy Elliot'

The most fierce performance of the year may be that of Jamie Bell as the 11-year-old title character in what may be the grittiest movie ever made about ballet. Set in a crumbling northern English town during the 1984 miner's strike, it sees Billy standing up against his dad, his bully brother and whoever else shows up when he realizes the joy he receives from physical movement. When Bell is exploding to the T. Rex and punk tunes on the soundtrack, things get seriously exhilarating. Rated R; language, violence. 1 hour, 51 minutes.

'Bounce'

A failed romantic weepie, starring Ben Affleck and Gwyneth Paltrow, about a cold-hearted advertising guy working through tragedy to learn the meaning of life. The two stars exhibit little chemistry playing two people brought together by a plane crash that only one of them knows is a factor in their relationship. To be fair, they're straight-jacketed by the standard, cliched nature of a script by director Don Roos. (1:42. PG-13, for some language and sensuality.)

'Cast Away'

Despite the lure of a reunion between 'Forrest Gump' star Tom Hanks and director Robert Zemeckis, there's potential tedium in 'Cast Away.' But the silences and simple survival work provide an intriguing framework for examining mental humanity when the veneer of society is stripped away. Hanks plays a FedEx troubleshooter stranded on an island after a plane crash. Zemeckis boldly chose semirealistic island-pod life over music, no voice-overs, little dialogue, no cuts to grieving loved ones in civilization. Just Hanks alone, struggling to live. Some will find it boring. Others will find nuggets to chew on about how life, with dispassionate cruelty, can cast away anyone at anytime. PG-13 for some intense images and action sequences. 144 minutes.

'Charlie's Angels'

Who would have figured 'Charlie's Angels,' the silly '70s series about three curvy crime-fighters, would someday be considered a forerunner of Girl Power? The movie version, produced by Drew Barrymore, who stars with Lucy Liu and Cameron Diaz, argues that women should be able to shake butt and kick it, too, but the film itself, written and directed by men, seems unlikely to inspire much female pride. Diaz has some funny moments as a brainy ditz (and is sexier than Farrah Fawcett ever was) and all the imitation 'Matrix' flying and flipping is diverting, but a dip-my-butt shot is still a butt shot, no matter who's signing the checks. Rated PG-13; rampant sexual innuendo, language, violence. 1 hour, 32 minutes.

'Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas'

This is one overstuffed movie, but it's by no means a turkey. The film's frenetic attempts to create a full-length feature film out of a slender, albeit beloved, 1957 children's book can be exhausting; however, the lively

Big box office
Last weekend's top-grossing movies:

1. "What Women Want."
2. "Dude, Where's My Car?" Fox.
3. "Dr. Seuss' How the Grinch Stole Christmas," Universal.
4. "The Emperor's New Groove," Disney.
5. "Vertical Limit," Sony.

—Source: Exhibitor Relations Co.

and amiable spirit of the endeavor converts our inner curmudgeon just as the spirit of Christmas eventually overpowers that larcenous Grinch. Making that stretch possible is Ron Howard's balanced direction, a cheerful and inviting look guided by production designer Michael Corenblieth and visual effects supervisor Kevin Mack, Jeffrey Price & Peter S. Seaman's clever script ideas and, in part he seems almost predestined to play, Jim Carrey as the Grinch. (1:42. PG, for some crude humor.)

'Dude, Where's My Car?'

Ashton Kutcher, Seann William Scott encounter otherworldly adventure while piecing together their blurry night-before.

'Dungeons and Dragons'

An arsenal of computer-generated effects, curious supporting cast and a built-in fan base can't save this muddled film version of the popular role-playing game. The ghost of George Lucas looms so large that you expect Jeremy Irons' hammy villain, in the midst of an electric sword fight, to admit that he is actually the hero's father. Assorted creatures look like they just got the bum's rush from the 'Star Wars' cantina. Rated PG-13; comic book violence. 1 hour, 47 minutes.

'The Emperor's New Groove'

Disney's Christmas gift is a holiday treat for the entire family, a light-hearted animated adventure/morality tale ideal for youngsters yet conceived with a wit and sophistication that will be appreciated by their parents. This story of how a spoiled, petulant Incan ruler (voice of David Spade) who gets turned into a llama also features the also splendidly cast voices of John Goodman, Eartha Kitt, Patrick Warburton and Wendie Malick. (1:21. G.)

'The Family Man'

Just in time for the holidays, 'The Family Man' is a movie that's supposed to make you feel better, no matter how pathetic your life may be. Nicolas Cage plays a shallow Wall Street hotshot who wakes up on Christmas morning in a New Jersey suburb with his ex-girlfriend, two kids and a minivan. Director Brett Ratner can't decide whether to condemn suburbia or embrace it, and some forced middle-class wackiness and awkward dialogue make much of the film cringeworthy. PG-13 for sensuality and some language. 130 minutes.

'Little Nicky'

Anyone who said movies would go to hell when someone like Adam Sandler could be a superstar becomes a prophet with the release of this Luke-warm comedy, with Sandler as the disgraced son of a likable Devil (Harvey Keitel), sent to Earth to thwart his two bad brothers (Tommy Lister and Rhye Hahn) in their effort to end Dad's reign. In its attempt to be a goofier, dirtier 'Ghostbusters,' the movie smother's its only asset, Sandler's goofball charm, in special effects, and there are at least five crony cameos (Kevin Nealon and Danny Carvey among them) too many. The pitchfork occasionally hits the funnybone, but mostly it just seems hot and bothersome. Rated PG-13.



Chuck, Tom Hanks, becomes isolated on a remote island after his plane crashes. Stripped of the conveniences of everyday life, Chuck, must first meet the basic needs of survival.



Jack, Nicolas Cage, meets Cash, Don Cheadle in Universal Pictures' 'The Family Man.'

'Meet the Parents'

Ben Stiller is a nice Jewish male nurse who wants to marry his nice WASP girlfriend, but there's an intimidating obstacle: her domineering dad, Robert De Niro. Just the idea of the unrepentant De Niro and the anything-to-please Stiller in Freudian conflict is funny, but this comedy from Jay Roach, who directed 'Austin Powers,' takes that idea to hilarious places. It's the first mainstream comedy in a long time to remain funny from beginning to end. Moreover, it does it without resorting to vulgar shocks, unless you count an exploding septik tank, a spray-painted cat and teeny-weeny Speedos. Rated PG-13; language. 1 hour, 48 minutes.

'Miss Congeniality'

FBI agent Sandra Bullock versus terrorists targeting a beauty pageant. With Michael Caine.

'102 Dalmatians'

Diehard fans of '01

Dalmatians' may be pleased by this sequel, which is actually more a reworking of the 1996 release, with Glenn Close's ferocious Cruella De Vil up to her old tricks, eager as ever, despite temporary reform, to create a cloak made of the skins of Dalmatian puppies. Gerard Depardieu is her lie de camp (in all senses of the word), with Ioan Gruffudd and Alice Evans providing the love interest. Still, it's mainly a fancy turkey Disney's is serving for Thanksgiving, with some scenes of violence that strain its Grating. (1:40. G.)

'Proof of Life'

Anyone who comes to this drama expecting sexy sparks between stars (and real-life paramours) Russell Crowe and Meg Ryan will have to content themselves with guilty looks. Crowe is a corporate hostage negotiator engaging his services is Ryan, the wife of an American engineer (David Morse) kidnapped for ransom in

South America. The stars' guilt, unfortunately, seems less inspired by any illicit attraction than the understanding that the film they're in doesn't deliver. Fearing, correctly, that the audience would resent characters who act on their desires, director Taylor Hackford prevents the relationship and the movie, from developing beyond anything besides a notion. Only when it heads to the mountains with the excellent Morse does 'Proof' show any actual proof of life. Rated R; violence, language. 2 hours, 12 minutes.

'Remember the Titans'

It runs every play in the sports movie book, but nearly all of them work. Based on the true story of a high school football team thrown together by court-ordered integration in 1971 Virginia, it has suburban, old-school disciplinarian Denzel Washington taking over a championship team from a beloved white coach (Will Patton) and forcing its old and new members to see beyond skin color to the goals. It will be a hard man or woman — who isn't cheering and tearing at the end. Rated PG; violence. 2 hours, 3 minutes.

'Rugrats in Paris — The Movie'

This sequel to the 1998 hit feels like a half-hour TV show inflated into a feature film. About half the running time is spent setting up why the Rugrats and their families are in Paris, how they got there, and who the new characters are. For all the machinations and theme-park attractions, the plot doesn't cover much ground. All

is nearly forgiven; however, for the short but memorable scene of 'Sumo' wrestlers singing a karaoke version of 'Bad Girls.' (1:20. G.)

'Smiling Fish and Goat on Fire'

This is one of those handmade movies that sneaks into film festivals and wins friends. 'Smiling Fish,' directed by Kevin Jordan, cost \$40,000 to make. It's the story of two Los Angeles brothers — an accountant and an unemployed musician — and the uninteresting characters in their lives. Rated R.

'Unbreakable'

It's unreasonable and unfair to expect any film to have the special impact 'The Sixth Sense' had on audiences, but M. Night Shyamalan (who wrote, directed, produced both films) has recycled so many of the same elements here that he seems to be inviting comparisons. The real problem is the story line, which stretches plausible and gets increasingly more difficult to take seriously as it unfolds. It's a comic-book idea in the worst sense. Bruce Willis, Samuel L. Jackson and Robin Wright Penn star. (1:47. PG-13, for mature themes, some disturbing violence, content and a sexual reference.)

'Vertical Limit'

After the top-of-the-summit, heart-in-the-throat nail-biter that begins this mountain-climbing spectacle, you might assume it would be all downhill. But director Martin Campbell ('The Mark of Zorro') has a big back-pack full of stunts and showstoppers, and if you can take your mind away, the film will take care of your breath. Chris O'Donnell, haunted (in a real cute way) by a deadly decision, is forced to climb again to rescue his sister (Robin Tunney), trapped in a snowed-over cavern after an ill-considered attempt at ascending a dangerous peak. And did I tell you the rescue team, led by a Zen cynic (Scott Glenn) is carrying nitro? The plot is thinner than the air and the dialogue is ludicrous, but the thrill power is there. Rated PG-13; violence, language. 2 hours, 2 minutes.

'What Women Want'

A vaguely amusing formulaic comedy with a premise — chauvinist male gets the ability to hear what women are thinking — that is more discomforting than endearing. Because star Mel Gibson plays a heel for most of the film, you have to be a Mel-aholic to fully enjoy the proceedings. Helen Hunt co-stars. Directed by Nancy Meyers. (2:07. PG-13 for sexual content and language.)

MOVIE FROM AROUND THE NATION

Legend: ★ Outstanding, ■ Worthy effort, ● So-so, ○ A bomb

Movie	Local critic	Chicago Tribune	Dallas Morning News	Detroit Free Press	Los Angeles Times	N.Y. Daily News	Orange County Register	Philadelphia Inquirer	Salt Lake Tribune
Bounce (PG-13)	★	■	●	○	○	○	○	○	○
Cast Away (PG-13)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Crouching Tiger ... (PG-13)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Emperor's New Groove (G)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
The Family Man (PG-13)	★	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
How the Grinch ... (PG)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Miss Congeniality (PG-13)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Proof of Life (R)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Quills (R)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Unbreakable (PG-13)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
Vertical Limit (PG-13)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★
What Women Want (PG-13)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★

Legend: ★ All ages admitted, PG All ages admitted, parental guidance suggested, PG-13 Parents strongly cautioned, some material may be inappropriate for children under 13, R Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or guardian.

SOURCE: KRT newspapers © 2000 KRT

PARENTS' GUIDE TO MOVIES

NEW MOVIES IN THEATERS

Movie title/MPAA rating	Language	Violence	Drugs	Nudity
Cast Away (PG-13)	Medium	Medium	None	Partial
Crouching Tiger ... (PG-13)	None	Strong	None	Partial
The Emperor's New Groove (G)	None	Mild	None	None
The Family Man (PG-13)	Medium	Mild	None	Partial
How the Grinch Stole ... (PG)	Mild	Mild	None	None
Miss Congeniality (PG-13)	Medium	Mild	Mild	Partial
102 Dalmatians (G)	None	Mild	None	None
Proof of Life (R)	Strong	Strong	Mild	Partial
Quills (R)	Medium	Strong	None	Full
Unbreakable (PG-13)	Strong	Medium	Mild	None
Vertical Limit (PG-13)	Strong	Medium	None	None
What Women Want (PG-13)	Strong	None	Mild	Partial

Legend: ★ All ages admitted, PG All ages admitted, parental guidance suggested, PG-13 Parents strongly cautioned, some material may be inappropriate for children under 13, R Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or guardian.

SOURCE: The Dallas Morning News © 2000 KRT

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Six movies share this year's Golden Globe nominations

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — The season's first big movie awards show handed nominations to a Roman spectacle, a drug-trafficking drama, a tale of hens on the lam and a Depression-era update of Odysseus' wanderings. What the Golden Globe nominations Thursday failed to clear up was the muddled field of Oscar contenders in a year when no favorite has emerged. The nominees for best dramatic

movie were "Gladiator," "Erin Brockovich," "Billy Elliot," a British ballet film; "Sunshine," a three-hour family saga starring Ralph Fiennes in three roles; the offbeat campus story "Wonder Boys"; and a drug-war drama that hits theaters next week, "Traffic." The nominees for best film musical or comedy were equally diverse: the rock 'n' roll memoir "Almost Famous"; the dog-show spoof "Best in Show"; the clay-

animation "Chicken Run"; the French provincial romance "Chocolat"; and the Coen brothers' eccentric take on "The Odyssey," "O Brother, Where Art Thou?" "Gladiator" and "Traffic" led the nominations with five apiece. Four movies had four nominations each: "Almost Famous," "Chocolat," "Erin Brockovich" and "Wonder Boys." "There's very different kinds of films

competing with each other," said Robert Lantos, producer of "Sunshine." "It's a very eclectic field, more so than I can ever remember. Maybe that makes it an even field, without any one standout." Steven Soderbergh received two directing nominations, for "Erin Brockovich" and "Traffic." Judi Dench had two nominations, best supporting actress for "Chocolat" and best actress in a TV miniseries or movie for "Last of

the Blonde Bombshells." Pop singer Bjork also was a double nominee for dramatic actress in "Dancer in the Dark" and best song for "I've Seen It All." The nominations, selected by members of the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, are often a good predictor of the Oscar nominations, which come out in February. The Golden Globes will be awarded Jan. 21.

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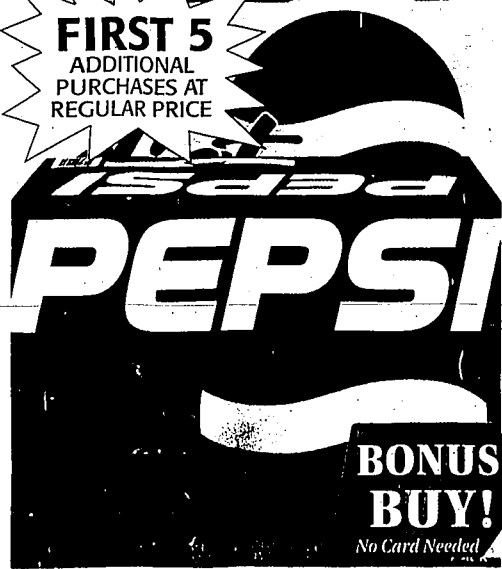


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Movies by Kurosawa, Kiarostami play Foreign Film Festival 2001

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - The last movie of acclaimed filmmaker Akira Kurosawa and the Oscar-nominated Welsh film "Solomon & Gaenor" will highlight Foreign Film Festival 2001.

It's the Magic Valley Art Council's 14th annual midwinter survey of world cinema, moving this year to the Lamphouse Theater in Old Towne.

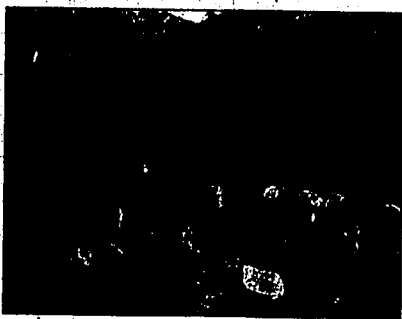
Kurosawa's "Madadayo," which the Japanese master completed five years before his death in 1998, will be shown Jan. 25-28. Under a new format this year, each of the five movies will be screened four times - on Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights at 7 p.m. and on Sunday afternoons at 2 p.m.

"Solomon & Gaenor," director Paul Morrison's romance set among the grim coal fields of Wales at the turn of the last century, will open the festival Jan. 18-21.

"Coyas in Bordeaux" Spanish director Carlos Saura's biopic of the final days of the fiery 19th Century Aragonese painter, will play Feb. 1-4.

Iranian filmmaker Abbas Kiarostami's cryptic "The Wind Will Carry Us" will be shown Feb. 8-11, and the festival will conclude with Taiwanese director Edward Yang's family epic "Yi Yi (A One and a Two)" on Feb. 15-18.

Individual tickets are \$7.50 for adults and \$6 for senior citizens



That's Farzad Sohrabi near the tree in a still from 'The Wind Will Carry Us.'

Get advance tickets

Private calls for use at Foreign Film Festival 2001 are priced at \$60 for a 10-punch card and \$32 for a five-punch card. They're available at the Magic Valley Arts Council office and a Lamphouse Theater.

and children, available at the door. For further information, call the arts council office at 734-2787 or the Lamphouse Theater at 736-8600.

Make sugar plum cottages Saturday

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Creative Arts Center will sponsor a Sugar Plum Cottage Saturday from 1 to 2 p.m. and from 2-3

p.m. at 249 Main Ave. W. Children in kindergarten through grade 6 are invited to participate and make their own sugarplum cottages. Bring a box of graham crackers

and a bag of candy to decorate each sugarplum house. Frosting, base, ideas and instruction will be provided. Cost is \$5. For further information, call 737-9111.

Magic Valley Youth orchestra begins rehearsals

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - The Magic Valley Youth Orchestra will begin rehearsals for the winter concert at 10 a.m. Jan. 6, 2001, in the Fine Arts Center at the College of Southern Idaho. All youth interested in joining the orchestra may attend the first rehearsal. The concert will be held Feb. 24, 2001. For more information, call Judy Call at 734-7335.

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'Man of LaMancha' plans to make a stop in Burley

The Times-News

BURLEY - The Mount Harrison Heritage Foundation will present Dale Wasserman, Mich Leigh and Joe Darion's "Man of LaMancha" next month. The musical version of "Don Quixote" will be directed by Steve Milton and opens Jan. 19

at 7:30 p.m. the King Fine Arts Center. Other evening performances are scheduled for Jan. 22 and 26-27, with a matinee at 2 p.m. on Jan. 20. Tickets, which are \$8 for reserved seats and \$5 for general admission, are available by phoning 678-6868.

Mannen, MVRs to stage 'Star-Spangled Girl' for benefit

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS - Magic Valley Rehabilitation Services will present a production of Neil Simon's musical "Star-Spangled Girl" in February, directed by College of Southern Idaho drama professor Tony Mannen.

Two of Mannen's former students, Jud Harmon and Colter Hodge, will star in the musical, along with Amy Boyd of Las Vegas. Proceeds will go to MRVRS. Performances are planned for Feb. 1-3 at 7:30 p.m. in the O'Leary Junior High School auditorium. Tickets, which are \$8.50, are available in advance at Valley Shoe Repair, The Little Red Hen and The Music Center, or by calling 734-4112 or 734-4152.

Golden Globe nominates Downey

The Times-News

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Robert Downey Jr.'s first post-prison performance earned him a Golden Globe nomination Thursday, but he may not be free to accept it he wins.

needs the support of the entertainment industry. "I can't speak for Robert, he's got his own problems," said Grammer, who announced some of the nominations Thursday. "But in this industry, talent is what people honor."

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association, which presents the awards, recognized Downey, 35, for his role as Calista Flockhart's wisecracking boyfriend on the Fox series "Ally McBeal."

"He is a talented young man and I hope he gets some help," said Ellen Burstyn, a best actress nominee for playing a diet-pill addict in the film "Requiem for a Dream." "He seems to have people who want to help him."

Next week, however, he faces arraignment on two felony counts of drug possession and a misdemeanor for being under the influence of a controlled substance.

Director Curtis Hanson - nominated for the comedy "Wonder Boys," which co-starred Downey - said Downey illustrates the perils of hardcore drug use.

If convicted, the actor could be sentenced to a maximum of six years in state prison on the felonies and a year in a Riverside County jail on the misdemeanor.

"The price he has paid both personally and professionally speaks to how serious his problem is," Hanson said.

Downey released a short statement through his publicist thanking his co-star Flockhart and show producer David E. Kelley, director Bill D'Elia, and co-producer Pamela J. Wisne.

Downey's legal woes date to June 1996, when he was stopped for speeding and authorities found cocaine, heroin and a pistol in his vehicle.

"I'd like to thank the Hollywood Foreign Press Association and Flockhart, Kelley, Wisne and D'Elia, which incidentally is not a law firm. I congratulate all of my fellow nominees," the statement read.

A month later he was found passed out inside a neighbor's home. Three days later, he was arrested for leaving a recovery center.

"Frasier," star Kelsey Grammer, who has past convictions for drunk driving and cocaine possession, said Downey

He then spent a year in jail for missing scheduled drug tests. Just four months after his release, he was arrested again on Nov. 25 for possessing cocaine and methamphetamine.

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SPORTSQUOTE

“He’s a racist dope pusher.”

—Off-injured San Francisco 49ers running back Garrison Hearst on Denver Broncos linebacker Bill Romanowski

TRIVIA

QUESTION:

Joe Namath spent 13 seasons with the New York Jets. His 14th and final NFL season was spent with which team?

...answer below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

Girls' high school basketball

Bonneville at Burley, 1:30 p.m.

Boys' high school basketball

Skyline at Twin Falls, 6 p.m.
Shelley at Jerome, 6 p.m.
Madison at Burley, 6 p.m.
Salmon at Filer, 6 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Filer alumni games are set for Monday

FILER - Filer High's alumni basketball games will take place Monday at the Filer High School Gym.

