



GOOD MORNING

WEATHER

Today: Partly cloudy with areas of fog. East winds 5-15 mph. High 34. Mostly cloudy tonight, low 19.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY



Boredom prevention: Program keeps children busy when they're not in school.

Page C1

Dairy odor: The state Department of Environmental Quality has approved a set of guidelines for controlling odors.

Page C1

MONEY

No relief: The Magic Valley construction sector in October posted a hefty 44 percent plunge in projects' total estimated values.

Page E1

OUTDOORS



Time to duck: Waterfowl are mighty wary this late in the season, so hunters should pay attention to detail.

Page D1

SPORTS

Dig that Declo: The Hornets padded their unbeaten boys' high school basketball streak with a resounding win at their home tourney Wednesday.

Page B1

OPINION

Beating Mother Nature: Winter driving requires extra precautions, today's editorial says.

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Show of support

Farmers, residents stand up for embattled dairyman

By John T. Hudry
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Give him a chance.

That's what more than 20 dairymen, farmers and residents told Twin Falls County commissioners Wednesday, discussing Hank Hafliager and his controversial dairy near Filer.

The group met with commissioners to discuss the Hafliager dairy — the county's largest. The

Odor guidelines — C1

group also expressed its concerns about a local moratorium on animal operations, its possible negative effects on the local dairy industry and further state and local dairy regulations.

Hafliager's dairy has been at the center of a battle. Some neighbors say the dairy should be shut down because of lingering odor problems, while state officials say

they intend to work with Hafliager to control the problem, but have limited enforcement power.

Those at Wednesday's meeting spoke up for Hafliager, saying he is making an effort to control his dairy's odors — and it's slowing paying off.

"These ideas take time and a lot of management," said David Patrick, a Twin Falls farmer. "Hafliager may have to work on his priorities a little bit, but give him some time to work on them."

"As far as the smell, yes, it isn't as bad as it was in October or November — but it's winter," said Hugo Meyer, who lives down the road from Hafliager.

An odor still lingers, however, and needs further improvement.

The Department of Agriculture last week said it will work with Hafliager on an odor management plan — the first time the department has ever worked with a dairy on such a plan.

If that doesn't work, Hafliager Please see DAIRY, Page A2

No new seat

Idaho won't likely add another district

By Michael Journe
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Despite ranking third or fourth in the nation in growth, Idaho will still likely fall considerably short of garnering a third seat in the U.S. House this year.

"We've been stuck at two congressional districts since the 1910 census and we're still going to have two after the 2000 census," said Alan Porter, information services manager for the Department of Commerce and the state's unofficial census statistics expert.

When Census 2000's results are released today, Porter expects Idaho's population to tip 1.26 million, up from just over 1 million a decade ago.

But unlike many of its neighbors, Idaho's growth falls about 115,000 to 120,000 people short of what it would need to get another congressman, Porter said. Several states would be ahead of Idaho.

"We're really in the middle of the pack to get three," Porter said.

But Natalie Cochnour disagrees.

Cochnour, deputy director of the Utah governor's planning and budget office, believes Idaho will get another seat this year, while her state will be left out — just the opposite of Porter's analysis.

But Porter said Idaho did not grow enough during the 1990s for a third seat, and won't grow enough in the next 10 years either.

"We would need about 30 percent growth to get another seat in 2010," Porter said.

Even if it achieves that growth rate, which is unlikely, a third seat would still be up in the air. Typically, states receive another U.S. House member for about every 600,000 gained in population, Porter said. But the actual formula Congress uses to divvy up 435 seats among 50 states can be a bit confusing.

Every state is guaranteed at least one member of the House of Representatives.

The other 385 spots are assigned one by one based on "priority value" assigned through a complex mathematical formula. The most populous state will have the highest priority.

In 1990, California got the 51st seat after each state got one spot.

Please see CENSUS, Page A2

CHRISTMAS CANINES

Abandoned puppies find temporary home

By Brandon Flata
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — A mother dog and her five puppies walked along a frosty country road Christmas morning.

Cars screamed past the dogs, apparently abandoned. The mother and puppies faced a hard lot — frigid winter nights, no food and no shelter. The smallest, weakest puppies would die first.

Another car sped through the cold morning air, but it slowed and then stopped. Kreen Gilbert got out of her car near 3300 N. 3000 E., shocked that anybody could abandon the dogs, even though she knew it was common.

Gilbert took the dogs to her daughter's house, where she was headed for Christmas breakfast. "I couldn't bear anything happening to them," she said.

The dogs were lucky, but the odds are against abandoned dogs.

Please see PUPPIES, Page A2

Want a puppy?

At least four 6-week-old puppies need a good home. For more information, call Michele Coleman at 734-5580 or Kreen Gilbert at 733-4129.

The Twin Falls Humane Society, 139 Sixth Ave. W., always has animals in need of good homes. The shelter is open from 1 to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and from 1 to 4 p.m. Friday. Those interested in adopting a pet or in volunteering can call 736-2299.

The shelter depends on donations, which can be sent to the People for Pets Humane Society, P.O. Box 1163, Twin Falls 83303.



Cecily Coleman, 3, plays with two puppies and a mother dog in the backyard of her house on 3000 East in Twin Falls County. Cecily's grandmother, Kreen Gilbert, found the dog and her five puppies wandering along the road on Christmas morning.

Officials seize bomb materials

Murder suspect kept arsenal at work, investigators say

The Associated Press

MALDEN, Mass. — Investigators seized bomb-making chemicals, blasting caps and magazines on explosives Wednesday from the apartment of a software engineer accused of gunning down seven co-workers at an Internet consulting company.

The victims — C8

Michael M. McDermott, a hulking, 42-year-old man with shoulder-length hair and a bushy black beard, may have also taken part in complex scientific discussions over the Internet about how to make explosives. McDermott was ordered held without bail Wednesday after pleading innocent to seven counts of murder.

Prosecutors are investigating whether the ring was prompted by a tax dispute.



Michael McDermott, 42, of Haverhill, Mass., is led into Malden District Court by police officers Wednesday in Malden, Mass.

McDermott's employer had recently agreed to comply with an IRS order that it withhold a portion of his wages to pay back taxes.

McDermott's lawyer said he was undergoing psychiatric treatment at the time of the attack.

Please see SHOOTING, Page A2

Search for Sacagawea

New dollar coins are hard to find

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The new dollar coin that bears the image of Sacagawea is proving to be as elusive as the commercial route to the Northwest that explorers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark were seeking two centuries ago when she accompanied them on a trek across the continent.

The coin made its debut nearly a year ago and by now it was supposed to be jangling in people's pockets. But it seems the only sighting many Americans have had is in newspaper and TV ads.

Greg Rohde, an assistant secretary of commerce, said he first glimpsed it in Istanbul, Turkey. Other than the 15 golden-colored dollar coins he got as change from a street vendor, Rohde hasn't seen

The gold coin

The U.S. government has spent \$40 million promoting the \$1 Sacagawea coin but not many Americans have been using the coin as currency.

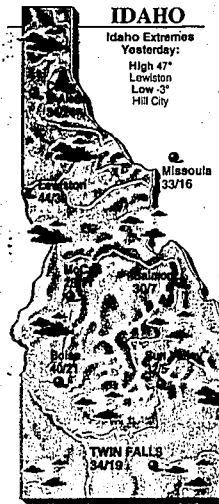


Issued: January 2000
How many made: 1.2 billion
About 700 million are in circulation, including those shipped to the Federal Reserve, which supplies cash to banks and those held by coin collectors.
About the coin: Gold in color with smooth edges, the coin shows the Shoshone Indian teen-ager who helped the Lewis and Clark expedition. She is carrying her son on her back.

Source: U.S. Mint AP

FORECAST FOR MAGIC VALLEY

AccuWeather.com



IDAHO

Idaho Extremes Yesterday: High 47° Low 3° Hill City

Missoula 33/16

ALMANAC

Twin Falls through 6 p.m. yesterday
Temperature
High/Low: 27/20°
Normal high/Low: 35/19°
Record high/Low: 58°/10°
Record low: -7° to 1985
Precipitation
24 hours ending 6 p.m. yesterday: 0.00"
Month to date: 0.00"
Normal month to date: 0.97"
Year to date: 7.47"
Normal year to date: 10.34"
Humidity
Yesterday at noon: 100%
Barometric Pressure
Yesterday at 6 p.m.: 30.26 in.
Pollen yesterday in Twin Falls
Grass: Absent
Weeds: Absent
Trees: Absent
Mold: Absent
Source: Asthma and Allergy of Idaho

Shown is today's weather. Temperatures are today's highs and tonight's lows.

All maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. 02000

FIVE-DAY FORECAST FOR TWIN FALLS

TODAY	TONIGHT	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY
A mix of clouds and sun. ▲ 34°	Mostly cloudy. ▼ 19°	Plenty of clouds. ▲ 38° ▼ 21°	A shower or two possible. ▲ 42° ▼ 17°	Partly sunny and a bit cooler. ▲ 36° ▼ 11°	Times of sun and clouds. ▲ 36° ▼ 16°

REGIONAL WEATHER

Southern Idaho: Clouds and limited sunshine today but the day will start out with some fog. Highs today 38-42. Mostly cloudy tonight. Lows 19-23. Cloudy with a shower possible tomorrow.

Boise: Plenty of clouds and fog to start the day today, then a few peaks of sunshine this afternoon. High 40.

Northern Nevada: Variably cloudy today with high pressure in control. Clouds will be more of a problem tonight and tomorrow as a cold front moves by to the north but there will only be a snow or rain shower.

Northern Utah: A mix of clouds and sunshine today with high pressure in control. Limited sunshine tomorrow as a cold front moves by to the north of the region.

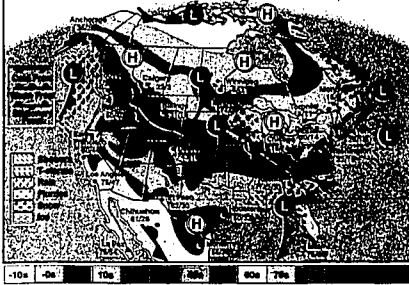
Northern Idaho: Plenty of clouds and fog to start the day with a few peaks of sunshine this afternoon. High temperatures will be in the 30s and 40s.

NATIONAL EXTREMES

High 78° in Marathon, FL Low -26° in Ely, MN

NATIONAL WEATHER

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



CANADIAN CITIES

City	Today	Hi	Lo	Fr.	Lo	Fr.
Calgary	24	10	23	8	17	10
Edmonton	18	1	14	3	14	3
Halifax	31	24	34	23	31	24
London	12	5	18	10	12	5
Montreal	15	8	21	14	7	14
Ottawa	12	5	18	10	12	5
Regina	10	3	16	8	10	3
Saskatoon	12	5	18	10	12	5
Vancouver	45	38	45	41	47	40
Victoria	48	40	45	41	47	40
Winnipeg	9	1	16	8	9	1

WORLD CITIES

City	Today	Hi	Lo	Fr.	Lo	Fr.
Acapulco	88	73	80	72	80	72
Alaska	24	10	23	8	17	10
Auckland	74	68	73	60	68	60
Bangkok	80	69	88	69	88	69
Beijing	38	28	44	28	38	28
Bombay	81	61	84	61	84	61
Calcutta	74	57	74	57	74	57
Cairo	70	58	74	58	74	58
Chengde	38	28	44	28	38	28
Chongqing	38	28	44	28	38	28
Colombo	81	61	84	61	84	61
Dhaka	81	61	84	61	84	61
Hong Kong	74	57	74	57	74	57
Jerusalem	64	47	69	47	69	47
London	37	30	32	28	37	30
Madras	81	61	84	61	84	61
Manila	81	61	84	61	84	61
Medford	64	47	69	47	69	47
Moscow	18	11	26	11	26	11
Osaka	64	47	69	47	69	47
Rio de Janeiro	83	76	83	76	83	76
Rome	64	47	69	47	69	47
Sao Paulo	81	61	84	61	84	61
Seoul	74	57	74	57	74	57
Singapore	81	61	84	61	84	61
Tokyo	55	32	62	32	62	32
Warsaw	38	28	44	28	38	28
Zurich	35	25	35	25	35	25

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today	Hi	Lo	Fr.	Lo	Fr.
Boise	40	21	40	25	36	20
Burley	30	20	32	28	28	20
Donnerstag	35	13	37	20	30	13
Idaho Falls	34	16	34	28	24	16
Elko	39	12	38	16	36	12
Eugene, OR	46	36	46	38	46	36
Hagerman	25	18	27	23	26	18
Idaho Falls	40	6	26	18	36	6
Kalispell, MT	32	17	32	25	32	17
Lewiston	42	20	42	26	42	20
Malta	33	12	36	19	36	12
McCall	31	13	36	28	11	36
Missoula	28	11	30	26	30	11
Pocatello	32	11	35	18	35	11
Portland, OR	44	34	44	34	44	34
Richland, WA	36	27	36	28	36	27
Salmon	30	30	30	25	30	30
Soft Lake City, UT	29	20	35	23	35	20
Seattle, WA	50	40	50	40	50	40
Spokane, WA	35	22	35	30	35	22
St. Louis, MO	42	32	42	32	42	32
Sun Valley	32	5	32	5	32	5
Yellowstone, MT	20	-2	22	15	22	-2

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Shooting

Continued from A1
...and a pistol, McDermott systematically went through Edgewater Technology's Wakefield offices Tuesday morning, picking out certain people and bypassing others, as he emptied at least 37 rounds into his coworkers in no more than eight minutes, a prosecutor said.
He stopped to reload, and even blasted through a locked door to get to two of the victims hiding in the accounting office, Assistant District Attorney Tom O'Reilly said.
"There were few, if any, missed shots," O'Reilly said. One victim "was underneath his desk. He had been shot numerous times. Another was a young lady slumped over her keyboard of her computer. She had been shot in the back of the head."
Some of the victims were shot in the back as they tried to flee, he said. A woman who survived by hiding under her desk and draping her leather coat over her chair provided the details, O'Reilly said.

In addition to the three weapons that McDermott carried during the rampage, he had stashed a rifle in his work locker and bullets in a cubby hole at his desk, O'Reilly said.
In McDermott's Haverhill home, authorities discovered bomb-making magazines; three gallons of nitric acid, which can be used to make nitroglycerine; blasting caps; and more ammunition, O'Reilly said.
District Attorney Martha Copley said investigators had not found any plans he might have had for the explosives.
McDermott had no permit for any of the guns, Copley said, and authorities were investigating how he got them.
McDermott's lawyer, Kevin Reddington, did not argue for bail but asked that McDermott be held where he could get care and medication for a psychiatric condition. Neither Reddington nor prosecutors would specify the condition.

Dairy

Continued from A1
...could be taken to civil or criminal court.
Commissioner Gary Grindstaff said he doesn't believe any court action is likely. But some people at Wednesday's meeting remained nervous nonetheless.
The state's involvement could be perceived as heavy-handed and could have ripple effects on the dairy industry and the local economy.
The dairy industry brings in millions of dollars to the community, and brings jobs, speakers said, and additional regula-

tions could be even more disruptive.
There has been talk about civil and criminal suits. That's going a level higher than I think (is) right," said Jim Patrick of Twin Falls, who helped organize Wednesday's meeting. "We just need some time to make it work before things get too far out of control."
Haffiger, who did not attend Wednesday's meeting, remained optimistic.
"I still think the Department of Agriculture is going to step up and do a good job and be fair and

Census

Continued from A1
Then priority values were recalculated, with the formula taking into account that California men had two seats, and New York finished on top. Then the numbers were crunched again and again until all 385 seats were assigned.
The last few seats awarded typically go to states with a difference of just a few thousand people in population, Porter said.
Idaho and other Western states' growth bear out the population migration trend to the West and South, at the expense of upper Midwest and Eastern states.
"It's fairly logical in terms of where the growth has been going over the decade," Porter said.
Several of Idaho's neighbors will likely pick up one or two seats.
Both Gochmour and Porter expect Arizona to get two new seats, and Nevada will get one. Texas is expected to get two new seats, and Georgia and Florida

are each expected to get an additional representative.
That represents a states - yes, including Florida - would get additional votes in the Electoral College, since the makeup of the Electoral College is based on congressional representation.
The population shift means moved in vote for the West, Gochmour said, while the Northeast will probably lose representatives.
U.S. Commerce Secretary Norman Mineta and other federal officials will release the breakdown of the 435 House seats this morning. Once the figures are released, state legislators will redraw the boundaries for the 2002 election.
Nearly 60 percent of Idaho's growth during the last 10 years occurred in urban Ada, Canyon, and Kootenai counties. But nearly all of Idaho's counties grew at a rate higher than the national average throughout the 1990s - about 10 percent for the decade, Porter said.

Puppies

Continued from A1
"There's no happy solution," said Michele Coleman, Gilbert's daughter. "It's really sad, because if the dogs aren't adopted they have to live for themselves. They eat other dogs' food, and often get stuck chasing livestock or get run over."
Coleman said she might keep the mother dog and one puppy, but give the rest away.
"We would like to find good homes for the puppies," Gilbert said.
Abandoned dogs and cats are a big problem, said Laurie Simonds, who runs the Twin Falls Animal Shelter.
"People just dump dogs out in the country," she said. "It's a very cruel way of dealing with pets, whose chances of survival are slim to none. It's a huge problem that grows with the population. We see it every day in here."
About a third of the dogs at the pound are picked up outside city limits, Simonds said.
"People abandon dogs everywhere, but in this area of the county it is very convenient," she said.

"I live in the county, and that's how I got started working with animals."
Many animals are common in the county, Coleman said.
"I've lived here for about 2 1/2 years, and I've cared for three adult dogs and lots of cats," she said. "Lots of neighbors ask about stray."
There are laws against abandoning animals, but they are rarely enforced because there are usually no eyewitnesses and no way to prove someone abandoned a particular animal, Simonds said.
"People have the perception that farmers want more animals, it's their way of rationalizing," Gilbert said. "But it's cruel to dump animals. My neighbors keep as many of them as they can, but there are too many."
The dark side of pet ownership is irresponsibility.
"It always goes back to spaying and neutering," Simonds said.
But not enough people sterilize their pets. On average, about 800 animals are euthanized at the city shelter each day.

Coin

Continued from A1
...used a couple of them in the cafeteria here, but it always takes an explanation of what they are," he said.
The U.S. Mint said its research shows that 90 percent of Americans are aware of the Sacagawea (pronounced sack-ah-gaw-WEH-ah), in part due to a \$40 million dollar advertising blitz in which a hip George Washington urges people to use them. But that doesn't mean they've ever held one.
Approximately 1.2 billion coins

have been made. The Mint estimates last year 700 million are "in circulation," with the rest sitting in bank and Mint vaults. But "in circulation" means the coins have been shipped to the Federal Reserve, supplier of cash to banks, or are held by collectors. It doesn't mean they are being used as currency.
Bankers said there hasn't been much demand for the coins from retailers. And people increasingly are getting their money from ATM machines, which usually don't dispense coins.

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Daniel Walock, circulation director
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LOTTERY UPDATE

Wednesday, December 27, numbers
POWERBALL 15 22 24 32 39
POWERBALL NUMBER 18

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NATION

Nominee's views become clearer

Future attorney general is in the critic's spotlight

WASHINGTON (AP) — John Ashcroft once hailed Confederate war heroes as "patriots," refused to sign a report on minorities in America and rented his fund-raising list to Linda Tripp at the very moment he was sitting in judgment of President Clinton at the impeachment trial.

Now the conservative views of President-elect Bush's choice to be attorney general — a former state law enforcement official and governor — are being laid out in public as his soon-to-be former Senate colleagues weigh his nomination.

An Associated Press review of his writings, speeches and interviews found that Ashcroft:

—Opposed federal money for drug treatment, saying government assistance shouldn't further the "lowest and least" conduct.

—Opposed federal job training money to Americans who don't complete high school, saying a diploma was necessary to "enable workers to adapt and meet the needs of ever-changing technology



John Ashcroft
Says Confederates were 'patriots' etc."

—Pushed several amendments that would permanently alter the Constitution for various conservative causes, from outlawing abortion to balancing the budget.

Ashcroft's Democratic critics have made clear they intend to focus on his views on race and civil rights — issues which he addressed over a quarter century in public service.

In a 1998 interview, Ashcroft criticized efforts by some histori-

ans to portray early Americans, like "slave-owning George Washington, as racists, calling them "malicious attacks" and "revisionist nonsense."

"Your magazine also helps set the record straight," Ashcroft told the Southern Partisan, a two-decade-old periodical that has published articles defending Confederate figures and once sold a T-shirt commemorating Abraham Lincoln with the phrase his assassin uttered, "Thus always to tyrants."

"You've got a heritage of ... defending Southern patriots like (Gen. Robert E.) Lee, (Gen. Stonewall) Jackson ... and (Confederate President Jefferson) Davis," Ashcroft said. At the time, he was courting conservatives for a possible presidential candidacy.

"We've all got to stand up and speak in this respect or else will be taught that these people were giving their lives, subscribing their sacred fortunes and their honor to some perverted agenda," he added.

During the campaign last winter, Bush's campaign criticized John McCain for using a consultant who wrote for and helped edit Southern Partisan, calling the consultant's writings in the magazine "offensive" and "out of line."

But a Bush spokeswoman offered words of support and explanation for Ashcroft's contribution to the magazine.

"He will be an exceptionally strong enforcer of the civil rights laws as he has been a proponent in Missouri and throughout his career," spokeswoman Julieanna Glover Weiss said.

She said Ashcroft's comments reflected that he "believes in an exact reading on history" and that he "holds sacred the legacies of Jefferson, Washington and Martin Luther King."

As Missouri governor from 1985 to 1993, Ashcroft signed into law a state holiday honoring Martin Luther King Jr., the slain civil rights leader; established musician Scott Joplin's house as Missouri's only historic site honoring a black person; created an award honoring black educator George Washington Carver; named a black woman to a state judgeship; and led a fight to save Lincoln University, which was founded by black soldiers.

And when he considered becoming Republican Party chairman in 1993, he urged Republicans to be "tolerant" and to avoid being "mistakenly portrayed as petty, divisive and mean-spirited."

Actor pleads not guilty to drug charges

INDIO, Calif. (AP) — Robert Downey Jr. pleaded innocent Wednesday to drug charges stemming from his Thanksgiving weekend arrest at a desert resort. Downey, 35, who was arrested only four months after being

released from prison in another drug case, entered innocent pleas to felony possession of cocaine and felony possession of the tranquilizer diazepam, each punishable by up to three years in prison.

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Oregon snowmobilers rescue man

Alleged Air Force deserter survives 16 days in snow

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — An Air Force man who allegedly went AWOL got trapped in a snowdrift for 16 days, surviving on M&Ms and orange juice and scrawling a farewell note to his parents before snowmobilers came upon him in his car.

Thomas Wade Truett, 29, of Jacksonville, Fla., was hospitalized with hypothermia and was scheduled to be turned over to Air Force officials Wednesday for prosecution on desertion charges.

The snowmobilers who found Truett said he wore no coat or sweater, only a T-shirt. He had lost 20 pounds.

"He's got some healing that he needs to do," sheriff's Cpl. Neil Mackey said. "What he went through, it's enough to make a sane man crazy."

Truett, an airman first class who enlisted in the army in 1987, had recently succumbed to personal problems, according to Mackey, who would not elaborate. He fled his job as a fuel manager at Ellsworth Air Force Base in Rapid City, S.D., on Dec. 3 and drove to Oregon, the sheriff's office said.

Four days after he set out, Truett's sports car became stuck in blustery weather on a snowy, rural road in central Oregon's Deschutes National Forest, Mackey said. He survived four days in the woods, using a cigarette lighter to build small fires.

After depleting the lighter fuel,



Chuck and June Bloom sit on one of their two snowmobiles Tuesday at their home in Sisters, Ore. While on a snowmobile ride last weekend in Oregon's Deschutes National Forest, the Blooms found a buried car with Thomas Wade Truett inside.

Truett tried hiking out of the forest but was too weak. He retreated to the car, consumed his personal rations — which consisted of only orange juice, water and a package of almond M&Ms — and wrote a note to his parents in Florida, dated Dec. 13.

On Friday, after 11 days in the car, Truett heard snowmobilers passing by and threw his backpack, a notebook and some clothing out the window to let people know he was there, Mackey said. He wasn't found for another day, when a group of snowmobilers came by and saw the black backpack.

Chuck Bloom tossed the frozen

bag aside into a drift, knocking some snow away and revealing the glint of a car window.

"All of a sudden this little claw hand comes up and taps twice," said his wife, June Bloom. "It just scared us to death. We thought, 'Oh my God, there's somebody in there.'"

Chuck Bloom went for help while his wife and their companions started shoveling through the 5 feet of snow. She reached through a window, sliding socks over Truett's hands and feeding him two containers of orange juice.

"He was so thin and gray in the face," June Bloom said.

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NATION

Elian Gonzalez defense fund owes IRS

Knight Ridder News Service

MIAMI — The Elian Gonzalez Legal Defense Trust Fund, formed to help a Miami family's attorneys battle the federal government, may make its single biggest payment to Uncle Sam.

After more than a month of wrangling, the trustees decided last week that they could not donate as much as \$140,000 left over from the fund to the nonprofit La Liga Contra el Cancer (the League Against Cancer).

The trust fund could owe as much as \$92,000 in income tax, its legal advisor, Stanton Levin, confirmed earlier this week.

The tax predicament surprised the three trustees, who have held several meetings in the last weeks trying to come up with a solution. They hope to persuade the Internal Revenue Service not to

tax the trust.

"Can you imagine if after all this, the U.S. government is the one that gets to keep this money?" asked lead trustee Eloy Gonzalez.

The fund was created in March at Ocean Bank to help pay the expenses of the team of attorneys involved in the custody battle over the 6-year-old boy.

The last-minute tax quandary stems from the interpretation of the "true intent" of those who made the donations, ranging from \$1 to \$10,000.

Among the donors were Florida sugar magnates Alfie and Pepe Fanjul, who chipped in \$10,000, and Miami-Dade Mayor Alex Penelas, who gave \$1,000 from his campaign coffers.

"It's an unusual situation," said Levin, a Coral Gables tax attorney who oversees the trust. "The issue is whether or not the money donat-

ed by people should be viewed as a gift or income for a cause they could get something in return for. There is no precedent on this. The closest factual situation we can compare it to is the Clinton Legal Defense Fund."

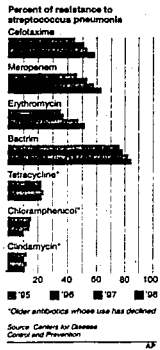
In that case, the Clintons may have to pay taxes on the \$11 million collected on their behalf to pay for their legal fees during the Paula Jones sexual harassment suit, impeachment, the investigation of the Clintons' Whitewater real estate dealings in Arkansas and other matters.

In the Clinton case, despite calls by Republicans that Clinton be audited over the legal defense money, the IRS has not taken action.

Levin said he hopes to convince the government that the money to the Elian Defense Trust Fund was a gift and nontaxable.

Dangerous bacteria

In a three-year study by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, thousands of samples of streptococcal pneumonia were tested against various classes of antibiotics. Strains that were resistant to penicillin increasingly became resistant to other widely used antibiotics.



CDC study documents rise of resistance to antibiotics

The Associated Press

A sometimes-lethal type of bacteria that causes many cases of pneumonia, bloodstream infections and other illnesses is rapidly becoming resistant to antibiotics, a government study found.

Experts have warned for a decade that overuse of antibiotics is helping germs become resistant to drugs, first to penicillin, then to newer antibiotics, raising the specter of more deaths and amputations.

"It's become even more worrisome in the last two years," said Dr. Cynthia G. Whitney of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "There are definitely some strains that are fast learners."

The CDC study looked at Streptococcus pneumonia, the nation's most common bacterial cause of meningitis, children's ear infections and pneumonia. Also

called pneumococcus, it is a frequent cause of bacteremia, a bloodstream infection that kills many elderly people.

Between 1995 and 1998, Whitney and colleagues collected 12,045 blood or other fluid samples from U.S. patients infected with Streptococcus pneumonia. Each sample was tested against antibiotics from nine of the 10 or so classes that fight bacteria, with increasingly strong doses of the antibiotic applied until the bacteria were killed.

Over the three-year span, the percentage of pneumococcus samples resistant to three or more antibiotic classes grew from 9 percent to 14 percent. The percentage resistant to penicillin went from 21 percent to 25 percent.

Resistance was particularly high in children under 5 and in whites, two groups generally receiving more antibiotics than others, as well as in parts of the South.

This research is worth cheering about

Hard work, chutzpah and talent propelled the Broncos to the Crucial.com Humanitarian Bowl. These same qualities have enabled **Boise State University professors** to garner grant monies for research projects.



The National Science Foundation. The Environmental Protection Agency. The National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. These are some of the agencies that have awarded almost \$9 million in research funds to the 11 Boise State researchers pictured above for projects that range from ways to prevent binge drinking in teens to mapping the Earth's subsurface to cutting-edge work in microelectronics.

These professors are just a few of many at Boise State whose research enriches academic life, addresses important issues and provides unparalleled opportunities for students to engage in relevant, hands-on work.

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EDITORIAL

Winter driving requires a few extra precautions

It's a scene straight out of a Jack London novel: Travelers are passing through a lonely Western landscape, in winter, when their transport gives out. The wind is howling and help is far away.

What to do? Stay put, or strike out on foot?

It has happened several times in the past couple of weeks here in southern Idaho. Those who stayed put and waited for help were rescued in good condition. They spent an anxious night or two on their own, but their stories had happy endings. But a Richfield woman perished when she abandoned her car and tried to hike to safety - only to be overtaken by a fierce winter storm.

There's a lesson here, and it's one that every Boy Scout knows by heart: Be prepared. If you're traveling in remote country, take along food, water, fire starter and warm clothes. Above all else, try to pack a cell phone. None of these items can take the place of good judgment, but they will prove invaluable if your luck turns sour.

Relatively few people die of exposure in the American West these days, but the prospect is never far away. It's easy to get complacent about driving

through a howling gale en route from one heated home to another. If nothing goes wrong, the trip can be perfectly uneventful.

