



The Times-News

Twin Falls, Idaho/96th year, No. 28

Sunday, January 28, 2001

\$1.50

GOOD MORNING



Brides

Getting married soon? Check out the special section inside today's Times-News

WEATHER

Today: Low clouds and fog this morning, then mostly sunny. High 34. Partly cloudy tonight. Low 16.

Page A2

MAGIC VALLEY



Skilling the rails: Cross-country skiers and their canines skied the rails Saturday.

Page B1

MONEY

Taxes 2001: The Internal Revenue Service continues to struggle with legal reforms aimed at giving taxpayers more rights.

Page E1

SPORTS

Super Sunday: It's time for the big NFL showdown.

Page C1

OPINION

Teacher's pet? A bill to establish some teacher accountability in Idaho is long overdue, today's editorial says.

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Room to grow in

CSI prepares for expansion, sets sights on new buildings

By Jennifer Sandmann
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Growth at the College of Southern Idaho has reached the point that school officials say it's time to move to develop across North College Road.

The CSI governing board agrees the college should begin to plan for infrastructure development on the Breckenridge farmland north of campus. In the meantime, at least two more buildings and one build-

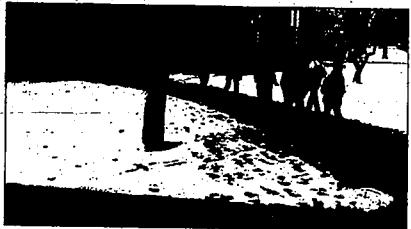
ing expansion are planned for the existing campus. And the board will be asked Monday to consider a proposal for an additional non-CSI building on campus.

A number of issues will guide the board's decision.

The Prime Time Foundation, raising money for a badly needed new Twin Falls Senior Citizen Center, is asking to build on campus.

The South Central District Health Department and the Boys

Please see CSI, Page A9



College of Southern Idaho students leave the Shields building after class Friday. The campus landscape is viewed by CSI as a community asset that should be preserved. The guidpost for keeping it that way involves maintaining campus open space through low-density development, according to the college's 1998 master plan.

Students get jazzed up



Eric Skidmore, right, music instructor at Hillcrest High School, paces while his students play one of three jazz songs Saturday at the College of Southern Idaho Jazz Summit 2001. Jazz bands from around the state took part in the event.

Professionals help fellow musicians discover right 'stuff'

By Ruth Stroeter
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - Jazz greats Cole Porter and Victor Lopez got them plenty fired up, but Wood River High School's jazz musicians lacked passion and longing in George Gershwin's "Embraceable You."

Giving his solo a second shot, one Wood River saxophonist

nailed it.

"That's it, that's the stuff!" jazz musician Kristin Korb told the jazz band Saturday at the College of Southern Idaho Jazz Summit.

Junior and senior high school students from around the state got lessons in their genre this weekend from jazz musicians who know their art.

"It was really helpful to realize

there's a lot more out there than at the high school level," said Wood River saxophonist Layne Stoops, 18. "To see that art there is really encouraging."

The summit wasn't competitive, but Korb said she hopes students learn skills and find inspiration the same way she did at that age.

"I want them to be excited about this music," Korb said.

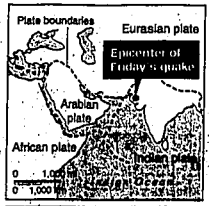
Giving pointers to Wood River's brass players, Boise State University educator Rob Walker advised them to make their music speak.

"Think about using punctuation when you play," Walker said. "You've got technique, now let's use some pausing. Use some conversation with the audience."

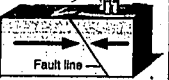
Please see JAZZ, Page A2

When plates collide

Earth's crust consists of several plates of solid rock that slowly move and interact along seams called plate boundaries. Earthquakes commonly occur along these boundaries as well as along fault lines within the plates, called intraplate earthquakes. An intraplate earthquake is what occurred in India.



A thrust or reverse fault
When movement occurs along a fault line ...



... compression occurs ...



... and the surface above the fault moves up relative to the surface below the fault.