The girls will play at 6 p.m. with the boys' game following. Admission is \$3 for everyone, players included, in a benefit for the FHS basketball program. For more details, call 736-8285 or 326-5344.

New Copus Cove

Arena opens Dec. 31

BUHL - Copus Cove Arena will hold its grand opening New Years Eve with barrel racing and roping events.

Slated are an American West-approved 4-D barrel race, with \$200 added money, and three-for-\$55 breakfast roping. Times only barrels start at noon, barrels are at 1 p.m. and breakaway is set for 2:30 p.m. A dance and party will follow that evening in the arena.

The Copus Cove is available every Thursday night at 7 p.m. for barrel racing and breakaway roping practice. For more information, call Lana Parker at 536-2772 or Dwight French at 543-6695.

Boise State hangs in on Lady Bengals

BOISE - Abby Vaughn drained five 3-pointers and Tawnya Gray made a layup with less than one second remaining late Wednesday night as the Boise State women's basketball team edged Idaho State 61-59.

Boise State led by as many as 15 points in the first half before a quick Bengal barrage made a game of it. College of Southern Idaho shot Sarah Nelson hit two 3-pointers shortly before halftime, shrinking BSU's lead to 36-30.

ISU sophomore Ashley Toner, a 1999 Burley High grad, then cut the difference to three at 44-41 with a bank shot. ISU took the lead moments later, and the game was tied at 55 with a little more than two minutes to play. The teams traded buckets the rest of the way leading up to Gray's game-winning. Nelson put up an off-the-mark prayer at the end.

But Idaho State lost the game at the free-throw line, hitting just nine of 18 tries. The Bengals had averaged 74 percent at the line entering the contest. Toner finished with eight points and Nelson had 11. BSU improved to 3-5 while ISU fell to 4-4.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

The Los Angeles Rams in 1977. In the fourth game of the season, on a Monday night in Chicago, Namath threw four interceptions in the first half against the Bears, was replaced by Pat Haden and didn't play again.

Twin Falls girls avenge loss to Rams

By Holly Keyt
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The last time Twin Falls High met the Highland Rams in Region III girls' basketball, the Lady Bruins came home with a close loss.

But Twin Falls avenged the Nov. 18 defeat by handling the Rams 53-33 Thursday.

Twin Falls (7-4 overall) came out strong, led by senior Keri Coats' game-high 17 points, and evened its record at 2-2.

"I think as a team we've got more confidence than the last time we played Highland," said Twin Falls coach Lawrence Pfefferle. "Our seniors are doing a good job of leading us, and we've had a month to practice since we saw them last."

The game started slowly on both sides of the court, and Highland led 4-3 early. But Coats put the Bruins up, draining two short jumpers, and Kim Strunk added three points off fast breaks to make it 12-6 at the end of the period.

Danielle Maloney opened the second quarter with a 3-pointer and a jumper while Marcel Danielson made the first of her two 3-pointers and switched a free throw to put Twin Falls up 23-6 two minutes into the quarter.

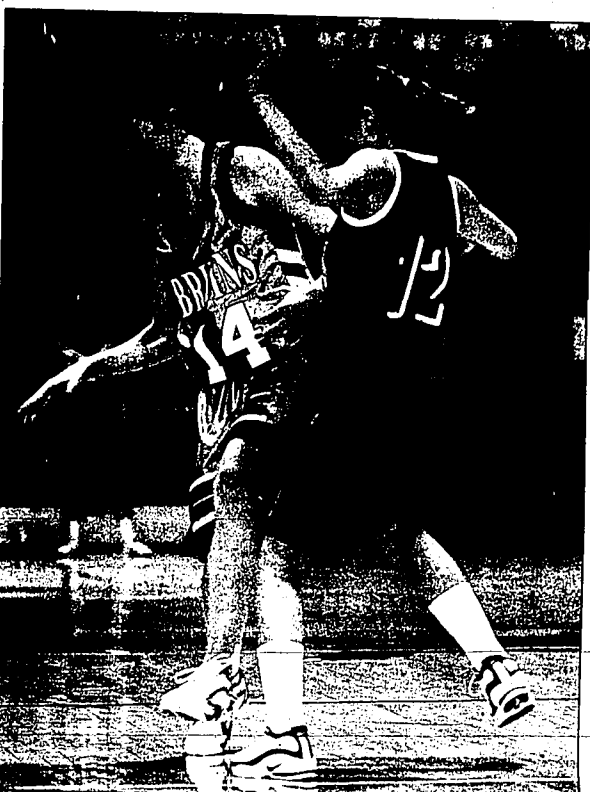
Coats then scored six points to give the Lady Bruins a 26-point lead at 34-8 with 50 seconds left in the half.

"Hopefully we're getting to the point where we're pretty consistent," Pfefferle said.

In the second half, the Rams outscored the Bruins, keeping Twin Falls to six points in the third quarter and 13 in the fourth.

But the Bruins held on for the win. "Take away the first 10 minutes and we played fairly well," said Highland

Please see BRUINS, Page D2



Twin Falls junior Kim Strunk, left, holds off Quintano Monroe of the Highland Rams during Thursday night's game, which the Bruins won 53-33.

SHOOT F. OETTEROUT/The Times-News

Bright lights, big win

Robinson's Rebs run right past Razorbacks

The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS - UNLV is not a bunch of hapless losers anymore. With quarterback Jason Thomas playing a near flawless game, UNLV completed its turnaround under John Robinson by beating Arkansas 31-14 on Thursday night in the Las Vegas Bowl.

A team that went 0-11 two years ago and lost 16 straight games, point dominated the bigger but slower Razorbacks in the second half to give Robinson his first bowl win since Southern California beat Northwestern five years ago in the Rose Bowl.

UNLV fans stormed the field

and tore down the goal posts in celebration as fireworks exploded over the field. Happy fans danced as Arkansas players filed silently off the field.

Thomas gave UNLV (8-5) a lead it would not give up with a 54-yard pass to Troy Mason with 2:21 left in the third quarter, and UNLV added a field goal and a final touchdown on an 18-yard run by Kevin Brown with 5:39 left.

Arkansas (6-6), which had not allowed an offensive touchdown in nine consecutive quarters, could not contain Thomas, who passed with precision and picked apart the Razorbacks defense in the second half.

Thomas, a sophomore transfer from USC completed 12 of 17 passes for 217 yards and three touchdowns, and UNLV's small but speedy running backs romped through big holes in the Arkansas

defense in the second half.

Two of the touchdowns went to Nate Turner in the first half, including a 58-yard toss that tied the game with 3:12 left in the half.

UNLV's defense, meanwhile, allowed a touchdown on the opening drive and another in the second quarter but stiffened in the second half and did not give up a point. Robby Hampton threw for two first-half touchdowns passes for Arkansas, but was largely ineffective in the second half.

The game was tied 14-14 at halftime, and Arkansas had a chance to take the lead on its first possession of the second half when UNLV muffed a punt snap and Arkansas took over on the Rebels' 30.

UNLV's defense stiffened, however, and after Arkansas missed a

Please see VEGAS, Page D2



UNLV wide receiver Nate Turner makes a touchdown reception to tie the game at 14-14 during the second quarter of the Las Vegas Bowl Thursday in Las Vegas.

AP Photo

Stanford downs Duke

The Associated Press

OAKLAND, Calif. - Casey Jacobsen banked in a jumper with 3.6 seconds left as No. 3 Stanford roared back from an 11-point deficit in the final four minutes

of a game to beat top-ranked Duke 84-83 Thursday night at the Pete Newell Challenge.

After being outrun and outplayed all night, Stanford made a frantic 11-1 run and tied it at 79 on Julius Barnes' layup with 4:09 left. Mike Dunleavy's leaver with 51 seconds left gave Duke the lead.

The Blue Devils led 83-82 when Dunleavy was fouled with 14 seconds left, but he missed two free throws to give Stanford one last shot.

Jacobsen, who finished with 26 points, drove the left side of the court and kissed a fallaway shot

Please see STANFORD, Page D2



Stanford forward Casey Jacobsen makes the game-winning basket with 3.6 seconds left in the Pete Newell Challenge in Oakland, Calif., Thursday, No. 3 Stanford beat No. 1 Duke 84-83.

Declo cruises at double-duty

By Dex Dutton
Times-News correspondent

DECLO - Host Declo High cruised to a win over South Fremont and Firth in a double-duty wrestling meet Thursday, racking up a decisive seven pins against South Fremont and another six against Firth.

It was just the showing Declo coach Jason Taylor had expected from his grapplers.

"I feel good about how the team did tonight," Taylor said. "People we expected to do well were really strong tonight. We are in good position at this point in the season."

Taylor's 275-pound wrestler, Beau Cahoon, turned in an

impressive performance pinning South Fremont's Tim Wright in the first period. Cahoon followed the win with an injury default win over Firth-wrestler Jimmy Williamson.

"I don't know what happened - we hit heads or something, and he just fell to the mat," Cahoon said.

Cahoon, who is wrestling for the first time in two years, said his pin against South Fremont's Wright was crucial for a very important reason.

"This is one more step to state. I am on a roll now," he said.

Taylor has high hopes for his heavyweight wrestler. Friday's mat time was the practice Cahoon needed to further hone his skills, Taylor said.

"He (Cahoon) is doing well and is making super progress. Up until now, with so many other strong wrestlers in that class, he

has been pretty much unknown," Taylor said.

Also posting Declo wins against South Fremont were Brandon Turnage (119), Tyler Dschaak (125), Derek Shreink (135), Dirk Lewis (145), Robert Brackenburg (152), Aaron Howard (160) and Ian Webb (171).

Wendell split its two matches, defeating Firth by a 41-36 margin, and finished the evening with a 42-42 tie with South Fremont.

For Wendell's Zach Ulbarrj (187), a third-period pin over Firth's Cal Bonzon came as a much-needed confidence booster.

"This is my first year wrestling varsity, so this was a big win for me," Ulbarrj said. "He is stronger than I am and put up a good fight."

"I've split 2-2 in my last match-

Please see DECLO, Page D2

SPORTS

Tigers tie up Twin Falls

Mountain Home grapples to 49-15 win over Bruins

By Kevin Hall
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - It was over before it started. The Twin Falls High School wrestling team spotted Mountain Home 18 points in forfeits before taking to the mats. Then the Bruins mustered only 15 points in their duel with the Tigers on Thursday.

As a result, Mountain Home snapped up a 49-15 win, improving to 2-0 in duals. The loss dropped the young Bruins to 2-3. "This is as good as (the Tigers) have been in awhile, said Twin Falls coach Dave Slotten. "They're pretty solid. It was a good test for our kids."

With the evening's card inched (the heavier weights wrestled first and the lighter weights lost), Twin Falls got off to a solid start when heavyweight Abel Silva claimed his first victory of the season with a 9-6 decision over Sam Hooley.

It was Twin Falls' only lead of the meet.

"I'm pretty happy, I just have to get in better shape," Silva said. Mountain Home's Wesley Paul scored the night's only pinfall when he tied up Bruin Spencer Wilden at 1:03 in the 215-pound class for a 6-3 Tigers lead.

For Paul, who weighs only 186 pounds, it was his first pinfall of the season.

"I feel pretty good, just trying to help the team," he said. At 189 pounds, Bruin junior Brent Faught knotted it at 6-6 with a tight 5-4 decision over a tough Alex Tortolano. The win came when Faught broke free of a waistlock late in the third round.

Satisfied with the win, Faught said he was just happy to be wrestling again.

"I'm coming back from a rib injury, so I'm just happy to be back on the varsity," he said. "We're young and inexperienced right now, but we'll get better."

Mountain Home briefly regained the lead at 9-6 with a Ben Knudson decision over Dane Hanson at 171 pounds, but 160-

pound Twin Falls sophomore Brandon Salinas again tied it with a 5-3 decision over Jason Nida. With a bloodied lip, Salinas flashed a crimson smile after the battle.

"He's pretty strong, but I was able to pull through," Salinas said. "I think I had a little more energy, but it was a tough win."

After Salinas' victory, things soured for the Bruins. Alex Jordan came up with an injury in his bout with Curtis Scott. The resulting default gave the Tigers a 15-9 lead. "I think I had the more on the first of the three forfeits at 145 pounds, and suddenly the lead was 12 at 219 with only five of a possible seven matches left.

Bruin Brady Calvert hung on for a 4-2 victory over Tiger Jan Falo at 140 pounds, but the Tigers proceeded to rattle off 16 points over the next three weight classes on a major decision, forfeit and a 21-6 technical fall win by Jason Greenfield.

David Roy, who recently won the Bear-Cat Invitational at 119 pounds, scored the Bruins' final points on a 7-5 decision over a scrappy Tom Hissong. Roy, who had built a 7-1 lead on a near fall

in the third, found himself in the precarious position of a cradle kick about 12 seconds left before turning a shoulder and escaping with a hard-fought win.

Patrick Starke dominated Bruin Ryan Pohlman for a 19-3 technical fall at 112 pounds and Tiger Chris Gomez took the night's last forfeit at 103.

"We lost some close ones that I felt we should've won," said Mountain Home coach Lynn Knudson. "But I feel real good (about the win). The team is picking up where some kids quit. We're going to be tough this year."

Twin Falls returns to action Jan. 4 with a pair of double duals against Century and Burley.

Note: It was reported during last weekend's Bear-Cat Invitational that Mountain Home wrestler Jon Taper grapples with only one arm after losing his left arm in an accident. In fact, Taper was born with a partial left arm.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Williams signs richest endorsement deal

NEW YORK - Venus Williams, the No. 3 tennis player in the world, signed what is believed to be the richest endorsement deal for any woman athlete in Thursday with Reebok International. Terms were not announced but the deal was reported to be worth \$40 million for five years. Williams had a streak of 35 straight tournament victories during the year and won both Wimbledon and the U.S. Open, plus Olympic gold medals in singles and doubles.

"This is a big moment in my life," said Williams, whose previous endorsement contract with Reebok ended in April. "This is another part of reaching out for my dreams."

ESPN2 to televise Lemieux's first five games

BRISTOL, Conn. - Hockey fans will have many opportunities to see Mario Lemieux's NHL comeback, with ESPN2 broadcasting the Hall of Famer's first five games after a 3.5-year retirement. Lemieux, the Pittsburgh Penguins owner, is expected to return to the team Wednesday night at home against Toronto. The 35-year-old center retired after the 1997 season and bought the team, for which he starred for 12 years, in 1999.

Promoters sue to save preseason tourneys

COLUMBUS, Ohio - A group of college basketball promoters filed a suit against the NCAA on Thursday over potential legislation designed to end preseason tournaments. The conference commissioners voted in September to eliminate the exempt events, which count as one game on a school's 28-game schedule regardless of how many games a team actually plays. The commissioners offered an extra game as an alternative and the matter is now up for discussion among the membership before the Management Council meets again in April. Top exempt events include the Maui Invitational, Great Alaska Shootout, Preseason NIT and Coaches vs. Cancer Classic. The lawsuit called the NCAA "anticompetitive" and "monopolistic" because its practices restrict independent organizations from making money off its product.

Compiled from wire reports

Raft River shuts down Murtaugh

Local sports

Malta - The Raft River Trojans rolled to an 18-12 lead at halftime against Murtaugh Thursday night and held on down the stretch for their second Magic Valley Conference victory of the season, 40-35.

Critical in the win was the fact that the Trojans held Murtaugh to just three points in the second period and as many in the third. "We took care of the ball offensively and controlled the glass tonight the best we have all year," said Raft River coach Randy Spaeth.

The Trojans were ahead by as many as 15 points, but then got into foul trouble and allowed Murtaugh to make a run.

Amber Nyckel led Raft River with 14 points while Murtaugh's Ashley Ward led all scorers with 16.

The Trojans (2-2 in conference, 5-7 overall) travel to Castledorf Jan. 2. The Red Devils (3-8) play at Richfield Jan. 6.

Minico 45, Skyline 42

MINICO - The Lady Spartans squeezed a three-point victory from the Lady Grizzlies Thursday night.

Junior Clare Bodensteiner led the Spartans with 18 points. Minico (8-3) travels to Burley on Jan. 2.

Declo

Continued from B1
"Ulibarri added. 'I really needed this win tonight.'"

Stanford

Continued from D1
off the glass. Duke rushed back down the court, but Jason Williams missed a driving layup, and the Blue Devils follow-up shot came after the buzzer.

Vegas

Continued from D1
29-yard field goal with 9:33 left in the third quarter, the Razorbacks never threatened again.

Senior Kristen Coon led the Wildcats with 16 points, and was a bright spot in free-throw shooting. Coon was 8-for-12 from the line. (1-12) travels to Gooding on Jan. 2.

Shoshone 59, Dietrich 53

DIETRICH - Shoshone took a six-point win over the Lady Blue Devils Thursday night.

Yet Dietrich coach Gene Shaw saw reason for optimism afterward.

"In all our previous games we have been playing as individuals," Shaw said. "But tonight we looked like a team, a good team."

The Blue Devils fell to 10-3 overall and 3-1 in conference.

Jerome 40, Blackfoot 29

No details reported.

Hot Hands
Scoring average
Rebounds
Assists
Steals
3-pointers

No. 6 Wake Forest extends Owls' woes

College basketball

PHILADELPHIA (AP) - Craig Dawson scored a career-high 23 points and Robert O'Keiley added 20 as sixth-ranked Wake Forest dealt Temple its seventh straight loss Thursday, 73-65.

It's the longest losing streak in coach John Chaney's 19 seasons. Meanwhile, Wake Forest is 10-0 for the first time since starting 13-0 in Tim Duncan's senior season four years ago.

Dariusz Songaila scored 17 and Josh Shoemaker had four points and 10 rebounds for Wake Forest, which won its 15th straight, dating to last season's NIT championship.

Alabama 69, Wash. 60
BAYAMON, Puerto Rico - Rod Grizzard carried No. 17 Alabama's offense, scoring 26 points Thursday night in the unbeaten Crimson Tide's 69-60 victory in the semifinals of the Puerto Rico Holiday Classic.

Alabama (9-0) will meet No. 22 Cincinnati, which beat Clemson 88-80, in Friday night's championship game.

Erwin Dudley added 14 points for Alabama, which closed the game by going 6-for-8 from the free throw line over the final 1:02. Dudley and Grizzard each had eight rebounds.

Cin. 88, Clemson 80

BAYAMON, Puerto Rico - Steve Logan overcame an ankle injury to score 18 points as the Bearcats advanced to the finals of the Puerto Rico Holiday Classic.

Kenny Satterfield had 22 points and eight assists for Cincinnati, while Donald Little, the Bearcats' leading rebounder who injured his left leg early in the opening round, and was considered a second-round pick, scored five rebounds and five blocked shots in 15 minutes.

Notre Dame 96, Vermont 86

SOUTH BEND, Ind. - Troy Murphy and David Graves had 21 points each and Ryan Humphrey added four for Notre Dame won its third game in five days.

It was their straight loss to Vermont (4-5), which dropped below .500 for the first time this season.

Penn St. 84, La Salle 64

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. - Maren Walseth had 27 points and 12 rebounds as Penn State beat La Salle.

Lisa Shepherd added 22 points for Penn State (8-3), and Kelly Mazzante had 16. Jennifer Zensner and Laura Newhard each scored 14 points for La Salle.

Miss. 70, S. Illinois 66

LAIE, Hawaii - David Sanders scored six of 15 points in the final two minutes as Mississippi won its first round game at the Yahoo! Sports Invitational and extended its winning streak to 10 games.

Aaron Harper also scored 15 points for the Rebels. Jason Flanagan added 13 and Jason Harrison had 10.

Joshua Cross scored 21 points and Jermaine Dearman 12 for Southern Illinois, which committed 23 turnovers.

Women's Games

Notre Dame 75, Marquette 56
MILWAUKEE - Ericka Haney scored 21 points to lead No. 3 Notre Dame to a 75-56 victory over Marquette on Thursday night.

Marquette (1-3) took the field in the first half and won 14-10. All-Ruthy Irwin added 18 points and 10 rebounds for Notre Dame (10-0). Heidi Bowman led Marquette (4-6) with 13 points.

Rutgers 80, St. Joe's 38

PISCATAWAY, N.J. - Davlyn Cunningham scored 14 points, and Rutgers forced 19 turnovers in the second half.

Kourtney Walton and Mauri Horton each had 11 points for Rutgers (7-1). Susan Moran scored 17 of her 25 points in the first half for St. Joseph's (4-5).

Purdue 80, DePaul 67

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. - Camille Cooper scored a season-high 29 points, and Purdue used a 15-2 game-ending run to beat DePaul.

Cooper scored 18 first-half points on 7-of-8 for the Bolleymakers (10-3). Candis Blankland led DePaul (5-4) with 15 points.

Penn St. 84, La Salle 64

STATE COLLEGE, Pa. - Maren Walseth had 27 points and 12 rebounds as Penn State beat La Salle.

Lisa Shepherd added 22 points for Penn State (8-3), and Kelly Mazzante had 16. Jennifer Zensner and Laura Newhard each scored 14 points for La Salle.

Bruins

Continued from D1
coach Scott Hansen. "The girls competed up to the end."

The Rams held Twin Falls scoreless for six minutes of the third quarter, while Chelsey Jackson hit a 20-foot jumper to lead to a 34-17. But Maloney had four points in the last couple of minutes, making it 40-17 going into the final quarter.

During the fourth period, the Bruins had their biggest lead of the night. Danielson had a 3-pointer, then Maloney connected on a fast break.

"I think our intensity was big," Danielson said. "And overall, we just played together as a team. We're getting in a groove."

Times-News correspondent Dex Dutton can be reached in Burley at 678-8570.

said his wrestlers did well considering the number of forfeits they were forced to concede.

"We won the first and tied the second," Matthews said. "That is pretty good. It's hard to overcome 24 forfeits by four forfeits, but our kids did really well tonight."

all eyes at Oakland Arena were focused on the Bay Area's most high-profile college hoops matchup in years. The game lived up to every bit of its hype.