But if something does go wrong - such as running out of gas, or getting high-centered - the trip can go from harmless to hostile with incredible swiftness. Mother Nature has always been willing to kill you, but she has

been frustrated by all the conveniences of modern living. When those conveniences are stripped away, you're no better off than the average cave dweller.

There's plenty of opportunity for trouble at this time of year. The days are short, temperatures are lower, and traffic

is sparse in rural areas. If you get stopped while driving, the best thing to do is call 911 on your cell phone. Be prepared. Pull a sleeping bag out of the trunk, make yourself comfortable and wait for the cavalry. If you're snowmobiling, stay with your sled. Its tracks are far more prominent than yours, and it is easier to spot from a distance.

The whole idea is to conserve energy, not expend it. You'll last longer if you hunker out and hunker out of the wind instead of trying to thrash your way back to civilization. Play it safe, stay put and don't be a victim.

Mother Nature has always been willing to kill you - but she has been frustrated by all the conveniences of modern living. When those conveniences are stripped away, you're no better off than the average cave dweller.



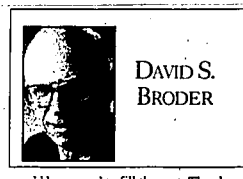
It's the end of an error

This year, I could not keep up. Rereading the Broder columns of 2000 for the annual year-end exercise in self-humiliation called the "GooFs Column," it quickly became apparent that I was out of my league. If you didn't call Florida wrong twice on election night, awarding it first to Al Gore and then to George W. Bush, and then taking both back, you could hardly claim to be in the TV anchors' pantheon of putrid punditry.

My flaky judgments were modest by comparison - but numerous enough to keep me hopeful of regaining the dunce cap next year. For example, 10 days into the Endless Recount, I sketched out a scenario in which rival states of Florida elected, one pledged to Bush and one pledged to Gore, might confront Congress with two different versions of choosing the next president. It didn't happen - for which we can be grateful, I guess.

In a column commending Bush's choice of Dick Cheney as his running mate, I suggested that Gore might also want "to go back to the future" by naming either former Senate Majority Leader George Mitchell or former White House chief of staff Leon Panetta to his ticket. He didn't, but made an even better choice in Sen. Joe Lieberman, who last year was saluted four different times for four different reasons in this column - twice before Gore named him and twice afterward.

In late October, a St. Louis-dated column said that Democratic hopes of winning the Missouri Senate race and retaking the Senate had died in the air. A plane crash that took the life of Gov. Mel Carnahan. Wrong. Carnahan's name remained on the ballot and, in a wave of sympathy, Missourians elected him, with the understanding that his widow Jean



DAVID S. BRODER

would be named to fill the seat. Thanks to her, the Democrats will be in the majority - if only from Jan. 3 to 20. Speaking of Senate races, the one I never got into focus all year long was Hillary Rodham Clinton's run in New York. I wrote about it at four different stages and consistently underestimated her chances or overrated her opponents. The biggest error came in a piece about her first debate with Rick Lazio. I saw him closing "the stature gap" between a junior member of the House and a worldwide celebrity. Sharper eyes - including those of nearly every woman reporter and columnist on the scene in Buffalo - saw him "invading her space" and behaving boorishly. Short of a gender-change operation, which I'm not contemplating, I don't know how to fix that problem. But it sure taught me a lesson.

There were minor glitches that readers were good enough to point out. Lyn Neulziger, Ronald Reagan's press secretary informed me that he was not, as I wrote, the man who dubbed Reagan "the oldest and wisest." A reader in Grapevine, Texas, responded to a column about a snake on Beaver Island, which shut off the power switch on a well so that the "insly pump" would be "blessedly silent" by cur advising me, in red pencil yet, "SNAKES ARE DEAD." You learn something new every day in this business.

The columns that drew the heaviest and most critical mail dealt with subjects I knew would be controversial. Those who wanted to keep the Confederate battle flag flying over the Capitol in Columbia were irate at my saying it was an embarrassment to South Carolina. (Thank goodness it's been moved.)

President Clinton's admirers gave me the Dickens for excoriating his Democratic National Convention speech as a self-centered oration which gave short shrift to Gore. Two White House speechwriters later told me it was written to Gore's specifications; if so, that's a terrible indictment of Gore, because that was a really bad speech.

A lot of veterans complained about my column supporting a failed effort in the Senate to move them into the Medicare system, and I have promised them to return to that issue. But the loudest gripes concerned my criticism of the legislation to phase out the inheritance tax. Along with a lot of intemperate blather about Marxism, some tolling points were made - and I'm confident the Bush administration will provide opportunities for more debate on that subject.

Finally, my beloved colleague of 40 years, Mary McGroarty, took offense at my saying that the mess in Florida made this "the roughest, saddest Thanksgiving" since 1963. She seems to have thought I said it was as sad as the week after John Kennedy's assassination, which I did not and never would. But the whole Florida mess was a fiasco for the courts and the political system, weakening already fragile confidence in our governmental institutions.

Let's hope for a better 2001, but it surely won't be error-free.

David S. Broder is a national political writer for The Washington Post.

The Times-News

Stephen Hartgen, Publisher
Clark Walworth, Managing editor, Mike Snell, Advertising director

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

LETTERS

'Bushie' deserves same treatment

After reading Mr. Lessner's Dec. 20 commentary, I felt a counter opinion was needed.

The small-town America where traditional values, morality and religious faith survive did not elect "Bushie," it was definitely an election that was fixed by "Bushie's" brother, the Florida secretary of state and five Republican Supreme Court Justices.

"Bushie," who was a staunch supporter of states' rights and less government, sure knew how to use government to trump states' rights when he needed it by going directly to big government to squash vote counting. Mr. Lessner can praise small-town American church-goers and born-again Christians, but I have lived from coast to coast and find no more traditional values, morality and religious faith in the West than in the East, North or South.

If he had said the gun-worshipping middle-West, he probably would be right. I have been a hunter all my life and have enjoyed owning guns but feel there is no reason for not registering at least hand guns. As a bus driver in New Jersey who was shot during a holdup of my bus by a punk kid, I believe in doing whatever is necessary to curb guns going to the wrong people. Also, anyone who leaves loaded guns where children can get them without any restraint should be prosecuted for negligence.

Getting back to Bush, his daddy hired youngsters, less-known people for his cabinet so he wouldn't be overshadowed. Now his "boy" has hired all his daddy's people, well knowing he doesn't know what he is doing. His daddy, as vice president for Reagan, said "I wasn't in the loop" when Reagan traded guns for hostages and very well could have been viewed by Reagan as not smart enough to know. Now it looks like "Bushie" will probably be able to say when things go wrong, "I wasn't in the loop."

The small-town American church-goers have chosen a "Charlie McCarthy" type "Bushie" to represent over an intelligent, well-spoken "straight man" type to run their country and are now asking all the Democrats to put aside their values and go along with "Bushie" so he can look good and get a second term. If he was put out after one term as his daddy was, it would look bad for "shrubie."

The Democrats should put aside their differences and treat "Bushie" with the same respect as Newt, Delany and the Republican Congress has treated President Clinton.

LEONARD SMITH
Wendell

'Magical Valley Christmas' rocks

On Dec. 22, I watched a most delightful presentation of "Magical Valley Christmas." It aired on KMYT and was sponsored by First Federal Savings Bank and KMYT. It was certainly well done with musical groups from all over the Magic Valley with the background being the Festival of Trees.

My only suggestion would be that it be advertised and the time it aired was not conducive for family watching. I watched it starting at 11:10 p.m.

I hope this becomes a tradition.

NORMA FRITZLEY
Twin Falls

Focus on word use, spelling

The Times-News has been running many articles regarding the quality of education in our schools. It really needs to focus on the spelling abilities of its proof readers as there have been so many glaring gaffes in word use and spelling that it makes the paper look really tacky and provincial.

How about getting them up to speed?
FRANCES BEST
Twin Falls

Do citizens really have any say?

Just as the most important decision in decades and perhaps the history of Cassia County is going to be made, District 25 will have a new state representative appointed to replace Jim Kempton by a tightly controlled Republican Party that is headed by Trent Clark, the "government affairs officer" of the huge international agribusiness conglomerate, Monsanto Corp., without any vote of the people in Cassia County. The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality is quietly processing and closely guarding the application for one of the largest hog-raising operations in the United States to be located in Cassia County. The Times-News interviewed the "candidates" from whom the Republican Party will unilaterally choose Rep. Kempton's successor and not one question was asked about the position of the "candidates" on the Big Sky Hog

Factory. Why? Mr. Hartgen of the Oceanide, Calif., Times-News, Trent Clark, Republican Party chairman, and Fred Zera of Simplot are all members of the Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry. This is the political arm that really runs Idaho!

The Jefferson County elected officials, the Twin Falls County elected officials and the Cassia County elected officials have all turned down hog factories or spoken out against them. However Gov. Dirk Kempthorne's appointee, JSDA Director and erstwhile Farm Bureau presidential candidate Pat Takaguchi, has written a letter lobbying for hog factories in these same areas. The Times-News has written scathing articles criticizing the Twin Falls County commissioners for turning down hog factories and numerous other articles extolling the virtues of the proposed Cassia County hog factory.

We saw how Republican Party

Chairman, Government Affairs Officer, Monsanto Corp. and Idaho Association of Commerce and Industry committee member Trent Clark recently whipped Republican Mayor Coles of Boise into line for even daring to thank the present administration for funds given to the city of Boise. Cassia County party officials will be duck soup.

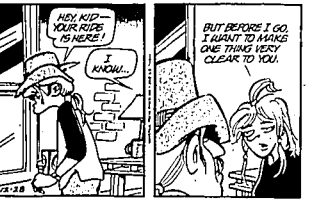
Rep. Kempton stated on KCRV-TV that "right now as written, they (the Idaho hog and chicken waste guidelines) are some of the least restrictive rules of any in the nation." Former Idaho Gov. Evans said: "Let them (the proposed hog factory) go back to Iowa or Nebraska."

State rights, local determination, "egalitarian libertarianism" and local government control are simply a mirage, and those of you who believe otherwise will continue to suffer in silent confusion.

MAX D. HATFIELD
Dallas, Texas

LETTER

Doonesbury



By Garry Trudeau

Mallard Fillmore



By Bruce Tinsley



OPINION



When the boom began to go bust

In 2000, the New Economy got old. We reclaimed ancient lessons. Human nature hasn't changed. People can overdo optimism. And the very faith in preordained prosperity can inspire foolish and self-defeating behavior. Blind to these possibilities, the fervent believers in the New Economy could not see its central contradiction. What's new is unfamiliar and uncertain and, therefore, risky. Sooner or later, the risks had to emerge. They did in 2000.

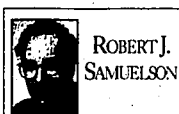
The theory of the New Economy held that computers and the Internet have so enhanced the prospects for higher wages and profits that people could spend lavishly. By its logic, the New Economy was unassailable. Strong investment would improve efficiency, enabling companies to raise wages and profits without raising prices. Worsening inflation wouldn't threaten recession. High stock prices today were justified by higher expected profits tomorrow. People could borrow more today because their higher future incomes would make repayment easier.

So Americans justified their enthusiasms and extravagances. In 2000, the personal savings rate — the share of after-tax income saved — fell to almost zero. In 1992, it was nearly 9 percent. People cashed in stock profits. They borrowed. The consumption boom inspired a boom in corporate investment, which was fed by flush profits, high stock prices and the promise of new technology. From 1994 to 2000, about 70 percent of the increase in business investment occurred in computers, software, communications networks and advanced instruments.

The problem was that the logic allowed no room for error or ignorance. It presumed that people could foretell the consequences of new technologies and that no one would blunder in making the technologies succeed commercially. Both assumptions were unrealistic. More than 140 dot-com firms shut down in 2000, reports Webmargers.com, a research firm. Of course, the promise of new technology was not entirely false. Up to a point, the theory of the New Economy works. "Productivity" is economists' term for efficiency. Between 1973 and 1995, productivity (output per worker hour in private business) rose an average of 1.5 percent annually. From 1995 to 2000, it rose about 3 percent. This huge change, if sustained, means that personal incomes and profits rise about 30 percent over a decade instead of 15 percent.

Moreover, many productivity gains clearly flowed from technology (other sources could include better management and better-trained workers). Consider Target stores, the fourth largest U.S. retailer. It sells about 75,000 items. Since the late 1980s, it has completely automated its supply chain. The information about what people are buying goes from cash registers to computers, which transfer electronically from suppliers. Unwanted inventories (dropped. Paper purchase orders virtually vanished.

But technology's benefits did not create a New Economy or tame the business cycle. Technology is always advancing. After World War II, productivity gains were actually larger. Between 1947 and 1973, they averaged 3.3 percent a year. That did not prevent recessions, which occurred in 1948-49, 1953-54, 1974-75,



ROBERT J. SAMUELSON

58, 1960-61 and 1969-70. Recessions happen because imbalances develop in the economy and inflation is only one possibility. The greatest threats today lie in overextended consumer and investment spending.

We're at the end of a speculative spree. In early 2000, the stock market (measured by the Standard & Poor's 500 Index) briefly traded at 39 times profits — almost three times the average between 1946 and 1996. Yahoo hit a high of \$250; it's now about \$25. People spent based on perceived wealth. Companies invested heavily, in part because money could be raised easily from venture capitalists, stock offerings and bonds.

Although the perception of wealth was a mirage — reflecting exaggerated optimism or, perhaps, greed — the induced spending had effects. It boosted jobs, profits and (probably) productivity. The spending boom also prompted the Federal Reserve to raise interest rates to pre-empt inflation, or more speculation. The

aim was to contain the boom without causing a collapse. We'll know soon enough whether the Fed succeeded.

Confidence is almost everything. If falling stocks, high debts and job fears unnerve consumers, the effects could be devastating. Given the low savings rate — and all the things people have bought — there's ample opportunity to retrain. Consumer spending would drop \$70 billion for every percentage point the savings rate rises. Weaker consumer spending could then hurt profits, stock prices and corporate investment, leading to layoffs and lower confidence. Presumably, the Fed would then reduce interest rates. Congress might pass George W. Bush's tax cut. But how much would these moves help? A weaker U.S. economy might also harm foreign economies. Japan, already depressed, relies heavily on its U.S. exports. So do other Asian and Latin-American countries.

The uncertainties and risks accumulate. They mock the promised calm of the New Economy. It cannot be said to have died, because it never existed. It was a mood, and — almost without warning — it has passed.

Robert J. Samuelson is a Newsweek columnist.

Hanukkah candles shed light on conflict

IRA CHERNUS

It will not be easy lighting Hanukkah candles this year. Like all Jews, I grew up hearing the story of the brave young freedom fighters, the Maccabees, who miraculously freed their homeland from the tyrant, Antiochus Epiphanes, and his army of foreign occupiers. I learned that today's Israeli soldiers, like the Maccabees, were fighting for Jewish survival.

Now the descendants of the Maccabees are the occupiers. They use tanks and helicopter gunships against Palestinian youngsters, who see themselves fighting to free their homeland. As I light the candles, I will think about how many ways the story of the past can be told, and how each telling casts a different light on the tragic conflicts of the present.

The Hanukkah story that Jewish children (and adults) hear is only half true. The other half is the story of elite Jewish leaders who invited Antiochus Epiphanes' troops into Jerusalem. Those leaders saw political and personal profit in turning Jerusalem into a Greek city-state. And they saw no reason not to. For well over a century, Jewish assimilationists had been touting the virtues of "going Greek." The Maccabees who opposed them fought for cultural as well as political independence.

Today many Palestinians fear that Yasser Arafat and the Palestinian Authority are playing the same role as the Jerusalem elite of long ago. Israel's former prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu, said it clearly: When Arafat signed the Oslo Agreements, he was agreeing to be Israel's "subcontractor," to suppress the radical Palestinian

nationalists.

Israel's mantrillike calls for Arafat to "end the violence" are demands that he play the designated subcontractor. If he succeeds, he gets to rule his own country, under the tutelage of the former occupier. There are many Palestinians determined to prevent this cozy arrangement. Like the Maccabees, they see themselves fighting a cultural civil war against radical assimilationists.

Israel also faces the seed of a cultural civil war within its own borders, this time between Orthodox and non-Orthodox Jews. The Orthodox resist inroads from Reform and Conservative groups, headquartered in the United States. So the Israeli rift spilled over into Jewish life here. Most U.S. Jews find the Orthodox too intolerant, too alien from the ways of modernity. If they understood the full history behind Hanukkah, many would see the Maccabees as forerunners of Orthodox and side with the assimilationists.

Can Israel's prime minister, Ehud Barak, and his advisers ignore this growing conflict, as they plan their daily responses to Palestinian rock-throwers? Surely they know that nothing brings people together like a common enemy. But in the United States, the "rally round the flag" effect has been limited. Jewish organizations defend Israel publicly, but the passion from ordinary Jews is missing. Instead, there is an eerie quiet. This past Yom Kippur, I published a column, distributed throughout my state of Colorado,

calling on U.S. Jews to repent for Israel's killing and U.S. Jews' deafening silence. I expected a storm of protest. I got only one deafening silence.

Many U.S. Jews today face a similar quandary. They have no doubt religious motives for supporting Israeli policies. They worry about the growing power of Orthodoxy in Israel. Even more, they worry about moral right and wrong. You cannot argue that by retelling the half-truth story of Hanukkah, as if Israeli Jews were still an oppressed minority.

The old tale of a tiny people fighting for its life is starting to wear thin. Four of 10 U.S. Jews already support Palestinian sovereignty over East Jerusalem, if it will bring real peace. That number is bound to grow as the toll of dead Palestinian youth grows. Already, some Jews light the candles, not to celebrate Jewish power, but to celebrate the rights of people everywhere who resist oppression.

But the habit of sifting politics and supporting Israeli policies dies hard. We have been told, practically from birth, that today's Israeli soldiers carry on the brave tradition of the Maccabees. The candles, the presents and the pride are all mixed together in some beyond-the-rational part of our brain. When facts collide with feelings, it is not surprising that so many of us simply stay silent. But as the death toll mounts, that silence, like lighting the candles, will surely not be easy.

IRA CHERNUS is a professor of religious studies at the University of Colorado at Boulder and a writer for the History News Service. Readers can send him email at chernus@spot.colorado.edu.

LETTERS

Discovery presents solution

With reference to Times-News coverage of dairy odors on Dec. 21, Mr. Lewis Eilers is quoted as saying the solutions to the problem are too expensive to be seriously considered. Why wasn't that issue considered prior to embarking on the mega-dairy experience? Also, the state Department of Agriculture has expressed that the goals in a future mega-dairy odor problem meeting will include determining the main sources of the odor?

But eureka! I have good news for everyone: Mr. Lewis Eilers has provided one valuable clue

toward ferreting out the main source of odor: "We are just now beginning to understand the value of what comes out of the back end of a cow."

There is strong suspicion by this writer (me) that Mr. Eilers has made an important discovery, but I think that, future value notwithstanding, the present value is odor pollution!

However, armed with the aforementioned vital clue, our state Department of Agriculture can go forth and make a determination. Perhaps it would be helpful if Twin Falls County contracted the services of Chief Inspector

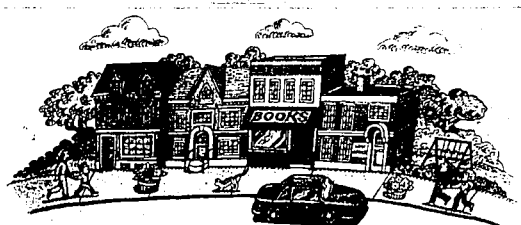
Clousen to assist. JIM CONDER, Filer

Big Band years were best

I quote, ermine, peds for kings and nobility. Times-News, Dec. 21. During the Big Band years, Paul Whiteman and his 40 Thieves entertained at the San Francisco, Calif., Auto Show Civic Center. On stage, Mr. Whiteman wore a white ermine coat priced well above the cars on display. The Big Band sound was an era of good music, good cars and beautiful coats.

HARRY WITTE, Twin Falls

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MORNING LINE

SPORTSQUOTE

“New England is ranked 26th in the league in rushing offense, 23rd in rushing defense, but first in NFL cornerbacks getting caught with Ecstasy.”

—*The Miami Herald's Dan LeBatard, in the wake of Ty Law's arrest for drug possession*

TRIVIA

QUESTION:
Which four teams in NHL history have exceeded an .800 winning percentage over a full season?
...answer below

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

- Women's basketball**
CSI at Lady Roughrider Classic, Prescott, Ariz.
- Men's college basketball**
Westminster at ISU, 7:05 p.m.
- Boys' high school basketball**
Declo Tourney, 5 p.m.
Kimberly at Payette, 5 p.m.
- Girls' high school basketball**
Burley at Preston, 6 p.m.
Shoshone Tourney, 6 p.m.

IN BRIEF

Burley competitors make World Games

BOISE — Two Burley athletes and one coach are among the nine-member Special Olympics USA delegation assembled this week to compete March 4-11 at the 2001 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Anchorage, Alaska.
Chris Fronk will compete in alpine skiing, Chris Blair will take part in snowboarding and Terry Kinkaid will make the trip as a snowshoe coach, joining the more than 2,000 athletes and 700 coaches from eight countries expected to attend.
“It's an opportunity to be around people who realize close to 100 percent of their potential,” Kinkaid said.
The Special Olympics World Winter Games are held every two years.

ABC's plan backfires as MNF ratings plummet

NEW YORK — Neither Dennis Miller nor a series of good games could prevent “Monday Night Football” from drawing its lowest TV ratings in 31 seasons.
ABC Sports' NFL broadcasts averaged a 12.7 national rating and 22 shares, a drop of 7 percent from last season's previous record low of 13.723.
While 11 of the 17 Monday games were decided by a touchdown or less, the program did manage to compete with the Sydney Olympics on two nights and a pushed-back fall schedule. The low point came in Week 13, when a game between non-playoff teams Kansas City and New England generated a 9.9 rating — the second lowest ever. The only worse rating was in Week 4, the opposite Game 7 of the 1986 World Series.
The show's Nielsen ratings have decreased for six straight seasons. In 1994, the show averaged a 17.8 with announcers Al Michaels, Dan Dierdorf and Frank Gifford. Miller was hired to inject new life and draw more viewers — to the weekly telecasts.

Compiled from staff and wire reports

TRIVIA ANSWER:

The 1929-30 Boston Bruins (.875), the 1943-44 Montreal Canadiens (.830), the 1976-77 Canadiens (.825) and the 1977-78 Canadiens (.806).

Let the fireworks begin

Miner tight end leads UTEP offense reminiscent of BSU's

By Tim Korta
The Associated Press



Brian Natkin

BOISE — When UTEP tight end Brian Natkin finished high school, he was hardly a major college prospect. He caught only nine passes as a senior. He stood 6-foot-3 and weighed 205 pounds.
“I was kind of tiny,” Natkin said with an embarrassed laugh.
Now he's a college senior, some 45 pounds heavier. And he's a first-team All-American who has helped the Miners to a bowl game for only the second time in 33 years.
Texas-El Paso meets Boise

State in the Humanitarian Bowl today in a match of two of the nation's most potent offenses. Boise State (9-2) averaged 44.9 points this season to lead the country, while UTEP (8-3) ranked 22nd at 32.3 points a game.
“Both offensive units can put a lot of points on the board,” said Gary Nord, in his first year as

UTEP's head coach. “We believe whoever plays the best defense will win.”

Although Natkin is from San Antonio, in the heart of football-crazed Texas, recruiters didn't beat down his door. His choices were Air Force, Army or Texas-El Paso, plus a handful of Division I-AA programs.

Natkin chose UTEP, and his development as a player mirrored the recent rise of the Miners. He goes into his last game as the school career leader at 172 catches, and 44 of his 64 receptions this fall produced first downs.

“He's a real throwback,” Nord said. “He's a tough football player who will knock you off the ball. But he's also got a knack for getting open, and he's got great hands when he gets there.”

Human touch

UTEP (8-3) vs. Boise St. (9-2)
Today, 11:30 a.m. (ESPN2)



More inside, Page B4
• Bye-bye Broncos?
• Complete rosters

Coming Friday: Times-News sports-writer John Derr delivers Jerome High product Shay Swan's take on his final game as Boise State's reliable fullback.

Just the kind of player Nord needed when he arrived in El Paso in 1997 after stops at

Pittsburgh, Oklahoma and Louisville.

Former UTEP coach Charlie Bailey, who retired after last season, hired Nord as offensive coordinator to diversify a run-oriented attack. They wanted to spread the field, making the defense cover more ground.

“The majority of the credit for my success goes to coach Nord,” Natkin said. “He brought his offense with him. The tight end didn't catch a lot of balls before I got here.”

The Miners shared the Western Athletic Conference title with Texas Christian and received a bowl bid, which over the past 33 years has been as rare at UTEP as a rest stop on a West Texas highway.

The Miners are making their Please see BSU, Page B4

HOW ABOUT THOSE HORNETS?

Declo steals show at holiday tourney

By Dex Dutton
Times-News correspondent

DECLO — The Declo High boys' basketball team is on a run.
An 8-0 run.

The Hornets' senior quartet combined for 48 points to lead Declo to a 67-52 rout of Payette in the second game of the Magic Valley school's host holiday tourney Wednesday night.

Dylan Christensen had a game-high 16 points, Tyler Heaward netted 13 points and Jacoby Fox added 10.

Any team would feel good about an eight-game streak, but making the feat even more impressive, the Hornets this year moved from Class A-3 up to A-2.

Yet head coach Loyd Garey said he feels his team is far from proving itself in the A-2 ranks.

“We had a lot more turnovers than we usually have,” Garey said. “Heaward worked hard to tighten up some sloppy play on our part. But we did some great things here tonight. Our seniors did really well ... everyone played their role.”

In Wednesday's first game, New Plymouth's Chris Birdwell snagged a rebound and hit an inside field goal with a single tick remaining to give the Pilgrims a 40-38 win over Kimberly. J.J. Flew scored 10 for the Bulldogs and Matt Bulcher and Cody Askew each netted eight.

Garey said Declo's fast-paced style and aggressive defense matches well with the style of play he has seen from other A-2 teams in the state. And sure enough, Payette had a hard time keeping up with the Hornets.

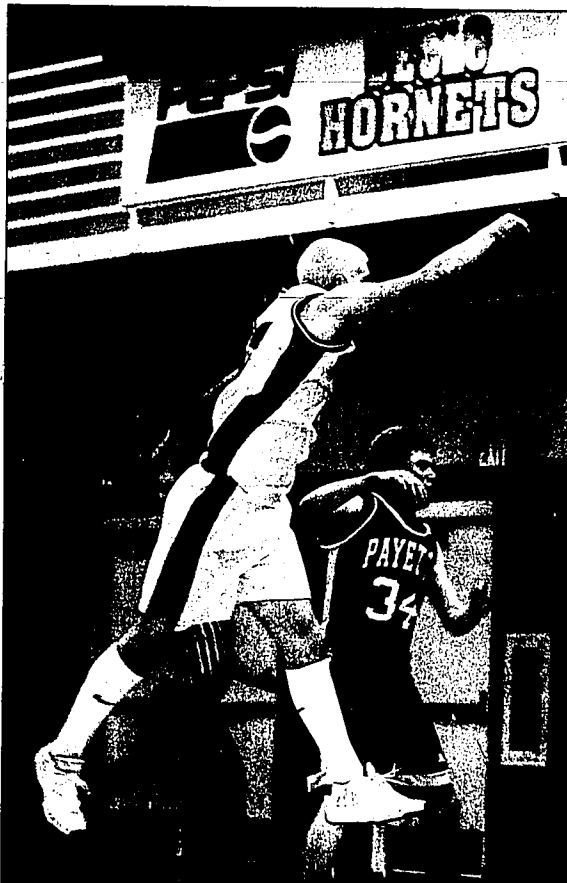
Showing its speed early, Declo seemed bent on running away with the game in the first few minutes of the opening period. Leading 19-9 to end the quarter, Declo continued the run to lead 35-24 at intermission.

Caleb Meyer then opened the second half with a pair of baskets to spark a 7-4 Declo run. The 6-foot-7 Christensen went inside for a trio of third-period buckets, and the lead was 49-35 heading into the last period.

Marc Christensen and Fox opened the final period with a 3-pointer apiece. Those buckets, followed by a Jordan Bagwell deuce, gave Declo a 22-point advantage.

The Pirates responded with six points from Richard Frates to trim the deficit to 14, but it was too little, too late. Frates finished the night with 15 for Payette.

Please see DECLO, Page B2



Declo High School boys' basketball player Jacoby Fox reaches for a shot during Wednesday night's tourney victory against Payette.

Faulk runs away with MVP

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Marshall Faulk's record-setting ride for the St. Louis Rams earned him the NFL's Most Valuable Player award in balloting conducted by The Associated Press and announced Wednesday.

Faulk, whose 26 touchdowns beat Emmitt Smith's league mark by one, carried the defending-champion Rams into the playoffs with his late-season heroics. He scored 11 of those touchdowns in the last three weeks and had three four-TD games.

The swift running back also had 220 yards rushing in last Sunday's victory at New Orleans that helped St. Louis squeeze into the postseason.

“This season was pretty high up there, a very special one just because of all the things we

Female athlete of the year — B2

“I faced,” said Faulk, who finished with 1,359 yards and 18 touchdowns rushing, plus 81 receptions for 830 yards and eight TDs.

Faulk said it was especially gratifying to break a record set by “a warrior” like Smith, and that the mark also showed what the Rams were capable of as a team.

“But the thing that overshadows it for me and doesn't allow me to harp on it is we were fighting for our lives to try to get into the playoffs,” Faulk said.

The Rams got in thanks mostly to Faulk, and play at New Orleans again on Saturday. Faulk, 27 and in his seventh

Please see MVP, Page B2

St. Louis Rams running back Marshall Faulk avades Carolina's Lester Toms, left, Dec. 3. Faulk's record-setting ride for the St. Louis Rams earned him the NFL's Most Valuable Player award Wednesday in balloting conducted by The Associated Press.



Indians clobber Oakley

Wendell falls, Shoshone stays unbeaten

By Holly Key
Times-News writer

SHOSHONE — Four high school girls' basketball teams interrupted their Christmas break to meet in Shoshone for the Indians' second annual Christmas tournament Wednesday.

The games were a welcome break after a holiday spent around the dinner table.

“We're all kind of out of shape,” said Shoshone junior Monica Uhrig. “We're trying to run off what we've been eating. It's good for us.”

In the first game of the night, Rockland came from behind to defeat Wendell 37-34. Shoshone came out strong in the other contest, holding Oakley to just four points in the first half of the Indians' 49-13 win.

“This tournament kind of breaks up the monotony,” said Indians coach Tim Chapman. “This benefits the kids more than six straight days of practice.”

The Bulldogs cut the Trojans' lead to three on a Mary May jumper two minutes into the fourth period. Jeana Brady made it a one-point game with a layup, and Lindsey Ralph's evened the tally with a free throw.

A short jumper from Angie Permann silenced Wendell with 26 seconds on the clock. The Trojans had the next possession, but Wendell's Lauren Haycock and forced a Rockland foul shot that made it final.

“I felt that Wendell played hard,” said Bulldog coach Vern Nelson. “It was our defense that turned it around for us.”

Wendell's Lauren Haycock had a game-high 17 points.

Game 2 matched the host Indians against Oakley. The Hornets couldn't get their offense going as Shoshone racked up points en route to a 28-4 halftime cushion.

The 6-foot-3 Uhrig dominated the inside, tallying a game-high 16 points though she didn't play in the fourth quarter.

“I have somewhat of an advantage,” Uhrig said of her shorter opponents.

Uhrig had 10 points in the first half while Emily Bedke and Mandi Crichtfield were the only Hornets to score in the first two quarters.

During the third period, Shoshone extended its lead to 32 points with three inside shots from Uhrig.

Bedke had four points in the fourth, but the Indians took the game.

Please see INDIANS, Page B2

SPORTS

MVP

Continued from B1

NFL season, received 24 votes from a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters. He beat Philadelphia quarterback Donovan McNabb (11), Tennessee running back Eddie George (8), Oakland quarterback Rich Gannon (5), Indianapolis quarterback Peyton Manning (1) and Baltimore linebacker Ray Lewis (1).

"No question he's deserving of the MVP," said Rams quarterback Kurt Warner, who won the honor last year. "Look at what he did in 14 games. I don't think there's any question about what he's meant to the team."

Without Faulk, he missed two games and was hobbled in two others with a knee injury that required midseason arthroscopic surgery - St. Louis has a good offense, but virtually no running game. With him, the Rams can be devastating with the ball.

But Faulk not only is a great runner, he's as good a passer-catcher as most starting wide receivers.

"I don't think there is a prototype," he said. "To play the position and be effective and help the team in the passing game - catching the ball, blocking and picking up blitzes, understanding protections - you eliminate the need for another person on the roster. They can do someone else at another position to the roster. It's sort of like having one guy who could do two jobs."

Faulk, the 1999 Offensive Player of the Year, is the 14th running back to be voted MVP, joining such Hall of Fame runners as Jim Taylor, Walter Payton, Jim Brown, Paul Hornung, Earl Campbell and Marcus Allen.

He is the second successive Ram to win it and the third overall - Roman Gabriel was the 1969 MVP.

Jones' sprinter speed catches national award

NEW YORK (AP) - Marion Jones had to reach her goal of five gold medals at the Sydney Games. All she did was win track medals than any female track athlete ever had at a single Olympics.

That record-setting haul - three golds, two bronzes - in a personally stormy month Down Under was enough for Jones to be chosen as The Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year.

In balloting by sports writers and broadcasters, Jones received 27 first-place votes and 111 points, edging tennis star Venus Williams, runner-up with 16.5 firsts and 104.5 points. Golfer Karrie Webb was third with 30 points. Points were awarded on a 3-2-1 basis.

Last year's winner, the U.S. soccer team, didn't receive any votes this time.

Jones, 24, was the 10th woman track-and-field athlete to win the honor since the award was inaugurated in 1931, and the first since the late Florence Griffith Joyner in 1988.

The imperturbable Jones earned golds in the 100 and 200 meters and the 1,600 relay, the bronzes in the long jump and 400 relay.

"I set out to do something that a lot of people thought I couldn't do," Jones said. "I didn't give up. I had a great shot and it didn't pan out. I can live with that."

Those bronzes could have been golds, Jones said.

"That gold medal was there for the taking in the long jump," she said. "And in the (400) relay, we had some injuries (Gail Devers and Inger Miller). We didn't have our best horses. ... I wanted to win them all, and

Jones captures top honor

Marion Jones was selected as The Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year. Jones became the first female track and field athlete to win five medals at one Olympics.



Jones' five medals at the 2000 Sydney Games

100-meter	Gold
200-meter	Gold
Long jump	Bronze
4x100-meter relay	Bronze
4x400-meter relay	Gold

AP Female Athlete of the Year voting

Top votes based on a 3-2-1 point system (first place votes in parentheses).

Athlete	Points
Marion Jones (27)	111
Venus Williams (16)	104.5
Karrie Webb (4)	30

Source: Compiled from AP wire reports AP

I still think it's possible. But I didn't. So I'm not going to dwell on that."

The 400 relay team didn't even practice together until the day of the race.

Jones' prediction, made two years in advance of the Sydney Games, earned her a lot of pub-

licity, something she will avoid for the 2004 Olympics.

"I've vowed not to make a prediction such as the five golds, especially not four years prior to the next games," Jones said. "But whatever I choose to do, I'll try and make it as extraordinary as possible."

The performances by Jones at Sydney were even more extraordinary, considering what was going on around her.

Track world body, the IAAF, said midway through the games that her husband, a 1999 world shot put champion C.J. Hunter, had tested positive for the steroid mandatorily four times after the U.S. Olympic trials. The disclosure came two days after Jones' victory in the 100, meaning she had to compete in four events with that distraction.

"It was very unfortunate timing," Jones said.

Jones' timing on the track was impeccable.

She affirmed her status as the world's fastest woman, winning the 100 at 10.75 seconds, her victory margin of 0.37 seconds the second largest in Olympic history. She won the 200 at 21.84, her victory margin of 0.43 seconds the largest behind Wilma Rudolph's in 1960. Jones' 100 and 200 times were the fastest in the world this year.

She helped the 1,600 relay team to victory at 3:22.62 with a powerful third leg of 49.4, the same as Australia's Cathy Freeman, the 400 gold medalist.

Overall, the durable Jones competed 12 times during nine days of track and field at the games in four rounds of the 100, four rounds of the 200, a long jump qualifying round and the final, on the anchor leg of the 400 relay final and in the 1,600 relay final.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

No. 1 Michigan State hammers Bowling Green

AUBURN HILLS, Mich. - Jason Richardson had 21 pol ut's and nine rebounds as top-ranked Michigan State matched its best start by beating Bowling Green 85-69 Wednesday night to win the Holiday Classic.

Michigan State also was 10-0 in 1991-92. The Spartans have now won 21 straight games, one short of the 1998-99 team's school record.

Chill, Lady Sun Devils no match for No. 2 Vols

PHOENIX - Tennessee proved to be just as successful playing outdoors as in.

On a cool, desert night, Tamika Catchings scored 24 points to lead the No. 2-ranked Lady Vols to a 67-63 victory over Arizona State on Wednesday at Bank One Ballpark, the home of baseball's Arizona Diamondbacks.

Tennessee (14-0) built a 14-point lead midway through the second half, then held off the Sun Devils (7-4) down the stretch to win what was believed to be the first college basketball game played outdoors.

The court sat along the first base line and a curtain was stretched along one side to try to create some intimacy in the 48,000-seat park. But it wasn't enough to ward off the chill from temperatures in the mid-50s in a stadium that has 8,000 tons of air conditioning, but no heat.

Kristen Clement added 12 points for Tennessee and Michelle Snow grabbed 14 rebounds.

Warner reports no headaches in two days

ST. LOUIS - Three days after the fact, Kurt Warner's concussion is old news. On Wednesday, the St. Louis Rams' quarterback said he'd been headache-free for two days and would start Saturday's wild-card playoff game against the New Orleans Saints.

"I feel good, I feel real good," Warner said. "It's great to get back to work."

Warner, who missed all but one series in the second half of the Rams' playoff-clinching 26-21 victory over New Orleans on Sunday, said he has no health worries heading into the rematch with the Saints and didn't appear the least bit groggy or light-headed in an extended session with reporters.

He's not concerned about being more prone to another concussion, an injury that has ended the careers of many quarterbacks, and plans no special precautions such as wearing a special helmet.

Younger Manning goes for first playoff victory

INDIANAPOLIS - Peyton Manning's father played 14 seasons in the NFL without getting a sniff of the playoffs.

The younger Manning, 0-1 in the postseason after two years in the league, already is impatient for his first playoff victory.

The only player in NFL history to pass for more than 12,000 yards in his first three seasons, Manning reached the playoffs when the Indianapolis Colts beat Minnesota last Sunday evening to earn a trip to Miami for a wild-card game on Saturday.

But that's not good enough. Not this year.

"Every player on this team realizes what our job is," Manning said. "Last year, we didn't play well in the playoffs. Now we have to raise our game a little bit. Hopefully, we can do that on Saturday."

- compiled from wire reports

Hot Hands

Girls' high school basketball leaders through games of last week. Individual player stats will run weekly throughout the season. Coaches should list stats weekly by noon Tuesday to 734-5538. Athl. Sports.

*Stats are based on a minimum six games reported.

Coaches: TO CAT? UP simply send us a cumulative report. Coaches that need stat forms should call 735-3229

Scoring average

Player	Games	Pts.
M. Uhing, Shoshone	11	17.27
W. Stasi, Twin Falls	8	15.66
L. Hoygood, Wendell	7	15.00
A. Shawver, Valley	11	14.90
K. Coats, Twin Falls	9	12.55
K. Sampson, Harrison	7	12.42
J. Christum, Declo	10	11.80
A. Alan, Declo	10	11.70
A. Sorenson, Burley	7	11.42
T. Harris, Shoshone	11	10.27

Rebounds

Player	Games	Rebs.
K. Hanson, Wendell	7	10.14
B. Buckner, Kimberly	8	9.63
C. Lutz, Glenns Ferry	9	9.44
A. McArthur, Harrison	10	9.40
M. Bradley, Burley	7	8.86
E. Gurnee, Kimberly	12	8.68
A. Simpson, Harrison	9	8.66
M. Uhing, Shoshone	11	8.09
H. Hart, Burley	8	8.00
K. Coats, Twin Falls	9	7.88

Assists

Player	Games	Assists
D. Simpson, Harrison	8	5.00
A. Wikstrom, Burley	9	5.00
D. Maloney, Twin Falls	8	5.00
M. Uhing, Shoshone	11	4.54
A. Agalar, Burley	11	4.54
K. McArthur, Valley	10	4.4
S. Plov, Kimberly	10	3.80
S. Cheney, Gooding	7	3.57
T. Davis, Wendell	8	3.50
K. Stunk, Twin Falls	8	3.33

Steals

Player	Games	Stls.
C. Lutz, Glenns Ferry	11	4.66
K. Stunk, Twin Falls	9	4.11
A. McCauley, Burley	8	3.88
A. Wikstrom, Burley	12	3.66
K. Brock, Valley	7	3.50
T. Davis, Wendell	8	3.50
H. Hart, Burley	8	3.37
K. Hanson, Wendell	11	3.00
J. Harris, Shoshone	11	3.00
D. Simpson, Harrison	8	3.00

3-pointers

Player	Games	3-pt.
J. Collins, Wendell	8	2.25
Z. Melanson, Kimberly	6	1.50
S. Cheney, Gooding	8	1.33
C. Patten, Gooding	10	1.10
A. Kolko, Valley	12	1.00
J. Harris, Shoshone	11	1.00
A. Alan, Declo	10	1.00
H. Hart, Burley	8	1.00
E. Farms, Glenns Ferry	9	0.88
M. Danstrom, Twin Falls	9	0.77



The Homets' Kylar Howard works his way down the court Wednesday against Payette.

Declo

Continued from B1

"We played well but too sporadic. At times, we played really good defense," said Payette coach Greg Stutzman. "We need to be more consistent in tomorrow's game."

Payette will face Kimberly at 5 p.m. today, with Declo winding down the four-team invitational against New Plymouth at 7 p.m.

New Plymouth 40, Kimberly 38

Kimberly: New Plymouth 40, Kimberly 38
 1st Q: 11-18 (4-2)
 2nd Q: 11-12 (4-2)
 3rd Q: 11-12 (4-2)
 4th Q: 11-12 (4-2)
 Total: 44-44 (16-16)

Declo 67, Payette 52
 1st Q: 11-17 (5-2)
 2nd Q: 11-14 (5-2)
 3rd Q: 11-14 (5-2)
 4th Q: 11-14 (5-2)
 Total: 47-47 (19-19)

Indians

Continued from B1

"Our girls came out with great intensity," Chapman said. "Undefeated Shoshone (14-0 overall, 5-0 in conference) will take on Rockland (4-4 overall, 1-1 in conference) tonight at 7 p.m. Oakley and Wendell meet beforehand, at 6."

Call him Comeback King

Lemieux lifts Pens over Leafs

PITTSBURGH (AP) - Mario Lemieux made a remarkable comeback after 3.5 years of retirement, scoring one goal and assisting on two others as the Pittsburgh Penguins beat the Toronto Maple Leafs 5-0 Wednesday night.

Lemieux, a Hall of Famer and the Penguins' owner, needed only 33 seconds to show he still can play - that's when he assisted on Jaromir Jagr's 20th goal this season.

Lemieux's goal came at 10:33 of the second period. Jagr faked out defenseman Dimitri Yushkevich, then fed a cross-pipe to a fast-changing Lemieux in the left circle and he buried the shot past goalie Curtis Joseph.

Less than four minutes later, Lemieux made a perfect pass to set up Jan Hrdina's goal and put the Penguins up 4-0.

Lemieux, who first entered the NHL in 1984, hadn't played since a playoff loss in April 1997.

The Penguins had lost their previous five home games, their longest such slump since dropping seven in a row during the season before Lemieux arrived.



Pittsburgh's Mario Lemieux, right, the Maple Leafs' Garry Valk for the puck during the first period Wednesday in Pittsburgh. Lemieux returned to the ice after retiring three years ago.

Blackhawks 1, Coyotes 1

CHICAGO - Phoenix's Sean Burke stopped 24 shots and Chicago's Jocelyn Thibault made 18 saves.

Chicago's Eric Daze and Phoenix's Shane Doan exchanged goals in the first period, and the tie enabled the Blackhawks to extend their unbeaten streak to a season-high four games (3-0-1).

Bruins 5, Islanders 2

UNIONDALE, N.Y. - Bill Guerin scored two goals to increase his league lead goal total to 23 as a Jason Allison added three as the Bruins extended their unbeaten streak to 11 games.

Joe Thornton, Kyle McLaren and Sergei Saranov also scored for the Bruins, who got 31 saves from goalie Bynn A. Dafoe.

Hurricanes 4, Rangers 3

RALEIGH, N.C. - Martin Gelnus scored two power-play goals and assisted on Rob DiMaio's winner.

Carolina was playing for the first time since losing all four games on a road trip that ended

Tuesday night in Tampa Bay.

Wild 5, Red Wings 3

DETROIT - The Minnesota Wild got a break from the video replay official to extend their unbeaten streak.

Minnesota was protecting a 4-3 lead when Kirk Maltby tipped Nicklas Lidstrom's point shot past Wild goaltender Manny Fernandez with 2:46 remaining. But replays showed Maltby's stick was above the crossbar and the goal was disallowed.

Capitals 5, Senators 1

KANATA, Ontario - Peter Bondra scored four goals - three in the second period.

Bondra registered his first hat trick in over 14 months - and 15th career - when he scored three of Washington's four second-period goals.

Devils 2, Blue Jackets 0, OT

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. - Jason Armstrong scored on a power play with 69 seconds left in the third period to give the Stanley

Cup champion New Jersey Devils a 2-2 tie.

Randy McKay also scored for the Devils, who hit three goal posts in the third period before Arnott tallied into an open net on a great setup by Patrik Elias.

Stars 3, Mighty Ducks 1

DALLAS - Shaun Van Allen scored two goals as the Dallas Stars extended their winning streak to three games.

Stars rookie goalie Marty Turco gave starter Ed Belfour the night off and finished with 19 saves, including a spectacular stop on Anaheim's Dan Byslmas with 10:45 left to preserve a 2-1 lead.

Flyers 5, Panthers 2

PHILADELPHIA - Five players scored goals for the Philadelphia Flyers in a 5-2 victory Wednesday night over the Panthers. Florida's third straight loss.

Flyers goalie Roman Cechmanek made 31 saves and posted his third straight win. He's 5-0-1 in his last six games.

SPORTS

LETTER

Column was senseless

The grinch that has tried to ruin a good event has prompted this letter. Times-News sports writer Kevin Hall's negative article on the College of Southern Idaho vs. Idaho State basketball game is most upsetting.

Although Mr. Hall officiates as a pleasure, himself or his officiating fellow, his negativism on a marvelous, fun game and good fund-

raising idea is not in good step for CSI or our community. Having not the slightest clue as to what gives Mr. Hall his self-appointed expertise on basketball, it seems utterly senseless to trash an event that could become an annual, exciting event and perfect for CSI.

First of all, it is good, clean fun for our community; secondly, it is an excellent idea to raise much-needed funds for CSI and one of its good programs. Finally, it real-

ly didn't take too much smarts to see that the Stampede team had ample opportunity to win the game in the first several minutes of play but were simply outshined and out-coached by a determined CSI team and coach.

Congratulations to CSI, its current basketball program and coach. Don't let the negativism, always a product of a small mind, deter your efforts. SAM G. ADLER JR. Twin Falls

Magic lose Hill to ankle surgery

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Grant Hill will have season-ending surgery on his ankle, a devastating blow to the Magic and their hopes for the five-time All-Star would lead them to an NBA title.

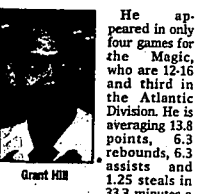
Hill said he was sitting down because he had become a distraction to his teammates who were uncertain he could play. Hill said he should make a full recovery.

Hill, acquired from Detroit in the offseason, is expected to be sidelined for 6-8 months, general manager John Gabriel said Wednesday.

"Our focus is to put Grant Hill in the best possible position to return as the player that we all know he is," Gabriel said. "We have great confidence in the outcome and wish Grant a speedy recovery."

The 6-foot-8 forward was originally injured at the end of last season while with the Pistons. He had surgery April 28 to repair a broken bone in his left ankle in which five screws and a plate were inserted.

"You don't ever really want to have surgery unless you have to and I guess in this case I do," Hill said at a news conference. "When you play basketball, you have to listen to it."



Grant Hill

He appeared in only four games for the Magic, who are 12-16 and third in the Atlantic Division. He is averaging 13.8 points, 6.3 rebounds, 6.3 assists and 1.25 steals in 33.3 minutes a game.

Hill was acquired by Orlando on Aug. 3 in a sign-and-trade deal with the Pistons for Cheucky Atkins and Ben Wallace.

Knicks 89, Wizards 82 WASHINGTON — Latrell Sprewell scored 25 points, Allan Houston had 23, and the New York Knicks beat Washington 89-82 Wednesday night, sending the Wizards to another all-time low.

The loss put the Wizards' record at 5-24, the franchise's worst since their deep into the season. The 1996-97 Baltimore Bullets started 5-24.

Heat 91, Pacers 79 MIAMI — Eddie Jones scored 22 points as the Miami Heat beat the Indiana Pacers 91-79 Wednesday night and extended their winning streak to three games.

The 79 points were the fewest for the Pacers this season, and the frustration showed as Reggie Miller and Al Harrington were ejected, Miller was tossed after being whistled for a flagrant foul and then a technical, and Harrington was ejected following a severe flagrant foul against Miami forward Brian Grant.

The loss was the sixth straight for the Rockets, who haven't won since beating Golden State 98-95 on Dec. 14 and haven't won at home since defeating Dallas, 109-102, on Dec. 5.

Vin Baker scored nine of his 11 points during a 20-11 run to start the third quarter. The Rockets, who shot 1-for-13 from 3-point range, led until the 9:08 mark of the third.



Marshall players celebrate their 25-14 win over Cincinnati in the Motor City Bowl in Pontiac, Mich., Wednesday.

Marshall tightens grip on Motor City

PONTIAC, Mich. (AP) — The Motor City Bowl might as well be called the Marshall Invitational.

The Thundering Herd beat Cincinnati 25-14 Wednesday in front of 26,018 fans at the Silverdome, to give Marshall a Motor City Bowl three-game winning streak in the bowl after losing the inaugural game in 1997.

Marshall's Byron Leftwich threw a 77-yard touchdown pass on the fourth play of the game and rushed for a score, making up for two turnovers in the second quarter. Leftwich was 17-of-30 for 221 yards and Frank Wallace rushed for 78 yards and a touchdown.

Marshall (8-5) won six of its last seven games in what was expect-

ed to be a rebuilding year. Cincinnati (7-5), which won its last four regular-season games, played in just its second bowl since 1951. Deontay Kenner was 19-of-39 for 189 yards with two interceptions, and DeMar McCleskey rushed for 72 yards and two touchdowns.

Marshall scored touchdowns on its first two drives of the second half after Cincinnati went three-and-out on consecutive possessions. The Thundering Herd sealed the win on a 25-yard field goal from J.R. Jenkins with 43 seconds left.

College bowls scored 34 straight first-half points, including two 1-yard runs by Leonard Henry and a 71-yard punt return by Keith Stokes, as the Pirates stunned Texas Tech 40-27 in the first game of the season at the first game played in the Astrodome since the last Bowlbunker Bowl in 1987.

In a game expected to be an offensive shootout, only East Carolina came through in the first half with an assortment of trick plays and fancy running by Stokes, who returned the opening kickoff 37 yards and quarterback David Garrard capped the drive with a 6-yard touchdown run.



East Carolina and Texas Tech players.

East Carolina (10-2) scored 17 points in the first half, including a 34-yard touchdown pass to Keith Stokes. Texas Tech (7-5) scored 17 points in the second half, including a 71-yard punt return by Leonard Henry.

NBA

Grant Hill will have season-ending surgery on his ankle, a devastating blow to the Magic and their hopes for the five-time All-Star would lead them to an NBA title.

Hill, acquired from Detroit in the offseason, is expected to be sidelined for 6-8 months, general manager John Gabriel said Wednesday.

"Our focus is to put Grant Hill in the best possible position to return as the player that we all know he is," Gabriel said. "We have great confidence in the outcome and wish Grant a speedy recovery."

The 6-foot-8 forward was originally injured at the end of last season while with the Pistons. He had surgery April 28 to repair a broken bone in his left ankle in which five screws and a plate were inserted.

"You don't ever really want to have surgery unless you have to and I guess in this case I do," Hill said at a news conference. "When you play basketball, you have to listen to it."

BASKETBALL

National Basketball Association

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SCORES AND STATS

IN THE BLEACHERS By Steve Moore



"Um, coach? Don't look up."

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WEST COAST HOCKEY LEAGUE

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FOOTBALL

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NFL MVP Voting

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WILD 5, RED WINGS 3

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SPORTS

Expect new teams in the 2001 Humanitarian Bowl

BOISE (AP) — The fourth annual Humanitarian Bowl between Boise State and Texas-El Paso today has the key ingredient for success: the hometown team.

But beginning next year, success may be more difficult to achieve. Conference realignments will make it more likely that Fresno State or Louisiana Tech will be playing instead of an Idaho team.

"We would like to play out the game during the summer every year," said Gene Bleymaier, athletic director for Boise State University.

To do that, the Humanitarian Bowl must become more than a football game: It must be a tradition that Treasure Valley residents embrace no matter which team plays on the blue turf come December, say Bleymaier and Mark Livingston, the bowl's executive director.

As one of Idaho's few nationally televised events, Bleymaier and Livingston want residents and the corporate community to support the bowl as a showcase for the city and the state to the rest of the country, perhaps reducing some negative stereotypes.

But in 2001, Boise State and the University of Idaho will leave the Big West Conference, which has sent its champion to the Humanitarian Bowl but is giving up sponsoring football. Boise State will join the Western Athletic Conference; Idaho will compete in the Sun Belt Conference.

How then to get people out of their warm homes on a cold winter day to go watch Tulsa or Rice?

In San Diego, the vast majority of residents neither knew nor cared much about schools such as Brigham Young University and Indiana during the Holiday Bowl early days in the late 1970s, said John Reid, that bowl's executive director.

But promoting the game as a major citywide festival — along with the almost providential help of exciting games with miraculous finishes — will help transform the Holiday Bowl into one of the nation's most successful bowls, outside the older, better-known bowls such as the Rose and the Orange.

The Holiday Bowl now attracts the runner-up of the Pacific 10 and a Big 12 opponent, two of college football's most powerful conferences. "The key to our success was local support. No magic, just hard work," Reid said. "We got a group of community leaders, about 400 prominent businessmen, to underwrite the game initially."

If ticket sales did not pay the way, finances made up the costs. But ticket sales are no longer a problem, even after the stadium increased capacity from 52,000 to 70,000 seats.

Community support led to events that turned the bowl from a one-day sporting event into a multi-day festival. Indeed, the bowl's Web site boasts of the importance of offering up more than football. "Oregon and Texas fans will see more than just great football on Dec. 29. The pageantry surrounding the Culligan Holiday Bowl may be just as memorable."

Table with 5 columns: No., Name, Pos., Height Weight, Hometown. Lists players from various universities like San Angelo, Texas Tech, etc.

Table with 5 columns: No., Name, Year, Pos., Height Weight, Hometown. Lists players from Boise State University Broncos.

BSU

Continued from B1. 10th bowl trip but the first since losing to Southern Mississippi in the 1988 Independence Bowl. That game ended a drought that existed since UTEP beat Mississippi in the 1967 Sun Bowl.

33,304 against Rice. "Their success has been huge for El Paso," said Boise State coach Dirk Koetter, who was UTEP's offensive coordinator for the 1988 bowl trip.

Koetter is moving on after this game. After leading the Broncos to consecutive Big West titles and a 34-31 victory over Louisville in last year's

Humanitarian Bowl, he was hired by Arizona State to succeed the fired Bruce Snyder. Koetter spent a week or so on the recruiting trail for the Sun Devils but returned to Boise on Dec. 15 to focus on getting the Broncos ready for his last game after three seasons as coach.

Meanwhile, former assistant Dan Hawkins was promoted to replace Koetter following the bowl game. While Koetter was establishing order in Tempe, Hawkins took care of bowl preparations in Boise. "It's been hectic. It's not something I'd want to do too often," Koetter said. "But if you compare it to a normal football game, we've had 11 days to prepare instead of five or six. There's no reason to think we won't do it correctly."

YOUR SCORES AND STATS

YMCVA VOLLEYBALL

Standings through Dec. 22. Lists teams like Vets, Vets & Coaches, etc. with scores.

BOWLING SCORES

Lists bowling scores for various leagues like JEROME BOWL, SHANE RIVER BOWL, etc.

GOOD TIMES FLOW AT ADULT/JUNIOR EVENT

Results are in from the Jolly Bowl Adult/Junior Tournament held on Dec. 16 at the Bowldrome. Twenty-five teams showed up for the one-time only participation event. In Division I — the junior bowlers were 8 years and younger — one thing is certain: When that Tyler Black comes to bowl he'll all business. He rolled 104 pins over average. Dad, Dale, managed to pull out a 661 series so they could finish first. Dale was only 52 pins over.

Lists bowling scores for various leagues like BOWLING SCORES, etc.

LET'S GO BOWLING

The team of "Granny and Me" — Joshua Ser and Jessie Biggerstaff — led Division II's 13 through 14-year-olds. Joshua went in with a 335 average and his games were 232, 150 and 162. That's a mere 139 pins over average. Granny only managed 103 in three older ones — 15 and up. Matt Olson beat Shane Rackham teamed up with Samara Showalter for a total score of 1,454 to capture second place. Samara did the holding up on this team — she was 162 pins over and Shane was 48.

Lists bowling scores for various leagues like BOWLING SCORES, etc.

Let us know

Do you know of a local sporting event that ought to be in the paper? Tell us about it. Send e-mail to jmf@magvolley.com.

YOUR SPORTS DESK

There is need for a little more explanation of the format for this event. Game 1 was 8-pin, no-top; Game 2 was 3-9; and Game 3 was 9-pin, no-top. Before Game 3 was completed, everyone was having so much fun the questions were flowing on when the next adult/junior event would be. The format is being worked on and the date will soon be scheduled, so keep your ears open for the announcement of the January event.

AMERICAN CAR CARE CENTERS advertisement. Includes text: Brakes, Tires & Shocks, Alignments, Lubrication & Filter. Also lists locations: JEROME, BURLEY, WENDELL, TWIN FALLS.

AROUND THE VALLEY

Nampa detective says suspect isn't from TF

NAMPA - A man charged with three counts of knowingly transferring bodily fluid containing the AIDS virus probably doesn't have ties to Twin Falls, a detective said Tuesday. Anthony Garcia, 25, was arrested Monday and arraigned on the three felony counts. He was being held Wednesday in the Canyon County Jail on \$250,000 bond.

Garcia was arrested after three male roommates, who had had sex with a fourth man, found documentation indicating that the man was HIV positive, Nampa Police Sgt. Tim Randall said. Garcia's friends had said he was from Twin Falls and had moved to Boise.

But Nampa Police detective Craig Kingsbury said his department hadn't uncovered any evidence that Garcia had lived in Twin Falls any time recently so Twin Falls authorities hadn't been alerted about the case.

Man hit by car's mirror suffers minor injuries

JEROME - A 57-year-old Jerome man suffered minor injuries late Wednesday when he was struck by a moving vehicle's side rearview mirror while walking along a rural Jerome County road, a deputy said.