For most of the game, the Cardinal (9-0) appeared to be on the verge of suffering a blowout loss. The game was expected to be a contest of wills between Stanford's powerful inside game and Duke's up-tempo style, but the Blue Devils (10-1) jumped to a big early lead, then continually threatened to pull away in the second half.

Arkansas, which was also 4-5 before finishing with two wins over ranked opponents, had been happy to get into a bowl. But the estimated 4,000 fans who traveled with the team to Las Vegas could only watch in stunned silence as UNLV took over the game in the second half.

"Arkansas' streak of consecutive quarters without allowing an offensive touchdown ended early in the second quarter when Thomas found Turner falling away in the corner of the end zone for a 19-yard touchdown play that tied the game 7-7.

Arkansas came right back, scoring five plays later on a quick drive that began with a 33-yard pass to Bob Williams and ended with a 25-yarder that Williams caught just over the goal line.

"We were kind of timid to start the game, and we shouldn't have been," Stanford coach Mike Montgomery said. "I thought as the game went on, we got accustomed to playing at that level."

Jacobson, a sophomore forward, kept the Cardinal within striking distance by shooting 11-of-19 from all spots on the field. His 25 points tied his career high.

Shane Batters scored 26 points for Duke before fouling out with 35 seconds left. Carlos Boozer also fouled out.

Jason Williams had 26 points and the confident, balanced offensive club that dominated the first 35 minutes disappeared during Stanford's comeback. Duke shot just 29 percent in the second half.

Jason Collins had 10 points and 15 rebounds for Stanford. His twin brother, Jarrod, added 16 points and six rebounds as Stanford improved to 19-0 in games the twins have started together.

Thomas and Turner weren't done for the half, though, with Thomas throwing a fluttering pass that Turner caught while falling on the back on the 3-yard line. Three plays later, the three threw inside the middle to Turner for the score that tied it 14-14 going into halftime.

Thomas was 9-of-11 in the first half, with Turner catching eight passes for 126 yards.

Thomas and Turner weren't done for the half, though, with Thomas throwing a fluttering pass that Turner caught while falling on the back on the 3-yard line. Three plays later, the three threw inside the middle to Turner for the score that tied it 14-14 going into halftime.

Thomas was 9-of-11 in the first half, with Turner catching eight passes for 126 yards.

Boston Bruins beat up Maple Leafs in 4-0 shutout

BOSTON (AP)—Byron Dafeo earned his first shutout of the season, and Eric NHL point on Thursday night to lead the Boston Bruins to a 4-0 victory over the Toronto Maple Leafs.

Dafeo stopped 23 shots for his 21st career shutout. Brian Rolston had an goal and two assists, and Jason Allison, Mikko Eloranta and Andrei Kovalenko also scored for Boston.

Capitals 3, Sabres 1
BUFFALO, N.Y. — Peter

NHL

Bondra and Andrei Nikolishin scored third-period goals as Washington beat Philadelphia.

Capitals goalie Olaf Kolzig, who had 19 saves — tied Don Beaupre for the most career wins in Washington history with 128.

Flyers 4, Sharks 3
PHILADELPHIA — Rick Tocchet scored twice as Philadelphia snapped San Jose's

five-game winning streak.

Stars 3, Islanders 1
UNIONDALE, N.Y. — Richard Matvichuk scored his first two goals of the season as Dallas won for the fourth time in six games.

Joe Nieuwenhuis also scored for Dallas. Mafry Turco, who relieved Ed Belfour during Wednesday night's loss at New Jersey, went the entire way and stopped 27 shots for his fourth win of the season.

Senators 3, Blue Jackets 3
COLUMBUS, Ohio — Serge Aubin scored the tying goal early in the third period as Columbus rallied to tie Ottawa.

Canadiens 4, Predators 2
MONTREAL — Trevor Linden scored twice and Chad Kilger and Saku Koivu added goals as Montreal ended an eight-game winless streak by beating Nashville.

Penguins 1, Lightning 1
TAMPA, Fla. — Jaromir Jagr

scored the game-tying goal early in the third period as Pittsburgh and Tampa Bay tied.

Jagr scored his 19th goal 20 seconds into the third period and has 18 goals and 37 points in 31 games against Tampa Bay.

Avalanche 5, Kings 2
DENVER — Joe Sakic ended a three-game scoring drought with his 10th career hat trick and Colorado snapped a four-game winless streak by beating Los Angeles.

Alex Tanguay and Dan Hinote added goals and Peter Forsberg three assists for the Avalanche, 1-2-2 in their last five games. Patrick Roy stopped 14 shots.

Blackhawks 6, Canucks 4
CHICAGO — Steve Sullivan scored three goals and Alex Zhamnov snapped a tie with 4:56 left in the third period as Chicago rallied to beat Vancouver.

The Blackhawks overcame 3-0 and 4-3 deficits.

BASKETBALL

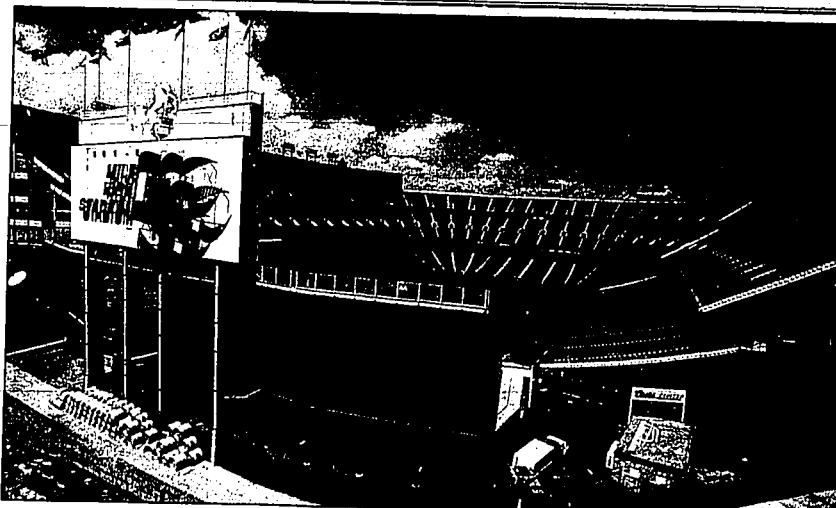
NBA Standings

Team	W	L	Pct.
Philadelphia	17	7	.708
San Antonio	17	7	.708
Portland	15	11	.577
Phoenix	15	11	.577
Memphis	15	11	.577
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Phoenix	15		

SPORTS

MILE HIGH GOODBYE

Storied stadium's final game arrives Saturday



Denver's Mile High Stadium will host its final NFL game Saturday, when the Denver Broncos close out the regular season against the San Francisco 49ers. With a new \$364 million state-of-the-art stadium nearing completion next door, Mile High, the Broncos' home since the team's inception in 1960, is ready for the wrecking ball.

DENVER (AP) — It was erected in 1978 on the site of a dump. Cynics might say the rusting, rotting structure has come full circle.

Good riddance? Not to the millions of fans who have filtered through Mile High Stadium's turnstiles for memorable, stomach-churning events ranging from Denver Broncos games to baseball games to a visit by Pope John Paul II.

With a \$364 million, state-of-the-art stadium nearing completion next door, Mile High is ready for the wrecking ball, and Saturday's finale against San Francisco will be the last regular-season game there for the playoff-bound Broncos.

Once the new stadium is ready, Mile High will be demolished to make way for a parking lot and more than a half century of memories will be buried with it — but not forgotten.

John Elway worked his comeback magic there, and the Broncos, once a laughingstock of professional football, went 4-for-4 in AFC championship games played there, beginning with a win over archrival Oakland on Jan. 1, 1978, and ending with a victory over the New York Jets on Jan. 17, 1999. The latter sent the Broncos toward their second straight Super Bowl title.

There also were occasional blizzards, the weather-resistant Barrel Man, the ever-vocal Bronco fans in the South Stands and the vertically striped socks that the Broncos wore in their first two seasons that somehow made their way to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

Elway, who retired after the second of back-to-back Super Bowl titles in 1999, will be in attendance with his family on Saturday.

"Usually if there's a home-field

advantage, it's just because it's loud," Elway said. "It's not because of the mystique of everything that goes with Mile High. I think that's what makes Mile High unique, because of all the different things, altitude, weather, turf."

At a time when Denver had a population of about 350,000 and only one skyscraper, Robert Hovsman and his family raised \$340,000 and built Bears Stadium, an 11,000-seat minor league baseball stadium. Its original tenants

were the Denver Bears of baseball's old Western League.

When the Broncos became a charter member of the American Football League in 1960, the stadium capacity was increased to 34,657 for football.

Efforts to scrap it were abandoned in 1967 after voters rejected a bond issue to build an all-purpose metropolitan stadium. Instead, a fund-raising drive was launched to purchase the stadium for the city, a \$1.8 million deal.

A 16,000-seat upper deck was constructed over the west stands, raising the capacity to more than 50,000 for the 1968 season. That December, the stadium was renamed Denver Mile High Stadium.

Today, it has 75,098 seats. Mile High Stadium became synonymous with the Broncos. One of the loudest outdoor stadiums in the country, it shakes even fans stomp their feet and proves intimidating for opponents, as evidenced by the Broncos'

155-52-1 home record since 1974 — the best in the NFL.

Of Elway's 47 game-saving drives, 29 occurred at Mile High, including an improbable comeback in a playoff game against Houston on Jan. 4, 1992. Trailing 24-23 with two minutes left and no timeouts and the ball on the 2-yard line, Elway was twice successful on fourth-down plays during an 87-yard drive that culminated in David Treadwell's game-winning 28-yard field goal with 20 seconds left.

Jan. 1, 1978 July 14, 1979 July 17, 1983 Oct. 15, 1984 Jan. 17, 1988 Jan. 4, 1992 April 9, 1993 Aug. 12, 1993

The Broncos beat their longtime nemesis, the Oakland Raiders, 20-17 in the AFC championship game, sending Denver to its first Super Bowl. Against doctor's orders, quarterback Craig Morton crawled out of a hospital bed with a bruised and swollen hip and threw two touchdown passes to Haven Moses. Late in the game, as it became clear the Broncos would finally end years of frustration at the hands of the Raiders, linebacker Tom Jackson yelled to Raider coach John Madden, "It's over, Fat Man!" Fans tore down the goal posts for the only time in Broncos history.

In one of the most embarrassing and sparsely attended spectacles held at Mile High, Broncos defensive end "Alto" Alzado, a former Golden Gloves boxer, met former heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali in an eight-round exhibition. There was no winner or loser, but Alzado, who promoted the fight and took out a second mortgage on his house to guarantee that the event would go on, took in less money in ticket sales than was paid out in Ali's appearance fee.

With 50,906 watching, the Michigan Panthers beat the Philadelphia Stars 24-22 in the inaugural USFL championship game, which was staged at Mile High because of the Denver Col's booming attendance. Panthers quarterback Bobby Hebert won MVP honors despite receiving death threats the morning of the game.

The "Blizzard Bowl" might have been the best bad-weather game in Mile High's history. Thick, heavy snow blanketed the field just before kickoff and the Broncos scored two defensive touchdowns before the offense even touched the ball. Green Bay fumbled on its first two plays from scrimmage, and Steve Foley and Louis Wright returned both for touchdowns, producing a 14-0 lead just 37 seconds into the game. Elway didn't handle the snow well, however, and the Broncos held on for a 17-14 win.

One year after John Elway's heroics in Cleveland that became known as "The Drive," the Broncos came up with a sequel: "The Fumble." In the AFC championship game, Cleveland was marching for a potential tying touchdown when cornerback Jeremiah-Castille stripped Earnest Byner of the ball at the 3-yard line with just over a minute left. The Broncos subsequently took an intentional safety, winning 38-33.

Not even Elway seemed capable of rescuing the Broncos from their plight in a divisional playoff game against Houston. Denver trailed 21-6 and 24-16 before Elway led an 80-yard drive that made it 24-23 with 6:53 left. Denver got the ball back at its own 2-yard line with 2:07 left and no timeouts remaining, and Elway went to work. He twice made first downs on fourth-down plays on an 87-yard drive, and David Treadwell kicked a 28-yard field goal with 20 seconds left for a 26-24 victory.

Major league baseball finally came to the bottom of the first inning with a home run and the Rockies beat Montreal 11-4 before 80,227 — the most fans to see a regular-season major league game. The Rockies would set an attendance record that season, drawing 4,483,350, and were on pace to eclipse it the next season before a players' strike intervened.

An estimated 90,000 people jammed the stadium for the eighth World Youth Day, which featured an appearance by Pope John Paul II. The faithful erupted when the pope entered the stadium in his popemobile and made brief remarks in 15 languages.

Who wants it more?

Pretenders, contenders part ways this weekend

By Dave Goldberg
AP Football Writer

Incentive is what counts in the final regular-season game. Incentive is what the New York Giants have. If they beat Jacksonville at the Meadowlands on Saturday, they clinch home-field advantage for the NFC playoffs, an improbable scenario in a season where they were expected to finish around 500.

New York, which played terrifically for almost three quarters in Dallas Sunday night then came on to take the NFC East title, is favored by four points, primarily because of the incentive factor — and the fact that the Jaguars aren't built for the Meadowlands.

Jacksonville, which had finally begun to play as expected, had a four-game winning streak broken in the snow last week in Cincinnati. It may not snow in New Jersey on Saturday, but the long-range forecast calls for "gusty winds" which — in Giants Stadium means "Hail."

Yes, the Jaguars can run. But the Giants have allowed only one back to rush for more than 90 yards this season — Eddie George in a game in which the Giants got behind early. Otherwise, they've totally shut down Emmitt Smith (twice), Duce Staley, Stephen Davis (twice) and Jerome Bettis, among others.

NFL picks

Back to incentive. Tom Coughlin will have Jacksonville up, if for no other reason than to finish at .500 — the Jags have been below that mark only in their rookie year of 1995.

But the Giants have to be up. GIANTS, 20-15

Tampa Bay (plus 2.5) at Green Bay

Bogus stat: Tampa Bay 0-18 when temperature under 40 degrees. Fifteen of those losses were by terrible teams, two were to Green Bay teams of Super Bowl caliber. That leaves a bad loss in Chicago last month. BUCS, 22-20

Dallas (plus 13) at Tennessee (Monday night)

Al Michaels kept talking last Monday how important this game might be to Tennessee. Then, violating the TV production code, Dennis Miller implied how this is probably a walkover.

Dennis knows his football. TITANS, 32-3

St. Louis (minus 3.5) at New Orleans

Incentive? The Rams not only need to win, they need an upset

by Chicago over Detroit. Unlikely, but they'll try. RAMS, 27-22

Chicago (plus 9) at Detroit

The Lions won't blow a clear shot at the playoffs. LIONS, 20-3

Minnesota (off) at Indianapolis

Is it Culpepper or Brister for the Vikings? Assume Culpepper. COLTS, 34-30

New York Jets (plus 6) at Baltimore

Unless Bill Parcells is the coach, the Jets are bad in December. RAVENS, 12-5

Miami (minus 4) at New England

The Dolphins are another late season swooner. But they won in frigid Buffalo. DOLPHINS 16-13

Pittsburgh (minus 3) at San Diego

The Steelers need losses by Colts and Jets to get into playoffs. STEELERS, 24-9

Carolina (plus 8) at Oakland

Be careful of fumbles near

the end zone. RAIDERS, 27-16

San Francisco (plus 7) at Denver

Final regular-season game at Mile High. Offense. BRONCOS, 41-40

Cincinnati (plus 10.5) at Philadelphia

Eagles may not get home playoff game even if they win. EAGLES, 23-8

Arizona (plus 7) at Washington

Dan (the Fan) Snyder's team has quit on him. CARDINALS 73-0

Buffalo (plus 3) at Seattle

It rains rather than snows in Seattle. SEAHAWKS 17-10

Kansas City (minus 4) at Atlanta

The Chiefs are playing for 500. CHIEFS, 27-10

Last week: 7-71 (spread); 8-7 (straight up)
Season: 107-121-5 (spread); 143-90 (straight up)

Chargers safety lashes out at former coach

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — San Diego safety Rodney Harrison lashed out at former Chargers coach Kevin Gilbride, now the Steelers' offensive coordinator, saying he would quit football before playing again for a coach so disliked by his players.

"To put it plain and simple, everyone hated him here, pretty much," Harrison said in a conference call with Pittsburgh reporters. "That's the backlash I have gotten from the players, and as far as a lot of the people around this organization."

Gilbride was 6-16 as Chargers coach in 1997-98. The Chargers still are paying Gilbride on a contract that runs through 2001.

"Would I ever play for Kevin Gilbride again? No, I would retire first," said Harrison, whose Chargers (1-14) play the Steelers (8-7) on Sunday in San Diego. "I think that sums up everything."

Asked what went wrong during Gilbride's short and unsuccessful stay as Chargers coach, Harrison talked for several minutes without pausing.

The Chargers were 4-12 under Gilbride in 1997 and 2-4 when he was fired during the 1998 season, when Harrison made the AFC Pro Bowl team.

Gilbride, the Steelers' offensive coordinator for two seasons, seemed surprised by Harrison's remarks and defended his coaching style. He said Harrison's remarks might reflect disappointment at the Chargers' 1-14 season.

"It's just unfortunate that he would choose this avenue to lash out," Gilbride said.

Romo responds to criticism from Niners

DENVER — The San Francisco 49ers seem to be playing right into Bill Romanowski's hands.

A week-long war of words between the irascible Denver line-backer and 49ers players J.J. Stokes and Garion Hearst continued Thursday as Romanowski called Romanowski a "racist dope pusher."

Shrugging off the characterization, Romanowski attacked Hearst's standing — or lack thereof — in the NFL. Hearst has been sidelined by a severe ankle injury the past two seasons.

"Garion Hearst? I don't even know who he is," Romanowski said. "Has he even played? I mean he's jawing and saying all kinds of lies in the paper. That's the last of my worries."

The feud stems from an infamous confrontation three years ago when Romanowski spit in Stokes' face during a nationally televised Monday night game.

Asked again this week about his role in the NFL, Hearst said Romanowski's actions "definitely" deflated the rivalry when he said Stokes has "no fight in him. If somebody did that to me, they'd have to throw me out of the game, because I'd go after him."

Stokes fired back, saying Romanowski lacks a spine and relies on performance-enhancing drugs.

Romanowski is known for his quirky fitness regimen that includes a hyperbaric chamber and a scale box filled with vitamins and nutritional supplements. He also has been charged with fraudulently obtaining prescription drugs.

Celtics finally break jinx

NEW YORK (AP) - Paul Pierce scored 31 points and Antoine Walker added 23 points, 15 rebounds and five assists as Boston Celtics beat the New York Knicks 92-86 on Thursday night to snap a 15-game losing streak at Madison Square Garden.

NBA Not since Jan. 10, 1993, had the Celtics won at the Garden. The loss was a humiliating one for the floundering Knicks, who were outplayed in every facet of the game and were booted off the court. It was the 16th time this season they have been held below 90 points, the fourth time in the last five games.

Magic 99, Bulls 88
ORLANDO, Fla. - Tracy McGrady had 31 points and nine assists as Orlando beat Chicago. McGrady was 10-of-16 from the field and 11-of-15 from the line as the Magic sent Chicago to its 23rd loss to 36 games.

Pat Garrity was 4-of-4 from 3-point range in a 19-point performance, and Darrell Armstrong had 18 points, seven rebounds, six steals and four assists. Ron Mercer, who played for Orlando last season, led Chicago with 25 points.

Bucks 80, Nets 78
MILWAUKEE - Ray Allen made a 15-foot jumper at the buzzer to lift Milwaukee past New Jersey.

The Nets, who overcame a 28-point deficit in the second half, had tied it on Stephen Marbury's 3-pointer with 5.6 seconds left. Allen and Tim Thomas led the Bucks with 16 points each. Marbury and Lucious Harris each had 12 points for the Nets, who have lost three straight to drop to 9-17.

Lakers 99, Rockets 94
HOUSTON - Kobe Bryant scored 45 points, his fourth time over 40 this season, as Los Angeles beat Houston.

Bryant, who scored a season-high 51 points against Golden State on Dec. 6 against Golden State, had 26 points in the first half. Shaquille O'Neal added 25 points and 12 rebounds for Los Angeles. Maurice Taylor led the Rockets with 19 points and 10 rebounds. Hakeem Olajuwon had 16 points.



Boston's Paul Pierce drives around New York's Latrell Sprewell during the fourth quarter Thursday in New York. Pierce scored 31 points in the Celtics' 92-86 win.

Culture of 'me' dogs NBA

The speaker is Miami Heat coach Pat Riley on the state of the NBA. Go ahead, try and guess the year.

"It's gotten to where it's all about 'me,' all about recognition, all about contracts, all about playing time, all about lack of rules and discipline."

"This year? Last year? 1995. Long enough ago, in any case, for anybody to say the league couldn't see this epidemic of empty seats coming."

Good games are in shorter supply than ever. Bad actors are everywhere, burrowed deeper and deeper into the fabric of too many teams.

What happened between 1995 and today is that Michael Jordan returned from his brief baseball odyssey and diverted everybody's attention from the growing number of one-dimensional talents and mutinous punks filling out the rosters. Now that he's running the Washington Wizards from an executive suite instead of beating them on a court, even Jordan admits he's disgusted by the product he has to put on the floor every night.

Too many of us who marveled at what NBA commissioner David Stern had wrought for nearly two decades know only too well how Jordan feels. The cast of characters that inspired Riley's rant five years ago wasn't a third of the size it is now. And almost looks tame by comparison.

Back then, the salary spread between stars and coaches was much smaller and mutinies were generally one-man affairs, with little chance of success. A mutiny was Scottie Pippen staging a sit-down strike in the final 1.8 seconds of a playoff game. Or Chris Morris refusing to lace up his sneakers during practice to show he didn't intend to run much. Or Derrick Coleman smugly handing Butch Beard, his coach at the time, a blank check to cover all the fines he promised to pile up. Or Isaiah Rider calling a press conference to respond to a suggestion from Bill Blair, his coach at the time, that he grow up.