James David Meeks was walking north along West Road about a mile northeast of the U.S. Highway 53-Idaho Highway 25 intersection at about 6:30 p.m., said Jerome County sheriff's deputy Dan Hamrick. The driver of a northbound vehicle came up behind Meeks and moved over to avoid a car coming the other way, and Meeks was clipped by the northbound vehicle's mirror, Hamrick said.

Meeks was taken by ambulance to Twin Falls Clinic and Hospital for observation and treatment of minor injuries. No citations were issued, Hamrick said.

Car struck by train; no injuries reported

TWIN FALLS - A car was struck by a train Wednesday night near the Amtrak Sugar Company at 2320 Orchard Dr. E., according to a dispatcher with the Southern Idaho Regional Communications Center.

The accident occurred about 7 p.m. and there were no injuries, the dispatcher said. No other details were available at press time.

Sawtooth Forest officials recruit employees

TWIN FALLS - Sawtooth National Forest officials need to fill aviation, fire and fuel management jobs.

"We are doing this in response to the severe fire season of 2000 and recent legislation signed by President Clinton," said Randy Richter, a SNF fire pilot aviation manager, in a news release.

"Over the next several months, the Forest Service will be hiring approximately 3,500 employees in firefighting positions," Richter said. "There will be more than one round of hiring. Applications for the first round are due no later than Jan. 19, Richter said.

The SNF will fill 31 jobs during the first round. Most of these are for people with specialized skills, but there are a small number of entry level jobs.

Job openings include fuel technicians, fire prevention technicians, fire engine drivers, heli-copter pilots, leaders, fire ecologists and others. Pay ranges from \$7.47 to \$15.52 per hour.

All applicants must be U.S. citizens and at least 18 years of age or older. Applications and information are available at SNF offices in Stanley, Ketchum, Fairfield, Twin Falls and Burley.

DEQ takes comment on petroleum facility

BURLEY - The state Department of Environmental Quality is taking public comment on a draft air quality permit for Amoco Oil Co. near Burley.

Public comment on the permit will be accepted until Jan. 26, 2001. Copies of the permit package are available for review at:

• The DEQ Twin Falls regional office, 601 Pole Line Rd., Ste. 2.
• The Burley Public Library, 1300 Miller Ave.

Under the proposed permit, the facility would be required to comply with state air quality rules.

The DEQ has conducted a detailed technical review of the facility's design and operating plan. The state will conduct public hearings to ensure permit conditions are met.

Comments may be mailed to Gary Reinbold, DEQ, 1410 N. Hilton, Boise, ID 83706, or e-mailed to reinbold@deq.state.id.us.

Compiled from staff reports

Looking to stem the smell

DEQ approves new odor guidelines for livestock and dairy operations

By John T. Huddy
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The state Department of Environmental Quality has approved a set of guidelines aimed at helping the DEQ and the state Department of Agriculture control odors at dairies and other livestock operations.

Doug Howard, regional administrator for the DEQ in Twin Falls, said the guidelines were approved last week and are ready for action - all the DEQ needs now are complaints.

Under the guidelines, if com-

plaints come into the DEQ about an animal operation, the DEQ will send "trained sniffers" out to the dairy. The sniffers would determine the intensity level of the smells from one to five - five being the strongest.

If the odors are deemed a three or higher on the intensity scale, the complaints would be deemed valid. They would then be turned over to the Department of Agriculture - which regulates dairies.

The Department of Agriculture would then work with the dairy to determine the cause of the odors and to help

develop an odor management plan - or review an existing plan for flaws.

If the problem is not solved at the facility in question, the DEQ could get involved. It could file civil or criminal court complaints with the attorney general's approval.

Howard said the DEQ will try to respond to calls on a 24-hour basis.

"We're going to initially have an answering service," Howard said.

The new guidelines could be applied to Hank Halliger's large dairy near Flank.

The guidelines should help the state in determining a standard to go by, officials said.

"When we get the call on Halliger's dairy, we're going to get out there and follow that process, which means going out and sniffing it and writing a report to define the level of intensity of it," Howard said.

The Department of Agriculture has already said it will work with Halliger on controlling his dairy's odor.

Lewis Eilers of the Idaho Dairyman's Association said the Department of Agriculture's help will likely be beneficial to

Halliger.

"I think they can go out there and work with Hank and get it under control," Eilers said Wednesday.

But it will take at least a year for the state to draft more rules and regulations for dairies - as some officials are planning.

Meetings between Halliger and the Department of Agriculture have not yet been scheduled.

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

Kempton

steps down

Another would-be successor steps forward

By Michael Journee
Times-News writer

ALBION - A Magic Valley lawmaker officially tendered his resignation from the Legislature Wednesday - clearing the way for his new duties at the Northwest Power Planning Council and for Republican officials to find his successor.

Rep. Jim Kempton, R-Albion, officially ended 10 years in the Idaho House with a letter to Gov. Dirk Kempthorne, who last week appointed Kempton as one of Idaho's two representatives on the council.

A 10th would-be successor to Kempton, O'Deen Redman of Albion, stepped forward Wednesday to join a growing list of candidates that will be sorted through Friday night by legislative District 25's Republican executive committee.

Redman, 63, a retired owner and operator of the Albion Telephone Company, said his candidacy is more about giving to the community.

"I'm anxious to start something new - a new challenge," Redman said.

Redman said his experience with telephone industry deregulation could come in handy, with the possible deregulation of the electricity industry pending in the Northwest.

Redman has served on a number of public and industry commissions including the Albion Highway District for 24 years and the Raft River Electrical Cooperative board.

Redman joins nine other candidates:

• John Adams, 63, former Cassia County commissioner.

• Scott Bedke, 42, an Oakley-area rancher and president of the Idaho Cattle Association.

• Earl Christensen, 63, a semi-retired farmer and former Farm Bureau board member.

• Paul Christensen, 47, a Burley-area farmer and Cassia County commissioner.

• Lloyd Cox, 89, a retired Burley-area farmer and former construction company owner.

• Tom Gearty, 72, a retired Burley-area farmer and former Idaho Farm Bureau Federation president.

• Curtis Mendenhall, 54, Burley City Council member.

• Gary Turner, 58, a Burley-area farmer, former educator, and president of the Idaho Farmers Union.

• Earl Warthen, 51, an Albion farmer.

By state statute, Kempton's resignation gives the district's Republican committee until the end of next week to submit three nominees to Kempton. The committee will meet at 7 p.m. Friday in the council chamber at Burley City Hall to select the nominees.

Kempton will then select one nominee to succeed Kempton for a two-year term.

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

ICING ON THE FENCE



A coating of frost covers a fence south of Twin Falls Wednesday morning. Temperatures are forecast to be well below freezing at night for the next several days with highs from 30 to 35 degrees.

Committee chooses Western Days logo

By Rachel Denry
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - A good logo will stick in people's minds and remind them of a product or an event.

That was the Western Days committee's goal in choosing a new logo to represent Twin Falls' annual summer kickoff event.

The logo chosen reflects Twin Falls and Western Days, Western Days committee vice chairman Robyn Brody said.

"The logo we had was starting to look a bit tired," she said. "This logo will help identify the event, unify the event and advertise it."

Logo designer Courtney Bjorn, a graphic



artist for Longview Fibre, agrees.

"A logo is an advertisement," he said. "It sticks in your head if it is good. It is very simple, but carries a lot of power. If you can get something across with very few lines then it sticks in your head."

The logo was chosen from about 20 entries the committee received, and won Bjorn \$250.

Snowshoeing adventure

Program keeps children busy when they're not in school

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

GALENA LODGE - Chaz Anderson gingerly stepped out in the snow with the large plastic snowshoes the size of dinner platters strapped onto his feet. The boy waddled a few steps on a snowshoe path that had already been packed down, teetered off into two feet of unpacked snow off to the side and - poof! - fell face down.

It's no problem when you're a child. As Anderson demonstrated in the next few minutes, you sit there awhile, stuff a little snow in your mouth, make an angel in the snow and maybe eventually get up.

That was the way things went all afternoon this week when 18 elementary school children got an introduction to snowshoeing.



Tanner Sanders finds it's just as easy to waddle with a bellyful of snow while plodding along on snowshoes as it is on a pair of downhill skis.

courtesy of the Blaine County Recreation District. The snowshoe adventure is one of a variety of the "Recess from School" activities the district offers during the Christmas holidays to keep youth when school is not in session.

"This is what I do best - wear them out for their parents to take

Vacation activities

Recess from School activities continue today with ice skating at Sun Valley Resort and Friday with open gym at Hailey Elementary School. The program is open to all first-through sixth-graders. For more information, call 788-2117.

The Blaine County Recreation District is asking business owners to sponsor one or more of its programs to allow the district to cut fees to make the program affordable to all families. Sponsorships range from \$500 to \$1,200.

Businesses that become sponsors will have a program named after the company, have the company logo printed on the jerseys of participants and be recognized in the district's radio and newspaper ads, brochures and website.

near Galena Lodge, pointing out things you can do on snowshoes that you might not be able to do on faster-moving skis or snowmobiles.

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

HOSPITALS

MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER

Some names are omitted at the patient's request. Dismissed Debra Conger of Jerome, Teressa Quest of Filer

MINIDOKA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL. Some names are omitted at the patient's request. Admitted Alan Gomez and Hubert Brake both of Rupert Dismissed Marva Peterson of Murtaugh

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 733-0931, Ext. 276, 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 5 p.m. every day.

TWIN FALLS



Caroline Ruth Capps

Caroline Ruth Capps, 78, beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother went to be with her Lord Dec. 26, 2000, in Twin Falls of a short illness. Caroline was born July 31, 1922, in Mountain View, Ark. ...

FILER

Eleanor B. Leforgee

Eleanor B. Leforgee, 89, of Filer, died Sunday, Dec. 25, 2000 at New Life Living Center in Filer. She was born July 24, 1911, in Richmond, Mo. ...

JEROME

Pearl Shropshire Reasch

Pearl Shropshire Reasch, 97, of Jerome, died Saturday, Dec. 23, 2000 at St. Benedict's Family Medical Center LTOJ. She was born July 21, 1903, at Manes, Mo. ...

BUIHL

Catherine (Kay) Phelps

Catherine (Kay) Phelps, age 87 of Buhl, passed away Thursday, Dec. 26, 2000, at Magic Valley Regional Medical Center in Twin Falls. ...

JEROME

Esther Merle Homan

Esther Merle Homan, 73, of Jerome passed away Dec. 25, 2000, at her home following a courageous battle with cancer. Esther was born Sept. 30, 1927, in Great Falls, Mont. ...

My First Christmas in Heaven

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below. With tiny lights, like Heaven's stars, reflecting on the snow. The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away that tear. For I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year. ...

My First Christmas in Heaven

I see the countless Christmas trees around the world below. With tiny lights, like Heaven's stars, reflecting on the snow. The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away that tear. ...

CALDWELL

'My Pal' Alan Ray Bodily

Alan Ray Bodily, 48, of Caldwell, died Monday, Dec. 18, 2000, at his home of natural causes. A memorial service will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, Dec. 30, 2000, at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. ...

FATHER, SON DIE IN UTAH BIKE ACCIDENT

OREM, Utah (AP) - An Orem man and his 6-year-old son were killed Tuesday when they were hit by a tow truck as they tried to cross one of the city's busiest streets on the boy's bicycle. ...

SERVICES

Forest Merl Andrews of Twin Falls, services at 11 a.m. today at Reynolds Funeral Chapel (Reynolds Funeral Chapel). Jasper Wayne Matthews, services at 2 p.m. today, at Demaray's Wendell Chapel.

Demaray's Gooding Chapel. Friends and family may call from 1-7 p.m. today at the chapel. Merle Christensen Young, services at 11 a.m. Friday at the

Rupert LDS West Stake Center, 37 S. 100 W. Friends and family may call from 6-8 p.m. today at Hansen Mortuary Rupert Chapel and one hour before the service on Friday at the church.

DEATH NOTICES

Thelma Bessie Young - FAIRFIELD - Thelma Bessie Young, 79, of Fairfield died Tuesday, Dec. 26, 2000, at Gooding County Memorial Hospital. Funeral services are pending under the direction of Demaray's Gooding Chapel.

Joyce Weller Libby - TWIN FALLS - Joyce Weller Libby, 88 of Twin Falls, passed away at her residence in Twin Falls. Arrangements and services are under the direction of the Parke's Magic Valley Funeral Home of Twin Falls.

Reorganized Kimberly group makes sidewalks top priority

By Margaret Jones Times-News correspondent KIMBERLY - A newly reorganized Gem Community committee is making sidewalks a top priority. Committee chairmen Dave Overacre and Todd Claiborn Tuesday told the City Council that the group will work first on sidewalk construction, replacement and development. ...

is likely. Other ideas include decorative street lighting, and adding planters or landscaping on Main. Most goals of the original Gem Community project, established in 1995, were completed. Involvement in the program, supervised by the state Department of Commerce, helped the city get a Commerce Department-administered block grant to improve the water system, Overacre said. ...

Local arrangements are under the direction of White Mortuary. Her greatest joy was her children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a fisherman and spent many hours fishing with her son, family and friends at Salmon Dam. She grew a large garden every year, giving away the produce. ...

Utilities seek rate increases

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) - Two huge utilities pleaded Wednesday for permission to work with rate payers as much as 30 percent more for their electricity, saying the deregulated energy market has left them \$9 billion in the red. Pacific Gas and Electric Co. and Southern California Edison Co. urged the Public Utilities Commission to lift a rate freeze that has stabilized electricity bills for 10 million homes and businesses for the last three years. ...

Ruling could deal a blow to Utah liquor ad ban

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - A ruling expected from the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals could upend or uphold Utah's liquor advertising ban. The current law forbids ads promoting anything stronger than 3.2 percent-alcohol beer. Attorney Brian Barnard of the Utah Legal Clinic has sued to have that law stricken down, claiming it "violates" First Amendment free speech protections. ...

Union Pacific announces plans to cut 2,000 jobs OMAHA, Neb. (AP) - Citing rising fuel prices, harsh winter weather and growing signs of an economic slowdown, the Union Pacific Corp. announced plans Wednesday to eliminate 2,000 jobs in the coming months. The job cuts are in addition to 1,600 jobs that have been eliminated since August as the result of the railroad's 1995 merger with Southern Pacific Rail Corp. ...

Father, son die in Utah bike accident

OREM, Utah (AP) - An Orem man and his 6-year-old son were killed Tuesday when they were hit by a tow truck as they tried to cross one of the city's busiest streets on the boy's bicycle. Lloyd Marble, 31, and his son Casey were crossing State Street at about 8 p.m. when the truck, driven by Justin Pierce of Orem, struck them. They were thrown about 50 feet and died at the scene, said Orem Police Lt. Doug Edwards. ...

Union Pacific announces plans to cut 2,000 jobs

Details of the jobs reduction program will be announced by Monday, he said. Employees will have an opportunity to consider how the options apply to them. The cuts are expected across the entire operation and will affect the union and management sides of the company, Bromley said. The reductions should be completed by the end of February, he said. ...

Word of the jobs cuts came in a letter from Union Pacific Corp. in which the railroad said it will reduce planned capital spending in 2001 and employment levels. The company said severance costs associated with the job cuts will mean an after-tax charge of roughly \$70 million in fourth quarter of 2000, or 26 cents per fully diluted share. ...

Turning down the wattage

Heyburn mayor urges residents to conserve electricity

By Aaron Brock
Times-News writer

HEYBURN — Mayor Cleo Cheney has asked the citizens of Heyburn to trim their power usage in light of the electricity shortage in the Northwest.

"As the mayor, I'm going to ask the citizens of Heyburn to be extremely careful with their power," Cheney said at Wednesday's City Council meeting. "It is critical right now."

The weather has been relatively mild up to this point, but a serious cold snap or blizzard could sap the energy reserves available to the city.

People should consider taking Christmas lights down early this year and are encouraged to turn

other lights off when they're not being used, Cheney said.

A few light bulbs that are turned off is a small thing but if everyone conserves a little bit of electricity then a substantial amount can be saved, he said.

In other council action Wednesday:

Officials from United Electric reported on Saturday's planned power outage.

An oil leak in a transformer forced repairs, which were done between 2 and 7 a.m. Saturday. Power for several areas, including the city of Heyburn and the J.R. Simplot Co. was suspended during that time.

The repairs went basically as planned, and a subsequent leak is unlikely, said United General Manager Ralph Williams.

"It's something that happens very rarely," he said. "It's not a big worry."

There have been several short power outages recently in

Heyburn, Williams said, and they are probably the result of birds and squirrels coming in contact with exposed wires and momentarily shorting out the system.

An intensive tree-trimming project has cut down on the number of power lines, Williams said.

"We're on top of it," he told the council. "We will continue to be."

City superintendent Roger Denker announced his retirement, citing his declining health. Denker will step down effective Jan. 15.

An ordinance allowing for the annexation of property owned by Simplot was read for the first time. There will be a public hearing about the annexation at the next council meeting scheduled at 7 p.m. Jan. 10 at City Hall.

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

Changes in Cassia: Sheriff-elect selects patrol deputy to head division

By Ruth Streeter
Times-News writer

BURLEY — With next month's changing of the guard in the Cassia County Sheriff's Office, sheriff-elect Jim Hignens is making changes.

Among those is promoting an old political foe, sheriff's deputy George Warrell Jr., to patrol lieutenant. Warrell was one of three challengers who ran against Hignens in the May Republican primary election.

Warrell said he has goals for the patrol division, some of which he discussed during his campaign. Warrell said he'll make changes that are "a morale booster for the troops and hopefully for the community" and will also improve communication.

"While he'll miss some aspects

of patrolling Cassia County, he looks forward to his new administrative duties and leadership responsibilities.

"I feel good about it, I think it'll be a real good challenge," Warrell said.

Warrell was chosen from four potential candidates, including sergeants Peggy Marizza, Robert Nay and Mike Shears.

Hignens, the undersheriff who defeated longtime sheriff Billy Crystal in November, said the decision was difficult, but several people supported promoting Warrell.

Warrell will replace Lt. Cary Bristol, who Hignens tabbed to take his spot as undersheriff.

Hignens chose Warrell because the sheriff-elect is thoroughly acquainted with how Bristol works and the two work well

together.

"I've always felt Cary was the one for undersheriff," Hignens said.

Commissioners will set Hignens' salary when he takes office. He earns \$42,599 while Crystal takes \$45,854.

Hignens said he hasn't yet decided on salaries for Bristol or Warrell. Bristol earns \$37,941, and Warrell earns \$28,772.

Hignens is also planning a more visible community presence for the department, adding an employee to help crime victims, and including jail personnel and the administrator in all departmental meetings.

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

Off-road vehicle group claims victory

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — An all-terrain vehicle group is claiming victory after a federal judge gutted an environmental group's lawsuit to close some parts of southern Utah to off-roaders.

Concerned that the Bureau of Land Management was not doing enough to keep off-road vehicles out of delicate redrock country, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance and other environmental groups asked U.S. District Judge Dale Kimball to close off the areas.

The injunction would have closed wilderness study areas and undeveloped land in the San Rafael Swell, Indian Creek in San Juan County, Wildhorse Mesa near Capitol Reef National Monument, and the Coral Pink Sand Dunes to off-road vehicles.

But on Friday, Kimball not only rejected SUWA's injunction request, but dismissed nearly all

of SUWA's claims in its lawsuit. Kimball ruled he did not have jurisdiction to order the BLM to close the roads unless the bureau had made some final action and there was no recourse but to go to court.

"Claims that agency action is insufficient or inadequate do not fall within the scope of permissible judicial review," Kimball wrote.

Brian Hawthorne, executive director of the Utah Shared Access Alliance, an all-terrain vehicle group, said that Kimball's ruling could cripple the environmental group's lawsuit.

"The fat lady has not sung, but it is definitely a good ruling for us," he said, calling it "a crushing blow."

SUWA spokesman Mike Reberg disputed the characterization. Since the lawsuit was filed, the BLM has closed off

some areas and hired more enforcement officers, which was part of SUWA's goal, Reberg said.

"The crushing blow is to the people who treasure these public lands that have to watch as irresponsible off-road riders continue to mar these beautiful areas," he said.

And, Reberg said, it is important to note that the BLM, which opposed SUWA's lawsuit, did not dispute that off-road vehicles — also known as ORVs — can damage the land.

"The BLM points out that it is well aware that ORV-caused damage is resulting from cross-country travel in these (wilderness study areas), but argues that it does not permit such travel and it is addressing the complicated issue of controlling the problems posed by ORV use," Kimball said.

Denver, officials, purists to change strategy for New Year's Eve bash

DENVER (AP) — Forget the doomsday paranoia that made Y2K fests fizzle.

Thrill-seekers, public officials and calendar purists say now is the time to celebrate the new millennium, and the city is cooking up a party aimed at outdoing all others for another thousand years.

The city's Millennium Celebration will include daylong events beginning at the Children's Museum of Denver and culminating with a 17-minute choreographed fireworks extravaganza downtown. The celebration is expected to attract nearly 100,000 people.

City officials were red-faced last year after extensive security measures, imposed because of previous post-Super Bowl riots and fears of possible Y2K rioting, resulted in a near-empty downtown on New Year's Eve. Critics said roaming police officers in riot gear punctuated paranoia about the holiday.

But Mayor Wellington Webb said the "real" millennium begins with the first day of 2001, and the city should have an epic celebration to welcome it.

Residents are apparently ready to forget about last year, agree.

"It will be better this year than if they had it last year because people can just concentrate on celebrating rather than being caught up in the overall fear of impending doom," said Lashley Pulsipher, a 25-year-old Denverite.



Denver police march down Larimer Street in Denver using tear gas to disperse fans celebrating after the Broncos Super Bowl victory in this Jan. 1999 file photo. Thrill seekers, public officials and calendar purists say now is the time to celebrate the new millennium, and the city of Denver is cooking up a party aimed at outdoing all others for another 1,000 years.

Pulsipher, who works at the Hub clothing store downtown, said police advised the business to board up its windows for New Year's Eve 1999. When it became clear that the police presence could exceed the crowds, store managers decided against the extra precaution.

But this year, Pulsipher said she thinks most people are more concerned with having a good time than preparing for the worst. "I'm not worried. I think Denver is a safe city," she said.

G Santos, 32, who manages a downtown Starbucks coffee shop, said he's anticipating big business — not big problems — on New Year's Eve.

"We think it's going to be like a family night," Santos said.

Police are taking no chances. Detective Mary Thomas said 540 officers, or about one-third of the force, will work the event and try to establish a strong presence with a friendlier atmosphere than last year.

"Last year, they were concerned about Y2K. We needed to be all prepared for that," Thomas said. "I think there were no-edge people on both sides, whether it was in law enforcement or in the community."

But Thomas said this year is shaping up to be different, so officers are shedding the riot gear. The police department has a contingency plan ready in case riots break out, but Thomas said it's a precaution.

Arizona officials say legislation against random gunfire is apparently working

PHOENIX (AP) — With New Year's just a day away, City Councilman Phil Gordon hopes the threat of a felony conviction will keep people from firing guns in celebration, a tradition that has had deadly consequences.

The offense was ratcheted up from a misdemeanor last year under state legislation dubbed Shannon's Law, named after 14-year-old Shannon Smith, who was killed by a falling bullet in her Phoenix backyard in June 1999.

"Falling bullets are deadly," Gordon said Wednesday. "And we are deadly serious about implementing Shannon's Law."

Gordon said 17 cases have been prosecuted in Maricopa County since the law went into effect in July. The average sentence has been three months in jail, prosecutors say.

"We are seeing a felony to negligently fire a gun into the air. New Year's Eve 1998 saw 1,505 reports of random gunfire in Maricopa County between 11:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m., according to Gordon. A year later, following warnings prompted by Shannon's

death, police received 590 reports during the same hour.

Phoenix Assistant Police Chief Mike Frazier said New Year's Eve is the busiest time of year for police officers. He urged people to report gunshots immediately.

"The biggest hope we have is awareness," Frazier said. "We can't get rid of the gun, so we depend on community members calling in trouble."

Gordon expects that Phoenix police will soon be aided by a random gunfire-detection system. The system, an offshoot of technology used in the Gulf War, pinpoints gunshots and broadcasts the coordinates to police, according to Gordon.

He said the state has applied for a \$1 million federal grant for five units.

A similar system, called Shotgun, has been used in Los Angeles and in Redwood City, Calif., a city of about 80,000 south of San Francisco.

Although Los Angeles sheriff's officials said the device couldn't differentiate between gunshots and fireworks, officials in

Redwood City said the number of reported gunshots went from 400 in Phoenix's Eve 1998 to four in 1999, when they began using the system.

According to Khalid Pitts, of the Coalition to Stop Gun Violence, several cities around the country recently passed laws to limit celebratory gunfire.

Pitts pointed to Los Angeles County, which has banned the sale of ammunition in the week preceding New Year's Eve, as an example of a local government trying to stop celebratory gunfire before it happens.

"There needs to be pre-emptive laws to get the guns out of criminals' hands in the first place," Pitts said.

On Wednesday, Otis Smith, Shannon's father, stood near the trauma unit of St. Joseph's hospital in Phoenix, where he had brought his daughter a year and half before.

"We urge those who need to celebrate to use their heads, not their guns," Smith said. "If you have to shoot something, shoot off your mouths."

Colorado congressman calls for houseboat recall

PHOENIX (AP) — A recent study that found carbon monoxide around houseboats responsible for nine deaths and more than 100 poisonings at Lake Powell on the Arizona-Utah line has prompted a Colorado congressman to urge an immediate recall of boats with a popular hull design.

Scott McInnis, R-Colo., wrote Adm. James M. Loy, commander of the U.S. Coast Guard, to press the matter Tuesday.

"How many more fatalities do we have to suffer before the government addresses this threat to public health?" McInnis said. "The answer, if I have anything to say about it, is not one more."

McInnis' letter followed published reports of a study by researchers from the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and the National Park Service, found that the hull and swimming platform at the bow of many houseboats has high levels of carbon monoxide created by gasoline-powered electric generators.

People then swim into the odorless, colorless gas and are overcome by the poisonous fumes.

At least nine people have died and 102 were sickened by carbon monoxide at Lake Powell in the past decade, the researchers found. Of the deaths, seven involved houseboats, all built with the rear exhaust design.

The other two involved pleasure boats.

Effort for endangered fish worries Idaho farmers

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — When Libby Dam in Montana started operations in 1974, Kootenai River white sturgeon populations in Idaho's Panhandle plummeted.

Now Bill Michalk and more than 30 other Bonners Ferry farmers say government dam changes to help the ancient fish could bust them.

A preliminary 1999 study showed the changes could cost up to \$1.5 million in some years, said Michalk, who grows grain and feeds and runs cattle along 1.5 miles of river. He put the number in context with 1995 Boundary County census figures.

"It's approximately a third of our farm net income that's going to be taken away by these changes," he said.

Federal officials say they want to minimize farm losses, but they are also required by law to protect the endangered sturgeon.

At Libby Dam, Fish and Wildlife recommends increased and constant flows in spring and early summer to mimic naturally high spring flows.

A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers hydrologist said she does not expect the recommendations to jeopardize flood control or power production. Libby provides limited power, said Marian Valentine, senior water manager.

The sturgeon protections will end a practice called "power

peaking" at least during sturgeon spawning and perhaps year-round, Valentine said. Peaking is when dams release bursts of water when electricity use spikes. Other dams can probably make up for changes at Libby, Valentine said.

"It would still supply the same level of flood control at Bonners Ferry and in the system," she said.

But Valentine added the corps and the farmers define flood control differently. "At the government's instigation," she said, "the river elevation 1,764 feet above sea level — farmers with fields below river level are experiencing flooding. Fish and Wildlife also hopes to move the flood stage up to help sturgeon."

Michalk fears the prospective changes at Libby Dam on the Snake banks, rupture levees and flood crops. He also warns of increased costs for pumping water off flooded fields.

Dam managers, who can make up for flood control losses at Libby by adding water storage at Grand Coulee, are short-changing farmers, he said.

"It looks like they've decided they don't want to cause seeping and flood damage at Portland, but it's OK to just flood us out," he said.

Fish and Wildlife also released a long overdue "critical habitat" designation for the sturgeon, the last step of the Endangered Species Act listing process.

San Francisco Zoo reports stolen koalas

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Two koalas were reported stolen from the San Francisco Zoo on Wednesday, and officials say the stress could kill the bear-like animals within days if they don't receive proper care.

Leanne, 7, and its mother, Pat, 15, were discovered missing from their indoor quarters by an animal keeper. Zoo officials said it appears someone climbed onto the exhibit's roof, broke through the skylight and entered the building through a furnace door.

Police are investigating, but have no suspects.

"We have security around the clock, but it's a big zoo and covering it every minute of the day during the day or night is a lot of work," said David Robinson, the zoo's general curator.

The zoo's seven koalas live in a building with a temperature kept constantly between 65 and 70 degrees. They have no body fat, which makes them highly vulnerable to any changes in their environment.

Robinson said the koalas

weighed 12 to 16 pounds.

Pat has several medical problems, including a potentially cancerous mass and infected eye. She could be under added stress because koalas have a very specialized diet, eating only the freshest tips of eucalyptus buds, where their main source of water comes from.

"People in the horticulture department here have to go out daily to get them food," said zoo spokeswoman Nancy Chan. "That's why you don't see them in zoos in this country."

Program

Continued from C1

Putting on "deer ears," for instance.

"It's kind of neat to go outside and not see a second and listen," she told the children. "Often, you hear things out here you don't hear everyday."

The pine trees have strong branches, she pointed out, to hold heavy snow. Moose have adapted to wintry conditions with long legs to help them walk through the snow.

"And snowshoe hares have the same things we have on our feet,"

she said, as the kids looked down at the dish platters attached to their feet.

"I hope they're not as weird feeling or as floppy on the rabbits as they are on the moose," said 9-year-old Alexandria Tiedtke of Bellevue. When the children came to their first hill, Anderson showed them how to descend.

"Make sure you keep your weight on your heels. If you don't, you'll slip."

Some of the children resourcefully found other ways of descending, such as sliding down

the hill on their rump. One even figured out how to turn his snowshoe around on his feet and walk on it backwards while going forward.

"I really like snowshoeing," said 9-year-old Khyber Miller of Ketchum, with an air of authority. "It slows me way down to allow me to notice animal tracks and what animals have done to the trees."

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

Gunmen wound three in Utah shooting

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Three men were seriously wounded Wednesday night at a home neighbors suspected of being a drug house.

A man at the house called

for an ambulance about 9 p.m., saying he had been shot.

A 7-year-old boy told police he saw three gunmen in black ski masks run from the home.

IDAHO/WEST

There are still no takers for spur line

Camas Prairie RailNet might be scrapped

LEWISTON (AP) — The bid deadline has passed and no one has come forward with a plan to keep the Spalding-Grangeville spur of the Camas Prairie RailNet running.

Roger Nelson, president and chief operating officer of North American RailNet and its subsidiary, Camas Prairie RailNet, said he was discouraged that the

line may have to be scrapped. A couple of proposals reportedly remain in the works, and Nelson said the outstanding bids are to be received in the next couple of days. The company hopes to have made a decision on whom to sell the line to by the second week of January.

The federal Surface Transportation Board gave Camas Prairie RailNet permission to abandon the line in September after the railroad claimed it was losing money. The

last run on the line was Nov. 29. The line shipped mostly grain products and lumber.

Nelson said the company maintains the same stance as it has throughout the process. If a legitimate offer is made to purchase and operate the line, it will be accepted before the bid to scrap the line.

He said he was surprised that no one has made an offer to operate the line because the abandonment proceedings were filled with people expressing interest

in and concern over keeping it going.

The 91-year-old line has won its way into the hearts of Camas Prairie residents who attended many meetings to try to figure out a way to save it. The line has also been featured in several movies and is a popular site for photographers.

Several bids have been received to either purchase the rail and other line accessories or to purchase that equipment along with the land, Nelson said.

Convicted murderer sends mixed signals

LEWISTON (AP) — Convicted double murderer Dale Carter Shackelford is sending mixed signals, claiming he is ready to die and then maintaining his innocence in the slayings of his ex-wife and her boyfriend.

Shackelford was found guilty Friday of two counts of first-degree murder and one count of each of first-degree arson, conspiracy to commit first-degree murder, conspiracy to commit arson and preparing false evidence.

"I don't want to die, but if we have a death penalty and I am convicted then that's what I've got to do," Shackelford told the Moscow-Fullan Daily News after the verdict.

But attorneys say that may not be up to him.

Shackelford was convicted in the May 29, 1999, shooting death of his ex-wife, Donna Fontaine of Coeur d'Alene, Mo., and her boyfriend Fred Palahniuk, of Newman Lake, Wash.

The bodies were discovered in a burning building about 15 miles east of Kendrick. Each had been shot with a shotgun and a pistol.

Foes of Shackelford's former Missouri lawyers testified against him at trial: two as part of plea agreements with prosecutors and one in exchange for immunity. Shackelford said he hopes they will regret their actions.

"I hope the ones who made the deal with the devil can sleep at

night," he said.

He also alternately chastised and supported jurors. He said they would see him in their dreams and then added they made a logical decision in convicting "you have 20 to 30 people getting on the stand and saying 'Dale said he was going to kill her.'"

Shackelford said he would attempt to prevent any appeals of his conviction, and that he wanted to skip presentencing hearings to present mitigating circumstances and ask 2nd District Judge John Stegner to "give me the death penalty."

"He's man enough to do it. Let's get it done," Shackelford said.

But he may not have much say in what happens to him, said Gregory Dickson, defense attorney for Mary Abitz, who is accused of helping Shackelford plan the murders.

Test for Hispanic students gamers criticism from leaders

BOISE (AP) — Many of Idaho's Spanish-speaking elementary school students struggle with literacy in their native language, which hampers their ability to learn to read English, according to preliminary results in a test given to 1,000 Hispanic students across the state.

But some Hispanic leaders say the test is a waste of time.

"They are spending way too much time trying to find out what we already know," said Sam Byrd of the Council on Hispanic Education, a parents-based group trying to improve educational opportunities for Hispanic children.

The state should put resources toward solving Hispanic children's reading problems, not covering old ground with more testing, he said.

The state administered a reading test to 1,000 Spanish-speaking children in kindergarten through third grade in the fall. The pilot test is similar to a test Idaho Reading Indicator, a 10-minute test given to all students in kindergarten through third grade as part of a statewide reading improvement program adopted in 1999 by the Legislature.

The test found that Hispanic first-graders were reading at a grade level, compared to 65 percent of white children. In third grade, only 28 percent of Hispanic children were reading on grade level, compared to 49 percent of

white children.

State educators hope the reading test for Spanish speakers will help teachers determine how much of Hispanics' reading performance is based on poor literacy. In the native language, Hispanic students with strong literacy skills in their native language tend to do better in learning to read English.

Final results from the fall round of testing are not compiled yet.

The test will help teachers adjust instruction and more effectively teach Hispanic children, said Molly Fuentealba, a limited-English proficiency specialist with the state Department of Education.

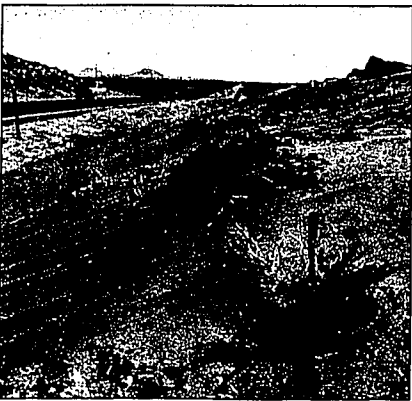
"We want to know what students bring to the literacy table," she said.

But Byrd sharply disagreed with the state administering a reading test for Spanish-speaking students.

"They could be spending all this time teaching students what they don't know," he said. "Nothing is being done with what we do know."

Instead of more testing, Byrd said the state should put energy and resources into a statewide training program for all teachers in instructing Hispanic students, similar to the state requiring all teachers to be proficient in technology.

Marilyn Howard, state superintendent of public instruction, defended the test as providing significant data that will help improve instruction. She also said Hispanic children are being helped through the English and Spanish reading tests.



Sagbrush seed collectors have raked in a bumper crop this year, supplying the federal government with enough seeds to help repopulate burned desert areas, such as this stretch near Idaho Falls as shown in this October field photo.

Demand leads to seed collection blitz

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — Sagebrush seed collectors have raked in a bumper crop this year, supplying the federal government with enough seeds to help repopulate burned desert areas with the plants.

Officials feared after this summer's widespread range fires there might be a shortage of sagebrush seeds, which are labor-intensive to harvest and cannot be stored very long.

Realizing that there would be a huge market for the minuscule seeds, people apparently hit the desert in force. But not all of them were collecting the plants legally or knew what they were doing.

"Everybody and their dog ended up going out and collecting sagebrush seed this year," said Cindy Frite, regional seed coordinator for the Bureau of Land Management in Boise. "A lot of these guys are professional collectors."

Others are amateurs after a quick buck. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service officers recently seized 40 bags of branches clipped illegally from the sage shrubs in the new Hanford Reach National Monument in Washington.

Like much of the open desert

at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory, the unatomated land around the nuclear complex supports a wealth of native plants and animals. Such large, pristine blocks of sagebrush habitat are increasingly rare with the encroachment of farming, ranching and development.

Rangers typically bust someone poaching sagebrush seed in eastern Idaho about once a year. BLM spokesman David Howell said.

It is legal to collect the seeds on public land, but a permit is required so the agency can keep track of collectors. BLM officials try to keep them from driving trucks off established roads and from beating seeds off sage shrubs too early, which damages the plants.

Idaho group plans to march in Bush's inauguration parade

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — Drowned out by shrill screams and applause, Red Hot Mama leader Mikki Stevens could barely finish her announcement.

The Red Hot Mamas, a musical parade group, will turn heads on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. next month. On Jan. 20, they will push their grocery carts in front of President-elect George W. Bush during his inauguration parade.

The Mamas gathered to hear the surprise announcement from Stevens Tuesday.

As many as 40 Mamas are expected to make the trip to Washington. But Kiki Miller, a Red Hot Mama of eight years, does not know whether they will be able to pay for the trip.

"Where are we going to come up with that amount of money in such a short amount of time?" Miller said. "If this happens, it's going to be a pocketful of miracles to do it. But we've overcome a lot of challenges before."

The Red Hot Mamas have drawn applause and chuckles

from crowds watching Fourth of July parades for 10 years. Their zany, unique style caught the attention of Bush's parade committee.

Originality paid off for the Mamas as the Bush parade committee narrowed the field from 300 prospective units nationwide to just 80.

The path to the president's parade began when Red Hot Mama Peggy Counryman found herself talking about the group with an Idaho senator's staff member at a recent dinner party.

Word got back to Laurie Thomas, regional assistant to Sen. Larry Craig, who helped coordinate the Red Hot Mamas' chances of marching in the nation's capital.

"I know they have expanded their talents outside of the Coeur d'Alene area," Thomas said. "They have been in the Scafar parade in Seattle, too." Thomas said the senator's staff is seeking funding for the group's trip. But getting that money was uncertain Tuesday.

Power prices force aluminum plant to curtail production

GOLDENDALE, Wash. (AP) — Golden Northwest Aluminum Inc. is cutting production at two plants because of high electricity prices, the third aluminum manufacturer in the Pacific Northwest to announce a closure or curtailment this month.

The two smelters currently use 250 to 300 megawatts of power, and consumption would drop 50 megawatts under the plan proposed Tuesday. It takes about 1,200 megawatts to power a city the size of Seattle.

The curtailments at the two plants will help ease the regional electricity shortage by allowing the Bonneville Power Administration to resell their share of electricity on the open market — a move immediately praised by union, state and federal officials.

"It's a land grab of a kind of approach to these kinds of issues," said David Foster, who helped broker the deal on behalf of the United Steelworkers of America. He saw it as part of the windfall will supplement unemployment benefits, so that laid-off workers will get about the equivalent of their full-time paychecks.

CEO Bret Wilcox said the 700-employee Goldendale Aluminum plant in south-central Washington will reduce production to 10 percent of capacity, and the company's 725-employee Northwest Aluminum plant in The Dalles, Ore., will temporarily close.

Both should return to 50 percent capacity in October.

Bonneville spokesman Ed Mosey said Golden Northwest now pays \$22.50 a megawatt hour under a contract that ends Sept. 30, 2001. The current regionwide electricity crunch has seen wholesale prices ranging from \$20 to \$1,000 a megawatt hour, depending on demand and time of day.

"Any time we've got a situation where the government is selling something at one price, and a private entity can turn around and sell it at 10 times the price, we've got a situation that could look bad," said Roy Hemmingway, energy policy adviser to Oregon Gov. John Kitzhaber.

"But given the circumstances

here, we think Bonneville Power is doing the right thing, and Bret Wilcox is doing the right thing," Hemmingway said.

A recent spike in energy rates blamed on cold weather, short supply and deregulation in California has made it more lucrative for many plants to close and sell their power than to produce aluminum.

Earlier this month, Kaiser Aluminum Corp. said it would stop production at its Mead smelter near Spokane, lay off more than 400 employees and sell the unused electricity back to BPA.

Twin Falls Canal Company
NOTICE OF REGULAR ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

You are hereby notified that the regular annual meeting of the stockholders of the Twin Falls Canal Company will be held on Tuesday, the 9th day of January, 2001. The meeting will be called to order by the Directors at 9:00 a.m. in the Fine Arts Auditorium at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls.

A Director from District 2 (Twin Falls & South of Kimberly) will be elected for a three year term and a Director from District 4 (Bohli) will be elected for a three year term.

Petitions for candidacy for Director must have been filed by December 1, 2000.

Notice is given that a stock vote will be taken on a By-Law amendment concerning water transfers. An affirmative vote of 2/3 of the stock and proxies voted is required for passage. The full text of the proposed amendment is as follows:

TRANSFER OF SHARES -
General TFCC Policy as to Water Transfers

TFCC water may only be used for irrigation, stockwater, and domestic purposes. Said water may be used to recharge groundwater aquifers under TFCC lands for subsequent diversion and use for irrigation purposes by said Stockholder or other TFCC Stockholders as part of an approved mitigation plan of IDWR so long as the proposed use does not result in injury to other TFCC Stockholders as determined by the TFCC Board of Directors. Transfers for other uses will generally be denied.

Other business will also be transacted. There will be reports from the Company's General Manager, auditors and lawyers. There will also be reports concerning operation and maintenance efforts, 2001 water supplies, water quality issues, Snake Aquifer studies, the Endangered Species Act, the SRBA, and other matters of interest.

The corporate books will close for the transfer of stock on December 29, 2000.

The polls shall be open at the offices of the Company at 357 Sixth Ave. West, Twin Falls, Idaho, between the hours of 12:00 noon and 6:00 p.m. on January 9, 2001.

Proxies shall be filed with the Company's Assistant Secretary at the Company office on or before January 5, 2001.

Dated this 13 day of November 2000.
 Twin Falls Canal Company
 Chris Simons, Assistant Secretary

Notice of Availability

Agencies Extend Comment Period on Proposed New Remedy for Cleaning Up Groundwater at INEEL's Test Area North

In response to requests by citizens, the U.S. Department of Energy, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and state of Idaho have extended the public comment period on a proposed plan to use a new remedy for cleaning up contaminated groundwater at the Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory's Test Area North. The 30-day extension means the agencies will accept comments on the plan until Jan. 25, 2001.

Researchers have determined this remedy is more effective, faster and will cost nearly \$8 million less than the original remedy.

Citizens may request a copy of the document, or briefings, by calling the INEEL Community Relations Plan Office at (208) 526-8484, or INEEL's toll-free number, (800) 708-2680. Citizens can read the proposed plan on the Internet at <http://environment.ineel.gov/involvement/pubs.cfm>.

Test Area North

From 1954 to 1961, Test Area North was used to support the Aircraft Nuclear Propulsion Program. That program's mission was to test the concept of a nuclear-powered airplane. From 1962 through the 1970s, the area was principally devoted to the Less-of-Fluid Test Facility, which was used to perform reactor safety testing and behavior studies. Beginning in 1980, the area was used to conduct research with material from the Three Mile Island reactor accident.

The principle source of groundwater contamination at Test Area North is an injection well located in the southwest corner of the facility. The injection well was used from about 1953 to 1972 to dispose liquid wastes into the Snake River Plain Aquifer. The primary contaminant of concern is a widely-used degreaser called trichloroethylene (TCE).

Original Remedy

The original remedy in a 1995 cleanup Record of Decision made by the agencies was pumping contaminated groundwater to the surface and treating it to remove the TCE.

Proposed New Remedy

Under the proposed new remedy, pumps-and-treat still will be used to remediate contamination in the part of the groundwater contaminant plume that contains intermediate concentrations of TCE.

An innovative technology called in situ bioremediation that was demonstrated on the most contaminated part of the plume is one new feature of the proposed new remedy. Scientists have shown that it is successfully destroying the chemical contaminants in the groundwater.

Scientists also have developed computer models that predict contaminants in the least contaminated part of the plume will break down naturally to harmless by-products before they would pose a threat to people or the environment. Concentrations of contaminants in groundwater samples collected at strategically placed monitoring wells have monitored natural attenuation.

Public Involvement Opportunities

On Nov. 27, the agencies released the Proposed Plan for Operable Unit 1-07B to the public for a 30-day review and public comment period that has been extended to Jan. 25. Public meetings on the proposed plan will be held Dec. 5 in Idaho Falls and Dec. 6 in Twin Falls.

Additional information is available in the INEEL Administrative Record File for Operable Unit 1-07B. The Administrative Record is located at the DOE Reading Room of the INEEL Technical Library in Idaho Falls. Copies can be found at Albertson Library at the Boise State University Campus and the University of Idaho Library in Moscow. The Administrative Record can be accessed on the Internet at <http://ar.ineel.gov/home.html>.

For and about the Latino community

Comunidad

INSIDE
Movies C-7

Comunidad editor: Pat Marcantonio - 735-3288

Bands play in Jerome

JEROME - Five bands will play this weekend at the Jerome County Fairgrounds. K-Risima, Humildes and Mauser will play from 8 p.m. Saturday to 1 p.m. Cost is \$25 for advance tickets and \$30 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at area Latino businesses.

K-Risima and Nobleza will play at 8 p.m. Sunday at the Jerome County Fairgrounds. Advance tickets are \$10 and are available at area Latino businesses. The cost is \$15 at the door.

For more information, call 324-4977.

CSI offers free ESL classes for adults

TWIN FALLS - Free community English as a second language classes are under way. Courses are open to adults age 16 and older who want to learn English. Day classes are: 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, Level 1 and Level 3. 9 a.m. to noon Tuesday and

Thursday, Level 2. 1:30 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday, multi-level. 9:40 a.m. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, ESL computer literacy. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Monday and Wednesday, Levels 1-3 and computer literacy. 6:30-9:30 p.m. Thursday, citizenship class.

Adults attending evening courses may also bring their children ages 4 and older. Classes are located in room 223 of the Academic Development Center on the second floor of the library/Meyerhoeffer Building at the College of Southern Idaho. Students will tested orally to be placed in appropriate level.

For more information, call Judy Rupprecht and Monica Kessel at 733-9554, Ext. 2540.

A Salt Lake City group plays for New Year's Eve

BURLEY - Games, a group from Salt Lake City, will play at 10 p.m. Sunday at El Dorado 2000, 200 E. Main St. in Burley. Doors open at 8 p.m. For more information, call 678-8175.

MEXICAN ART ON WHEELS

Lowriders ties a family closer

By Levi Aspeytla
Times-News correspondent

TWIN FALLS - Some families play board games or have hobbies that bring them closer. For the Solis family of Twin Falls, a lowrider is a source of family pride and togetherness.

Cesar Solis saw his first lowrider in the 1960s in Texas as a little boy. Back then, lowriders were rare and different than the ones today.

"Hydraulics were just barely starting. Now, just about everybody has them," he explained. "Now days, a new style catching on is Euro lowriders."

Euros are newer cars with their own style, while traditionalists use older cars. Cesar Solis sticks with tradition.

"If something breaks down on my car, I know how to fix it or where to look. On the Euros, everything is so complicated, I wouldn't know where to look," said Solis, 39, who works for PSI. Since 1994, he has worked on a 1979 Buick Regal or "Intocable," the Spanish word for untouchable. The Solis' have put more than \$8,000 into the car. A local artist painted a mural in 1995.

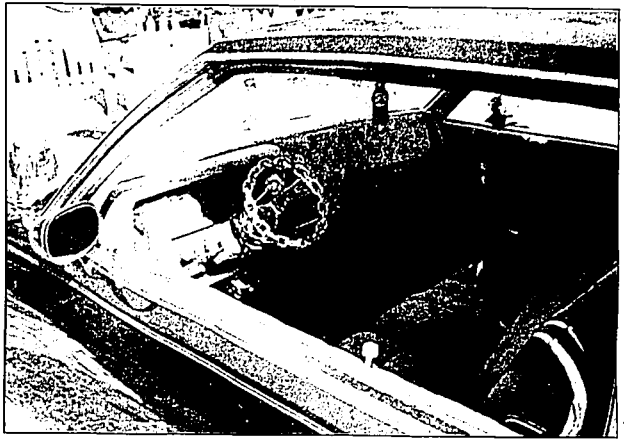
During the winter, he plans on what to add to the car and in the spring, Solis puts his plans into action. The car has won 20 awards at car shows in Boise to Pocatello to Salt Lake City. But competing is only a small part.

"Car shows are to have fun. You meet people and get ideas from other cars," he said.

Solis didn't always work alone on *Intocable*. Several times, friends helped work on the car, that was once known as "Green with Envy."

"Him and a friend would often be working on the car until midnight," his wife, Monica Solis, 32, said.

His family helped in any way possible. For example, every family member has a specific task to prepare for the car shows. One vacuums the interior while another cleans the windows. His biggest supporter, however, is his wife. "If it wasn't for her, the car would have never been done," Solis said. Some people connect



In addition to the exterior of his lowrider, Cesar Solis has done a lot of work on the interior.

History of Lowriders

Lowriders began in East Los Angeles as a Mexican-American phenomenon. Most of the people with lowriders today are still of Latin American heritage, but lowriders have also become an international hobby of people of different cultures. Lowriders can credit their popularity to rap and hip-hop music videos and movies that have included them.

Source: Brown Pride Online at <http://www.brownpide.com/lowriders/default.asp>

lowriders with gangs and believe that if people own lowriders they are part of a gang. Solis says lowriders symbolize something positive.

"Some people think lowriders are a bad influence, but it's not true," he said. "It is not really a bad thing; it is a family thing. Gang members are doing other things," Monica Solis added.

The Solis family set up the car show at the Hispanic Heritage Festival in the Twin Falls City Park in August. They wanted to encourage young people to be involved in something that is worthwhile.

"The way I see it I want to get-



Cesar Solis shows the many trophies he has won with his lowrider, 'Green with Envy.' He says the car is a family project.

kids into cars, not into drugs."

The family is currently considering organizing another car show in August 2001. Other plans include adding a mural to the hood of *Intocable* and work-

ing on two other cars. One will be a father-son project on a 1976 Chevrolet pick-up and the other is a father-daughter project on a 1991 Pontiac Grand Prix.

"Lowrider is a Mexican art on wheels," Solis said.

Mexican navy finds new enemy in drug runners

Compiled from wire reports

MANZANILLO, Mexico - As commander of a decorated Mexican navy gunboat, Capt. Ignacio Lopez has seen it all. Bombardments. Secret missions. Ambushes of enemy ships.

These days, Enemy No. 1 for Lopez, 44, is the fishing vessels and "Miami Vice"-type speedboats hauling tons of Colombian cocaine through the eastern Pacific. This is becoming the route of choice for drug smugglers and a source of alarm for U.S. and Mexican anti-narcotics forces.

In a rare, unsung success story in the drug war, the Mexican



Vida Latina

navy is working closely with its one-time enemy, U.S. forces, to seize the boats before their cargo reaches American users. But, despite spending hundreds of millions of dollars on equipment and patrols, the anti-drug forces are struggling to keep up with the traffickers.

The United States and Mexico "have the best marine interdiction program in the world right now," said one key U.S. official involved in the anti-drug effort, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Digame! (Tell me!)

Comunidad means "community" in Spanish and that's what this page is all about.

Send your news items, quinceañeras, tips and notices to Pat Marcantonio, Comunidad editor at:

E-mail: patm@magivalley.com

Write: The Times-News, P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, Idaho 83305

Or call: 735-3288 or our Burley office at 677-4042.



Pat Marcantonio

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COMMUNITY

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Community Editor: Pat Marcantonio - 733-0931, Ext. 288

THE FIRST STUDENT COUNCIL



TRINA TESHA/The Times-News

White Pine Intermediate School in Burley has its first-ever student council made up of eight sixth-graders, one from each sixth-grade class. The council is a service club that helps make decisions for the school and plans activities, members say. Meanwhile, council members learn about leadership. The council also created the slogan, "Feeling Fine for White Pine." Members are, left to right, back: Edward Christenson, Windy Winter, Principal Greg Lowe, McKel Baker and Manuel Juarez; front: Aaron Kay, Kasoy Kerbs, Whitney Jones and Josh Rice.

THANK YOU LETTERS

Community response to fire is overwhelming

The arson fire at Immanuel caused disruption to church, school and day-care programs, but we see blessings too. The community's response has been overwhelming. Donated toys and clothing helped us weather the first few days at the school. Now we want to say thank you for gifts of financial support from St. John's Lutheran Church (Buhl), Peace Lutheran Laymen's League (Filer), Feed Service, MVT, Lynn Rasmussen, Michael Zitterkopf, Michael and Deborah Corn, Brett and Katey Gies, Marvin and Nina Bogley, Rex and Betty Hall and Denise Fairchild Garcia.

This aid will help us establish a temporary mobile classroom for the day-care program. Your generous support will help us meet the standard of care we want to offer these kids. To all who have come to our aid and to all who will yet do so, we say, "Thanks and God bless you for your thoughtfulness and help."

REV. LAWRENCE M. VEDDER
Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church
MAVIN MUMM
Principal, Immanuel Lutheran Day Care
Twin Falls

Good Samaritan helps stranded motorist with flat

I would like to thank a kind

Samaritan.

Dec. 15, I came out of Kmart and discovered I had a flat tire. I found my car to call for help, then found my phone was dead. A pickup parked next to me and a nice, polite man said he would change my tire. In the wind, snow and cold, he changed it.

The tire he put on needed more air, so he followed me to a station and aired the tire. He would not take any money, saying that maybe sometime someone would give him a helping hand. I told him not to be surprised to see his name in The Times-News. After I drove home to Buhl, he called checking to see if I had made it safely.

Mr. Doug Stanger of Murtaugh, I thank you again. May God give you an extra special blessing.
DORIS C. BOWMAN
Buhl

Response to needs after fire has been spectacular

To friends of Immanuel Lutheran Church, School and Day Care:

Your response to our needs after the fire on Dec. 8 has been spectacular. This letter of thanks gives some acknowledgment of your generosity. Those listed below have made cash donations, which have made it possible for us to acquire a temporary day-care module. Further thank yous will be

forthcoming to acknowledge gifts of materials and services which have sustained and encouraged us during our crisis.

We'll be back, thanks to the caring community. God bless you all.
St. Vincent De Paul, Fawnetta Burton, Corrine and Luke Long, Viva Jones, Lloyd Webb, Richard and Jean Boyd, Frank and Marlene Westerman, Steve and Betty Siffer, Leslie Hagemann, Carl and Lucille Stammers, Paul and Crystal Bennodt, Dr. and Mrs. Brad Hobbs, Reed and Cathy Harris, Dr. and Mrs. Craig Pulsipher, Terry McCurdy, President Heider, Mr. Hobbs and the Seminary.

STACEY LANIER
Director, Immanuel Lutheran Day Care
ANSINA DURHAM
Bookkeeper, Immanuel Lutheran Day Care
Twin Falls

The Letters of Thanks column will publish letters of up to 150 words from:

- Organizations thanking contributors or supporters.
 - Individuals thanking public agencies and businesses for extraordinary service.
- If you would like to purchase a classified ad to express gratitude of a personal rather than public nature, call The Times-News Customer Service department at 733-0931, Ext. 270.

RSJH COLLECTION



Photo courtesy of ROBERT STUART JUNIOR HIGH

Students from the Silent Sustained Reading classes at Robert Stuart Junior High School in Twin Falls collected food for the Salvation Army to distribute to needy families during the holidays. Each reading class put together a box of food for a family.

Asset Builder of the Month goes to district employee

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls County HealthNet Coalition presented Cella Charland with the Asset Builder of the Month Award.



Cella Charland

Charland is employed by the Twin Falls School District where she uses education as an avenue to instill in young people a sense of pride and help them to manage themselves positively, coalition representatives say.

She has increased "Assets" in countless numbers of young people by helping them see themselves as capable, which paves the way for them to be successful in life, representatives say. Assets are defined as developmental building blocks which help young people succeed in life.

BUILDING MUSCLE



MARGARET JONES/The Times-News

D.J. Rouse spends a few moments with the weight equipment after football practices in the Hansen High School weight room. The room was set up in the space occupied by the old shop department after the new vo-tech building was built. Much of the equipment in the weight room was made possible with a \$2,000 donation from the Tim Dullin memorial fund. Dullin was killed in an automobile accident last winter.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community page deadlines change for holidays

TWIN FALLS - Because of the holiday, deadlines for the community page will change this week.

News items for the Tuesday page are due by noon Friday. For more information, call Pat Marcantonio at 733-0931, Ext. 288.

Buttons 'N Bows dances in the New Year at Anderson

EDEN - The Buttons 'N Bows is having a New Year's Eve dance at Anderson Camp. Pre-rounds start at 8:30 p.m. and square dance starts at 9 p.m. There will be finger food and dancing until midnight. For more information Call 324-3080.

TF resident receives Eagle Scout award

TWIN FALLS - Richard J. Jensen, son of Jay and Dana Jensen of Twin Falls, will receive his Eagle Scout award at a court of Honor at 7 p.m. today at the LDS church on Elizabeth Boulevard in Twin Falls.



Jensen belongs to Troop 200 of the Twin Falls 17th ward. For his Eagle Scout project, Jensen organized a bicycle rodeo for the children in the area. The children were trained in safety tips and also had their

bikes checked by the Idaho State Police. Magic Valley Safe Kids was also involved.

Jensen is a graduate of Twin Falls High School.

Jerome woman celebrates 99th birthday at open house

JEROME - Bessie Fiala of Jerome will celebrate her 99th birthday at an open house from 1-4 p.m. Saturday at the LDS Stake Center in Jerome. Bessie Sirucek was born Jan. 2, 1901 in Milligan, Neb. She married Miroslav Fiala in 1923 and has resided in the Magic Valley for 70 years. She enjoys gardening.

Her children are hosting the event. They are Roger Fiala and George Fiala, both of Jerome, and Evelyn Lane of Everett, Wash.

She has 13 grandchildren and 26 great-grandchildren.

Twin Falls Public Library offers puppet presentations

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Public Library will hold three puppet presentations at 4 p.m. Friday in the Storywell Kiva. The Teen Advisory Board, made up of sixth-through-ninth-graders, will present three different versions of "The Three Little Pigs." There is no registration or charge.

We want your news



Pat Marcantonio
Trina Tegan

Please send your news and photos to:
Community Editor
Pat Marcantonio
The Times-News
P.O. Box 548
Twin Falls, Idaho 83303
733-0931, Ext. 288
Email: patm@magicvalley.com

Fax: 077-4543 or 734-5538
Folios: 077-4042
If it's news to you, we want to hear about it.
• Community meetings.
• Celebrations
• Social events
• Roundups
• Individual achievements.
• Your kids and their activities.