Now, though, players have figured out just how much strength there is in numbers. And the number of discontented, disaffected millionaires in most NBA towns has swelled to the point where throwing the coach overboard - or better yet, making him walk the plank - is easier than organizing a picket game in the offseason. All it takes is finding a few guys motivated enough to do a little extra work.



COMMENTARY
Jim Litke

Last month, Gary Payton enlisted Vin Baker and a few other members of the Super-Sons and got coach Paul Westphal fired in Seattle. In Denver, players tired of Nuggets coach Dan Issel's screaming boycotted a practice and threatened to do the same on game night. The power grab was so raw, however, and the public outcry so loud, that the rebellious crew scattered before most of them were ever identified.

A look around the NBA only Wednesday night hints at the size of the problem Stern faces. Miami and Charlotte combined for the second-lowest scoring total since the league installed a 24-second clock. "What can I say?" Riley asked, then answered his own question. "Probably one of the ugliest games of the year."

Portland and Dallas, meanwhile, combined for 11 technicals in a game that featured four-mouthed tirades and cheap shots. "The playoffs are this intense," Mavericks coach Don Nelson said, "but not this emotionally unstable."

And that's what's plaguing the NBA at the moment: A growing sense among fans that too many players make too much money to respect authority or practice anything resembling impulse control. The play on the floor looks sloppy and selfish; what goes on off it sounds even more sordid.

In Philadelphia, coach Larry Brown returned from a sudden two-day absence from the 76ers and said he was temporarily worn out by a busy offseason and a just-ended, grueling road trip. Some of the wear and tear, no doubt, was the result of during almost non-stop with superstar Allen Iverson. It began when Brown took the job four years ago and flared up as recently as Saturday, just before Brown disappeared for a few days.

"I think our relationship is pretty good. I know it's good," Brown said upon his return Wednesday night. "I know there will be bumps, but I can say that about any one of the other guys in the locker room."

Now there's a comforting thought.

Jim Litke is the national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at jlitke@aop.org.

Unretired Raines returns to Expos

MONTREAL (AP) - Outfielder Tim Raines decided his playing days weren't over and agreed Thursday to a minor league contract with the Montreal Expos.

Raines, 41, would get a \$350,000, one-year contract if he makes the team and the chance to earn \$550,000 more in performance bonuses.

He retired last March 23 after hitting .293 in 24 at-bats for the New York Yankees during spring training.

"I guess we all have an alarm for when it's time for your career to end, and I felt like my alarm went off two weeks ago," Raines said.

Raines, who failed to make this year's U.S. Olympic team, is fifth on the career steals list with 807.

He made his debut with Montreal in 1979 and was an NL All-Star from 1981-87. He has a .295 career batting average with 2,561

Baseball
hits and 964 RBIs in 21 major league seasons and was inducted into the Expos' Hall of Fame Aug. 12.

Journeyman 1B Segui returns to Baltimore

BALTIMORE - The nomadic baseball career of David Segui has gone full circle. Segui, who played his first game in the majors with Baltimore in 1990, signed a \$8 million, four-year contract with the Orioles on Thursday. The announcement came two days after the sides agreed to terms and just over 24 hours after the free agent first baseman took a physical administered by the team.

Segui, 34, hit .334 in 150 games with Texas and Cleveland this year. The switch-hitter had 192 hits, 42 doubles, 19 homers and 103 RBIs.

Segui spent nine years in the Orioles' organization, before being traded to the New York Mets prior to the 1994 season.

That was the first in a series of trades that would carry Segui to seven different teams over seven years.

He also played with Montreal, Seattle and Toronto before sharing time with the Rangers and Indians in 2000. Now, a decade later, he's back where he launched his career.

White Sox strike year deal with Ordonez

CHICAGO - Outfielder Magglio Ordonez agreed Thursday to a one-year, \$3.75 million contract with the Chicago White Sox.

The right fielder had a career-best 32 home runs, 126 RBIs and 102 runs scored last season. He was the third player in franchise history with 30 home runs, 100 RBIs and 100 runs.

Ordonez batted .315 but struggled during the playoffs. He was eligible for arbitration.

Hampton won't make as much as stated

NEW YORK - Mike Hampton's contract with the

Colorado Rockies is for \$121 million over eight years, not the \$123.8 million stated by his agent, according to details sent to teams and other agents.

At the news conference announcing the deal, Hampton's agent, Mark Rodgers, included \$2.8 million in future interest that was not counted as part of the contract by either the Major League Baseball Players Association or the commissioner's office.

Phillies sign Jordan to two-year contract

PHILADELPHIA - Utility infielder Kevin Jordan and the Phillies agreed Thursday to a \$1.4 million, two-year contract.

Jordan, who made \$1 million last season, technically became a free agent at midnight Wednesday EST when the team failed to offer him a 2001 contract. The Phillies then signed him as a free agent to get around the rule preventing teams from cutting a player's salary more than 20 percent.

Jordan will receive \$700,000 in each of the next two seasons.

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Utah native records historic finish

BORMIO, Italy (AP) - All that's missing for Erik Schjoly and the U.S. ski team is first place.

Schjoly finished 19 seconds behind Christoph Gruber of Austria in Thursday's World Cup giant slalom, the highest finish for a U.S. skier in the event since 1983 and the best result overall in what is becoming a standout season for the American men.

"I'm excited by the wave of the team's success," said Schjoly, who came in fourth in a giant slalom in his hometown of Park City, Utah, last month. "Soon that wave is going to push one of us to win."

Teammate Bode Miller, who was tripped up in the first run in

Bormio, came in third in Val d'Isere's giant slalom last weekend.

Schjoly had to recover from a near-spill in the middle of the second run to come in with the best American giant slalom result since Phil Mahre won the final race of the 1983 season in Furano, Japan, when Schjoly was 10 years old.

Daron Rahalves was the last American to win a World Cup race, taking the downhill at Kvitfjell, Norway, last season. U.S. men failed to win a single Alpine medal at the last Winter Olympics.

Gruber notched his first World Cup victory with a combined time of 2 minutes, 12.33 seconds.

Sweden's Fredrik Nyberg, who led after the first run, finished third at 2:12.76. Switzerland's Michael Von Gruenigen main-

tained his lead in the giant slalom standings with a fourth-place finish.

Gruber, who finished the first run in seventh place, moved up with the fourth-best time in the second run. It was only his second giant slalom race after dropping out at Soelden, Austria.

"I would have been happy with a place among the first 10, but the second run went extremely well," Gruber said. "Now I need some time in order to realize this victory."

The former world junior giant slalom champion had a previous best of 11th, last year in Saalbach, Austria.

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WORLD



An Israeli Arab Christian family from Galilee lights candles recently in the Franciscan chapel of the Church of the Nativity, traditionally believed to be the birthplace of Christ.

Fighting won't shut off Bethlehem access

Tourism ministries work to coordinate travel to hamlet

BETHLEHEM, West Bank (AP) - Pilgrims will be able to celebrate Christmas in the town of Jesus' birth despite a surge in Mideast violence, but their journey to the biblical hamlet won't be a direct one.

Officials said this week that tourists will have to switch tour buses at a military roadblock, or walk or take a cab to Manger Square.

With Bethlehem - now a growing Palestinian town - a flashpoint for gunbattles and clashes during the recent outburst of Israeli-Palestinian fighting, most tourists are staying away and security arrangements are affecting access to this year's muted festivities.

Despite the lack of visitors, the Israeli and Palestinian tourism ministries are working to coordinate access to Bethlehem in the hills south of Jerusalem, officials said.

"We are encouraging the pilgrims to come," said Oren Drori, who heads the marketing department of Israel's tourism ministry. "We have a joint interest and here we can see how tourism can act as a bridge."

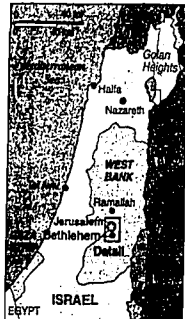
Tourism in both Israel and the Palestinian areas has dropped off dramatically since the violence began in this, a millennial year expected to draw record numbers of visitors.

Most pilgrims visiting Bethlehem - located in Palestinian territory - travel on Israeli-plated tour buses with Israeli tour guides. Israelis and vehicles with yellow Israeli license plates have been largely prohibited from entering Palestinian areas since the violence began.

But Drori said that arrangements have been made with the Palestinians for pilgrims traveling to Bethlehem from Israel to disembark from Israeli tour buses and walk about 100 yards across an Israeli military checkpoint to the Palestinian side. There they could travel on Palestinian tour buses with Palestinian tour guides to the center of town.

Pilgrims not traveling in organized tours would either take a Palestinian taxi or walk the two miles to Manger Square once they passed the checkpoint.

The stone plaza is the center of



Christmas celebrations in the town and fronts the Church of the Nativity, built over the grotto where tradition says Jesus was born. Most Christmas visitors to Bethlehem are Palestinian Christians, but tourists from many Western countries also come.

The route to Manger Square skirts the major site of recent clashes in Bethlehem - a road next to the Israeli enclave of Rachel's Tomb, where tradition says the biblical patriarch was buried.

Palestinian gunmen have fired on Israeli troops from a hotel in the area, according to the Israelis, who have responded by firing tank shells into the hotel. In nightly shootouts, Israeli forces in Gilo exchange fire with Palestinian gunmen on rooftops in Beit Jalla, a mainly Christian village on the outskirts of Bethlehem.

Japan considers ban on European beef products

TOKYO (AP) - Reacting to the mad cow panic gripping Europe, Japan said Thursday it may ban the import of beef and beef products from the European Union as a precaution against the brain-wasting infection.

The ban, proposed by a panel of experts, would take effect in January and apply to beef, food made from processed beef and

bull sperm, which is used for breeding, Agriculture Ministry official Masanori Hayashi said. The ministry will consider the panel's recommendation and make a final decision by the end of the month.

Traditionally a fish-eating nation, Japan has developed a strong affinity for beef over the past few decades. Last year it

imported some 642 tons of beef from European Union nations, along with nearly 1,500 tons of cow organs and over 55,000 tons of sperm.

Japan has gradually widened the scope of its European beef bans to include medicine and cosmetics made from animals in nearly 30 countries and animal intestines for making

sausages.

It recently outlawed the import of animal feed made from European cow bones and beef, beginning Jan. 1.

Mad cow disease - formally called bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or BSE - is thought to spread to humans as the brain-wasting variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease.

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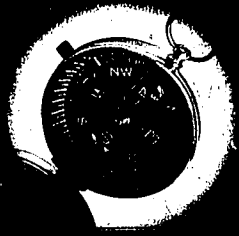
Milosevic's foes surge in recent polls

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) - Voters select a new Serbian parliament Saturday in an election expected to give the pro-democracy leadership power to sweep away the last vestiges of Slobodan Milosevic's regime.

Three polls conducted last week predict the 18-party democratic Alliance of President Vojislav Kostunica will win an overwhelming majority of the 250 seats in the parliament of Yugoslavia's dominant republic of Serbia - and reduce Milosevic's Socialists to a fringe party.

If the polls are right, Milosevic himself could be in trouble. Without a strong party controlling parliament, he could be more vulnerable to prosecution for 13 years of misrule that impoverished Yugoslavia and made it Europe's parish state.

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Russia tentatively approves nuke waste imports:

MOSCOW (AP) - Lawmakers on Thursday tentatively approved a law allowing Russia to import spent nuclear fuel rods for processing, a plan that could bring the country \$20 billion - and 21,000 tons of nuclear waste.

The Russian Atomic Energy Ministry said that the money, which Russia would earn over 10 years, could be used to clean up past radioactive spills in Russia.

The proposal has been in the works for years. It is fiercely opposed by environmental groups, who say it amounts to selling down-trodden Russia as the world's nuclear waste dump.

The Duma - the legislature's lower house - overwhelmingly passed the law on the first reading, but it must clear two more readings, pass the parliament's upper chamber and be signed by President Vladimir Putin before it takes effect.

Proponents said Russia could earn much-needed foreign income by taking advantage of the coun-

try's Cold War-era nuclear facilities.

"We'll get financing and won't disgracefully beg the International Monetary Fund for money as we do now," Atomic Energy Minister Yevgeny Adamov said.

The environmental group Greenpeace said the promise to use profits to cleanup past nuclear disasters was a public relations ploy.

The ministry just wants "to get

Western money for an expansion of the Russian nuclear industry whose disregard for safety and the environment is starkly demonstrated" by past mistakes, a statement from Greenpeace said Thursday.



A member of the Forensic Anthropology Foundation of Guatemala cleans the remains of one of the 13 people found in a mass grave at a former army base in Chatoalun, Guatemala, Tuesday.

Mass grave find unearths memories

CHOTALUN, Guatemala (AP) - For the villagers who survived those days of terror, the mass of skulls, bones, rotted clothing, rope and blindfolds unearthed here this week brought back memories of unspeakable savagery.

It also may have led them closer to family members missing now for 18 years - missing since the day in 1982 when the army rounded up some 5,000 Mayan Indians and raped, tortured and killed many of them in a bid to do away with suspected rebel supporters.

For Andres Suchite, the atrocity committed here at the peak of Guatemala's 36-year civil war is not yet a part of the past.

The 52-year-old coffee picker survived it, and the civil war that framed it has been over for four years now. But he's still looking for his family: His mother, mother-in-law and two brothers were among those herded together by the army, and he hasn't seen them since.

On Wednesday, though, researchers announced that they had found 20 bodies in a mass grave at this former army base.

Afterward, Suchite pointed at partly excavated pieces of ground and the faint traces of building foundations: He traced out the path the butchery took in the hope the pits will yield his long-disappeared family members.

As he looked at the earth from which the bones were pulled, he spoke of what happened to him and his family that winter day.

"They (soldiers) rounded us up at the village church in December 1982. They read a list, and those whose names were called, had to go to the base," Suchite said. "That's when my family went."

Suchite was held for 15 days at the Chatoalun base before a family friend with government connections convinced an army commander to release him. During that time, he said he saw atrocities committed here.

"Here was where they held the women," Suchite said, pointing to traces of what were once the foundations of two adobe rooms.

"And over here was where they raped them."

"The men's bodies were buried all over here," he said, broadening his gesture to include the entire 2,000-square-yard base.

As an eyewitness to some killings, Suchite offers an explanation for one of the more macabre details about the grave.

No ballistics evidence has been found so far of bullet impacts against the bones found Wednesday. That, Suchite says, is because many victims were tied to a waist-high log, then bent backward by soldiers until their spines broke. They later were tossed into graves.

The massacre was among the most brutal incidents in a vicious civil war that tore this tiny nation for decades.

Leftist guerrillas and the government signed peace accords ending the conflict in 1996, but by then more than 200,000 people had died. Reports by human rights groups indicate the army committed the vast majority of the human rights abuses reported during the war.

Human rights workers are scouring remote mountains and jungles searching for mass graves.

At or near Chatoalun, about 5,000 Mayan Indians were rounded up by the army in December 1982, according to a U.N. report. It said 3,000 were reportedly killed and their bodies buried at several locations.

So far, researchers from the Forensic Anthropology Foundation have found 20 sets of skeletal remains - some still bearing traces of blindfolds or ropes around their wrists or necks - at this base in Chaltenango province, about 40 miles west of Guatemala City.

But they're sure there are more. According to the foundation's investigations, the army dug at least two 10-foot-deep pits and about seven trenches here to hold bodies of their victims.

Leonel Paiz, the head of the excavation, said Chatoalun "could turn out to be one of the largest clandestine burying grounds" the foundation has ever investigated.

Peru's former spymaster eludes worldwide manhunt

LIMA, Peru (AP) - Barely a day goes by without some news report of the whereabouts of Peru's former spymaster, sometimes with convincing detail, often not.

Vladimiro Montesinos is on the run from the law, skipping by yacht and small plane through Central America and the Caribbean. The latest report has him in Venezuela, where he is said to have undergone plastic surgery to alter his hawklike features.

The last time boat captain Fidencio Anton Paiva saw Montesinos in late November, he didn't have the aura of a dangerous man.

By the end of his three-week high seas escape from Peru to Costa Rica aboard a 60-foot yacht, the 54-year-old Montesinos was seascick, depressed, popping pills and complaining of low blood pressure, Paiva says.

"He seemed desperate. He had lost weight. He looked forlorn. He wasn't strong like when he left Lima," Paiva recounted in videotaped testimony this week to a commission investigating Montesinos' criminal activities as ousted President Alberto Fujimori's closest adviser.

Despite his shaky sea legs, Montesinos achieved a spectacular escape from Peru on Oct. 29 that reinforced his cloak-and-dagger image.

The ease with which he appears to move across the Americas has provided Peruvians with a new topic of conversation these days - the latest "Montesinos sighting."

Using fake passports and identities and calling on important friends for help, Montesinos so far has had no problem in eluding an international manhunt.

"The possibilities of capturing him are not good because he has a network of influence and money, he has information and he has a strategy," said police Col. Benedito Jimenez, who headed a special unit that spent two years tracking down and capturing Abimael Guzman, the leader of Peru's Shining Path insurgency.

"We don't know how a cornered rat may react," Jimenez warned.

"He must be very hurt at this moment with everything that has happened, feeling pursued, persecuted. He has passed from being all-powerful to a mere delinquent."



Vladimiro Montesinos

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COMICS

Classic Poemists

By Charles M. Schulz



Dilbert

By Scott Adams



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



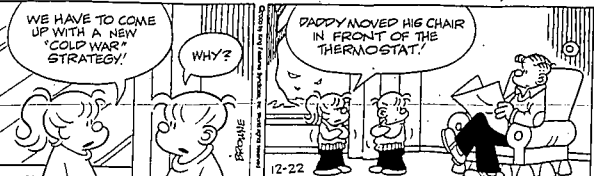
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



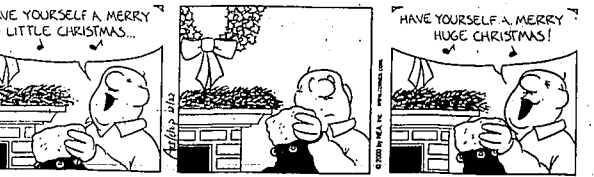
Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



The Bom Loser

By Art Snavely & Chip



For Better or For Worse

By Lynn Johnston



Blondie

By Dean Young & Stan Drake



Pickles

By Brian Crane

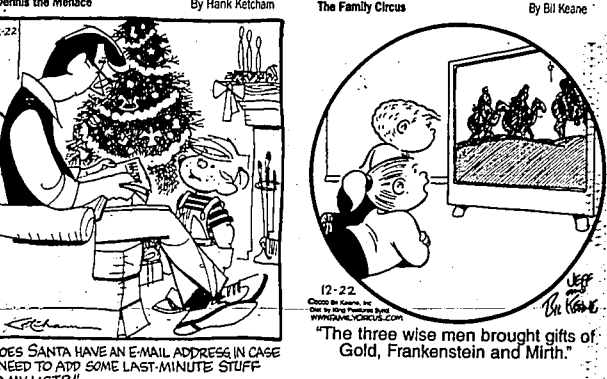


Dennis the Menace

By Hank Ketcham

The Family Circus

By Bill Keane



Rose Is Rose

By Pat Brady



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Luan Platter

By Greg Evans



Strange Brew

By John Deering

Non Sequitur

By Wiley



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Notes on the economy

Magic Valley report

Passenger boardings for SkyWest Airlines - a Delta Connection carrier - at Joslin Field, Magic Valley Regional Airport:

November 2000: 2,985
That's a hefty 17.7 percent increase from the 2,536 SkyWest boardings in November 1999.

January-November 2000: 31,930
That's a 2.7 percent increase from the 31,092 boardings in the first 11 months of 1999.
(These totals don't include charter flights.)

November's jump from year-earlier numbers was even larger than the 10.1 percent jump between November 1999 and 1999 boardings. And last month helped boost 2000 toward the annual growth airport leaders had hoped for.

Source: Darlene Johnson, airport executive assistant.

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Albertson's seeks to build store in Hailey

HAILEY - A Boise-based chain aims to enter the Wood River Valley.

Construction of an Albertson's supercenter in Hailey got one step closer this week after the Hailey Planning and Zoning Commission approved the final plat for the Wood River Valley near Empty Saddle Road and Idaho Highway 75.

The project, which has made appearances before the planning and zoning board for the past year, will likely go before the Hailey City Council in January.

Many locals thought they would never see an Albertson's store in the Wood River Valley. And several testified at hearings they hoped a major supermarket chain wouldn't move in because they thought it would hurt the local supermarkets: Atkinson's, Paul's and Valley Market.

Paul's had talked about moving to the new plaza from its location in downtown Hailey. But it looks as though Albertson's will be the new tenant, along with a convenience store and gas station, said commission member Beck Keeler.

Kmart goes round-the-clock to overtake sales drop

TROY, Mich. - With many retailers running behind last year's holiday sales performance, Kmart Corp. has decided to keep all 2,100 of its stores - including the 800 in Twin Falls and Burley - open for 86 straight hours through Christmas to be the biggest last-minute Christmas shopping rush in years.

Kmart's that opened at 6 a.m. Thursday will not close until the shopping marathon ends at 8 p.m. Christmas Eve.

"Consumers have just not had the time to get done what they need to get done before the big day this year," said Brent Willis, chief marketing officer of the Troy, Mich., retail chain. Like many retailers, the discount chain has shifted clearance sales that normally come after Christmas to this week to unload unsold inventory.

Since Thanksgiving, many retail experts have lowered their forecasts of a robust 5.5 percent holiday sales gain to a more sluggish gain of 2 percent to 4 percent. But as the season moves into its final days, the International Council of Shopping Centers says mall traffic nationally is running 12 percent behind last year's pace, and sales at all mall stores except department stores were 8.6 percent behind.

Snow and ice storms across much of the country spoiled many retailers' hopes of catching up last weekend. Purchases paid by check also signaled a slower pace of spending. Through Monday, purchases paid by check were up a record 2.8 percent nationally, according to TeleCheck Services Inc.