Deadlines
For the Sunday page: noon Wednesday
For the Thursday page: noon Monday
For the Tuesday page: noon Friday
For the Saturday page: noon Tuesday
For the Wednesday page: noon Friday

Area students make list for military academies

Idaho's First District Rep. Mike Simpson recently announced nominees to the United States military academies.

Students were selected on the quality of their application, scholastic achievement, references and extra-curricular activities. Some students were nominated to more than one academy. A congressional nomination doesn't guarantee acceptance.

The following students were nominated:
Sterling Anderson of Declo, United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.; Troy Egbert of Jerome, United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.; Nathaniel Loomis of Mountain Home, United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y.; David Peterson of Mountain Home, United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.; Brett Skates of Mountain Home, United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo.; Adam Jussel of Twin Falls, United States Air Force

Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Md. and United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y. and Ryan Moore of Wendell, United States

Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colo., United States Merchant Marine Academy in Kings Point, N.Y. and United States Military Academy in West Point, N.Y.

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Magic Valley Y.M.C.A.

Donor labors to climb mountain of charity mail

DEAR ABBY: Please help me and others who are constantly asked to give donations. I am a university professor at retirement age; I have a modest salary. Fortunately, I am frugal and thus able to lead a comfortable life.

I contribute to numerous causes. Helping my fellow human beings is a moral duty from which I derive great satisfaction. Yes, I realize there are catastrophes in this world, and I do add something to my contribution whenever I can. However, I am unable to do it all the time.

Every year, I send checks to more than 80 charities, and I make it a point to label each donation "annual contribution for the year" — to no avail. Still I continue to receive three to four daily requests and/or "gifts." Besides the inconvenience of all this unasked-for and unwanted mail, I'm concerned about the waste of paper and the money that goes to philanthropy and not marketing. How can I convince charities to accept the fact



DEAR ABBY:
Abby Cadabby

that I can send them only one check a year? Could you suggest that these associations label us "once-a-year contributors" and stop showering us with requests and letters the rest of the year? Believe me, Abby, I would be most grateful.

—NOT A MILLIONAIRE, COLUMBIA, S.C.

DEAR NOT A MILLIONAIRE: I could suggest that charities send solicitations only once a year — but the effort would be useless. Many large charities have become automated. The donor lists have become part of a computer information bank, and requests for money are spit out and mailed a minimum of several times a year. One would think the

expenditure of paper and postage would be taken into consideration, but they must make so much money that they can afford to waste it.

At one time, I was in your situation regarding a charity in Los Angeles. I, too, was concerned when I continued to be solicited almost monthly. I called a development person at the charity and asked to be solicited only once a year.

During the next few months, I continued to receive requests for money from them — and then a package arrived containing a useless "gift," because I was such a "valued friend" of the charity. Since that was not how I wanted my donations spent, I contacted a much smaller charity that does similar work and solicited me only once a year. It now receives the donation I previously gave to the larger program.

P.S. It has been years, and I still receive requests from the large charity. I throw them away unopened.

DEAR ABBY: I don't have enough money to quit working, but I want to. I have this desire to live my life freely. I would like to travel around the world and get to know new people and rich men. If possible, I would like to meet handsome, kind men. How can I do this?

—THE WISHER, MADRID, SPAIN

DEAR WISHER: Unless you win a lottery or an unexpected inheritance of some size comes your way, traveling without earning an income is indeed a fantasy. However, it's refreshing to learn that some fantasies are universal.

If you are willing to work while you travel, apply for a position as a crew member for a cruise line or a business that provides private jets to upscale companies. You're sure to meet new people in such a job. Unfortunately, there's no guarantee that the men you'll meet will be rich, handsome and kind. However, with luck, you might score two out of three.

A 'spork' is a plastic combination of a fork and a spoon

A "spork" does not forget, as a plastic picnic spoon tipped with plastic prongs.

Nose length of the female flight attendant averages 2.18 inches. The Federal Aviation Administration has determined that, but I don't know why.

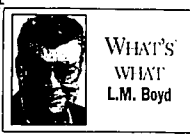
Q. Where'd we get the goodbyee term "so long"?

A. From British soldiers. Who got it from the Malays who say "salang." Who borrowed it from the Middle Easterners who say "salaam."

The walrus loses hair with age.

Q. Where are a bird's ears?

A. Right behind its eyes. But



WHAT'S WHAT?
L.M. Boyd

you can't see them. Because they have no outer structures, and are hidden by feathers. Did I tell you some birds go peep peep or whatever while they're still in the shell?

When a deserted husband hires a detective to find his wife, he does so most usually because he

misses her, and thinks he can talk her into one more try. So says a tracker of runaways. But an abandoned wife who hires help to find her missing husband, this expert says, generally does so for the money she expects the law to allow her. The husband usually asks, "Where is she?" The wife more often asks, "Who's he with?"

Sleep resets the human brain, everybody knows that. Albert Einstein preferred to sleep 10 hours a night. It's said Napoleon got by with four hours a night, but there's a lot of mythology about Napoleon.

Q. What's the largest cell in the human body?

A. The female egg cell. Smallest, the male sperm cell.

Q. What did you say "moblivious" means?

A. "Utterly unaware of the crowd." At least, that's what it means to our Language Man. He made it up. That's his hobby.

Others he invented: "Laborionist" — strike breaker. "Fordormication" — illicit loneliness. And "Okasionally" — all right some of the time.

Q. How long does a bee's nest last?

A. A humbeebbee's, one season. A hive, several years.

ACROSS

- 14 Fidelity
- 15 Bushy hairstyle
- 16 Scala cheer
- 17 Amateurlike painting
- 18 Facetator's need
- 19 Sand rise
- 20 A cigar
- 21 Periodic table components
- 22 Minus figure
- 23 Exponage
- 24 Fear and May
- 25 Almagordo, -NIM event
- 26 Cain's brother
- 27 Robert's river
- 28 Isolate
- 29 Mountain
- 30 Lethal game
- 31 European aminas
- 32 Drag a heavy
- 33 Almagordo, -NIM event
- 34 Cain's brother
- 35 Robert's river
- 36 Isolate
- 37 Mountain
- 38 Lethal game
- 39 European aminas
- 40 Drag a heavy

DOWN

- 1 Your brothers
- 2 Your father
- 3 Desirable job
- 4 Chair part
- 5 Short nail
- 6 Humiliate
- 7 My final offer
- 8 Slender and graceful
- 9 Time long past
- 10 European viper
- 11 Local wildlife
- 12 Half-sing
- 13 Compulst
- 14 Cincinnati nine
- 15 Silly gold er nickel
- 16 Conrad or
- 17 Sorbans
- 18 Saturn and Mercury
- 19 Patience
- 20 Coin in Cancun
- 21 "Bom Free"
- 22 Incessant
- 23 Self-stuffed
- 24 Tabula —
- 25 Elongated
- 26 Saturn and Mercury
- 27 Patience
- 28 Coin in Cancun
- 29 "Bom Free"
- 30 Incessant
- 31 Self-stuffed
- 32 Tabula —
- 33 Elongated
- 34 Saturn and Mercury
- 35 Patience
- 36 Coin in Cancun
- 37 "Bom Free"
- 38 Incessant
- 39 Self-stuffed
- 40 Tabula —

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14 FIDELITY 15 BUSHY 16 SCALA 17 AMATEUR 18 FACETATOR 19 SAND 20 CIGAR 21 PERIODIC 22 MINUS 23 EXPONAGE 24 FEAR 25 ALMAGORDO 26 CAIN 27 ROBERT 28 ISOLATE 29 MOUNTAIN 30 LETHAL 31 EUROPEAN 32 DRAG 33 ALMAGORDO 34 CAIN 35 ROBERT 36 ISOLATE 37 MOUNTAIN 38 LETHAL 39 EUROPEAN 40 DRAG

1 DOWN 1 YOUR BROTHERS 2 YOUR FATHER 3 DESIRABLE 4 CHAIR PART 5 SHORT NAIL 6 HUMILIATE 7 MY FINAL OFFER 8 SLENDER AND GRACEFUL 9 TIME LONG PAST 10 EUROPEAN VIPER 11 LOCAL WILDLIFE 12 HALF-SING 13 COMPULS 14 CINCINNATI NINE 15 SILLY GOLD ER NICKEL 16 CONRAD OR 17 SORBANS 18 SATURN AND MERCURY 19 PATIENCE 20 COIN IN CANCUN 21 "BOM FREE" 22 INCESSANT 23 SELF-STUFFED 24 TABULA — 25 ELONGATED 26 SATURN AND MERCURY 27 PATIENCE 28 COIN IN CANCUN 29 "BOM FREE" 30 INCESSANT 31 SELF-STUFFED 32 TABULA — 33 ELONGATED 34 SATURN AND MERCURY 35 PATIENCE 36 COIN IN CANCUN 37 "BOM FREE" 38 INCESSANT 39 SELF-STUFFED 40 TABULA —

Gemini: Utilize wit, humor to overcome red tape

IF DECEMBER 28 IS YOUR BIRTHDAY ... you are an original thinker, independent at times to degree of being arrogant. You are romantic, sensual, willing to go where angels fear to tread. Leo, Aquarius persons, an admirable roles in your life, could have these letters, initials in names: A, S, J. Recent domestic adjustment enabled you to let go of burden. January and October of 2001 will be your most profitable months.

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 19): Following gloom there will be sunlight. Means initial failure rebounds as rousing success. Work behind scenes. Maintain aura of mysticism.

TAUROS (Apr. 20-May 20): Focus on organization, priorities and pressure of added responsibility. Spotlight on distribution, advertising. Personal relationship "sizzles." Capricorn involved.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Utilize wit, humor to overcome red tape. Bureaucrats, an Aries, offers friendship; from then on you will communication received from foreign land.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Set aside preconceived notions. State your own tradition and practice original thinking. A kind of love awaits. Wear light colors, be available.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Don't rush, emphasize quality especially in connection with housing. Focus on direction, motivation and need for meditation. Cancer, Capricorn persons play "astounding roles."

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Diversify, give full play to intelligence.

HOROSCOPE
Sydney Omar

lectual curiosity. Try on yet another new wardrobe. You look fine, smile at your foibles. Gemini, Sagittarius are in picture.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Lunar aspect highlights personality, sensuality and physical attraction. Wise counsel: Don't break too many hearts! Spotlight on children, challenge and variety of experiences.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Get money's worth! Lost article recovered, you discover new way of increasing income. Gemini, Virgo, Sagittarius play instrumental roles. Lucky number is 51.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Emphasis on where you live, artistic achievements, music and voice. Relative extends invitation, accept with no strings. Taurus, Libra play top roles.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Look behind scenes, someone may be following you! Define terms; don't tell all, discretion is truly better part of valor. Pisces, Virgo will entertain, mystify.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Cycle high, take initiative, make appointments, let people know you are alive and kicking. Focus on personality, sex appeal. Applause received for invention.

PISCES (Feb. 19-Mar. 20): You'll perceive "rules of game" from an Aquarian. Keep promise to "keep secret." Loved one on journey will return. Aries, Libra individuals play dramatic roles.

Meg Ryan says breaking up is hard

NEW YORK (AP) — Breaking up is hard to do, Meg Ryan says, especially under a microscope.

"It's been very weird to find out how ready people are to think the worst of you," the 38-year-old actress said in the January issue of Harper's Bazaar.

Ryan split from husband Dennis Quaid and is now dating her "Proof of Life" costar Russell Crowe.

"My marriage was breaking up long before it became a matter for public discussion. I will never talk about the reasons why it broke up, and neither will Dennis," she said.

Ryan and Quaid, 46, split up in July after nine years of marriage. They have a 7-year-old son.

New York may hold parade if Giants win

NEW YORK (AP) — Mayor Rudolph Giuliani will hold a ticker-tape parade in New York if the Giants win the Super Bowl.

Even though the Giants actually play in New Jersey.

"I think we should give them a parade if they win the Super Bowl, if they want one," the mayor said Tuesday. "They may want to stay in the Meadowlands. I hope not."

We'll invite all the New Jersey people and make it a big New York-New Jersey celebration."

The Giants left New York in 1976 to play across the Hudson River in the Meadowlands in East Rutherford, N.J., but they are still called the New York Giants. They have to win two playoff games to make it to the Jan. 28 Super Bowl. The mayor has been trying to

lure the Jets, who play in the Meadowlands, back by pushing for a new stadium in Manhattan.

Ed Koch, who was mayor when the Giants won the Super Bowl in 1987, refused to offer the team a ticker-tape parade because of its move to New Jersey. The team celebrated at the Meadowlands that year, and again when the Giants won in 1991.

Know the score? Read The Times News sports pages to see how your favorite team is doing.

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NATION

Friends struggle with Boston slayings

BOSTON (AP) — Cheryl Troy loved animals and the ocean, adored her family and called her sister on Christmas to say so.

It was the last time they spoke. Troy was one of seven people Michael McDermott allegedly killed Tuesday morning in a shooting rampage at Edgewater Technology, the Internet consulting company where they worked.

Others killed included a widow, father, a new mother just back from maternity leave, and a woman who would have celebrated her 49th birthday Wednesday.

Troy's sister, Paula Schmidt, said the killing was even more incomprehensible because Troy, 50, was so gentle.

"She was absolutely the nicest person that anyone could have known," Schmidt said. "She wouldn't have hurt anyone."

The other victims were identified as Jennifer Bragg Capobianco, 29, from marketing; Janice Hagerty, 46, the office manager from Stoneham; Louis A. Javelle, 58, of Nashua, N.H., director of consulting in the company's Manchester, N.H., office; Rose Manfredi a payroll worker who would have been 49 on



Cheryl Troy



Cherl Callanan and her husband, Chris, erect a tribute at their store to the employees of nearby Edgewater Technology in Wakefield, Mass., Wednesday.

Wednesday, Paul Marceau, 36, of Melrose, a development technician; Cheryl Troy, human resources director; and Craig Wood, 29, of Haverhill, from human resources. Some hometowns were not immediately released.

Friends and relatives of the victims grappled with the tragedy.

Javelle's neighbor Michael Gentile said that Javelle had three sons and a daughter, and that his wife, Joyce, had died several years ago. He described the family as very religious and private, though

Javelle occasionally came over for Gentile's summer barbecues.

"They kept more to themselves after awhile, though Lou used to sneak over here once in a while when we'd have parties and I'd give him a plate," Gentile said. "I don't know if Joyce ever caught him."

Javelle normally worked in the Manchester, N.H., office, but was visiting the Wakefield office Tuesday.

Janice Hagerty was usually Edgewater's office manager, but with much of the staff on vacation

after the holiday, she was filling in as the receptionist.

"All I can say is that I loved her," a man who identified himself as Hagerty's brother-in-law told The Boston Globe. "Everybody loved her. She was a great person, and there's no explanation for what happened."

Bragg Capobianco was married two years ago and was a new mother who worked in the marketing department. Just before Christmas, she returned from maternity leave after having her daughter, Eve.

Her upstairs neighbor and landlord, Wilma Wetterson, described Bragg Capobianco and her husband as an "ideal couple."

"They were very devoted to the baby and very excited," she told the Boston Herald.

Troy was single and enjoyed scuba diving and spending time at Manchester's Singing Beach, her sister said. She had three cats and many nieces and nephews. Her nickname was "Firecracker Baby" because she was born on the Fourth of July.

Above all, Schmidt said, Troy loved people, and wanted others to love her in return.

"I couldn't imagine anyone shooting her," Schmidt said. "I don't believe that he targeted her as a person, because she was such a lovely person."

Comics don't use Greenspan as fodder

Newsday

Some may consider Alan Greenspan to be more powerful than the president, but unlike George W. Bush and Bill Clinton, the Federal Reserve Board chairman was the target of jokes by late-night television comics only four times this year.

Just one really poked fun at Greenspan—sort of.

Talking about Senate hearings in which young women testified about Internet predators, Bill Maher of ABC's "Politically Incorrect" joked, "The senators agreed this is not the biggest problem facing America, but they said it sure beats the hell out of listening to Alan Greenspan."

Oh, and did you hear the one from Jay Leno? Back in April, the NBC "Tonight Show" host said, "You know, I got an idea. Let's keep Elian Gonzalez in this country and send Alan Greenspan on a raft back to Cuba." Leno also told a joke about interest rates that made fun of Greenspan's age. He's now 74.

As for David Letterman, all the CBS funnyman had to say about The Man Behind the Money was this: "Alan Greenspan has been convinced to stay another term as the chairman of the Fed. He said



Alan Greenspan

he'd do it on one condition. He wants in on that hot intern action."

Greenspan didn't even make the Top 10 list of joke comparisons compiled each year by the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Media and Public Affairs. Totals released last week by the nonprofit research organization, which has been examining four late-night shows as part of its "Laugh Tracks" report of Campaign 2000, reveals that Bush won 2000 in a late-night landslide: Some 771 jokes were told about Bush so far this year, followed by Bill Clinton, whose grand total was 725. (Bush's ranking was almost half of Clinton's in 1998, when the country's 42nd president reached a record 1,712 jokes.) Al Gore took third place, with 494 jokes.

"Bush was a ripe target for the Gore because Bush's flaws are known," said Matthew Felling, spokesman for the center.

"Dumb jokes are easier to make than jokes about someone who exaggerates."

Sony discredits rumor that Iraq uses Playstations for military use

Newsbytes

WASHINGTON — Widespread media reports that Iraq has been importing the scarce and highly sought-after Playstation 2 video consoles for their military potential are unsubstantiated and groundless, Sony said Wednesday.

Several media outlets, including NBC, have cited an unidentified U.S. Customs officer as saying the popular Playstation 2 units were being diverted from toy shops around Detroit to factions affiliated with the Iraqi military. The stories note that the coveted video game units are being sought by the Iraqi government due to their hefty processing power, which when hooked

together en masse could conceivably offer computing speeds similar to that of low-grade supercomputers, devices seen as necessary for the development and testing of weapons of mass destruction.

But Sony spokesperson Molly Smith said if Saddam Hussein wanted to get hold of a stash of Playstations, he'd have to get in line behind millions of other consumers.

"Right now, with our current inventory situation, it's likely that anyone — Saddam Hussein or otherwise — claiming to have a substantial number of Playstation 2 units is probably pulling your leg at this point," Smith said. "This completely unsubstantiated story has been lingering for weeks and it's time to put it to rest."

States increasingly list prisoners, parolees online

WASHINGTON (AP) — A growing number of states are offering online databases of inmates and parolees, allowing citizens to check on convicted neighbors and employers to screen prospective hires. But civil liberties groups say the Internet sites make it harder for ex-convicts to return to society.

"There always has been a desire to get criminal information online, and a history here of trying to balance those concerns," said Ari Schwartz, policy analyst at the Center for Democracy and Technology in Washington. "It really brings up the issue of just because it's possible, is it desirable?"

Eighteen states now operate full Web sites where citizens can find the names, pictures, criminal records and sentences for current inmates and those on parole. Some states include both federal and state records.

Indiana plans to start one soon, and several other states offer limited databases for narrower prison populations such as sex offenders, death row inmates and fugitives.

Florida was one of the earliest, operating its site since 1997. Kentucky's is the most recent, opening its site this month. The Kentucky Offender Online Lookup site will soon carry the records of 22,500 inmates and parolees going back to 1978.

Inmates shown online

Eighteen states have online databases where the public can search for imprisoned or paroled offenders. Other states have more limited lists, such as death row inmates, sex offenders or fugitives.

Note: Indiana will begin a database in 2001.

Source: AP research

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A wish list for outdoor adventurers

Today is the seventh anniversary of my move from northern Montana to southern Idaho. I came to Twin Falls thinking I'd stay a year or two before greener pastures beckoned.

What I failed to grasp then, but see clearly now, is that life is good here if you enjoy the outdoors. With a new millennium almost at hand, I've been thinking about what lies ahead - and now remembering about the best days I've spent afield in southern Idaho.

Herein, in no particular order, is my list of top-quality local adventures. There are seven entries, each symbolic of a year I've spent exploring this amazing corner of the world.

1. Murtaugh stretch of the Snake: When it's running big, the 13-mile section from Murtaugh Bridge to Twin Falls Reservoir offers the best nonbig-water kayaking in Idaho. Many anglers say the size of the Murtaugh's rapids are second only to the Colorado River in the Grand Canyon. The Murtaugh stretch has a big feel at 5,000 cfs, but it needs at least 8,000 cfs before the good surf waves come out to play.

2. Distance from my house: 21 miles.

3. City of Rocks: Without question, one of the premier stops on any rock climber's North American hit parade. The scenery is spectacular, the granite is great, and there are hundreds of routes ranging from five-easy, to five-fun, to five-hard. It's a simple day trip from Twin Falls, but camping amid the City's unique rock formations is an experience to savor.

4. Distance from my house: 65 miles.

5. Flasher Creek: Probably the best-known mountain bike ride in Idaho, and for good reason. The first half of the 15-mile loop is an excellent ride on an increasingly rough dirt road; the final mile is the worst. After that, the trail swoops downhill, and gung-ho riders can play fighter pilot through the forest.

6. The ride begins about 11 miles south of Stanley on Idaho Highway 75. Distance from my house: About 75 miles.

7. Bench Hut: I haven't hit them all, but Bench Hut is the best backcountry ski hut I've ever stayed in. High above Redfish Lake, the hut is about five miles from the trailhead, which is about three miles south of Stanley on Highway 75. It's a hump getting up to there, and the floor is a little lumpy, but Bench Hut is smack in the heart of postcard Idaho.

8. Distance from my house: About 132 miles.

9. South Fork of the Snake: OK, this one is in Eastern Idaho, but it shouldn't be missed. Most folks go for the bluebonnet fishing, but I go for the scenery, the canoeing and the camping. Just downstream of South Fork Lodge, the Snake makes a big loop away from U.S. Highway 26 near Swan Valley. The area is home for the bees, moose and the largest cottonwood forest in Idaho. Go in late September or October, when the bees are turning.

10. Distance from my house: 200 miles.

11. Skiing on Galena Pass: It isn't the finest free-heel skiing in the West, but it could be the most convenient. Skin up, ski down - and chances are good you'll get a ride back to the trailhead. Drive 30 miles north from Ketchum on Highway 75, crest Galena Pass and then park at the first turnoff on the right. Ski off the south side of the pass and you're in the upper reaches of the Wood River drainage; go off the north side and you're in the headwaters of the River of No Return.

12. Distance from my house: About 107 miles.

13. A day in the Snake River Canyon: Some of my best days of adventure and exploration have been following nose scrambles in the canyon near Twin Falls. The objective usually starts out vague, but it evolves as I try to forge a route from Point A to Point B. There are rock bands to surmount, cliffs to skirt and springs to sip. Just when I think I've got the terrain figured out, I'll stumble across an unexpected wrinkle in the landscape. There is no end to the canyon's surprises.

There, that's my list. It's probably different from yours, but that's the beauty of living in a place where there's so much to do.

Having traveled extensively on every continent except Antarctica, outdoors editor William Brock likes southern Idaho just fine, thank you.

LAST CALL



Careful decoy presentation is essential if you want to fool ducks this time of year.

Waterfowl are wary this late in the season

By James J. Krulich
Times-News correspondent

Ducks were already returning to the river as the first glimpse of sunlight appeared on the horizon. It was a late-season day, partially cloudy with a north wind accompanied by scattered snowflakes. It had all the makings for a good day of shooting, except for one thing - we were late.

Our poor timing was obvious as we motored to the island where our makeshift blind was located. Two hunters were already there, finalizing the placement of their decoys.

Out of earshot, I offered a casual observation. "I think they've got those decoys too close together. They might attract some ducks, but I don't think many will want to land."

"Yeah, they didn't leave much room for any incoming ducks," my partner responded. "Let's set up at the bend and see what happens."

Flocks of mallards and scattered pintails and gadwalls were circling as we beached our boat. They were investigating the decoys and calls from the downstream island. We needed to place our decoys quickly if any morning shooting was to materialize.

Two large goose decoys were placed as "confidence" decoys at the outer limit of shotgun range. Two dozen duck decoys were scattered between the geese and our blind. This meant that ducks would have plenty of room to land.

Then we began calling. We sat as motionless as possible, with our hoods pulled up over our necks. The downstream hunters



If the waterfowl gods are smiling, you could end up drawing a bead on a scene like this.

attracted the attention of a few ducks all right, but as expected, none of the mallards would venture close. Their decoys spread were just too close.

Ducks dropped in and out of our decoys all morning. The shooting wasn't frantic, but it was steady - steady enough to fill one limit and just shy of another.

Late-season ducks aren't stupid. They've been exposed to plenty of calls, decoy spreads, hunters and errant shots all season. If just one element of a hunting situa-

tion is slightly out of place, ducks generally won't fly within shotgun range. Little things really count this late in the season.

Decoy placement is a crucial part of the game. When ducks are alarmed or suspicious, they naturally move closer together on the water. Decoys that are placed in close proximity indicate the possibility of danger, so why would a mallard knowingly go there?

Decoy numbers are a bit of a variable at this time of year, so hunters must be adapt-

able. If the ducks won't move to the decoys, adding a few more blocks might be the answer. On some days, just the opposite is true - because some flocks have been shot at over large numbers of decoys.

Confidence decoys, such as a few geese or shore birds, are often overlooked by many hunters. Placed at the outer limit of shotgun range, confidence decoys help promote the feeling of safety. They also indicate when a duck is within shooting range.

Some of the best advice for late-season waterfowl hunting is the most obvious. Start by placing your decoys where ducks naturally want to land. Ducks are naturally drawn to locations with food and safety. If other ducks - that is, decoys - are in a good location, flocks of waterfowl will instinctively head there.

Small things, such as hoods to cover the back of your neck, gloves for your hands and a cap to conceal light reflecting off your face, can spell the difference between a duck veering off or a flock locking wings and heading into your decoy spread.

Other small items that make a big difference aren't always so obvious. Is that shiny Thermos in plain sight or stashed away? Sunlight reflecting off the metal is a beacon that signals danger. What about spent shotgun shells? Pick them up before Mr. Sun illuminates them and sends the flocks in another direction. Is your blind taller than the surrounding vegetation? If so, ducks may never arrive within shotgun range.

Keep in mind that little things do make a difference this late in the season. Take care of them - the big things will take care of themselves.

On the wing: Swans, snow geese take flight to winter home

The Associated Press

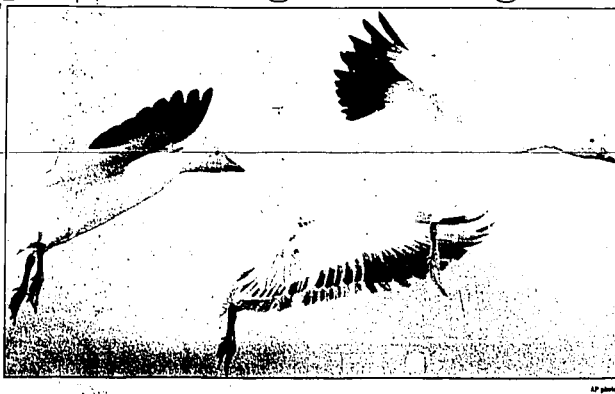
SEATTLE - Once feared extinct, trumpeter swans now flock by the thousands each winter to the rural farmlands and estuaries of northwestern Washington's Skagit Valley.

In greater numbers than anywhere else in the lower 48 states, they fly down in November from arctic nesting grounds and stay until March, feasting on leftovers from corn, potato, wheat and barley harvests.

North America's largest waterfowl, snow white trumpeters with black bills mesmerize onlookers with their size, beauty and grace. They stand 4 feet tall and have a wingspan of up to 7 feet.

"They're so big, and if it's a real still day, you can actually hear the wind move through their wings," says John Garrett, manager of the 16,000-acre Skagit Wildlife Area. "It's like watching a 747 go through the air."

Trumpeters often share their feeding grounds with their smaller cousin, the tundra swan,



Two snow geese flank their offspring as the trio lands in a farm field earlier in December in the Skagit Valley, near Conway, Wash. The small valley is a winter home to many migratory birds, including vast numbers of snow geese and the largest concentration of wintering trumpeter swans in the United States.

standing out like undulating swaths of snow against the deep

brown of a harvested field. A total of 4,094 swans were

counted in Skagit County at the close of last year's wintering

season - 2,275 trumpeters and 1,819 tundras. That's up about 800 from the previous year, according to Mike Davison, district biologist for the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

"Populations have been increasing," he says, "but more importantly, they've been expanding" to other counties.

Hunting decimated trumpeter swans in the 1800s. Milliners used their feathers to adorn fancy hats. Women powdered their noses with swan-skin puffs. Settlers feasted on their meat.

Stiff hunting regulations and stalwart conservation efforts saved them from extinction, and biologists credit their rising numbers to wildlife conservation efforts as well as cooperation from farmers and a more conscientious generation of hunters.

Swan hunting is banned in Washington state. Trumpeters are protected throughout their migration range, while hunting tundra swans is legal in seven states.

The hunters' loss is the bird's gain. Please see Q&A, Page D2

OUTDOORS

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

Club news

The Times-News welcomes announcements and other news from outdoor clubs. Address your news to "Outdoors Editor." Then mail it to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83301; or e-mail it to twnews@micron.net; or bring it to our Burley or Twin Falls office. Be sure to include a contact name and phone number.

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Your best shot

Did you bag a big buck this year? Did you reel in a whopper?

If you have a snapshot, The Times-News would like to publish it as part of our new "Trophies" feature. We welcome readers' photos of hunting, fishing or other outdoor scenes.

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Share your adventure

Do you have a personal story of an outdoor adventure? If so, The Times-News would like to print it as part of our new "Calls From the Wild" series. We welcome readers' true stories about hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities. Please write your story in the first person, keeping it under 500 words. Photos are a plus. Be sure to include your phone number.

MV Bowhunters hold archery shoot, open house

TWIN FALLS - An open house and novelty shoot for archers will be held Friday at the newly remodeled Magic Valley Archery Range in the basement of the old Elks Building, 205 Shoshone St. (outside entrance across from the Aroma Restaurant).

Sponsored by the Magic Valley Bowhunters, the open house will run from 7-9 p.m., and the shoot begins at 7:30 p.m. Cost for the shoot is \$10. Prizes, including turkeys, have been donated by Region IV of the Idaho State Bowhunters. Bring archery equipment and a friend. Everyone is welcome.

For more information, call Tony Harbaugh at 324-7993.

Outdoors in brief

Fly-fishing derby set for Feb. 3 at country club

BUHL - A fly-fishing derby will be held from 8 a.m. to noon on Feb. 3 at the Clear Lake Country Club.

The entry fee is \$20, which includes a hamburger and chili luncheon at the clubhouse. Prizes will be awarded, including Clear Lake fishing passes and golf passes. The grand prize is a 9-foot Loomis GL3 fly rod, custom built by Tim Krist. Other door prizes also will be given away. Call 543-8849 to register before Jan. 20.



From left, Julia Hammerquist, 16, and her sisters, Leah, 9, and Rebecca, 6, walk along the Flathead River outside of Kallispell, Mont., Wednesday. They were enjoying the steam rising from the river and the surrounding frost.

Sounding like a duck takes practice, practice, practice

Knight Ridder News Service

CORRELL, Minn. - Terry Olson gets a lot of questions about duck calling.

"I ask people how much time they are willing to put into it," said Olson, who has earned a Minnesota duck-calling title. "For most guys... well, there are some nice, duck-sounding calls that are pretty inexpensive." But for those truly interested, Olson will say it's not the call but the caller who imparts the true duck attraction into the quacks.

And it's not how much you spend on the call, but how much time you spend practicing that really makes the difference.

Olson compares it to playing a

musical instrument that requires practice, practice, practice.

Dedicated callers need to buy a quality, high-volume call. While many less expensive duck calls sound OK at close distances and in capable hands, most won't handle the kind of grunting air pressure needed to create the ear-piercing volume that championship callers like Olson and Bob Miller of Brainerd want.

Olson and Miller both use Carlson calls, but there are several single-reed, high-volume calls that will work. Standard Carlson "Equalizers" cost about \$30 while hand-crafted wood calls cost \$150 or more.

Then it's a matter of practice—hundreds of hours—and

patience.

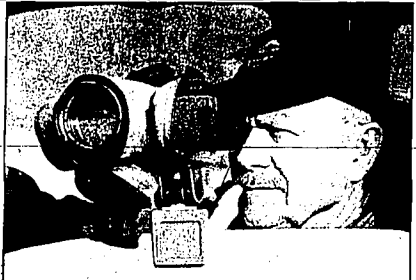
It's not so much the call but the demanding Wendell Carlson system that makes Carlson students so good, Olson and Miller said. Other calls also have won world championships, like Carlson's, but many of the callers have learned through the Carlson system.

"It took me about two years to get where I could really call ducks with it. It took another few years before I was ready for contests," Olson said. "I practiced every day, for two years, to get to the competitive level, and I wasn't really very good." Olson became obsessed with duck calls as a teenager after some loud-calling city slickers invaded his

small-town swamp one morning and proceeded to call their limit of ducks while he watched.

Olson eventually discovered a system developed by Wendell Carlson of Cedar Rapids, Iowa. Carlson's system stresses constant practice of nine different elements of calling. Videotapes and audiotapes help out the learning curve but it's still as hard as learning a musical instrument.

"He (Carlson) comes across as sort of arrogant and not exactly nice," Olson said. "Most call makers just show you how they blow it. Carlson actually teaches you how to make the sounds. He figured out the music lessons of the duck call."



Washington Fish and Wildlife Dept. biologist Russ Canniff counts snow geese in a field Dec. 13 in the Skagit Valley, near Conway, Wash. Canniff estimated there were close to 17,000 of the birds feeding at the site.

Geese

Continued from D1

ers' gain, for those lucky enough to watch each day as dusk fades and the swans fly to sloughs and other calm waterways for a safe night's rest out of the reach of predators. Witnessing hundreds touch down against the backdrop of the waning twilight is a sublime experience, says Darryl Thompson, president of Snohomish County's Audubon Society chapter, which leads frequent tours for the growing number of bird watchers.

"We're trying to give people an appreciation for something besides their televisions, their computers and their jobs," Thompson says. Wintering snow geese, which migrate from Russia's Wrangel Island northwest of the Bering Strait, gather in far greater numbers than their larger counterparts.

A flock of 15,000 to 17,000 at a wildlife reserve was spotted on Fir Island one recent afternoon, Russ Canniff, a biologist for the state Department of Fish and Wildlife, says he expects the wintering population to reach 55,000 by the peak of the season in late January and February.

Bird enthusiasts rave about the sight and sound of snow

geese lifting off by the thousands.

"It looks like a snow storm in reverse," says Tim Cullinan, director of bird conservation for the National Audubon Society of Washington. "It's deafening, too, because they all start honking, too. It just looks like an explosion of life coming off the ground."

Snow geese, however, can be hunted. Washington's season lasts from early October to early January and can cut short if population counts dip too low. That hasn't happened since 1981, according to Don Kraege, waterfowl manager for the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

The snow geese and swans lure such large numbers of bird watchers that crowd control has become a problem. "It's becoming as big or more of a challenge to manage people as it is to manage the wildlife," Garrett says.

So the department is pushing a Watchable Wildlife Program to promote ecologically friendly bird watching and to establish more places like the Johnson-DuBay Swan Reserve, a fenced-off observation area in Mount Vernon surrounded by fields and sloughs.

Governor budgets \$500,000 to improve Utah trout streams

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Utah Trout Unlimited Council President Wes Johnson landed more than he expected after going fishing with Gov. Mike Leavitt last July.

Leavitt said he wanted to do something to improve trout fishing throughout Utah. His budget proposal includes \$500,000 for a stream program within the Division of Wildlife Resources to do just that.

A committee of conservationists, biologists and tackle-store owners is working out details for using the potential windfall. Johnson said the idea is to improve class III fisheries in rural waters such as the Sevier River near Panguitch, the Strawberry River near Duchesne and the Price River below Scofield Reservoir.

The money would be used to enhance stream habitat and to purchase public access to quality fishing waters on private land. Officials hope the improvements would encourage anglers to spend more money in those parts of rural Utah.

"Fishing is one of the top three recreational activities in Utah," said Johnson, who also works at the state Division of Parks and Recreation. "We want to sell this as an economic tool to build rural communities."

The initial idea is to create a Dedicated Angler Program patterned after the DWR's Dedicated Hunter Program. Hunters sign up for a three-year commitment. They pay \$150 and complete eight

hours of service work a year on wildlife-related projects. In return, they get to hunt during a longer period of time.

Adapting that for anglers could be difficult.

"Our fisheries program is available to everyone with a license," said Don Archer, special projects coordinator for the DWR. "There is no situation to dedicate certain waters to dedicated-fishing participants without taking things away from the public."

Byron Gunderson, owner of Fish Tech Outfitters in Hollister, said many of his customers might be willing to invest in the program now in hopes of future returns.

"As it goes and more areas are available for people who do want to get involved in the program, they are willing to put out quite a bit now with little immediate return based on the future," he said.

Gunderson said Leavitt "is trying to repair an image that has not shown a lot of feel for the fishermen or hunters in this state, especially the fishermen. The fact that he came out with a half-million to get this seeded and on its way is great."

Rescue crews recover woman's body following avalanche

IDAHO FALLS (AP) - Rescue crews recovered the body of a 26-year-old Felt woman on Tuesday who was swept away in an avalanche Christmas Day while skiing in a remote area northeast of Teton.

Sara Campbell's death is the third avalanche-related fatality in a month in Teton County, Wyo.

The avalanche occurred around 1 p.m. Monday, about three hours after Campbell, a Lincoln, Neb. native, and two companions set off for the backcountry.

According to a prepared statement issued by the Teton County Sheriff's Office, Campbell and two companions traveled on snowmobile from one of their homes to the Rammel Mountain trailhead near the Jedediah Smith Wilderness.

Once they arrived, they took off on skis, heading east toward Dead Horse Pass.

Teton County Sheriff Bob Zimmer said the three were prudent, skiing single file and moving one at a time from safety zone to safety zone. All had avalanche beacons. The three were crossing a 150-yard chute one at a time when the avalanche started.

The first two skiers made it

through, but Campbell, who was bringing up the rear, got caught in the slide and was swept about 700 feet down the mountain.

Campbell's companions immediately started searching for her.

According to reports, they received a signal from her beacon and used probe poles to locate her. They used shovels to try to dig her out and found her under about 12 feet of snow. She was not breathing and apparently suffered severe trauma. The two began CPR, but it did not work, according to the sheriff department's statement.

The two then skied back to the snowmobile and rode to a house where they called authorities.

"They had a plan and it still happened," Zimmer said. "We think she set it off when she crossed. That just tells you how fragile those areas are and how it takes so little to set it off."

Campbell was the operations manager of Yostmark Mountain Equipment in Driggs where she sold backcountry equipment and skis. While there are no official statistics, some believe this winter has produced the worst avalanche season in several years.

Have a safe and happy New Year

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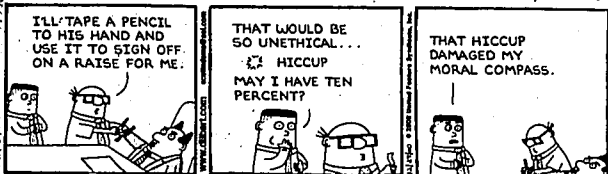
Classic Peanuts

By Charles M. Schulz



Diibert

By Scott Adams



B.C.

By Johnny Hart

net income



Garfield

By Jim Davis



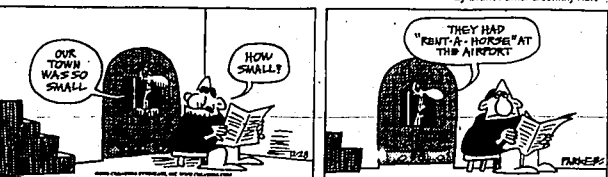
Hi and Lois

By Chance Browne



The Wizard of Id

By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart



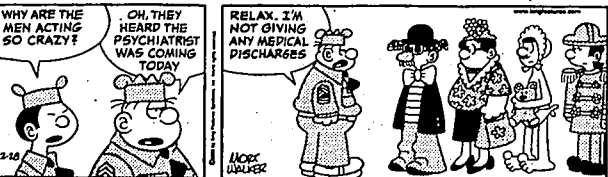
Hagar the Horrible

By Chris Browne



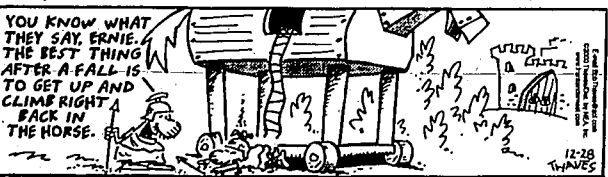
Beetle Bailey

By Mort Walker



Frank and Ernest

By Bob Thaves



The Born Loser

By Art Sansom & 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 Bil Keane



*I MANAGED TO GET OUT OF THE RAT RACE, ONLY TO END UP IN THE BRAT RACE!

"Jeff! Don'tcha know it's against the law to sing carols after Christmas?"

Rose is Rose

By Pat Brady



Zits

By Jim Borgman and Jerry Scott



Luann

By Greg Evans

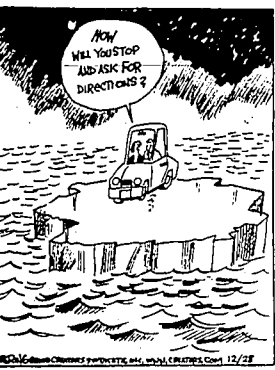


Strange Brew

By John Deering

Non Sequitur

By Wiley



OUTDOORS

COMING IN



Matt Grove of Boise finishes an afternoon of nordic skiing earlier this month at Bogus Basin Ski Resort north of Boise. Bogus has 40 inches of packed powder, 43 at the base. All 83 of its 27 miles of trails are open.

Declining goose numbers in Alaska city has ties to Northwest bird hunters

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — After years of effort, including swiping eggs from nests and relocating goslings, the number of Canada geese is down in Alaska's largest city, meaning less manure on lawns and in lakes — and less danger of geese colliding with aircraft.

Biologists estimated after the fall census that Anchorage is the seasonal home to 2,800 geese, about 500 fewer than last year and down nearly half from four years ago. If the trend continues, biologists say they may come close to reaching their goal of 2,000 next year.

"The population is dropping, and it's dropping steadily," said Rick Sinnott, area biologist for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

In 1995, a number of geese were sucked into the engines of a military jet taking off from Elmendorf Air Force Base. The four-engine AWACS control and command aircraft crashed, killing all 24 people aboard and raising concern about the city's fast-growing Canada goose population.

Biologists began programs to reduce the number of geese in and around the city, including removal of hundreds of eggs from their nests and relocation of hundreds of goslings.

But even if successful, those programs shouldn't have caused the dramatic decline biologists are finding, Sinnott told the Anchorage Daily News. Some birds also have been killed by security and animal control staffers at the city's three major airports, but also not enough to

explain the drop.

Biologists say their best guess is that hunters in Oregon and Washington state are shooting geese wearing blue neck bands, which are put on the lesser Canada geese studied in Anchorage. By shooting the blue-banded geese, the Northwest hunters avoid killing dusky Canada geese, a subspecies protected because its numbers have declined. Dusky geese sometimes are banded with red or green collars.

Hunting was closed for years in certain areas of the Northwest to protect dusky geese. But since the overall goose population has risen, wildlife managers in those states have reopened hunting grounds. The states also test hunters to be sure they can differentiate between subspecies of Canada geese. If hunters kill a dusky by accident, they can't hunt geese anymore that season.

The hunter education pamphlet stops short of saying "Please shoot Anchorage geese," said Tom Rothe, waterfowl coordinator for the Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

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Hunting managers in Oregon and Washington state have not yet provided data to see if local biologists are right. They don't think so, however, because the total harvest of lesser Canada geese in both states has dropped considerably in recent years.

Still, they said, there's a small chance hunters are targeting the blue-banded geese.

"Some hunters understand what the blue collars mean," said Brad Bales, game bird program leader for the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Department. "If they see a blue collar, they know that's a safe bird to shoot."

On April 30, the contracts would be reviewed. If the winter's snow was plentiful and the reservoirs full, the irrigators would not receive the money because they wouldn't have lost any water. But if the winter was mild and water was short, the irrigators would be compensated for their lost water.

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Anglers consider paying for fish's vital habitat — water

IDAHO FALLS (AP) — To protect the famous fly fishing on the South Fork of the Snake River, eastern Idaho anglers are considering a revolutionary concept: buying water for fish.

"We already spend money to create habitat in the way of willow plantings and fish weirs," said John Lent, president of the local chapter of Trout Unlimited. "Why can't we spend money on the most important thing for fish — water?"

The idea of buying water is sure to offend purists who believe the trout have the ultimate claim to the resource, but some anglers believe this is the only solution to the lack of water in dry years.

The courts have long held that water is for farming, the base of the region's economic foundation. Instead of standing by and doing nothing or waging a losing court battle, the anglers say this plan gives farmers an incentive to help protect the fish and the river's wildlife. Anglers get water and great fishing.

Lent and others are asking that question because the world-famous fishery is running at a trickle right now, and they are worried the fishery may soon dry up.

To hold water for next summer's irrigation season, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation cut flows on the river to 1,100 cubic feet per second, well below the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's recommended minimum flow of 1,500 cfs. The average winter flow during the past 52 years is 2,200 cfs.

Water managers are legally bound to meet next year's irrigation demands, and they also say water must be held back to flush salmon smolts next spring.

Anglers and biologists understand the problem, but they say the river's famous fishery is being slighted. They say in low water, fish will be stranded in side channels where they will freeze or get eaten more easily by the river's bigger fish. They believe low water is a threat to the river's already threatened Yellowstone cutthroat population and the region's bald eagle population, which relies on the river for food.

"It's an incredibly tough problem, and we're just trying to think of compromises that will help the farmers and the fish," Lent said. "Paying for water is one idea."

The proposal is simple. Anglers, conservation organizations and environmentalists would create a pool of money to buy water. The money could come from conservation organizations, the state's budget surplus, the creation of a new fishing license or a combination of the three. During the fall, willing irrigators could sign a contract that says they will place their water rights at risk for the fish. During the winter, the river's flow would be kept above 1,500 cfs, even if the bureau called for storing more water.

On April 30, the contracts would be reviewed. If the winter's snow was plentiful and the reservoirs full, the irrigators would not receive the money because they wouldn't have lost any water. But if the winter was mild and water was short, the irrigators would be compensated for their lost water.

It may sound outlandish, especially since the program could cost millions of dollars, but powerful agricultural interests say they are willing to listen.

"It could work," said Snake River watermaster Ron Carlson, who regulates water usage for the 15,000 irrigators in the Snake River drainage above Minidoka Dam. "It's similar to what we did with swans."

"The devil is definitely in the details. I think it's a great concept, but it will take a lot of time and effort."

— Allen May, the Nature Conservancy, eastern Idaho

In the late 1980s, the Nature Conservancy approached Carlson to let more water out of Island Park Reservoir to keep trumpeter swans from being frozen off the river. Irrigators sold water to the Nature Conservancy, but when the reservoir filled in the spring, irrigators forgave the debt, Carlson said.

Potato farmers are also willing to listen.

"It's going to have to make sense economically for irrigators to take a risk, but it's definitely worth talking about," said John Thompson, communication director for Potato Growers of Idaho, which represents 500 farmers. Thompson points out that anglers would have to take to the highways and canal banks to make their case.

"The devil is definitely in the details," said Allen May, eastern Idaho representative of the Nature Conservancy. "I think it's a great concept, but it will take a lot of time and effort."

And money. This year, for

example, it would cost anglers \$425,000 to buy enough water to keep the river at 1,500 cfs from Nov. 1 to April 30. That is based on buying 150,000 acre feet of water at \$2.95 per acre foot, the going cost for storing that water at Palisades Reservoir. That is just the price of storing the water.

The water becomes more valuable when it hits the ground and grows potatoes and grain, said Thompson.

"You can't just look at the price of storage," he said. "You have to look at the cost of everything, including the final crop. That is the type of thing that needs to be talked about."

Community prices are low right now, which may make farmers more willing to listen, Thompson said. Still, farmers would likely argue that the water is worth much more than \$2.95 and that they should be paid a higher premium.

"Money is the hitch," Carlson said. "It always has been."

The idea may not work, but local anglers are tired of doing nothing.

"Sure there are a ton of legal ramifications and things that need to be worked out, but it just seems like this may be a win-win idea for everybody," said fishing guide Mike Lawson, who manages South Fork Lodge and Henry's Fork Lodge for Mark Rockefeller. To raise money to buy water, Lawson suggests the Idaho Department of Fish and Game create a "wild trout" stamp. Every angler would have to buy a \$5 stamp and that money would go directly to buying habitat for fish. In the case of the South Fork, that would mean buying water. The chance of Fish and Game creating a new stamp is unlikely, said Bill Hutchinson, Fish and Game hatcheries manager.

"It's just a fee increase," he said. "We've thought about it before, a hatchery stamp. We took it to the hill and were killed by legislators."

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BizFACTS



Valley endures building slump

October decline adds to September's

By Virginia S. Hutchins
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Relief didn't arrive in October. Despite a doubling of Hailey's new-home numbers and hotter activity in Mini-Cassia, the Magic Valley construction sector in October posted a hefty 44 percent plunge in projects' total estimated values, compared with a year earlier.

Selected areas of the valley finished the month with just \$10.3 million in building activity. The value of projects receiving building permits in October fell short of October 1999's total by \$8 million for combined building

types in surveyed areas of the Magic Valley, according to data compiled in First Security Bank's recently released statewide report.

That's the second disappointing month in a row. A September slump across several sectors slashed Magic Valley construction activity nearly in half, compared with year-earlier performance, following a sizzling August in which the valley more than doubled its year-earlier construction values.

In October, just Hailey, Rupert and Cassia County improved on their year-earlier values for com-

Construction permits

Area	October 2000		October 1999	
	Projects	Value	Projects	Value
Gooding	0	1	0	1
Hailey	8	4	8	4
Ketchum	1	10	1	10
Sun Valley	0	9	0	9
Blaine County (unincorporated portion)	unavailable		unavailable	
Jerome	2	0	2	0
Shoshone	0	0	0	0
Twin Falls	19	14	19	14
Twin Falls County (unincorporated portion)	9	8	9	8
Cassia County (entire county)	7	12	7	12
Rupert	1	1	1	1
Mindokla County (unincorporated portion)	5	4	5	4
Total (excluding unincorporated Blaine County)	52	63	52	63

Source: "Isable Construction Report" by First Security Bank. October report is most recent available.

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

Local partnership buys Sun Valley Magazine

KETCHUM - After three months of negotiations, Sun Valley Magazine has been purchased by Valley Publishing, a new, locally owned partnership.

The sale took place Dec. 18. In August, the NW Publishing Group, which owned Sun Valley Magazine and 80 percent of Boise Magazine, voted to dissolve, according to plan-liquidation papers filed with the state.

NW Publishing bought the two magazines from Eris Communications less than a year before the liquidation filing. Sun Valley Magazine, in its current incarnation, was formed in the early 1990s when Earls bought it from Picabo resident Michael Riedel and merged it with Valley Magazine.

The new partnership will be managed and operated by Laurie Sammis, the largest shareholder and the editor of Sun Valley Magazine from 1990 to 1993.

Sammis said a winter edition will not be published, but she anticipates magazines in the spring and summer, followed by biannual editions.

Federal Express lifts rates for deliveries within U.S.

MEMPHIS, Tenn. - FedEx Corp., holding company for Federal Express, the world's biggest express transportation company, said Wednesday it will increase rates by an average 4.9 percent for shipments within the United States from Feb. 1.

The Memphis, Tenn.-based company said rates on export shipments will be lifted by about 2.9 percent.

"This rate adjustment ensures that FedEx Express will continue to provide the outstanding service and value, backed by the user-friendly technology, that customers expect from FedEx," said T. Michael Glenn, executive vice president.

FedEx Express, which delivers about 3.3 million packages a day worldwide, last hiked its rates in 1999.

Zions ranks high among small-business lenders

SALT LAKE CITY - Zions Bancorporation ranked as the nation's seventh largest provider of Small Business Administration loans for fiscal 2000, according to the SBA.

Zions approved 704 small business loans totaling \$108.3 million. It ranked 20th in gross dollars approved among 400 financial institutions.

A subsidiary, Zions First National Bank, was the top provider of SBA loans in Utah and second in Idaho for 2000. The company approved 254 SBA loans totaling \$23.3 million, or 3.3 percent of the Utah market. Another 42 loans totaling \$5.1 million were approved by Zions in Idaho, where the bank's operations include Magic Valley branches.

Dot-com job cuts increase for seventh month in a row

NEW YORK - Internet firms laid off another 10,459 people in December, the seventh consecutive month that job losses have increased in the hard-hit industry, according to a study released Wednesday.

December's layoffs accounted for more than a quarter of the 41,515 dot-com workers who have been laid off since December 1999, when employment firm Challenger Gray & Christmas began tracking cuts in the Internet industry.

According to the study, dot-coms cut 5,097 jobs between January and June, and another 36,777 between July and December - a total of 41,515 in the past year.

Most of the cuts involved Internet firms specializing in consulting, financial, information and retail services.

'AESOP WAS RIGHT'



Members of the Phoenix Investment Club gather at member Les Burton's house, far right, Dec. 8, in Lexington, Ky. Surrounding Burton from left to right are: Pat Gentle, John Dauer, Bill Kearney, Al Saunders and Charlie Buford.

Slow-and-steady investment clubs feel vindicated

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Invest regularly in growth companies. Buy and hold. Reinvest dividends and capital gains. Diversify.

Yawn.

During the 1990s boom on Wall Street, when many people were chasing dot-coms and even triple-digit gains, investment clubs and their slow-and-steady-wins-the race philosophy were considered pretty dull and timid.

But now, with the Nasdaq cooling at its worst year ever, the investment clubs are feeling vindicated.

"We had a lot of people saying, 'You're so outdated,'" said Joanne Briggs, who belongs to two investment clubs in Sacramento, Calif. "Well, now they know."

And so what if their returns are modest compared with those of those few lucky investors who

managed to time the rise and fall of 55 hot stock issues.

"I'm making money. That's the bottom line," said Briggs, secretary of Sacramento Money Makers, which is up almost 10 percent so far for 2000.

The technology-heavy Nasdaq composite index has skidded about 40 percent this year, and the overall market has turned bearish.

And yet, the National Association of Investors Corp., the investment clubs' national organization, is bragging that its Top 100 index has most major market indexes beat for 2000. The index, which NAIC boasts has a five-year annualized return of 22.7 percent as of Nov. 30, is made up of the stocks most widely held by club members including PepsiCo, Home Depot and Microsoft.

NAIC cannot help but gloat a little, declaring on its Web site: "Aesop was right. You may have

to squint to see it, but our tortoise is clearly beating."

For 49 years, the Madison Heights, Mich.-based NAIC has espoused buying stocks of companies poised for growth and then holding onto those shares for the long term.

Many investment clubs shunned high-tech companies and hot dot-com startups that traded at 30, 50, even 100 times their earnings. They stuck to their principles and focused on blue chip stocks, which are considered safer.

And now they say they are being rewarded.

"We do good when the market is in good times as well when the market is down," said Les Burton, president of the Phoenix Investment Club in Lexington, Ky., which has risen a modest 4 percent this year. "We don't change our philosophy in a bear market or a bull market. We buy value stocks."

Slowly, but surely

The National Association of Investors Corporation (NAIC), an organization for investors clubs, points to the long term when comparing the performance of its Top 100 index to major market indexes.

Annualized growth for the five-year period ending Nov. 30, 2000:

- NAIC Top 100 Index: 22.7%
- Nasdaq composite index: 10.1%
- S&P 500 Index: 10.1%
- Dow Jones Industrial average: 10.1%

Source: National Association of Investors Corporation.

Seniors need to be aware of revised home sale rules

The Associated Press

DENVER - Seniors planning to sell their principal residence or a vacation home should be aware of recently proposed Internal Revenue Service regulations, says a tax expert at the College for Financial Planning.

"Many taxpayers still aren't familiar with the home sale rules passed in 1997, and the IRS has recently issued regulations intended to clarify those rules," says Michael Cates, a professional tax preparer and an academic assistant at the college.

"Understanding and using these rules effectively can save home sellers a lot of money."

The tax act passed in 1997 dramatically changed how tax law treats capital gains resulting from the sale of a

home, Cates says. The 1997 act discarded the old law which allowed home sellers 55 and older to take a one-time exclusion from taxes of up to \$125,000 in profits made from the sale of a home.

The 1997 law allows for home sellers of all ages to exclude up to \$500,000 (married joint filers) in home-sale gains (up to \$250,000 for single filers). Additionally, says Cates, instead of a one-time exclusion, it may be used several times over your lifetime.

To take advantage of these rules, you must meet the following restrictions, among others:

- The home must be your principal residence.
- The tax break does not apply to rental property or vacation homes.

Idaho placement program ranks second nationally

The Associated Press

BOISE - Idaho's federally funded program for finding senior citizens unsubsidized jobs ranks second in the nation, placing almost 83 percent of participating older workers back onto employment rolls this year.

Gov. Dirk Kempthorne cited the ranking, second only to Vermont, in hailing the work of Idaho Commission on Aging Director Lupe Wissel and her staff as well as the quality of Idaho's senior work force.

"This program is helping restore the dignity of our older citizens, who still have plenty to offer their communities," Kempthorne said. "Those who implement this program on the ground, both at the Idaho Department of Labor and area agencies on aging, have my highest praise."

The second-place ranking was based on participation in the federal Senior Community Service Employment Program. Participants include states, some federal agencies and such private organizations as the AARP and the

National Urban League.

Federal guidelines set a goal of placing 20 percent of project participants in unsubsidized jobs. The top five states for 2000 were Vermont, Idaho, Wyoming, the AARP Foundation and Utah. Fourteen states failed to reach the 20 percent goal.

"I've not so jokingly told federal officials that they need to rethink the national standards and cut off those who aren't getting the job done," Wissel said. "That would mean more money for Idaho and other states and organizations that are truly helping seniors."

Melinda Adams, Older Worker Coordinator for the Commission on Aging, said Vermont's top ranking, and full job placement after recording just 31 percent in 1999, was the result of an experimental funding program from the U.S. Department of Labor.

The money provided specialized computer training to help older workers catch up with technology, and Adams said Idaho is applying for the same type of program. A decision from the Labor Department is expected in July.

COURT - ACTIVITY

The Times-News

BOISE - Recent activity in U.S. Bankruptcy Court included these Magic Valley filings:

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, under \$50,000

Cheri R. Harral, also known as Cheri Dick and Cheri Harral, 702 E. 18th, Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 115 creditors, assets under \$50,000; liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 00-42065.

Angie Skelton, 189 Adams St., Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000; liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 00-42066.

Michael Paul Castillo, 635 Hansen Ave., Burley, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 115 creditors, assets under \$50,000; liabilities under \$50,000. Case no. 00-42073.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$50,000 to \$100,000

Joshua Kane Perrapato, also known as Joshua Kane Frisby and Perry Roofing, and Kimberly Nicole Carrasco, also known as Kimberly Nicole Sherbenou, 505 S. Fir, Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000; liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 00-42071.

Chapter 7, business, \$50,000 to \$100,000

Val Gene Kent Bell, also known as Custer Saloon and Hansen Market, 906 16th Drive, Burley, individual, nonbusiness (retail), Chapter 7, 115 creditors, assets under \$50,000; liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 00-42064.

Chapter 13, nonbusiness, \$50,000 to \$100,000

Richard Wagner, 534 Second Ave. W., Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 13, 16-49 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000; liabilities \$50,000 to \$100,000. Case no. 00-42074.

Chapter 7, nonbusiness, \$100,000 to \$500,000

Edward D. Harness, 554 Prospector Drive, Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000; liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 00-42061.

Lilia Lopez, 114 Ninth Ave. N., Buhl, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000; liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 00-42085.