"People have postponed their Christmas purchasing until the very last week," said John Knersak, chief economist for the International Council of Shopping Centers. "This weekend is going to be huge."

Compiled from staff and wire reports

Regulators set hearing on sale to co-op

Idaho Power seeks to sell facilities in northern Nevada

The Times-News

JACKPOT, Nev. - Certain electricity customers in northern Nevada could see a new name at the top of their power bills, but they'll have a chance to speak their minds first.

The Idaho Public Utilities Commission set a public hearing in Boise next month on a proposal by Idaho Power Co. to sell

electrical distribution facilities serving customers in northern Nevada and Idaho's southern Owyhee County to Raft River Rural Electric Cooperative Inc. Idaho Power wants to sell to Raft River Rural Electric the transmission facilities and rights of way that serve about 1,250 customers in northern Nevada and about 90 customers in southern Owyhee County, the PUC said.

John Gale, general manager of pricing and regulatory services at Idaho Power, told Jackpot's Advisory Board last month the company hopes to sell its delivery assets in Jackpot, Mountain City, Owyhee and Jarbidge, Nev.,

Public hearing
The public hearing will be held at 10 a.m. Jan. 19 in the Public Utilities Commission's hearing room at 472 W. Washington in Boise.

to Raft River Rural Electric for about \$1.9 million.

"This will simplify our ability to market into other areas as it (the State of Nevada) deregulates," Gale said.

Bud Tracy, general manager of Raft River Rural Electric, said last month residents will discover some advantages with the

cooperative. "All users are members," Tracy said.

The Malta-based cooperative has a nine-member board of directors, and any user is eligible to serve on the board. He said the not-for-profit company doesn't pay taxes, which will keep prices in line with what Jackpot residents have been paying with Idaho Power.

"Probably you won't see any difference at first," Tracy said last month but will be phased in over a five-year period.

Idaho Power is selling its Nevada distribution system to

meet new regulations affecting the state's soon-to-be-deregulated electric utility industry, said Idaho Power's general manager of delivery, Jim Baggs, in July when the two companies announced their letter of intent to pursue the sale. Those requirements prohibit a company providing noncompetitive service - the regulated distribution of electricity - from offering service in competitive business areas.

Under the proposed agreement, Idaho Power would provide electricity under a wholesale contract to Raft River to serve the northern Nevada area.

Western business

Scotsman makes e-books a reality

The Associated Press

REDMOND, Wash. - In another life, a burly Scotsman like Bill Hill might have been a groundskeeper on a large estate or, like his father before him, a steelworker in the mills of his native Glasgow.

His father, however, insisted Hill work with his head, not his hands. That's why, at 19, Hill embarked on a newspaper career, one that, along with being a music reader, led him down a path that now seems charmed and inevitable.

Today, Hill, 51, is one of Microsoft Corp.'s biggest and most colorful proponents of electronic books, which he works on in the Redmond software giant's eMerging Technology Group.

As part of Microsoft's mission to make literature digital and profitable, Hill shows up for public lectures in a traditional kiln, explaining the technology of computer-generated typefaces in colorful turns of perfect English.

Though Hill's current title at Microsoft is simply "researcher," it belies his long and equally colorful history in the industry.

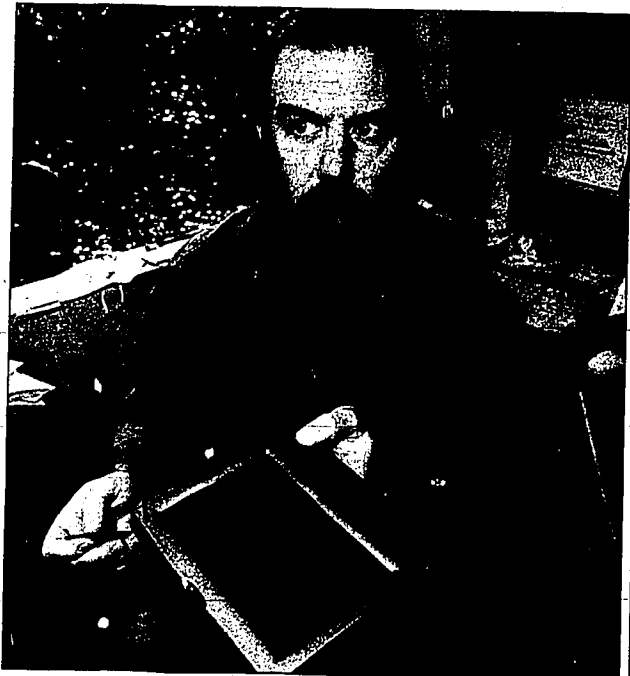
During his 18 years as a newspaperman, working first for Scotland's Sunday Post, then the nation's biggest daily, The Scotsman, Hill started writing a column on emerging office technology. In his research for the column, he was one of the first to try out an Apple Macintosh personal computer in 1984.

Soon after, he acquired an unrelaxed version of a then-fledgling program known as PageMaker.

Hill says he got the copy by phoning Paul Brainerd, founder of the software's Seattle-based maker, Aldus Corp., which then employed about seven people.

He has a friend, PageMaker, Hill saw the writing on the wall. Desktop publishing would replace setting type with hot lead, just as Hill believes today that electronic books will one day largely replace printed books (with the exception, of course, of rare editions Hill says he and other book lovers will continue to collect).

When he wrote of couple of



Bill Hill holds a prototype of an electronic book in his office at the Microsoft campus in Redmond, Wash. Hill, 51, is one of Microsoft Corp.'s biggest and most colorful proponents of electronic books, which he works on in the Redmond software giant's eMerging Technology Group.

columns touting desktop publishing as a revolution, however, "I got completely rubbished by the publishing industry," Hill laughed.

"But within three years, none of them had real type left." While writing one article, Hill phoned Brainerd again and discovered PageMaker had no distributor in the United Kingdom. In 1986, that led Hill and friend Derek Gray, who headed up the computer division of an Edinburgh-based printing house called McQueen's, to co-found Aldus's European operations.

At Aldus, Hill began to notice the difficulty of reading text on a computer screen - a problem he has devoted himself to at Microsoft. In 1994, when Adobe

Systems bought Aldus Corp., he joined the company as head of the Typography Group.

That led to the development of ClearType, a crisp, clean representation of lettering that, in combination with the subdued light emissions of liquid crystal displays (or LCD screens), is one of the crown jewels of Microsoft Reader, a new program that allows people to download and view electronic books.

Earlier this year, Microsoft started distributing Reader far and wide with Windows-based products starting in April with the debut of Pocket PC devices. In August, the company also shipped Microsoft Reader for desktop and laptop PCs. The plan, Hill notes, is to make the sale of electronic books practi-

cal for publishers by getting Reader onto the 400 million desktops that already run Windows.

It's an all-out push that will lead, in February, to the launch of a stand-alone, 2-pound device designed by Hill's team to look and read just like a book. For about the same weight as one of today's printed books, however, it will store up to 70 titles.

Microsoft's ability to leverage, or sway, huge markets is one reason Hill says he came to the company, where, from the thatched nest of devices and cables he calls his office, he's fighting the good fight: to prove the two worlds he loves the most - nature and technology - needn't be at war with each other.

Qwest affirms profit outlook amid rivals' gloom

BridgeNews

WASHINGTON - Qwest Communications International Inc. remained upbeat Thursday in the gloom surrounding rival telephone companies as it said earnings would meet or beat Wall Street expectations for the fourth quarter and match estimates in 2001.

On Thursday, AT&T Corp. lowered its expectations for fourth-quarter profits and revenues because of weakness in its long-distance telephone business, while earlier in the week SBC Communications Inc. cut its earnings outlook for 2001 because of the effects of a slowing economy, delayed entry into long-distance markets and problems at its Ameritech unit.

AT&T, which warned after the close of trade Wednesday, saw its stock fall \$1.88, or 10 percent, to close at \$17.06. By contrast, shares of Qwest, which have been caught in the downdraft of recent telecom earnings, jumped \$5.13, or nearly 16 percent, to \$37.50.

Qwest chief executive Joseph Nacchio said Denver-based Qwest is having a strong fourth quarter, helped by newer network assets - including a 104,000-mile underground fiber network with an expected - lower costs and an ability to capitalize on high-growth areas such as wireless, DSL (high-speed Internet access) and Web hosting.

Qwest said it is on track to achieve year-end targets of 250,000 DSL subscribers and 800,000 wireless subscribers, and it continues to expect to double subscriber numbers in 2001.

Analysts surveyed by First Call Research Financial had been expecting Qwest to earn 14 cents a share for the fourth quarter, 54 cents a share for 2000 and 60 cents a share for 2001.

Operating cash flow for 2001 is expected in the range of \$8.5 billion to \$8.7 billion, meaning the company will likely tap into its line of credit to raise extra funds, a company spokesman said. The funds would likely be used to continue to upgrade the network of old Bell company U.S. wires.

Shares of Verizon Communications, America's biggest long telephone provider, which reiterated its fourth quarter and 2001 guidance earlier this week, closed down \$1.31 at \$48.81 Thursday, while BellSouth shares were down 81 cents at \$4.33. WorldCom fell \$1 to \$14.19.

J.C. Penney's new CEO looks to cut costs, centralize buying decisions

Knight Ridder News Service

PLANO, Texas - Three months into his job at J.C. Penney Co., Allen Questrom is acting like wh, well, Allen Questrom.

He has a spiel and he's sticking to it. It's the Questrom way: Dangle out the broad vision and repeat until everyone gets it right.

Penney people, he's giving you two to five years to turn this ship around. He doesn't plan to do it alone. He's not making any guarantees, but he's comfortable being captain.

understand them and execute them." He's asking employees who are helping to rebuild the Penney organization "to rethink everything."

Questrom joined Penney - which has Twin Falls and Burley stores - in September from Barney's New York but is best known for his long tenure at Federated Department Stores. He brought that company out of bankruptcy and acquired the Macy's and Broadway chains, which gave Federated a strong market share up and down both coasts.

Questrom says he believes in the J.C. Penney brand and is trying to get it back to its roots as the department store of choice for middle-income Americans. But he's not sentimental, and he's not

wedded to ideas that didn't work. Last month, Penney reported its first loss from operations in the history of the company. The retailer, which is less than two years away from turning 100, is being called a dinosaur. Does he find the task ahead daunting?

"I spend time thinking about getting this company in order. What difference does it make if it's 100 or 10 or 20? What's meaningful to me is whether our stores are current."

"It would kill this company to be successful on its 100th anniversary," he said. "We only been here a few months, and I see a very loyal but an unhappy group of people."

Los Angeles Times

Suddenly the idea of a tax cut is becoming respectable as worries mount about the U.S. economy. The ominous outlook has prompted debate about how a sizable tax reduction would affect growth and how quickly one could be put into effect.

President-elect George W. Bush insisted during his visit to Washington this week that a tax cut is needed to avert an economic downturn. And the Federal Reserve Board said Tuesday an economic slowdown now threatens the long U.S. economic expansion.

Economists look to the Fed to lower interest rates early in the new year, especially if unemployment rises. But some economists say lower interest rates may not

have a dramatic impact on an economy suffering an erosion in consumer and investor confidence.

As a growing number of economists and some members of Congress now say a quick, limited tax cut is just what the economy needs. Tax cuts have worked in the past, they say - notably during the Reagan administration in 1981 and again in 1997.

If unemployment spreads after the New Year, "the new administration and Congress should have little difficulty in agreeing on an early and sizable income tax cut - say, \$100 billion a year," said economist Albert M. Wajsborth of Monitor Clipper Partners, a New York-based investment firm, and a veteran predictor of interest rates.

MONEY

Idaho firm faces problems after growth Federal Reserve Bank elects Idaho executive

POST FALLS (AP) - Eighteen months ago Medinex was flush from its first public offering. The software company had raised more than \$20 million and its shares were trading at \$10 and the first 10 acquisitions was in the works.

The idea here is for the company to get profitable as soon as possible," he said. Medinex had revenues of \$5.7 million through the first nine months of the year. Its net losses were \$20.1 million. In addition, Medinex's stock price has fallen to meet Nasdaq's \$1 minimum

share price since early October. "I think they're doing the right things," said Jim Creamer, an analyst with the company that took Medinex public, Global Capital Securities Corp. of Englewood, Colo.

Medinex is cutting costs while working to increase revenues. Creamer said. Whether those efforts will converge at the right time is a question many other startups also are facing, he said. "We're a fast-growing company that acquired a lot of valuable assets," he said. "We'd prefer stock prices of \$5 and \$25, and a better equity market. But you just can't control that."

The Paquin brothers started Medinex, originally called Nednet.com, in 1997 after selling an insurance software company in Coeur d'Alene. The company's medical division sells an online software product called "physician's office management." Doctors offices can use it for billing, scheduling appointments and tracking insurance. Medinex also sells medical supplies online.

Wilson earlier worked with Pacific Northwest Bell and U.S. West Inc. In 1992, she relocated to Boise as regional vice president and remains in that position following the merger of Qwest with S West. The bank in San Francisco provides wholesale banking services to financial institutions in the nine western states and branch offices. The Federal Reserve System formulates monetary policy, regulates banks and is fiscal agent for the federal government.

Penney

Continued from E2. drugstore chain based in Largo, Fla., employs 285,000 people. The company also has scores of stockholders and an active group of retirees, many of whom have written Quetrum letters about the decline in their 401(k) retirement accounts.

peak of \$20 billion two years ago. In the early 1990s, the retailer had lost customers to other retail chains such as Target and Wal-Mart, and to moderate-priced retailers, including Kohl's and Old Navy, as they expanded nationwide.

shopper, the company needs "a more competitive cost structure," which means cutting costs. He said Penney's department stores must have the right assortment of merchandise at competitive prices. The only way to do that is to centralize the buying decisions. Headquarters picks and delivers the merchandise, and store personnel focus on running the stores.

Penney fell behind its competitors when it didn't centralize sourcing, Quetrum said. "It is no longer efficient to have 1,150 stores each making that many decisions about merchandising to customers. It also prevents the company from developing a national message, he said. Quetrum noted that some of the

inmediacy of having "vendors knocking on your door every day" was lost when the company moved to Dallas from New York in 1988. "We have to be aware of what's happening in the fashion world and bring that to middle America at great value," he said. He's considering adding offices in New York and Los Angeles to put Penney merchandisers closer to the biggest

concentrations of vendors. Penney will close more stores in 2001, he said, but not more than 50 and maybe a few as five. "There could be additional staff cuts to get costs in line, but he's not sharing details yet. Quetrum is careful not to criticize the decisions and strategies of his predecessor, James Ostermeier, who had been chief executive since 1995.

Taxes

Continued from E2. There remains plenty of opposition to the tax-cut idea. Congressional Democrats normally would want to use the federal budget surplus for spending programs to help the working poor.

hands to spur the economy. If the economy is entering into recession, Bush could get a tax cut passed by the summer - although not a giant complex tax package. Support for tax cuts has arisen amid slowing signs of economic slowdown. Retail sales are anemic this holiday season, automobile sales fell 2.2 percent in November. Companies are curbing investments in new plant and equipment and they have begun to cut costs by laying off employees.

and the world economy may be heading into recession," said economist William Rhee of Williams Capital Group, an investment research firm. The Federal Reserve should cut interest rates in January and "a fiscal response may also be necessary," said economist Edward Yardeni of Deutsche Bank Alex. Brown, an investment firm. Bush's proposed tax program would lower tax rates to four new brackets: a top rate of 33 percent of taxable income down from 39.5

percent currently; a 25 percent basic rate for middle-class taxpayers down from today's 28 percent and 31 percent; a 15 percent rate and a new 10 percent rate. For lower-income wage earners, the effect would be to cut taxes by roughly one-third, giving taxpayers more spending money or cash to pay their debts or to save. "Lower income people have to spend every cent. They don't have savings beyond their stake in Social Security," said Stone, who served in the Treasury Department in

President Johnson's administration. But a major effect of the tax cut, which Bush in his campaign estimated at \$460 billion over five years, would be to give a big reduction to the wealthiest taxpayers. That's inevitable as the top 1 percent of income earners pay 33 percent of all the income taxes, argues Lawrence Lindsey, Bush's chief economic adviser. Therefore their benefit will be proportionally smaller. Still politically a big tax cut for the rich will be a hard sell and it is where

compromises on tax legislation are most likely to occur, Lindsey said. Yet it is upper-income taxpayers who need the tax cut in the present circumstances, Wojniolow said. A tax cut "would cushion the loss of wealth among upper-income spenders suffering stock-price disappointments," he said. Lindsey explained in an address Tuesday to Capital Group, a Los Angeles investment firm. If wealthy taxpayers trim their spending, or cut back on investments in business, that has economic consequences.

NEW YORK STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, Vol, Open, High, Low, Close. Includes sub-sections for Most Active (10 on Dow Jones), Most Active (10 on NYSE), and Most Active (10 on NASDAQ).

MARKET SUMMARY

Summary table for NYSE, AMEX, and NASDAQ. Columns include Name, Div, Last, Chg, Vol, Open, High, Low, Close. Includes sub-sections for Most Active (10 on Dow Jones), Most Active (10 on NYSE), and Most Active (10 on NASDAQ).

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, Vol, Open, High, Low, Close. Lists various NASDAQ stocks and their performance.

INDEXES

Table with columns: Index Name, Value, Change, % Change. Includes Dow Jones Industrial, S&P 500, etc.

STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST

Table with columns: Name, Div, PE, Last, Chg, Vol, Open, High, Low, Close. Lists local stocks like Albemarle, Amgen, etc.

AMERICAN STOCK EXCHANGE

Table with columns: Name, Div, Last, Chg, Vol, Open, High, Low, Close. Lists American Stock Exchange stocks.

HOW TO READ THE MARKET REPORT

Here are the 25 most active stocks on the New York Stock Exchange, the 400 most active on the NASDAQ National Market and 100 most active on American Stock Exchange. Actual funds are \$1.118 billion. Includes detailed instructions on how to read the market report and a list of 25 most active stocks.

MARKETS

CLOSING FUTURES

Table listing various commodities such as Man Corn, Soybean, and Wheat with their respective prices and changes.

SOYBEANS

Table listing soybean futures contracts including Soybean, Soybean Meal, and Soybean Oil.

WHEAT

Table listing wheat futures contracts including Hard Red Winter, Soft Red, and Durum.

CHEESE

Table listing cheese futures contracts including Cheddar, American, and Swiss.

POTATOES

Table listing potato futures contracts including Idaho and Oregon.

BEANS

Table listing bean futures contracts including Soybean and Lentil.

GRAINS

Table listing grain futures contracts including Corn, Sorghum, and Oats.

Table listing various futures contracts including Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, and Wheat.

BEANS

Table listing bean futures contracts including Soybean and Lentil.

CHEESE

Table listing cheese futures contracts including Cheddar, American, and Swiss.

POTATOES

Table listing potato futures contracts including Idaho and Oregon.

SUGAR

Table listing sugar futures contracts including Sugar and Sugar Alcohol.

METALS/CURRENCY

Table listing metal and currency futures contracts including Gold, Silver, and various currencies.

FOSIL FUELS

Table listing fossil fuel futures contracts including Crude Oil, Heating Oil, and Natural Gas.

INDEXES

Table listing market indices including Dow Jones, S&P 500, and Nasdaq.

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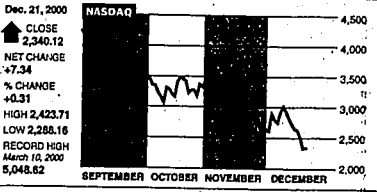
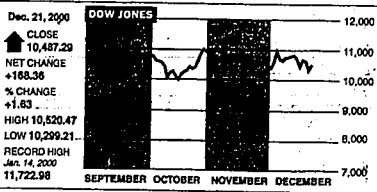
BEANS

Table listing bean futures contracts including Soybean and Lentil.

GRAINS

Table listing grain futures contracts including Corn, Sorghum, and Oats.

Table listing various futures contracts including Soybean Meal, Soybean Oil, and Wheat.



Blue chip stocks soar, Nasdaq edges upward

NEW YORK (AP) - Investors sought bargains on Wall Street Thursday, sending blue chips soaring and even pushing the Nasdaq up - if barely - to a first time in eight sessions. Overall, the market shrugged off a spate of profit warnings and its fears that the economy is slowing too much. The Dow Jones industrial average closed sharply higher, up 168.36 to 10,487.29.

Pulitzer Newspapers acquires Utah Valley Publishing Co.

PROVO, Utah (AP) - Pulitzer Newspapers Inc., a subsidiary of Pulitzer Inc., which owns the Daily Herald, announced it has acquired the stock of Utah Valley Publishing and Amor Printing Co.

MUTUAL FUNDS

Large table listing various mutual fund investments, including Domestic Equity, International, and Bond funds, with columns for Name, Share Class, and Price.

Tech fund investors face steep taxes, poor returns

By Amy Baldwin
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The year 2000 was bittersweet for mutual fund investors who focused on technology.

Things started out sweet as computer, chip and software makers' stocks soared. But it's ending up bitter by delivering investors a painful double whammy: a big tax bill and poor or negative year-end returns.

"In March, I was exhilarated. I was deciding to take early retirement. My portfolio was looking like where it should be," said tech fund investor Frank Brunette of Oceanide, N.Y.

Brunette, a 56-year-old legal publications salesman, said he will pay \$30,000 in capital gains taxes on a technology-laden portfolio that's down 30 to 40 percent for the year.

"He's not alone. "A lot of people this year are going to end up with the worst of both worlds," said Ralph Searce, a financial adviser who heads Cambridge Financial in Lexington, Ky. "They are going to have to pay taxes on their capital gains disbursements and they are going to look at their fund and see their fund is off."

Throughout the first quarter, fund managers cashed in on big gains on which fund investors will pay taxes. Those gains mean many high-tech funds are paying out about 20 percent or more of the fund's net asset value, financial experts say.

Large disbursements — most of which are made in December — aren't unusual in actively managed funds, especially in booming sectors. But they stand out this year, because the tech sector turned sharply downward.

"If they had a 50-percent return and still had that big disbursement, people would grumble, but would be able to say, 'But my fund is doing well,'" said Jack Piazza, owner of Sensible Investment Strategies, a



OF MUTUAL INTEREST

Wheaton, Ill., investment advisory firm.

Since last spring, technology stocks have been sliding and investors' portfolios have been eroding. "The average tech mutual fund is down close to 30 percent so far for the year, according to Lipper Inc., a Summit, N.J.-based company that tracks fund performance.

Consider the First American Technology A fund, one of last year's top 25 funds as ranked by the Chicago-based fund analysis firm Morningstar. In early November, the fund paid out 16.9 percent of its net asset value. The fund was down 8.8 percent at the time.

That's the risk of sector-specific funds, caution investment experts. The rewards come in years like 1999, when First American Technology A rose 19.1 percent. However, such stellar returns can't be sustained forever.

"I don't want to sound flip about it, but when you have funds that have high double or triple digit returns one year, sometimes the next year or two they are going to have some type of losses," Piazza said.

It's too late this year for most investors to sell their poor-performing funds to skip paying taxes on earlier gains.

Still, if the fund hasn't yet paid out this year, it's worth a call to find out when it will, how much the disbursement will be and

what the investor date of record is.

Otherwise, here's some expert advice on how to avoid future double-whammy years.

1. Stick to index funds, which make fewer trades and thus have smaller capital gains disbursements. "Index funds are not usually the culprits of such situations," Searce said.

2. Remember that it doesn't always pay to invest in last year's leading sector, Piazza said. Look beyond the previous year's performance. Look at how the fund did for at least the last three years.

"People read about these high-flyers and they say they would like to get in on that action," Piazza said. "The worst case is they buy high and the fund plummets. And they don't realize that an actively managed fund has high (portfolio) turnover and that they might have a big distribu-

tion later."

3. Look at the fund's history of capital gains disbursements, suggested John Markese, president of the American Association of Individual Investors. Find out whether the fund has a record of big payouts and if they are made

in up or down years.

4. Look for a fund with little trading activity or low portfolio turnover. But keep in mind that could change if a new fund manager takes over, Markese said.

5. Lastly, Markese said, investors should keep their

actively managed funds in their tax-sheltered retirement accounts — those on which they don't have to pay capital-gains taxes. In their non-sheltered accounts, investors should consider index or less actively managed funds.

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New economic reality dims Christmas cheer

By John Cunniff
The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Christmas came early for investors in 2000. It came in March, as a matter of fact. Stocks were rising, confidence was soaring, home-builders and carmakers couldn't keep up with the demand.

People exuded the spirit of the season. No gift for the family was too expensive — a cruise, a vacation house, trip to a theme park, a week of skiing — and you could always borrow the money and pay back later.

What a wonderful discovery the wealth effect was. You didn't have to worry about your future because your stocks and your home equity were making you richer every day in spite of your efforts to spend more.

You could feel the vibrations of exuberance, of confidence in the future. Confidence breeds confidence, it was explained, just as a rapidly rising stock generates even more momentum. The evidence was there.

The experts agreed: Materialism was great, even if occasionally it might mean over-looking a minor value or two. At no time in recent economic history were more experts giving their expert opinion that the economy would continue to boom, stocks rise and inflation behave.

You really couldn't blame Santa Claus for misreading the calendar. Besides, people were telling him that Christmas wasn't just for December anymore. Get with it, they told him, this is new Millennium.

Just then, as ordinary people and experts prepared for a summer of fun, the cold winds of reality swept down upon the marketplace and snipped away its pretensions and revealed it as a pompous phony.

The reality is still hard to grasp — the Nasdaq is down about 50 percent from its March high while the broader Standard & Poor's 500 is off by 15 percent or so.

The housing price rise has slowed, cars are being cleared from lots, by discounts and rebates, inflation has infected some areas of the economy, don-

oms are failing, consumer confidence is down four straight months.

More subtly, the economic commentary that never ends, only recently illustrated with positive observations and opinions, is now filled with negative items, making things appear even worse than they are.

There is no recession, but there are plenty of forecasts of such. The New Economy still exists, but you might have the impression it has gone puff. Jobs are still plentiful, and wages and benefits are actually creeping up. Though weakening, profits are still being made.

You don't have to look hard to find comments about getting coal in your stocking, but if you do look hard you can spy the glimmer of gold in the future. The word of those whose shingle can quickly rebound.

A great deal of what's wrong about the economy has been made right, even if not totally. If need be, Alan Greenspan, the federal Reserve grinch, may turn gracious and inject new vitality into the economy.

The slowdown could worsen, but it isn't yet at recession level; the expansion continues, but at a slower rate. Americans are more realistic and smarter about possibilities than they were in March.

And they are likely to be far more inclined to do their homework, understand their own finances, and assume personal responsibility instead of taking the word of those whose shingle declares they are "experts."

Reality beats the dreamworld at Christmas, when hopes converge with the emergence of a new day.

Christmas BUFFET


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Effective December 29, 2000, AT&T will increase its rates for pay-phone calls sent coin-paid and person-to-person from \$2.10 to \$2.70 for each three minutes. Its service charges for calls made other than by dialing 1 800 CALL ATT and charged to a commercial credit card or local exchange credit card are being increased from \$4.55 to \$4.99. The rates for collect calls using 1 800 CALL ATT are also being increased from \$4.00 per minute to \$4.45 per minute. In addition, effective January 1, 2001, an Idaho Universal Service Fund surcharge of 1.7% will be assessed against the total bill for interstate calls. For further details, please contact your AT&T customer service center at 1 800 222-0300.

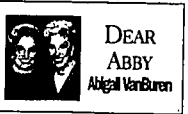
MORNING BREAK

CROSSWORD puzzle grid with clues for Across and Down.

Thursday's Puzzle Solved with answers for Across and Down.

Girl wants to date younger guy

DEAR ABBY: I am a teenage girl, and there is this guy at my school. He asked me out on a date. I don't know what to say. I really want to go, but I'm afraid that my friends and others will make fun of me because he's a year younger than me.



DEAR ABBY: After five years of marriage, I find myself in the middle of divorce proceedings. I'll spare you the gory details, but suffice it to say that my wife left me for a co-worker. Luckily there are no children involved, so other than the emotional pain, the process is primarily financial at this point.

Items that have a connection with our marriage. In particular, I'm troubled by what to do with our wedding album. In one sense it represents a part of my life and my family history, even though it's been painful. On the other hand, the album is a reminder of the failure of our marriage and the promises that we made to each other.

smoking one cigarette after another while our son is there. When he returns home, he is saturated in nicotine, and I have to bathe him immediately and wash his clothes. He has complained twice that his eyes hurt. For obvious reasons, I do not want him around all that smoke.

DEAR MANDY: You must decide what's more important to you, pleasing yourself or pleasing your other friends. If the choice were mine and I was teased because I went out with someone a year younger, I would reply, "Well, I LIKE him, and I think

As part of the proposed settlement, I am responsible for returning the personal effects she left behind when she abandoned our home. Most items are easy to deal with, such as clothing, shoes, etc. However, other things are causing a dilemma for me. These are the

DEAR FEELING TORN: With pleasure. If you want the album, keep it. Your (almost) former wife can order copies from the photographer who took the pictures.

DEAR HATES TOBACCO: Talk to your son's pediatrician and ask him to schedule an appointment that includes your husband. Secondhand smoke IS dangerous for babies and small children, and your husband should be made aware of the risk that his son is facing at the home of his chain-smoking - and obviously addicted - grandmother.

Aries - make fresh start in different direction

IF DECEMBER 22ND IS YOUR BIRTHDAY: You began creating your own lifestyle at a relatively early age. Taurus, Leo, Scorpio persons have important roles in your life, could have these letters, initials in names: D, M, V. Next year, as early as January, you will imprint your own style and there could be new love. July and October will be romantic, profitable. Nothing will be impossible.

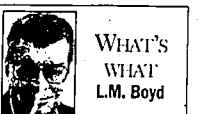
HOROSCOPE Sydney Omarr Capricorn individuals will play fascinating roles. GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Keep resolutions concerning exercise, diet and nutrition. Spotlight on humor, celebration, bringing together those with opposite political views.

ten word, give yourself a chance. Family member has pleasant surprise. VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Attention revolves around where you live, romance, receipt of gift representing love. Emphasis on diplomacy, willingness to make intelligent concessions.

one could be following you. Journey to foreign land is distinct possibility. Stress universal appeal. Reunion with Aries exciting. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): What seemed impossible, 24 hours ago is now practical, workable. Living quarters will be secure, comfortable. Major dilemma will be solved. Leo plays role.

Christmas and May Day fall on the same day of the week

A seasoned farmer says it makes no sense for a lone man to try to catch a sheep. If he catches it, he can't grab it. If he grabs it, he can't hold on. If he holds on, he wonders why. Lenin was a redhead. Q. In the wedding ceremony of the Incas, I've read, they considered themselves married when they took off the clothing. No? A. Not exactly. When they handed each other their sandals, that was enough. They knew the drill.



WHAT'S WHAT? L.M. Boyd still wasn't sure he was right about things. But being right was not the point. He said, "I don't want to be right - I only want to know whether I am right."

Baby upstages Madonna on eve of her wedding

DORNOCH, Scotland (AP) - Four-month-old Rocco, Richie upstaged his mother Madonna on the eve of her wedding, as the pop diva and her husband-to-be brought the baby to church for his baptism Thursday evening.

McCartney, who is presumed to be the designer of Madonna's wedding dress. Heavy fog gave the scene a gauzy, pastel quality, softening the purposeful menace of Madonna's private security men who shepherded guests into the church. No one entered without an invitation.



Pop star Madonna stands next to British film director Guy Ritchie as he carries their son, Rocco, outside Dornoch Cathedral in northern Scotland Thursday, following Rocco's baptism.

The Times-News CLASSIFIED MARKETPLACE

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Grid of classified advertisements including Real Estate, Employment, and Services.

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On April 10, 2001, at the hour of 10:00 AM, of said day, at the FRONT ENTRANCE OF FIRST AMERICAN...

REWARD
FOUND, 7-9 month old male, golden Lab with dark collar. South of Twin Falls. Call 734-2833.

REWARD
LOST young black/white cat, adult tall. Reward: Call 208-733-1945, evenings in Falls, Idaho.

REWARD
LOST-REWARD: Stolen black male Akita, South West of Twin Falls. Missing since 12/11/00.

REWARD
LOST-10 m old spayed female Himalayan cat. Purple collar w/black & red tag.

REWARD
LOST \$100 reward for any information as to 2474 E. 4200 North, Filer, ID 83428.

REWARD
I SAID I WOULD DO IT. I SAID I WOULD DO IT. I SAID I WOULD DO IT.

REWARD
THE ABOVE GRANTORS ARE NAMED TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 45-1506(4)(a), IDAHO CODE. NO REPRESENTATION IS MADE THAT THEY ARE OR ARE NOT, PRESENTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS OBLIGATION.

REWARD
The default for which this sale is to be made is: Failure to pay the monthly payment due September 1, 2000 of principal, interest and impounds...

REWARD
On April 5, 2001, at the hour of 10:00 AM, of said day, at the FRONT ENTRANCE OF FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, 260 THIRD AVENUE NORTH, TWIN FALLS, IDAHO...

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On April 5, 2001, at the hour of 10:00 AM, of said day, at the FRONT ENTRANCE OF FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, 260 THIRD AVENUE NORTH, TWIN FALLS, IDAHO...

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On April 5, 2001, at the hour of 10:00 AM, of said day, at the FRONT ENTRANCE OF FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, 260 THIRD AVENUE NORTH, TWIN FALLS, IDAHO...

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On April 5, 2001, at the hour of 10:00 AM, of said day, at the FRONT ENTRANCE OF FIRST AMERICAN TITLE COMPANY, 260 THIRD AVENUE NORTH, TWIN FALLS, IDAHO...

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CITY SUPERINTENDENT
The City of Twin Falls is seeking an experienced CITY SUPERINTENDENT to supervise the City Crew in street, water works, irrigation, etc.

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The City of Twin Falls is seeking an experienced CITY SUPERINTENDENT to supervise the City Crew in street, water works, irrigation, etc.

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The City of Twin Falls is seeking an experienced CITY SUPERINTENDENT to supervise the City Crew in street, water works, irrigation, etc.

CITY SUPERINTENDENT
The City of Twin Falls is seeking an experienced CITY SUPERINTENDENT to supervise the City Crew in street, water works, irrigation, etc.

CITY SUPERINTENDENT
The City of Twin Falls is seeking an experienced CITY SUPERINTENDENT to supervise the City Crew in street, water works, irrigation, etc.

CITY SUPERINTENDENT
The City of Twin Falls is seeking an experienced CITY SUPERINTENDENT to supervise the City Crew in street, water works, irrigation, etc.

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MANUFACTURING
Spears Manufacturing
Company is accepting applications for the following full-time positions: Quality Control/Packaging, Warehouse, Machinist, Plastic Fabrication, & Production Material Handler. Benefits: Company paid employee health, dental, life insurance, vacation, paid holidays, and 401(k). Applications available at: Spears Manufacturing Plant Security Office 2152 South Lincoln Jerome, Idaho (208) 324-8101 Open 9-5 Monday through Friday. Opportunity Employer

PERSONNEL
PLUS
HAIR STYLIST
Reach your highest potential in one of the best full service salons. Guaranteed wages, flexible hours, part time or full time. Graduated cosmetology. Call 733-7777 ask for JR.

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Ask AdHound to search our classifieds for you.



Tell AdHound what you're looking for and he'll search to find a match. Then he emails the ad to you. He can roam right here at home, or through... the pages of more than 500 newspapers nationally.

For more information, call 733-0931.



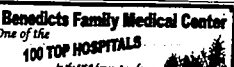
http://www.magicvalley.com

HAVE YOU CONSIDERED A CAREER WITH THE VA?

The VA Medical Center / Community Based Outpatient Clinic in Twin Falls is recruiting for a Certified Medical Assistant

Please contact 422-1217 for further information.

VA Medical Center 500 West Fort Street Boise, ID 83702-4598



Must be a U.S. citizen. EEO employer.

St. Benedicts Family Medical Center One of the 100 TOP HOSPITALS In the USA for 1998 and 1999

St. Benedicts is a mission-driven health care organization providing patient-focused care. We are looking for caring professionals who want to work for a top quality health care provider.

- RN/Adult Care - Several positions now available in hospital, PRN to full-time, depending on skill selected. OB experience preferred. Current RN license required.
RN or LPN w/change course: Want some extra hours before the holidays? Several employment positions with available weeks. Various shifts in our Long Term Care Unit. Current license required.
Performance Improvement Coordinator - Principal responsibilities of the position include: coordinating all medical center performance improvement activities with the serving as resource to manager and supervisors in developing and reporting PI monitors; providing education to employees and physicians; overseeing development of policies and procedures; developing formats for reporting to the Board of Directors. The position reports to the Hospital Administrator. Qualifications: familiarity with performance improvement methods and techniques; knowledge of simple statistics; computer competency (including Excel spread sheets); demonstrated success in facilitating group process; experience in a hospital setting; skills in problem solving, and ability to function without close supervision. Knowledge of and experience with JCAHO standards and TCFCA regulations desired.

PERSONALS
101 LOST & FOUND
Please check your ad for correctness on the first day that it runs, as the Times-News is not responsible for errors after that time.

E-MAIL your classified ad to us at twined@micon.net
FOUND Female yellow Lab X, 1 yr + 7, Sped on the tonus, Poliline & DO, running w/black Lab. Call 734-4305
FOUND Heeler X, male, very nice, housebroken, wants to be home for Christmas. Found 5 miles S of Hansen. 423-4097

FOUND Female yellow Lab X, 1 yr + 7, Sped on the tonus, Poliline & DO, running w/black Lab. Call 734-4305

FOUND Heeler X, male, very nice, housebroken, wants to be home for Christmas. Found 5 miles S of Hansen. 423-4097

Watch for Heart 2 Heart
Voice Personals
 Sunday in... **The Times-News**
 Tuesday in... **MAGIC VALUES SHOPPER & AUTO TRADER**
 Saturday in... **AG WEEKLY**
Online - Anytime
 www.magicvalley.com

NOW HIRING
 All Shifts Available
 \$6.00 - \$10.00 per hour
 Permanent and Temporary
 Accepting applications for:
 Construction
 Clerical
 Forklift Certified
 Production
 Machine Operators
 Maids
 Warehouse
 General Labor
 Assembly
 Apply in person at

INTERMOUNTAIN
 415 Addison Ave., #3
 Twin Falls, Idaho
 228-7253/555

MECHANIC
 John Deere dealership
 looking for exp. mechanic
 & lube service man. Pay
 DOE. Must have own
 tools. Fill out application
 at 26 E. 300 S. Jerome,
 ID, or send resume.

MECHANIC
 Mechanic wanted/wide
 city truck shop experience.
 Competitive wages &
 benefits. Call Bob at
 NWE 734-3051.

MEDICAL
 Hospital immediate opening
 L&D-RN, night shift, full-
 time benefits, 36 hrs. per
 week. Please send
 resume and contact:
 Connie, Nursing Recruiter
 Human Resources,
 P.O. Box 405
 Twin Falls, ID 83303-0409
 Telephone (208) 737-2008
 FAX (208) 737-2741
 E-mail:
 wendyca@mvmc.gen.id.us
 mvmc.com

'People United To Care'
**MAGIC VALLEY
 REGIONAL MEDICAL
 CENTER**
 Equal Opportunity
 Employer
 Drug Free Environment

MEDICAL
 LPNs needed for Private
 Day Nursing for children
 and Hospice. FT and PM.
 Call 734-0600 to apply.

MEDICAL
 LSW or MSW needed. Call
 734-7730.

MEDICAL
**MOUNTAIN VIEW
 CARE CENTER**
 Has the following openings.
 • RN or LPN Night Shift
 Call or come in and visit
 with Cindy Riedel, Admin.
 or Connie Stone at
 500 Polk St., Kimberly
 823-5551

MEDICAL
RN A LET'S TALK!
 RN's at Valley Regional
 Medical Center is looking
 for experienced RN's for
 full-time or PRN position
 on evening & night
 shifts. Openings on vari-
 ous units available. ALSO
 Certified Surgical
 Technicians. We offer
 great evening/night &
 weekend differential!

Our competitive salary &
 excellent Flexible
 benefit package includes:
 • PRN up to 20% above
 base
 • Paid Time Off
 • Health/Dental/Vision
 • Life/AD&D/LTD
 • Retirement
 • Tuition Reimbursement
 • Infant Care Center and
 much more.

Apply at:
 650 Addison Ave W.
 Human Resources
 Twin Falls, ID 83303-0409
 (208) 737-2113
 FAX (208) 737-2741
 Twin Falls, ID 83303-0409
 (208) 737-2775
 conniboo@mvmc.
 gen.id.us

'PEOPLE UNITED
 TO CARE'

DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE
**MISCELLANEOUS
 Questions...**
 Could you use extra mon-
 ey? Do you get into
 shape? Want to learn
 leadership & technical
 skills? Need money to pay
 for college? If you an-
 swered yes to any of the
 above, the Idaho Army
 National Guard may be
 able to help. Call Eric
 Barlow 734-9177 or
 1-800-GO-GUARD.

MISCELLANEOUS
 Ski Lift Operator, Ski Pat-
 rol & Ski Instructors.
 Rental Shop. Apply at
 Magic Mountain, 423-6221

**NEWSPAPER
 CIRCULATION**
 The Times-News is ac-
 cepting applications for a
 full-time District Manager.
 The successful candidate
 must be able to work
 weekends, be depend-
 able, have excellent time-
 management skills, and
 enjoy working with youth.
 An outgoing personality is
 a plus.
 This entry level manage-
 ment position includes re-
 sponsibilities for managing
 youth & adult carriers,
 sales promotions, & pro-
 viding excellent customer
 service. If you are inter-
 ested, fill out an applica-
 tion by December 26,
 2000.

The Times-News
 Attn: Dan Walock
 P.O. Box 448
 Twin Falls, ID 83303.
 "A DRUG FREE
 WORKPLACE"

One of the most things that
 classified is the way it works
 for you. Call 733-9331.

NEED EXTRA CASH?
 Inventory retail positions
 open for immediate hire.
 Retail Inventory Specialist
 \$7.75 starting wage.
 1-888-532-7447

OFFICE
 Part time person needed
 for various office duties.
 Filing, organization. Hours
 flexible. 10 to 15 hours
 per week. Please contact
 Ken at 208-733-8516.

PEACE OFFICER
 The City of Wendell is ac-
 cepting applications for
 the position of Peace
 Officer. Applications may
 be obtained at the City
 Hall, 157 W. Main, Won-
 dell, ID 83355. The closing
 date is January 5th, 2001.
 Applicants will be re-
 quired to undergo a
 background investigation
 and have a current drivers li-
 cense, and meet all other
 requirements to be
 employed. Starting Salary
 is \$1300-\$1600 per
 month. DOE. Benefits in-
 clude health insurance,
 holidays, vacations, and
 sick leave. Wendell is an
 EOE and Drug Free
 Workplace.

PHARMACIST
 Busy retail store in Burley,
 sign on bonus, top salary.
 Call 736-1597.

PRODUCTION
 Production scheduling/in-
 side sales. Strong math skills
 necessary. Computer
 skills helpful. \$12 per hour
 plus benefits
 Send resumes to:
 Manager, P.O. Box 153
 Twin Falls, Idaho 83303

PROFESSIONAL
 Branch Managers to run
 drug program & residential
 programs.

RESTAURANT
 Hiring evenings delivery
 drivers. \$6.00 an hour,
 plus tips and gas reimburse-
 ment. Apply at ADDI-
 SON PIZZA HUT.

RETAIL CLERK
 Looking for an individual
 for unique gift shop in
 Ketchum. To be involved in
 retail sales, purchasing,
 stocking, etc. 40hr/wk. FT
 position w/benefits. Com-
 pensation w/e. 726-3474 or
 fax resume to 726-3581.