Chapter 7, business, \$100,000 to \$500,000

Guadalupe Medrano Hernandez, also known as Lupe Hernandez Jr., and Christine May Aguilar Hernandez, 231 Illinois St., Twin Falls, joint, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets under \$50,000; liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 00-42063.

Chapter 7, business, \$100,000 to \$500,000

Ray Patrick Parker and Julene Leal Parker, 300 10th Ave., Jerome, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000; liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 00-42069.

Steven Preslar, also known as Steve Preslar and Steve B. Preslar, and Golda Jeanne Preslar, also known as Golda Jean Jones and Golda Preslar, 726 Douglas Hwy Cooper, Twin Falls, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 115 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000; liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 00-42072.

Douglas Roy Cooper, also doing business as Wild West Video and D.C. Carpentry, 953 Milner, Buhl, and Utahna Jill Cooper, also known as Tahna Cooper and doing business as Wild West Video and D.C. Carpentry, 1796 E. 4100 N., Buhl, individual, nonbusiness, Chapter 7, 16-49 creditors, assets \$100,000 to \$500,000; liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 00-42086.

Chapter 7, business, \$100,000 to \$500,000

Mike James McAhren, also known as Mike McAhren and Right Way Contracting, 436 Adline St., Hansen, individual, business, Chapter 7, 115 creditors, assets \$50,000 to \$100,000; liabilities \$100,000 to \$500,000. Case no. 00-42070.

MARKETS

Construction

CLOSING FUTURES

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for Soybean, Corn, Wheat, and other commodities.

YORK COBBER, DOLLAR AND COCOA EXCHANGE

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for Soybean, Corn, Wheat, and other commodities.

POCATELLO (AP) - Idaho Farm Bureau

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for Soybean, Corn, Wheat, and other commodities.

LIVESTOCK

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various livestock types and prices.

NEW YORK (AP) - Key currency exchange rates

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various currencies and exchange rates.

FOSSIL FUELS

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various fossil fuels and prices.

BEANS

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various bean types and prices.

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - Wheat

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various wheat types and prices.

CHEESE

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various cheese types and prices.

POTATOES/ONIONS

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various potato and onion prices.

METALS/CURRENCY

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various metals and currency rates.

NEW YORK (AP) - Sugar futures trading

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various sugar futures and prices.

GRAINS

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various grain types and prices.

CHICAGO (AP) - Soybean

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various soybean types and prices.

CHICAGO (AP) - Corn

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CHICAGO (AP) - Corn

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PORTLAND, OR (AP) - Beans

Table with columns for Month, High, Low, Close, Change. Includes data for various bean types and prices.

CHICAGO (AP) - Soybean

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Continued from E1

Meanwhile, the larger Magic Valley's home-building sector contracted in two ways in October.

The areas of the valley surveyed for its monthly unincorporated portion of Twin Falls and Minidoka counties all lost ground in October.

A few parts of the valley routed are not included in the bank's survey, and the unincorporated portion of Blaine County this time is excluded, as well.

The valley a year ago saw a similar slide. October 1999 home starts in Ketchum and Sun Valley weren't enough to offset construction declines elsewhere in the Magic Valley, which posted project values 29.1 percent below year-ago in October.

In the valley's largest city this fall, Twin Falls' construction spent slowed in October, bringing down the first 10 months of 2000 down almost to year-ago levels for the city. Twin Falls' construction values in October slipped 9 percent to an estimated \$272 million for combined construction types.

The residential side in the city, declines elsewhere in the Magic Valley, which posted project values 29.1 percent below year-ago in October, a hefty 45 percent drop from the \$170,000 of a year earlier.

Part of the explanation was a smaller number of new single-family homes in Ketchum and Sun Valley, where residential construction tends to be more pricey than elsewhere in Magic Valley.

The reporting areas of the Magic Valley in October issued permits for no new multifamily dwellings — a mix of which are commonly called apartments — compared with just two in Cassia County a year earlier.

Gooding, Sun Valley and Shoshone had no new residential building of any kind for the month.

On the statewide scene, new commercial and industrial construction remained very strong in October, but none of Idaho's top-performing areas in that sector were in the Magic Valley.

"Statewide, single-family permits in October were below year-ago totals for the fifth consecutive month," said Kelly Matthews, First Security's chief economist.

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Union wants Kaiser-Aluminum to spend on new power capacity

Knights Riders News Service Kaiser to put the earnings toward projects, not the bottom line. About 545 steelworkers have been laid off during the last month as the company takes advantage of the soaring price of electricity. Three weeks' worth of December electricity, the company says, will cost \$52 million.

By saving to build smelter serving power marketer is earning the company millions more than its primary business of making metal. In fact, the company is making enough money on power sales to fully pay a non-working work force.

SPOKANE, Wash. — The United Steelworkers of America want job security in Spokane. So they're trying to pressure Kaiser Aluminum Corp. into spending its windfall from aluminum smelter sales of electricity to power generating plants.

This, the reasoning goes, will provide the company with at least some of its own electricity and further strengthen the Mead smelter's ability to stay in business.

In a telephone press conference Thursday, union officials urged Kaiser to put the earnings toward projects, not the bottom line.

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The Times-News CLASSIFIED

MARBLEPLACE

The Times-News Online http://www.magicvalley.com • Twin Falls: 733-0931 • Burley: 677-4042

Table of classified ads with icons for Legal, Education, Personnel, Real Estate, Financial, and Employment.

Table of classified ads with icons for Agriculture, Recreation, Merchandise, and Transportation.

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325 1/2 East 5th North Burley, Idaho 83318

677-4543 In Burley Call 677-4042 Fax 677-4543

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RESPONSIBILITIES - Check your ad for errors the first day. The Times-News will be responsible for the first incorrect insertion and to no greater extent than the cost of space occupied by the error.

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The Times-News Online features web-based classified ads. Any classified ad placed in the print version of The Times-News can be placed online for 50¢ per day, per ad.

Call Our Customer Service Representatives for Information on Classified Specials!

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IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE FIFTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF THE STATE OF IDAHO, IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF TWIN FALLS...

10% limit on nonexecutives in controlled trusts, bear baiting permit requirements, Licensing, public hearing...

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING - Notice is hereby given by the Planning and Zoning Commission for the City of Twin Falls, Idaho...

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the undersigned, through his attorney, is seeking an experienced CITY SUPERINTENDENT to supervise the City of Twin Falls...

AGAPE Child Care has openings for ages 3 years through fifth grade. Fun, safe, age appropriate activities will be taught.

Public Service - Don't pay to find work before you get the job. For free information about looking for employment...

CONSTRUCTION - All Shifts Available \$6.00 - \$10.00 per hour. Permanent and Temporary Accepting applications for: Construction Clerical Forklift Certified Production Machine Operators Molds Warehouse General Labor Assembly Apply in person at...

DRIVERS - Owner Operators Are you looking for a new home for your TRUCK? We are expanding and want Qualified OTR drivers...

E-MAIL your classified ad to us at twindad@micron.net

MAGNETIC CLERK Longview Fibre Company has an opening for a Magnetizing Clerk. This person must possess strong math, computer, and communication skills.

MANUFACTURING Spawars Manufacturing Company is accepting applications for the following full-time positions: Control, Packaging, Warehouse, Machinist, Plastic Fabrication, & Production.

MEDICAL RN's LET'S TALK! Magic Valley Regional Medical Center is looking for experienced RN's for full-time and PRN positions in our Intensive Care Unit, Surgical, and Medical Units.

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Watch for Heart 2 Heart Voice Personals Sunday in... The Times-News Tuesday in... MAGIC VALLEY SHOPPER & AUTO TRADER Saturday in... AG WEEKEND Online - Anytime www.magicvalley.com

TWIN FALLS. Very nice, 4 bdrm., 2 bath, no smoking, 3670 sq. ft. dep. Call 734-8500. 734-3303.
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603 FURNISHED APTS/DUPLEXES
TWIN FALLS. Lg. studio basement apt. No smoking. 2 bdrm. unit. \$400/mo. No pets. Call 734-6104.
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JEROME. Real clean 1 & 2 bdrm. apts. subsidized when avail. according to income. Private garage, kitchen appls, laundry rms. No pets. 324-3464.
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605 ROOMS FOR RENT
JEROME Holiday Motel 100 sq. ft. up w/ view. 4th St. W. Main. Call 324-2361.
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606 AFFORDABLE
TWIN FALLS. 2 bdrm., 2 bath. W.D. AC, stove, ref. Call 734-5100.
TWIN FALLS. 2 bdrm., 2 bath. W.D. AC, stove, ref. Call 734-5100.

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TWIN FALLS Professional office space for lease. 556 sq. ft. plus utilities. 3500 sq. ft. available. 734-5637/736-7002.
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701 LIVESTOCK
CATTLE. Daily hand, 130 cows for sale. 837-5779.
HORSES. Must all Paints and QH's, colts, rolling cow horses, also nice grey mares. \$34-6703.
HORSES. Several Christmas kids horses. Call 324-3587.

702 FARM/RANCH SUPPLIES/EQUIP
BEEF SHARES 150 ac. SRSC. Shares for rent for 2001. 670-2480.
BEEF STOCK Snako River. Sugar 155 acres. For rent or sale. Call 532-4288 or 431-5555.
CASE International 3394 tractor 4x4, 323,000. 37 line and 1000. Good condition. \$11,900 a line. Call 366-2574.

607 OFFICE & RETAIL SPACE
** TWIN FALLS **
** JEROME **
Best Rates & Locations
RETAIL & OFFICE Space
Show/Display (over 1000 sq. ft.)
To many sizes & locations to list.
Need a space to lease?
We will find it for you!

608 COMMERCIAL RENTALS
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Various sizes from 300 - 11,000 sq. ft.
Call Steve 734-4334
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TWIN FALLS. Office for lease, downtown & courthouse area, upstairs, approx. 900 sq. ft. Call private offices, reception & 1/2 bath, on-site parking. \$252/mo. - \$400/mo. Call 734-5850.

609 WEDDING & BRIDESMAIDS
WEDDING SHOP
Wedding Dresses \$25-\$400
Bridal Gowns \$100-\$200
Veils-Slips-Shoes-Bra
From Quinceanera Cruise
733-6838 - 210 S. Main
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TWIN FALLS. Office/retail space, corner location, lg. windows, approx. 2,100 sq. ft., heat & water included. Call 734-5100.

THE ACES ON BRIDGE Bobby Wolf
"Optimism is a kind of heart stimulant - the digitalis of failure." - Elbert Hubbard
NORTH
10 9 8
9 8 7
A J 10 8 5
A 3
WEST
K J 3
10 9 8
9 7
K Q 8 7 5
A 3
EAST
K J 3
10 9 8
9 7
K Q 8 7 5
A 3
SOUTH
A Q 8 7 4 2
5 4
K 9 6
10 4
Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: South
The bidding:
South West North East
1 Pass 2 Pass
2 Pass 4 All pass
Opening lead: Club king
BID WITH THE ACES

Why did South go wrong in diamonds? It was a slightly better percentage play. East was short in trumps and immediately led a trump, his queen going to West's king. West cashed his club queen and shifted to hearts. South took his ace and cashed his trump ace, bringing more bad news - West was due another trump trick. Faced with the necessity of avoiding a diamond loser, South finessed the wrong way, and instead of winning overtricks, South suffered an embarrassing one down.
The pessimist had an eye-opening answer. How would he have played the hand?
The optimist won dummy's club ace and immediately led a trump, his queen going to West's king. West cashed his club queen and shifted to hearts. South took his ace and cashed his trump ace, bringing more bad news - West was due another trump trick. Faced with the necessity of avoiding a diamond loser, South finessed the wrong way, and instead of winning overtricks, South suffered an embarrassing one down.

PLANTER Monogram NG + 24 row, 22" insecticide, fertilizer trash wholer, front loader. DSK (HC 1) 10 ft. w/ram. Call 734-7508.
WANTED TO BUY 25000 bush grain. Please call 208-788-5348.
TRACTOR, 1951 Ferguson, TO 30, in excellent cond. Call 734-5393.
TRACTOR, 1967-80s Wheatland w/ive hydraulics & lg. heavy duty Dual loader. DSK (HC 1) 10 ft. w/ram. Call 734-7508.
WANTED TO BUY 25000 bush grain. Please call 208-788-5348.
WANTED TO BUY old or small manure spreaders, 210 or ground drive, working or non-working condition. 324-5858.

705 IRRIGATION
PIVOT, '98 Zimatic, 3 tower, 650 ft. Complete w/pump, panel, bubble screen & dragon filter. Price, \$16,000. 734-5491.
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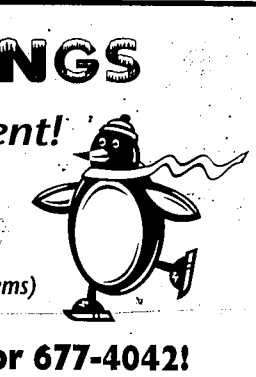
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The Times-News

Call 733-0931 Ext.2 or 677-4042!



HAY - 3rd & 4th, 2-trail - 110 lb. bales, Will sell small amounts. 323-5082

HAY - 3rd cutting, small bales - Any amount, approx. 23 tons. 543-5770

HAY - 80 ton 3rd crop dry hay in 1/2 ton bales. Call 544-2518

HAY - Approx. 200 ton small bales. \$90 per ton. Call afternoons 324-4247

HAY 2nd & 3rd, 50 ton ea. Sm bales. Exc. quality and cond. Covered. 543-6065

HAY dairy & feeder, cut hay & straw, large bales. Call 731-3471 days. 734-3589 evns

HAY QUALITY 1st crop 50 tons, 80 tons 3rd & 4th crop 75 lb bales. 578-2015

HAY - Wanting to buy quality 4th cutting dry hay. 736-7630 leave msg.

HAY (121) 1 ton bales, (407) am. bales, 1/4 am. quantities. Call 324-2157

HAY, 200 1 ton bales, 1st & 3rd. \$75 per piece. Call 934-5245 or 539-5244

HAY, 4th & 5th cutting, ham stacked or lapped, last from 200-240 PFW, \$120 delivered. Call 324-7148

HAY, 5 ton covered grass hay, \$80 per ton, Any quantity. Call 524-7401

HAY, New seeding, dairy & feeder, 1st, 50 ton X 540, 2nd, 220 PFW, 20 ton X 395. Call 208-634-5443

STRAW for sale, small bales, any amount. 829-4115, 420-6452

802 APPLIANCES

ELECTRIC RANGES, (2) white, \$50 each. Call Tracy at 733-6503

WASHER DRYER, GE, 1 year old, \$400 for pair. Cash. Call 208-328-2208 or days 208-324-2805

WASHER/DRYER set, Kenmore exc. cond. \$250. Single washer, \$125. Warranty. 736-4825

WASHER/DRYER, stack set, \$200. Small 5 cubic ft. FRIGER. \$100. Please call 208-326-6871.

804 BUILDING MATERIALS

GRANITE SHEETS, finished, 6 1/2' X 6 1/2' X 1 1/2" for \$4000. Call 887-1819

805 COMPUTERS

COMPAQ Pentium, WIN98, 56 K modem, CD-ROM, speakers, monitor. \$349. Call 733-1110.

810 FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD - hardwood, mixed, 6 cu. yd., will deliver. Call 208-735-5425

FIREWOOD/Cut up hard- wood \$30/PU load. \$120 call. You PU. 324-7697

FIREWOOD, mixed, up to cords at \$125 per cord, split & delivered. 324-3681

811 FURNITURE & CARPET

BED - King size like new England Latex, \$500 w/fram. 934-8124

DAY BED, exc. cond., brand new mattress, \$175/offer. 324-9425

QUEEN SIZE PILLOW TOP MATTRESS SET Still in plastic, \$260.00. 734-8881

RECLINERS - 2 trp size, good cond., neutral color, \$200/offer. 324-6902.

SOFA - loveseat & chair, light blue, 1 oak coffee table, 2 oak end tables & 2 table lamps, \$400. 733-2138 or 734-2731 Lynn

812 HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

COAL LUMP & STOKER Moon's Inc. Hansen 423-5533

WOOD STOVE - (3) 1 As- pion, 1 Timberline 1-Butler. Call 734-4691

817 MISC FOR SALE

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MISC., New Laker's cast- men's M. H. 5. Little Tykes car bed w/ mattress, \$125. 326-8626.

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This birthday ad you placed some time ago in The Times-News? Now is the time to come pick up your pictures. Stop by The Customer Service Dept. today!

FREE 2 adult cats, 1 male, outdoor cat, 1 female, indoor cat. Shes & Bob "fixed". Call 737-1474

GO CART 5 hp, 6 years old. Call 644-1730

PLAY STATION II for sale, \$480 or best offer. Please call 208-739-6266

SMITH Corona PFW, 4150 word processor, used very little, \$200. 423-4377

TRACTORS, JD 8's, beautifully restored. Would make super Christmas present. Call 731-4691

WANTED to buy older small manure spreaders, PTO or ground drive, working or non-working condition. 324-9850.

818 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS

ELECTRIC GUITAR, Fender Squire, 6 string w/GX15 Crae amp, incl. carrying bag, strap & video, new cond. \$275/offer. 543-6201

PIANO Kimball Spinet, \$1000. Call 324-5598.

PIANO MOVING \$775-1298

USED Grand Digital Con- sole, Spinet & Old Upright pianos. Call 734-8115

WANTED TO BUY A PIANO WHEN YOU CAN HENIT? Call Keith Jorgensen 733-1298.

819 OFFICE EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES

DESK - Executive, retail \$200 will sell for \$100. Never used. 733-5313.

820 PETS & SUPPLIES

AUSTRALIAN SHEPHERD pups, ready now. New Years pups. Intelligent, beautifully marked, 6 weeks. First shots. \$75. Call 543-2235.

CHESAPEAKE BAY RETRIEVERS, 2 males, 1 female. Call 543-5413 or 490-1151.

FREE 2 adult cats, 1 male, outdoor cat, 1 female, indoor cat. Shes & Bob "fixed". Call 737-1474

FREE Huskie Puppies, 5 males & 2 females. Call 324-4101

FREE To a good home, 6 mos. old black female. Purbred. \$38-4637

FREE, Female Heeler X, 1 yr. old, spayed & docked, \$400. I have enough time to work with her. Please call 536-6639 or 324-2741.

GERMAN Shorthair, AKC, snow white, female, 6 wks. \$350. Call 324-5062

GOLDEN RETRIEVER Puppies AKC. Beautiful, exc. companions. \$275. 456-5627 or 413-7223

Heeler puppies, \$75. Born Oct. 3rd, 1 male, 1 female. Call 732-5450

LABS, AKC/Choccolate pups, strong champ lines, OFA hips. \$300. 324-2654

LABS, Black & Choccolate, Reg. AKC. \$250. 543-6111

LABS, Choccolate, AKC, sheltie, doclaws, hip & eye guaranteed. Grand sire is 1992 National Field Champion. Exceptional bloodlines. Male, 1 yr. old, \$350. 208-463-0323. Tampa

LABS, Choccolate, do- clawed, shets & AKC pup, \$200 call 324-9057

Lab male, yellow/Golden Lab puppy, blue collar name is Tucker. Lost in Jerome 4th Ave. W. LAKEVIEW/ARIZO 324-8783.

POODLES - AKC TINY 10 1/2" male - \$300 and 1 female - \$200. Call 543-5205

RED Heeler puppies out of working parents. Call 731-7191

SHIH TZU, 8 1/2 weeks old, male, AKC. Call evenings. 536-5727

WANTED: Puppy for little lady as hers is dying. Preferable 12 weeks old. Kind of like hers. (Mixed Poodle & Pomaranian). Call 536-2936, message.

WEIMARANER 54 of 60 champion, hips x-rayed, OFA. 1 female, 2 males. \$450. 735-1145

WANTED - Pop and Candy machine and small concession trailer. Call 678-0477 or 678-7723.

WANTED 16" aluminum boat w/trailer. With or without motor. 544-2662

WANTED 7000 bushels of shell com. Call 825-5667

WANTED Mattress/Box springs. All good clean, bike baskets? "The Way Living With Love", horse decorative items, card table and collection. Call 733-1322 or 733-9688

827 GARAGE SALES

INDOOR Filler Flea Market at Twin Falls County Fair Grounds Jan. 6th & 7th Vendors Wanted 532-4439 - Free Admission

WANTED TO BUY - Older Fender guitar amplifiers. Any cond. Call 326-3623 or 539-9876.

WANTED TO BUY 16 ft. travel trailer in top cond. Please call 208-734-7608.

WANTED to buy - Used football table and used 3 1/2" dia. ping-pong. 543-4546

WANTED TO BUY: Woodan Vanity. Call 734-6731

WANTED TO BUY: Building materials. 2X6, metal siding, plywood, particle board, chain link fence. Please call 208-733-9536

WANTED to buy: Used snowboard, in good cond. Call 324-5458

WANTED - AKC MINI- Schnauzer for stud service. Call 734-4212.

WANTED: Decorations, service & campaign medals, -gram, items for named or numbered pieces. Please call Paul Nutting 733-1531

WANTED: Duck & Goose log bands. Will pay \$10 each. I will pick up. Call 934-5832, message.

WANTED: linear sugar 4 wheelers for Christmas. Any condition. 733-5471.

WANTED: Flow Control Structures, 0' or 10". Phone 326-5157 or 326-4563.

828 MEDICAL SUPPLIES

MECHANICAL BED Queen size, exc. cond. \$675/offer. 324-2037

829 Recreation

901 ATVS/MOTORCYCLES

HONDA 50R, kit bike, like new, \$750. Call 644-1541.

904 CAMPER/SHELLS

USED CAMPER SHELLS Quality condition. Many sizes/models. Must sell. 678-0103

905 GUNS/RIFLES

BROWNING BPS 10 ga. Shadow Guns. 28" Barrel. \$450. Call 324-7681

906 HOT TUBS/POOLS

SPAS & POOLS Previously owned. Shadow Guns. 28" Barrel. Snake River Pool & Spa

907 MOTOR HOMES & RVs

FIREBALL, 1973, 23 ft. motorhome, low mileage, good cond. Call 734-2027

WILDERNESS, 2000, 27 ft. Queen bunk beds, used three times, stored under shed, call 736-0989

908 SNOW VEHICLES & EQUIPMENT

E-MAIL your classified ad to us at twinnad@micron.net

INDOOR Filler Flea Market at Twin Falls County Fair Grounds Jan. 6th & 7th Vendors Wanted 532-4439 - Free Admission

909 SNOW BLOWERS

POLARIS 650, 1992, lots of extras, only 1,800 miles. \$1500 or best offer. Must sell. Call 644-9656

POWDER Special 600, 1998, 1995 2R 700, 2000 S&B Snow Blower, 2000 Thundercat. All have extra fuel. Call 829-5227 or 731-6379

SNOW BLOWER 7 1/2" ft with mount Honda 5.5 hp snow blower. \$795. 324-0011.

Get something to snaf! Sell at the low cost way - with classified 733-9531

SNOW RIDER snowmobile suit. Brand new, never worn. 2 piece. XXL. New \$350. Will sell for \$150. 735-9168 or 732-6064

SNOWMOBILE RENTALS Finally. Snow in Here!! Call Z Boys 734-7552

SNOWMOBILE III, trlr, 2 piece 8x10" see at the RV Barn. 4120 Addison Ave. W. 5475. 733-3358

1002 AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES

TIRES (4) 235x85 R16, Fir- onstone steel radials Mounted on Ford wheels & T. \$450. 1 set wheels w/whoops. \$300. Call 829-5190 after 5pm

1005 ANTIQUE AUTOS & COLLECTIBLES

CHEVY, 5-10, V-8, conversion auto. Iberglass tonneau cover. Iberglass wheels. Days 733-1128. Evenings 734-4793

FORD '11, Top 1965, 552 4 spd., new brakes & gear. \$1500/offer. 734-9743

FORD, 63, Thunder Bird 40K miles, 1/2 ton. \$9,000. Call 837-6614

1008 SEMI & HEAVY EQUIPMENT

ISUZU, FSR, 1990, turbo diesel, 6 cyl. 6 spd. Rating: 16 ft. 24 qv. looks & runs great. \$99,900. Call 733-1441

JLG, 1 man upright lift, 1996, 20 ft. Ecce Like new! \$2900. 867-1919

JOHN DEERE 544 G 3rd load, cab, rhd control, 4 yd. 700 lbs. exc. cond. \$40,500. Call 539-5839

ZIEMAN, 24' trailer, air-brakes, call lights been used. \$5900. 867-1919

1007 TRUCKS

CHEVY '83 4 door, V-8, runs good. \$2900. Call 898-7623

DODGE '93 2 WD with automatic. Possible financing. 733-8593

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\$18,800 STOCK #460110

SAVE \$5,105⁰⁰

2000 Mercury Villager Sport

\$21,347 STOCK #460119

SAVE \$5,353⁰⁰

2000 Mercury Villager Estate

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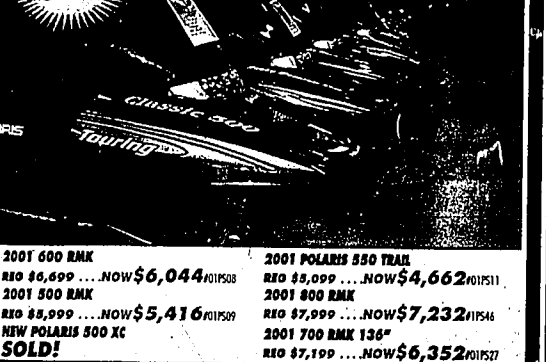
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T030A	2000 Toyota Tundra SR5 Access Cab 4D 4x4 V8	\$31,515	\$30,950
P3236	2000 Pontiac Sunfire SE Sedan 4D	\$13,225	\$12,390
P3234	2000 Pontiac Sunfire SE Sedan 4D	\$13,525	\$12,473
P3111	2000 Pontiac Montana Extended Minivan	\$22,020	\$18,977
P3231	2000 Pontiac Grand Am SE Sedan 4D	\$14,240	\$13,670
P3230	2000 Pontiac Grand Am SE Sedan 4D	\$14,530	\$13,890
P3086	2000 Pontiac Bonneville SE Sedan 4D	\$21,525	\$19,893
P3239	2000 Oldsmobile Silhouette GL Extended Minivan	\$22,680	\$19,980
P3199	2000 Oldsmobile Alero GL Sedan 4D	\$16,190	\$13,748
P3197	2000 Oldsmobile Alero GL Sedan 4D	\$16,665	\$13,490
O160A	2000 Mazda B4000 4WD SE Cab Plus 4D	\$21,005	\$19,470
P3245	2000 Chevrolet Venture Extended Minivan 4D	\$24,005	\$19,975
P3218	2000 Chevrolet Venture Extended Minivan 4D	\$22,245	\$19,480
30P3040	2000 Buick Century Custom 4D	\$17,105	\$15,590
P3129	2000 Chevrolet Malibu LS Sedan 4D	\$18,515	\$14,933
P3207	2000 Chevrolet Lumina Sedan 4D	\$14,950	\$13,943
P3205	2000 Chevrolet Lumina Sedan 4D	\$14,505	\$13,477
P3147	2000 Chevrolet Impala Sedan 4D	\$17,875	\$16,380
X1017	2000 Chevrolet Cavalier Sedan 4D	\$13,690	\$12,500
P3214	2000 Chevrolet Blazer Sport Utility 4D	\$23,795	\$18,995
P3216	2000 Chevrolet Astro Minivan 3D, AWD	\$25,290	\$18,995
P3169	2000 Chevrolet Astro Minivan 3D	\$24,565	\$19,500
P3185	2000 Cadillac DeVille Sedan 4D	\$37,870	\$29,975
P3226	2000 Buick Regal LS Sedan 4D	\$19,095	\$17,580
P3092	2000 Buick LeSabre Custom Sedan 4D	\$20,530	\$19,580
P3143	1999 Saturn SL2 Sedan 4D	\$12,995	\$11,495
X1030	1999 Pontiac Bonneville SE Sedan 4D	\$17,720	\$14,995
P3060	1999 Plymouth Breeze Sedan 4D	\$12,380	\$11,985
P3066	1999 Nissan Altima GXE Sedan 4D	\$15,165	\$13,300
1140A	1999 Ford Pickup F350 Super Duty Crew Cab Long, 4x4	\$25,100	\$23,900
P3056	1999 Ford Mustang Coupe 2D	\$15,765	\$14,993
O227A	1999 Chevrolet Tahoe Sport Utility 4x4	\$34,040	\$28,900
1063A	1999 Chevrolet Pickup Silverado 1500 Ext Cab, Short Bed, 4x4	\$26,365	\$25,390
1044A	1999 Chevrolet Pickup Silverado 1500 Ext Cab, Short Bed, 4x4	\$27,895	\$25,680
P3076	1999 Chevrolet Monte Carlo LS Coupe 2D	\$15,800	\$13,588
P2893	1999 Chevrolet Monte Carlo LS Coupe 2D	\$15,840	\$12,950
P3095	1999 Chevrolet Malibu LS Sedan 4D	\$16,875	\$12,995
P3016	1999 Buick Regal LS Sedan 4D	\$19,120	\$16,923
P2948	1999 Buick Park Avenue Sedan 4D	\$25,005	\$20,700
P3203	2000 Chevrolet Cavalier 4D	\$13,050	\$9,995
1097A	1998 Ford Explorer Sport Utility 4D	\$21,570	\$18,765
P3055	1998 Ford Escort LX Sedan 4D	\$8,300	\$8,100
1074A	1997 GMC Pickup Sonoma Club Coupe 4x4	\$14,260	\$12,850
1002A	1997 Ford Mustang Coupe 2D	\$13,835	\$12,875
P3278A	1997 Chrysler Sebring LXI Convertible 2D	\$17,245	\$14,388
P2959A	1996 Oldsmobile Ciera SL Sedan 4D	\$8,100	\$7,450
P3063	1996 Buick Century Wagon 4D	\$8,300	\$7,988
O252A	1995 Subaru Legacy LS Wagon 4D, AWD	\$12,160	\$10,950
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