SALES
 Main Street Treats needs a
 friendly, energetic person
 to sell our food products.
 Exc. commission. Troy
 734-7309 or 731-2084

**SHORTY DELIVER
 DRIVER**
 The Times is accepting ap-
 plications for shortage de-
 livery driver. Hours are
 Monday through Friday
 6-10 am. Applicants must
 be dependable, have a
 good driving record, &
 work well with others.
 Must have reliable vehicle.
 Interested applicants should
 send their resumes to the
 Idaho Times-News, 432 3rd St.
 West, Twin Falls, ID. Attn: D.

SPORTSWRITER
 The Times-News needs a
 talented sports junkie to
 cover everything that
 runs, jumps, or tackles in
 Mini-Cassia. The suc-
 cessful applicant will have
 a four-year college de-
 gree, excellent verbal
 skills and background in
 writing and photographing
 for publication. You'll
 be the sole sports report-
 er in our Burley news bu-
 reau. You'll produce a
 thorough local sports re-
 port, sooner and better
 than the competition. We
 offer an excellent starting
 salary plus full benefits.
 Send your resume, best
 clips and a list of refer-
 ences to Clark Walworth,
 Magazine Editor, The
 Times-News, P.O. Box
 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303.
 We're a n a o u e i -
 opportunity employer and
 a drug-free workplace.

SECRETARY
 Part-time position. 1:00 to
 5:00 daily. Send resume to
 Dr. Brewster, 733
 Shoehorn St., N. Twin
 Falls. Computer experi-
 ence necessary. No
 phone call please.

STUDENTS
 The Idaho Army National
 Guard has a part-time job
 for you. Join now and
 we'll send you to training
 this summer with full pay.
 Find out more. Call SFC
 Barlow 734-9177 or
 1-800-GO-GUARD.

TECHNICIAN
 Looking for capable hard
 working auto body techni-
 cian in fast paced auto
 body shop. Schooling or
 experience required. Con-
 tact Kendall or Dan at
 678-0023 or apply in per-
 son at 244 Overland Ave.
 Burley.

TECHNICIAN
 Immediate opening for
 Cable TV Technician.
 Electronics background
 preferred but not
 necessary. Great career
 opportunity. Full benefits
 avail. after 90 days.
 Please apply 1162 N.
 Blue Lakes Blvd, Twin
 Falls with resume.

WELDER
 Expert wire feed. Wanted
 immediately. Good wages.
 Drug free. Call 324-8558

WELDERS
 Looking for qualified
 welders. Certified plus
 good benefits. Call for
 appointment. 438-8248

**217
 EMPLOYMENT
 OPPORTUNITIES**

**PUBLIC SERVICE
 MESSAGE**
 Federal employment infor-
 mation is free. Remem-
 ber, no one can promise
 you a federal job. For free
 information about federal
 jobs, call Career America
 Connection, 912-757-3000

ISUZU
 Go further.
 TAKE A TEST DRIVE
 SIGN UP TO WIN
 LUCKY PEOPLE
 WILL WIN \$2,000
 Hurry In For Details!
NEW ISUZU RODEO 4X4
 Go further.
 ISUZU
 Go further.
SAVE \$6000
NOW \$22,363
 205 HP V6, Shift-On-the-Fly 4WD, Air, Am/Fm/CD,
 Power Windows, Locks, Mirrors, Tilt, Cruise, Keyless
 Entry & More! Plus the...
 Isuzu 10 Year / 120,000 Limited Powertrain Warranty
 *2004 & 2005 Model 120,000 Mile Limited Powertrain Warranty
2000 ISUZU TROOPER 4X4
 ISUZU
 Go further.
SAVE \$8000
NOW \$22,939
 215 hp V6 w/ Automatic, Power Windows, Locks, Mirrors,
 Am/Fm/6-Disc CD, Air, Hood Protector, Remote Keyless Entry &
 More! Plus the... Isuzu 10 Year / 120,000 Limited Powertrain Warranty
 *2004 & 2005 Model 120,000 Mile Limited Powertrain Warranty
01 DODGE 3/4 QUAD CAB 4X4 SPORT
 Cummins Diesel #9940
NOW \$30,950
01 DODGE 3/4 QUAD CAB 4X4 S1T
 Laramie Cummins Diesel, Auto, NO ALLEYS #9950-0
NOW \$31,950
98 GMC 3/4 TON 4X4 #9936-4
 2000 Mile W/OK #10421
NOW \$3,950
99 DODGE 1/2 TON 4X4 #9241-1
 V6, Air, NICE!
NOW \$16,950
98 CHEVY BLAZER LT PKG 4X4 #00121-1
 V6, Air, Leather, Sunroof
NOW \$17,950
99 GMC JIMMY SLE 4X4 #0290-0
 Loaded! Remaining factory Warranty.
NOW \$18,950
99 DODGE 1/2 TON 4X4 #9960-0
 Limited, Custom Wheels, MUST SEE!
NOW \$19,995
97 FORD F250 SUPER CAB 4X4 #9978-0
 Powertrain Diesel.
NOW \$20,950
97 FORD EXPEDITION 4X4 #110324-1
 5.4 V8, Rear Air, 3rd Seat.
NOW \$20,950
99 FORD F250 QUAD CAB 4X4 #09804-1
 Powertrain Diesel.
NOW \$20,950

**GARY'S
 WESTLAND
 ISUZU**
 A Member of Gary's Westland Family of Dealerships
 1070 BLUE LAKES BOYD, N.
 733-1825 • 1-800-290-8632 www.garyswestland.com
 *Our disclosures comply with State & Federal regulations. All prices are in U.S. dollars. Tax, title, & \$97
 Dealer Documentation fee. No trade prices. All units subject to prior sale.
 Prices for illustration purposes only.

Hertz
Approved
 \$16975
 \$12395
 \$16332
 \$17896
 \$13411
 \$22360
 \$12265
 \$20125
 \$12762
 \$11076
 \$11174
 \$22360
 \$10762
 \$14875
 \$16412
 \$18410
 \$31944
 \$16392
 \$18412
 \$17940
 \$28950
 \$25898
 \$20487
 \$21476
 \$15611

Hertz
Car Sales
 636 Potlatch Road, Twin Falls, 733-4000
 *Units subject to prior sale or lease
 Prices do not include tax, title (\$8.00) or dealer DOC fee (\$141.00)
 Prices Effective Through Wednesday, December 27, 2000

**Classified
 Early Deadlines**

Publication Date	Advertising Deadline
Sat. Dec. 23	11am Fri. Dec. 22
Sun. Dec. 24	1pm Fri. Dec. 22
Mon. Dec. 25	2pm Fri. Dec. 22
Tues. Dec. 26	3pm Fri. Dec. 22

The Times-News Classified
 Advertising Department
 will close at 3:00 p.m.
 Friday, December 22
 Closed Christmas Day
 Your Friends at
 The Times-News
 Wish You a
 Merry Christmas!
 Twin Falls 733-0931 ext 2
 Burley Idaho 877-4042
 The news room can be reached on
 Christmas day at 733-0931 ext 234

REAL ESTATE

Adults, Youths, Retirees
EARN EXTRA CASH!

The Times-News



is accepting applications for Walking Routes in Twin Falls. These contracted positions are 7-day, early-morning delivery positions and can be a source of additional income while you get paid for your morning walk. Some routes also qualify for a sign-on bonus of up to \$50.00. If you are interested, please stop by the Times-News at 132 3rd St. West, Twin Falls or call the circulation department at 735-3302.

218 Times News Carriers

BUHL (8)

THE TIMES-NEWS CURRENTLY HAS THE FOLLOWING INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER ROUTES IN BUHL

ROUTE 546
200 Blk. 3rd Ave. N.
100 Blk. Brook Dr.
200-800 Blk. Main St.
100 Blk. Rainbow Circle

ROUTE 548
200-800 Blk. Main St.
100 Blk. Rainbow Circle

ROUTE 549
Midway West
1000 Blk. 5th St. West
400-500 Centre
300-500 Golden Spur
100-200 Strip St.

ROUTE 550
100 Blk. Davis
200-500 North St.
100 Blk. Ramsay

ROUTE 551
1000 Blk. 5th St. West
400-500 Centre
300-500 Golden Spur
100-200 Strip St.

ROUTE 552
200-800 Blk. Main St.
100 Blk. Rainbow Circle

ROUTE 553
200-800 Blk. Main St.
100 Blk. Rainbow Circle

ROUTE 554
200-800 Blk. Main St.
100 Blk. Rainbow Circle

ROUTE 555
200-800 Blk. Main St.
100 Blk. Rainbow Circle

ROUTE 556
200-800 Blk. Main St.
100 Blk. Rainbow Circle

ROUTE 557
200-800 Blk. Main St.
100 Blk. Rainbow Circle

ROUTE 558
200-800 Blk. Main St.
100 Blk. Rainbow Circle

ROUTE 559
200-800 Blk. Main St.
100 Blk. Rainbow Circle

FILER (8)

THE TIMES-NEWS IS CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER CARRIERS FOR THE FILER AREA. Walking Routes Available

ROUTE 551
100-600 6th St.
Rayborn Circle

ROUTE 553
100 Blk. Davis
200-500 North St.
100 Blk. Ramsay

ROUTE 559
Midway West
1000 Blk. 5th St. West
400-500 Centre
300-500 Golden Spur
100-200 Strip St.

ROUTE 569
1000 Blk. 5th St. West
400-500 Centre
300-500 Golden Spur
100-200 Strip St.

ROUTE 572
2600-2900 9th Ave. E
2800 Elizabeth Ave.
900 Gallup Drive
700-900 Cypress Way
600-800 O'Leary Way

ROUTE 729
1100 Blk 4th Ave. E
1100-1400 Blk 6th Ave.
East
1100-1400 Blk 6th Ave.
East

ROUTE 722
2600-2900 9th Ave. E
2800 Elizabeth Ave.
900 Gallup Drive
700-900 Cypress Way
600-800 O'Leary Way

ROUTE 729
1100 Blk 4th Ave. E
1100-1400 Blk 6th Ave.
East
1100-1400 Blk 6th Ave.
East

ROUTE 726
1800 Blk of 4th Ave E
1500-500 Blk of Madrona
200-400 Morningside Dr
400 Blk of Wakefield

ROUTE 722
1300-1400 4th Ave. E.
100-400 Blk Elm St.
100-500 Blk Locust St.
100-400 Blk Walnut

ROUTE 722
1600-1700 Blk of 2nd
1500-1700 Blk of 3rd
Ave. E.
1500-1700 Blk 4th Ave.
E

ROUTE 828
100-400 Adams
100-400 Adams

ROUTE 828
100-400 Jefferson

ROUTE 828
100-400 Adams
100-400 Adams

ROUTE 828
100-400 Adams
100-400 Adams

MINI-CASSIA

The Times-News is Currently Looking for Independent Walking Route Carriers in the Burley and Rupert Areas.

If you live in the Burley or Rupert Area and are interested in being a Newspaper Carrier, please contact the Burley office at 737-4042 or stop by the office at 325 1/2 E. 5th N. (next to Wal-Mart)

ROUTE 551
100-600 6th St.
Rayborn Circle

ROUTE 553
100 Blk. Davis
200-500 North St.
100 Blk. Ramsay

ROUTE 559
Midway West
1000 Blk. 5th St. West
400-500 Centre
300-500 Golden Spur
100-200 Strip St.

ROUTE 569
1000 Blk. 5th St. West
400-500 Centre
300-500 Golden Spur
100-200 Strip St.

ROUTE 572
2600-2900 9th Ave. E
2800 Elizabeth Ave.
900 Gallup Drive
700-900 Cypress Way
600-800 O'Leary Way

ROUTE 729
1100 Blk 4th Ave. E
1100-1400 Blk 6th Ave.
East
1100-1400 Blk 6th Ave.
East

ROUTE 722
2600-2900 9th Ave. E
2800 Elizabeth Ave.
900 Gallup Drive
700-900 Cypress Way
600-800 O'Leary Way

ROUTE 729
1100 Blk 4th Ave. E
1100-1400 Blk 6th Ave.
East
1100-1400 Blk 6th Ave.
East

ROUTE 726
1800 Blk of 4th Ave E
1500-500 Blk of Madrona
200-400 Morningside Dr
400 Blk of Wakefield

ROUTE 722
1300-1400 4th Ave. E.
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100-400 Blk Walnut

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1600-1700 Blk of 2nd
1500-1700 Blk of 3rd
Ave. E.
1500-1700 Blk 4th Ave.
E

ROUTE 828
100-400 Adams
100-400 Adams

ROUTE 828
100-400 Adams
100-400 Adams

ROUTE 828
100-400 Adams
100-400 Adams

302 MONEY TO LOAN

Continental Loans
\$100 - \$500
Phone applications welcome
Call Today - 735-0892.

304 INVESTMENTS

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE
Big profits usually mean big risk. Before you do business with a company, check it out with the Better Business Bureau. For free information about avoiding investment scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center, 1-800-876-7060.

305 CONTRACTS & MORTGAGES

\$5 CASH NOW \$3
For Contracts & Mortgages.
Call Diversified Capital.
208-734-8727

DRACO INVESTMENT CORP.

Monitors? Contracts? Goods of trust? You want to sell? You want to buy? Prompt cash offers. We are local & competitive. Call 208-735-3821.
R. Todd Blass, President
Richard B. Siyvers, V.P.
T.W. Siyvers, Sec./Treas.

501 OPEN HOUSES

Please check your ad for times on the first day that it runs. At The Times-News is not responsible for errors after that time.

502 HOMES FOR SALE

GUARANTEED AD
Buy the Guaranteed package and The Times News guarantees to sell merchandise or automotive items in 7 days and real estate in 15 days or we will return the ad an additional 7 days. There is a \$3 extra charge for the guaranteed package. Ads may be cancelled early for customer convenience but the charge will remain the same.

301 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

GREAT OPPORTUNITY
Mrs. Bessley's Auto/Truck Detail. Buy out Inventory & take over lease. All ready made sheet clientele. Evals. 735-8283

INSURANCE ADJUSTING
National franchise offering established business in Elko. Proven earnings support. Call Mike at 775-323-5077.

No matter how you spend your days, classified fits your busy schedule. Put classifieds in one saving directory of goods and services to work for you today.

LELAMIZ REALTY CO.
705 Fillmore Street, Suite 1
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
734-7007

FOR SALE BY BUILDER
SAWTOOTH ACRES
518 Smokey Mountain Drive, Jerome

New 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Split Floor Plan Home
+1 Plus Acres +Vaulted Ceilings +Golf Kitchen +2 Car Garage
+Natural Gas Forced Air +Refrigerated Air +Maintenance Free Exterior
This home is only 5 minutes from Twin Falls, close to Jerome Golf Course and borders 20+ acres of common area.

Only **\$88,900**
SLUSHER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY - 644-1541

FAX YOUR AD

TIMES CLASSIFIED DEPARTMENT
208-734-5538
OR
208-677-4543 (BURLEY)

PUBLIC SERVICE MESSAGE

Selling property? Don't pay any fees until it's sold. For free information about avoiding timeshare and real estate scams, write to the Federal Trade Commission, Washington, D.C. 20580, or call the National Fraud Information Center at 1-800-876-7060.

305 CONTRACTS & MORTGAGES

\$5 CASH NOW \$3
For Contracts & Mortgages.
Call Diversified Capital.
208-734-8727

DRACO INVESTMENT CORP.

Monitors? Contracts? Goods of trust? You want to sell? You want to buy? Prompt cash offers. We are local & competitive. Call 208-735-3821.
R. Todd Blass, President
Richard B. Siyvers, V.P.
T.W. Siyvers, Sec./Treas.

501 OPEN HOUSES

Please check your ad for times on the first day that it runs. At The Times-News is not responsible for errors after that time.

502 HOMES FOR SALE

GUARANTEED AD
Buy the Guaranteed package and The Times News guarantees to sell merchandise or automotive items in 7 days and real estate in 15 days or we will return the ad an additional 7 days. There is a \$3 extra charge for the guaranteed package. Ads may be cancelled early for customer convenience but the charge will remain the same.

LELAMIZ REALTY CO.
705 Fillmore Street, Suite 1
Twin Falls, Idaho 83301
734-7007

FOR SALE BY BUILDER
SAWTOOTH ACRES
518 Smokey Mountain Drive, Jerome

New 3 Bedroom, 2 Bath Split Floor Plan Home
+1 Plus Acres +Vaulted Ceilings +Golf Kitchen +2 Car Garage
+Natural Gas Forced Air +Refrigerated Air +Maintenance Free Exterior
This home is only 5 minutes from Twin Falls, close to Jerome Golf Course and borders 20+ acres of common area.

Only **\$88,900**
SLUSHER CONSTRUCTION COMPANY - 644-1541

PAUL, 3 possible 4 bdrm, brick home with barn, corrals, pasture, all on 3.5 acres. North West of Paul near Gravelow Rd. Call 431-1173

TWIN FALLS - 9 bdrms. Care Center/Home. Acroage Rent/Sell 733-1359

TWIN FALLS - 6 bdrm. 2 bdrms, 2 bath, 2 blocks from high school \$99,900. Call 734-1021.

TWIN FALLS - Newer 3 bdrm. 2 bath home, w/2 car garage. Morningwood/O'Leary school district, asking \$101,500. Motivated. 734-2097.

TWIN FALLS - A Price of a Place \$139,900
Landscape yard adds to this especially nice brand new 3 bdrm, 2 bath home. Custom blinds, gourmet kitchen with appliances. Subdivision amenities include pool/pa, pedestrian path, lease option possible. Call or view Collins 733-5336, 734-6104, 731-2299.

TWIN FALLS Newer 3 bdrm. 2 bath, covered patio, RV parking. Many extras!! \$109,500. 1260 Arctec Dr.

TWIN FALLS - Sharp 2 bdrm cottage. fenced yard, built-ins, ready to move in for the Holidays. \$67,500.

ALPINE REALTY
734-3373

TWIN FALLS. Want the feel of a new home at an affordable price? New roof, vinyl windows, paint in oil, carpet & vinyl 2 bdrm. just \$49,900. Call Nelson Realty 734-9390

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm. 1 bath, 1800 sq. ft. New windows, paint, vinyl, maintenance free exterior, quiet neighborhood. \$67,500. Call 734-8727

TWIN FALLS. Need 6 bdrms. + 2 baths? 7 1/2 block from school. 2nd home in back brings in \$320,000. \$89,800. Nelson Realty 734-9390

513 ACRES & LOTS

BLISS. Land investment opportunity, 1 group of 9 undeveloped residential lots. Call 208-362-6201

518 MOBILE HOMES

REPO'S Several 14' wide, 16' wide and doubles, some on our lot and some in parks. Brockmans by Walmart in Jerome. 1-800-878-4390 or 324-6622

520 REAL ESTATE WANTED

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4 BEDROOM NEW MODEL
Must see to appreciate!
BY CLAYTON HOMES
voted Manufacturer of the Year 2000
by the National Manufactured Housing Institute

MAGIC HOMES
5475 US HWY 93 • JEROME, IDAHO
(North of Petco 2nd off Interstate 84)
208-644-9641

GEM STATE REALTY, INC.
734-0400

FAIRFIELD. For sale by owner. 40 ac. 6 miles from city. Great view of Soldier Mt. Near Golf & Skiing. \$32K. 934-8104, msg

GOODING. Best offer! Remodeled. 2 bdrm. 2 bath on 2 1/2 acres. \$99,000. Call 731-5500 or 937-6313

TWIN FALLS
5-10 ACRES
City Water
Natural Gas
Irrigation Water
West Filer Avenue
731-5500 or 937-6313

514 INCOME PROPERTY

TWIN FALLS - 7/8d of stocks? Check return on new 4 pvt. Call Chuck 733-6207

515 COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

GREAT opportunity just in time for the Christmas season! GOURMET FREE SHOP in the Magic Valley Mall. Mail lease only possible. Call or view Collins 733-5336, 734-6104, 731-2299.

TWIN FALLS Newer 3 bdrm. 2 bath, covered patio, RV parking. Many extras!! \$109,500. 1260 Arctec Dr.

TWIN FALLS - Sharp 2 bdrm cottage. fenced yard, built-ins, ready to move in for the Holidays. \$67,500.

TWIN FALLS. Want the feel of a new home at an affordable price? New roof, vinyl windows, paint in oil, carpet & vinyl 2 bdrm. just \$49,900. Call Nelson Realty 734-9390

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm. 1 bath, 1800 sq. ft. New windows, paint, vinyl, maintenance free exterior, quiet neighborhood. \$67,500. Call 734-8727

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518 MOBILE HOMES

REPO'S Several 14' wide, 16' wide and doubles, some on our lot and some in parks. Brockmans by Walmart in Jerome. 1-800-878-4390 or 324-6622

520 REAL ESTATE WANTED

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521 MANUFACTURED HOMES

WE ARE HERE TO STAY! We set-up & deliver in rain, sleet or snow. Nothing stops us from getting you in your new home.
WestHomes Inc.
208-732-5710
1-888-310-9037

Real Estate Rental

601 FURNISHED HOUSES

JEROME FURNISHED HOME
3 bdrm. 2 bath townhome on Jerome golf course. \$1,500/mo. Includes all utilities, base phone, cable TV, yard care. Short term ok. Call Kent or Cindy at 733-5336 or 734-6104 or 734-6104, evenings & weekends.

JEROME 3 bedroom. possibly 4. 2 bath. \$650 mo. Call 320-1582

TWIN FALLS - Completely turn Condo w/parking \$1100 per mo. includes, basic phone, cable, all utilities, lawn care. Short term ok. Kent or Cindy 733-5336 or 734-6104

602 UNFURNISHED HOUSES

BLISS. 1 1/2 3 bdrm (inside in town. 300 4th Ave S. \$375/mo. Call 736-0332

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm. '98 mobile home. No pets \$450/mo + dog. Long term lease, in Bluff Mobile Estates. Call 543-8342

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That brkday ad you placed, some time ago in The Times-News? Now's the time to come pick up your pictures. Stop by the Customer Service Dept today!

4 BEDROOM NEW MODEL
Must see to appreciate!
BY CLAYTON HOMES
voted Manufacturer of the Year 2000
by the National Manufactured Housing Institute

MAGIC HOMES
5475 US HWY 93 • JEROME, IDAHO
(North of Petco 2nd off Interstate 84)
208-644-9641

GEM STATE REALTY, INC.
734-0400

BUHL. Immaculate 2 bdrm w/garage for lease. \$625 per month + \$600/mo. References & credit check req. Call Jim now! 863-4271

BUHL 2 bdrm. 1 1/2 bath. \$600 at 717 7th Ave N. \$450 + dep. Call 208-733-8600

BUHL. Clean 2 bdrm. 1 1/2 bath. \$450 + dep. \$450/mo + dep. 421 11th Ave. N. 734-1465

E-MAIL your classified ad to us at: twfnad@ericon.net

FILER: Avul Jan 1, small 2 bdrm. stove, refrig. available if needed. No pets. \$350 + dep. Refs. req. Call 326-5300

GOODING - 1 & 2 bdrm. no smoking/pets. \$325 - \$450 + dep. 529-0026

GOODING 2 bdrm. Fenced yard. 301 6th Ave W. \$450 dep. Call 736-0322

HAZELTON. Nice 2 bdrm. 1 1/2 bath. \$400. No pets. \$425-5104.

JEROME Extra nice. 3 bdrm. 2 bath, child, wide base. \$450 + dep. 529-0026

JEROME. remodeled 2 bdrm. no smoking/pets. gas heat \$475. 324-8752

JEROME 1 bdrm. 1 bath. \$320/mo. + dep. 1260-1669

KIMBERLY 3 bdrm. 1 bath. gas heat, very very clean. \$450 + dep. 423-6389

KIMBERLY. small 1 bdrm. w/W/D. Quiet, private drive. \$275 + dep. Call 423-5326 or 734-6104

M.V. Magic Homes Services magic's mail comrent Apt. & Home Rentals

MURTAUGH. 3 bdrm. 1 bath. horse facility. \$550/mo-\$500 dep. Avail. Jan 1st. 423-6776 exts

PAUL. Home in country. 3 bdrm. 2 bath. \$450/mo. \$1200 + dep. 324-6622

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm. fenced yard, garage. W/D hookup. 1429 8th Ave. E. \$450/mo + dep. 734-6694

TWIN FALLS
Brand new 3 bdrm. 2 bath. Brick/brick home. \$1,500/mo. Includes lawn care & maintenance. Short term OK. Call Kent or Cindy Collins at 733-5336 or 734-6104

TWIN FALLS. 1 bdrm. 1 bath. new paint, carpet, apps. \$575/mo.

WESTSIDE - 3 bdrm. split level, refrig, patio stove, single garage. \$700

Local Homes And Properties Online

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Caryonside Realty/GMAC Real Estate • Century 21, Greater Valley Properties • Century 21, Riverside • Gem State Realty • Coldwell • Banker Nannini Realty • D.R. Curtis Co. • Silver Sage Realty • Brawley Realty • Liz Gulch Real Estate • Prudential, Idaho Homes • Magic • Valley Realty • Robert Jones Realty • Starland Real Estate • Wills Realty • Coldwell Banker Curtis Realty • Irwin Realty



TWIN FALLS - Lovely spacious, 2 bdrm, 2 bath, all appls, AC, sprinklers, lawn mowing, water and sanitation furnished. No pets, no smoking. \$500 mo. + dep. Applications taken. Call 732-8388. ■

TWIN FALLS 510-3rd St. N. 1 bdrm, 1 bath. \$550 + dep. 1873 Maple 2 bdrm, 2 bath. \$550 + dep. 316 Jefferson 3 bdrm, 2 bath. \$700 + dep. 1134 Monaco 3 bdrm, 2 bath. \$850 + dep. 1768 Maple wood (no smoking place) 3 bdrm, 2 bath. LOTS OF SPACE HERE! No pet + dep. ■

BRAWLEY REALTY 734-5858

TWIN FALLS studio, clean. \$275 + \$200 deposit. Call 735-1337. ■

TWIN FALLS - 1/2 acre w/garage, 1949 Alta. Newly renovated. \$535. Call 733-1359. ■

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 1 bath, cute house, efficient wood burning stove, oven, range, gas heat. Call Susan at Twin Realty 734-5800. ■

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm. Free cable, no pets. \$425/mo. + dep. 734-0460. ■

TWIN FALLS 3 acres, 3 bdrm, 1 bath, \$650. 736-0322, 2797 E 3300 N. ■

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, fireplace, no smoking. \$500 per mo. + dep. Please call 208-224-2158. ■

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm, 2 bath, triple garage, home in Candlelight. No smoking, no pets. \$1200/mo. Call Kent or Cindy at 733-5336 or 734-6104. ■

TWIN FALLS 3 bdrm. Big lot, stove & range. \$495/mo. + \$250 dep. 731-1811. ■

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm, 2 bath, like new, fenced w/ no pets. \$695 + dep. 423-670, after 6 p.m. ■

TWIN FALLS front 3 bdrm, 1 bath house w/d & garage. No drinking/smoking/pets. Call 734-455, ask for Fern. ■

TWIN FALLS Newer home with canyon view. 3 bdrm, 2 bath on 1 acre. \$1400/mo. Call Kent or Cindy 733-5336 or 734-6104. ■

604 UNFURNISHED APTS/DUPLEXES

★CHRISTMAS★ SPECIAL!
Move in by December 25th & pay \$99 on your 1st month's rent

LAUREL PARK APARTMENTS
176 Maurice St. N.
Twin Falls, 734-4195

BURLEY
Taking applications for waiting list. 1, 2, & 3 bdrm. apts. Mountain View East. 678-9141

JEROME - Real clean 1 & 2 bdrm apts, subsidized when avail, according to income. Playgrounds, all kitchen appls, laundry rms. No pets. 324-3464.

JEROME - 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath, W/D. \$465. 324-3811 or 324-8499

JEROME - 2 bdrms. Many extras. Call 324-4854 or 324-2643.

JEROME - Upside apt. 3 bdrm, 2 bath \$500/mo. No pets/smoking. 324-3338

KIMBERLY - Clean studio, \$275. Lg. partially fum. 2 bdrm. \$389. incl. appls. No pets. Call 423-4760. ■

POPLAR GROVE APTS
Clean, Cozy! 1 bdrm. apts. Available now For Senior/Handicapped/Disabled persons. Some with AC Rent Based on Income Contact Olco at 733 E 2nd St. Burley 208-678-9429

RUPERT
Taking applications for waiting list. 1 & 2 bdrm. apts. Valley Park Apts. 456-5862

RUPERT
Taking applications for waiting list. 1, 2 & 3 bdrm. apartments. Southwood Apartments. 439-0226

TWIN FALLS studio, \$285 + dep. Util. pd. 761 Main W. No pets. Call 326-4477

TWIN FALLS (2) 1 bdrm. apts. Appls inc. No pets/smoking. \$350/mo. + \$150 dep. 734-3300. ■

TWIN FALLS 2 bdrm duplex. Nice neighborhood. \$450/mo + dep. Large 2 bdrm in duplex. New carpet & paint. \$450/mo + dep. 734-4120

TWIN FALLS AFFORDABLE
Newer 1, 2 & 3 bdrm. apartments with 2 baths. All appliances, spacious. Call Now 734-1800

TWIN FALLS
Excellent 3 bdrm, 2 bath. Spacious large closets, private patio and parking. HOLIDAY SPECIAL!! Move in before 1/31 and receive \$420 off rent. Call Now at 208-734-1600.

TWIN FALLS
Garden apts, quiet, attractive, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, Microwave, DW, laundry facility, no pets. Call Today, 736-7105

Looking for extra vacation money? Why not sell these still-good items you've been storing? Classified will do it. Call 733-0931.

TWIN FALLS
•Quali Creek Apts• Quality corners, affordable prices. 2 bdrm unit available. Call 735-0473

TWIN FALLS Studio 2 bdrm, fenced yard, Idaho Housing approved. \$395 + dep. Call 734-6694. ■

TWIN FALLS "Holiday Special"
1,2,3 Bdrms \$335-495 Spacious w/ W/D hookups Spacious and clean. No pets. 734-6600

TWIN FALLS - •Brand New• - 3 bdrm, 2 bath, garage. \$650. 525-3735, Lenore. Call 733-8207. ■

TWIN FALLS - 1 bdrm. \$325 mo. + \$150 deposit. All util, except electricity. No pets. Call 734-6318. ■

TWIN FALLS - 2 bdrm, 1 bath. Stove, refrig, DW, & W/D. No pets. 737-0067. ■

TWIN FALLS - 3 bdrm, 2 bath, garage. \$650. 525-3735, Lenore. Call 733-8207. ■

TWIN FALLS - BEAUTIFUL NEW 2 bdrm, 2 bath, Zoro lot duplex, refrig, range, microwave, W/D, dishwasher, W/D hookup, gas fireplace, central air/hvac, patio, 2 car garage, desirable location, no smoking, no pets, \$550. Call 734-6360. ■

TWIN FALLS - Large upstairs, 1 bdrm partially furnished, appls, W/D hookup, now vinyl. \$375/mo. West side, upstairs, 1 bdrm, appls, water included. \$350/mo. + dep. ■

PERRINE/STUART - 3 bdrm, 2 full baths. Dbl garage, fenced yard, stove, sprinkler system. \$575. The Mgmt 733-0739

TWIN FALLS - Newer 2 bdrm, duplex, carpet, util. rm. No smoking/pets. \$425/mo. Call 733-3742. ■

TWIN FALLS
2 bedroom, 1 bath, dishwasher, AC, microwave, W/D. Located near school. Call Mickie, 734-4334 Hallows Property Management

TWIN FALLS
638 Monroe - nice 2 bdrm, 1 1/2 bath with private parking, covered parking. \$495 + dep. ■

BRAWLEY REALTY 734-5858

TWIN FALLS AFFORDABLE
2 bdrm, 2 bath apts. W/D, AC, stove, refrig. Call Mickie, 734-4334 Hallows Property Management

TWIN FALLS
Better look at this one!! Newer 3 bdrm, 2 bath, W/D hookup, garage, AC, dishwasher, Great Springs Apartments. Call Mickie, 734-4334 Hallows Property Management

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SIGN UP TO
Hurry In For Details!
LUCKY PEOPLE WILL WIN 2,000

2001 BUICK LESABRE CUSTOM
3800 Series II V6, Am/Fm/Cassette with Concert II Sound, Power Windows, Locks, Mirrors, Air & Much More!
Now \$23,549
GARY'S DISCOUNT \$3,393!
FACTORY REBATE \$750!
OT FINANCE SAVINGS \$5,585!
SAVE AS MUCH AS \$8,000!

2001 PONTIAC GRAND AM SE
Loaded w/ Automatic, Power Sunroof, Am/Fm/CD/Cassette, Power Windows, Locks, Mirrors & More!
Now \$18,380
GARY'S DISCOUNT \$3,500!
FACTORY REBATE \$750!
OT FINANCE SAVINGS \$3,707!
SAVE AS MUCH AS \$7,000!

YOUR CHOICE!

1997 Eagle Vision or 1997 Honda Accord.
\$12,995
or only \$249.81 per month OAC

(L) '97 Honda Accord Stock # 03217-2. (R) '97 Eagle Vision Stock # 9661-1. 12.9% APR 72 month term OAC \$1000 Down or Trade Equity.

<p>1998 TOYOTA CAMRY LE 1998 PONTIAC GRAND PRIX Your Choice \$13,995 Or Only \$259.00/Month</p>	<p>1997 DODGE 4X4 1999 CHEVY SILVERADO Your Choice \$16,995 Or Only \$299.00/Month</p>	<p>1997 FORD POWERSTROKE CREW CAB 1999 FORD EXPEDITION Your Choice \$24,995 Or Only \$434.00/Month & Zero Down</p>			
<p>1993 SUZUKI SIDEKICK 4X4 Now \$5,991</p>	<p>1991 FORD F150 4X4 Now 6,995</p>	<p>1995 FORD F150 SUPER CAB 4X4 SOLD!</p>	<p>1997 BUICK CENTURY SEDAN Now 11,998</p>	<p>1999 CHEVROLET LUMINA Now 12,995</p>	<p>1996 DODGE REGULAR CAB 4X4 Now 14,998</p>
<p>2000 CHEVY CAMARO Now 15,995</p>	<p>2000 BUICK LESABRE Now 18,998</p>	<p>1998 CHEVY EXT CAB W/ V8 Now 18,998</p>	<p>1999 CHEVY EXT CAB 4X4 Now 24,995</p>	<p>1999 CADILLAC SEDAN DEVILLE Now 25,995</p>	<p>1999 GMC 3/4 TON SUBURBAN Now 28,995</p>

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2001 SUBARU OUTBACK

\$21,394 OR **\$290⁰⁰ PER MO.**

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48 mo. lease, payments plus tax \$1415.00. Due at lease signig 12,000 miles yr, OAC, \$12,163.00 Residual.

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3 LINES TO 10 DAYS

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The Times-News Call 733-0931 Ext. 2 or 677-4042!

TWIN FALLS BEST. 916 Mountain View, 2 bdrm. Extra. Garage. 736-8636

TWIN FALLS. 747E APTS. 232 2nd Ave. N. \$300. \$350. \$400. Complimentary laundry facilities.

COLORADO APTS. Studio available immediately. \$285 + dep. Includes heat & water.

BRAWLEY REALTY 734-5858

TWIN FALLS. 1 bdrm. apt. Call 733-5374.

TWIN FALLS. 1 bedroom, with stove & refrigerator. \$550. Call 208-734-5325.

TWIN FALLS. 3 bdrm. 2 bath in country. \$500/2300 E. 733-2033 oves.

TWIN FALLS. 4 bdrm. 2 bath. AC, new carpet, w/family rm., 2 fireplaces, appls., garage w/opener, fenced yd., gas heat, \$750/mo. + dep. Credit check req. Call 734-9618

TWIN FALLS. EXCEPTIONAL. 2 bdrm. DW, refrig., range, disposal, private util. rm., w/wid hook-up, AC, 2 space parking. No pets or smoking. 4475. 734-6360.

TWIN FALLS. 2 bdrm. Free cable, no pets. \$350/mo. + dep. 734-0460

TWIN FALLS. NBA, Valley Vista Village, 1 bdrm apt. for 82 and over or disabled persons. Section 8 subsidy avail. For application and more info call 733-3500. Mon.-Fri. 9 am-4 pm or apply at 653 Ross St. N. T.F.

TWIN FALLS. New 2 bdrm. 2 bath. All appls. incl. W/D. + YMCA membership. 1st month free rent w/lease! \$525/mo. dep. Call 208-733-8889.

TWIN FALLS. New 3 bdrm. 2 bath. Single car garage. \$535 mo. + deposit. Call days 731-0004 or evenings 734-2121.

TWIN FALLS. SUPER DEAL! 2 bdrm. 2 bath, in new 4plex. No smoking or pets. Call 734-8452 or 734-8522

TWIN FALLS. Taking applications for a secure 2 bdrm. 1 bath apt. \$399/mo \$150 dep. Located near downtown. credit check req. 733-2218. Tom's Great

TWIN FALLS. Very nice 2 bdrm. duplex, cul-de-sac. Great location. Garage. 1 1/2 yds. AC. DW. W/D. hookups, lawn care. \$560 a dep. Call Tom 737-3924.

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LOCATION LOCATION
 It's everything
 LYNNWOOD Shopping Ctr.
 500-4500 sq. ft.
 Call 734-4339 OR
 208-342-7368

TWIN FALLS - office space
 avail. 1/15. 1400 & 1440
 Filer Ave. East. Call 734-5380. Reasonable rent!

TWIN FALLS
 Office Leases Available
 Blue Lakes Blvd,
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 Various Sizes & Rates!
 Call Steve 734-4334
 Hallows Property Management

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 READY TO MOVE INTO
 1500 sq. ft. office on North
 Hillmore rd. Excellent
 term. Price negotiable to
 rent. Contact WALT
 HESSE 737-3939. Gen
 State Realty.

TWIN FALLS. Just-A-Mem
 Inn. 2 separate offices on
 the main floor with use of
 conference room. \$550 or
 \$550. Call Kent or Cindy
 Collins at 733-5338 or
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BEET STOKER 150 lbs. capacity. For rent or sale. \$32-4288 or 431-0555

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 tractor 4x4. \$1200. 37
 lines solid work. In good
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 iron goats, sheep,
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 Save food, better animal
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 KW. used, gas, diesel,
 propane. Big selection.
 Call 967-1919.

HORSE TRAILER. 1996
 Sundowner Executive
 horse trailer, rear tack,
 tack dressing room, exc.
 cond. \$6400. 934-9688

KUBOTA B-1000. 4x4
 tractor hydraulic blade. \$4900.
 Call 967-1919.

RETRIEVER. New Holland
 1032 vtd. 11 tract with
 1982 Chevy truck. \$8000.
 Phone call 208-738-3348.

SADDLE. Hamley, double
 figured 15" tree. Padded
 seat. Also other assorted
 tack. 736-8321 live msg

SADDLE. used, Bon Ter,
 exc. cond. \$39-6663.
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TRACTOR. 1987 1-808
 Wheeland wheel hydraulics
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 loader, BHC (11) 10
 w/1400. Call 734-5104

TRACTOR. 1980 JD 4440,
 4800 hours, rated 130
 HP, 125 Dyno, AC/cab, 4
 spd. Call 934-5663 or
 Anthony 934-5663

WANTED TO BUY 25000-
 50000 bushel grain bin
 storage. Lease to buy or
 purchase. Call 734-5104
 to include land & bin. Paul
 area. 438-8668, 438-5546

WANTED TO BUY or
 lease. Call 734-5104
 PTO or ground drive,
 working or non-working
 condition. 324-5588.

HAY. Approx. 55 ton quality
 alfalfa-leader hay, 800
 lb. bales. 4' x 4' crop.
 \$30/ton. 934-8104, msg.

HAY. New seeding, dairy &
 feeder, 1st 50 ton x 540,
 2nd 2200RF, 23 ton x 2
 \$95. Call 208-934-5443.

STRAW for sale, small
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WASHER/DRYER. stack
 fit. 2000. Small 5 cubic
 ft. FREE. 2000. \$100.
 Please call 208-326-8871.

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804 BUILDING MATERIALS
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TANNERS ANTIQUES
 WILL BE OPEN
 SUNDAY DEC. 24TH
 11AM-3PM
 320 Main Ave. N.
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Holiday sale. Store wide
 savings from 10-30%
 through December.
 Tanners Antiques.
 Mon-Sat. 10-5pm.
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 11" appraised at \$1100.
 Now \$950. 733-8653, evc

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FIREWOOD - hardwood.
 mixed; & pine, will deliver.
 Call 208-735-0553.

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FIREWOOD Cutsplit hard-
 wood 5000 PULP. \$120
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FIREWOOD. mixed, up to
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- We will notify you if there is a special going on which might result in a discounted price
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608 COMMERCIAL RENTALS
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 110 lb. bales. Will sell
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HAY - 80 ton 3rd crop
 dairy. 15 ton bales. Call
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HAY - Approx. 200 ton,
 small bales. \$90 per ton.
 Call 934-5663

HAY daily & tender, oat
 hay & straw, large bales.
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 ton. 80 ton 3rd & 4th
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 quality cutting daily hay.
 736-7620 live msg.

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Friday, Dec. 22, 2000

THE ACES ON BRIDGE

Bobby Wolff

"Though we seem prieved at the shortness of life in general, we are wishing every period of it an end."

— Joseph Addison

A decliner who makes an impulsive claim engages in a risky endeavor. The laws are stacked against him, giving the defenders the benefit of any doubt.

West led his heart king, and South ducked smoothly, hoping for West to continue to suit. However, West believed East discouraging heart try and switched to his club queen instead.

Dummy's ace won, and after South drew trumps, he cashed dummy's club king and ruffed a club. With misplaced confidence, he cashed his heart ace and led his heart jack to West's queen.

Then he exposed the rest of his cards, making his ill-advised claim.

"You get one more trick," he averred. "If you lead clubs or hearts, I enjoy a ruff and stuf. If you lead diamonds, I score both my king and queen."

"Let's play," answered an observant West. He had noted the absence of the diamond 10 in South's hand.

Pressing his advantage, West led his diamond to East's 10 and South's queen, and South's claim boomeranged. He had to lose two diamonds to West's A-J, and the game fell one short.

Would West have underlined his diamond ace without South's claim? Perhaps. A good defender would know South had three diamonds. However, after South had exposed his hand, even a poor defender would have succeeded, and South deserved to lose his game.

NORTH
AKQ97
652
878
AK7

EAST
532
9432
10432
852

SOUTH
AJ1086
AKJ7
K9
63

WEST
KQ108
AJ5
QJ1094

Vulnerable: North-South Dealer: West

The bidding: West North East South All pass

Opening lead: Heart king

BID WITH THE ACES 12-22-B

South holds:
4
AKQ108
AJ5
QJ1094

North South
1A 3
2A 2
3A ?

ANSWER: Three no-trump. If this hand must play in spades, partner can go there.

Send bridge questions to Bobby Wolff, P.O. Box 101861, Richardson TX 75083, or e-mail to bwo@earthlink.net. Send solutions to the same address. Copyright 2000, United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

LAB - pup, chocolate, purbred ready 12-22-00. Both parents on site. \$180. Call 738-1907

LABS, adorable black pup, ready for Christmas. AKC reg. Shota, dweclaws. Great family dog. Parents proven hunters. Will call. \$200. 208-438-8916.

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SHOPSMITH Mark V (Model 510) w/strainer kit, hand saw, drill press, shop accessory pkg, projects & video. All BRAND NEW, never been out of box. \$2500/offer. 587-9435.

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