Source: U.S. Geological Survey National Earthquake Information Wm. J. Carrizo, B. Hoffmann/AP Center; Incorporated Research Institutions for Seismology

Quake death toll soars

Official says 13,000 died in disaster

The Associated Press

AHMEDABAD, India - Desperate rescue workers climbed steep mountains of debris and screamed into the crevices Saturday, hoping for some sign of life from thousands trapped by western India's devastating earthquake. About 2,500 bodies had been recovered, and one official said the death toll would end up reaching 13,000.

While thousands of rescuers clawed at the rubble and hope faded, stunned survivors of Friday's 7.9-magnitude quake slept in the open, panicking as more than 80 aftershocks rippled through the hardest-hit state, Gujarat. Most had no water, food or medicine. Others refused to



Ketaki Parikh watches rescue workers dig through the rubble of her collapsed building Saturday in Ahmedabad, India. Parikh said two of her relatives were still missing following Friday's earthquake.

eat, keeping a tearful vigil as emergency workers' drills bit into concrete in search of their buried loved ones.

At 6:45 a.m. Sunday, a fresh

Please see QUAKE, Page A2

Local control

Land Board seeks comment on S. Idaho management plan

By N.S. Nokkentved
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - A proposal to the state Land Board would turn over management of a chunk of federal land in southern Idaho to local residents.

Proponents say it would streamline management.

Critics say it's a way to avoid federal land management laws.

A governor's task force in December 2000 presented the state Land Board five 15-year pilot projects for local control of federal lands. The Land Board is accepting public comment on the proposals before considering them further.

One of those proposals would put the management of 1.3 million acres of public land in the Magic Valley into the hands of a committee of five people - three appointed by the governor, and one each appointed by federal agriculture and interior secretaries, on the governor's advice.

The proposal would consolidate management of the Twin Falls and Burley ranger districts of the Sawtooth National Forest and most of the Bureau of Land Management's Burley district under a single authority.

Critics say the proposal is nothing more than a thinly veiled effort to avoid existing federal laws that govern public land management. But Task Force Working Group chairman Bill Myers says the intent is to make the management more efficient, not to avoid or change existing laws.

The task force was commissioned by the governor's office in 1996 to look at ways of increasing state involvement in federal lands management.

Simpler management

Myers says the proposal would simplify management on federal land, by inserting a committee between federal land managers and their bosses.

Please see LAND, Page A2

Want to be heard?

Public comment on a proposal to turn over federal land to local control will be taken until Wednesday. Comments should be sent to Susan Terry, Idaho Department of Federal Lands, 954 W. Jefferson Street, Boise, ID, 83720, or e-mail to: sterry@id.state.id.us



NATION

Energy leaders fight to keep electricity on

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Power-starved California lurched into Super Bowl weekend under a "brown-out" electricity alert as state officials, utility executives and consumer groups lashed privately Saturday in their ongoing effort to keep the lights on.

The state manager of California's electricity grid declared a Stage 3 emergency through the weekend, which means reserves dipped to 15 percent or less statewide.

The Independent System Operator said it did not anticipate rolling blackouts during the weekend, but urged Californians to keep up conservation efforts that have had an effect on the state grid estimated at about 1,000 megawatts daily.

Efforts for reducing electrical demand have ranged from shifting of laundry loads until off-peak hours to suggestions that people get together for Super Bowl-watching parties. The parties would happen anyway, but sports enthusiasts said they might help.

"I think it's a good idea," said Barry Penk, owner of Rockies an OceanSide sports bar with 60 TV sets. "Our energy usage for tomorrow will be the same if one person or 300 people come to watch the game so that's 300 houses that saved all that energy."

ISO spokeswoman Stephanie McCorkle said the hottest TV day of the year likely would have little impact on energy supplies.

"Nope, it's not factored into our load forecasts for Sunday. It may mean slightly more megawatts, but not enough to make a difference," she said.

Although blackouts were not expected, many businesses still faced the prospect of being ordered to cut power under agreements to do so in return for favorable rates. Some 1,200 businesses were cut Friday in Southern California, where rolling blackouts have been avoided so far.

Southern California Edison warned, however, that the situation could change in its territory because of a state Public Utilities Commission decision Friday to suspend financial penalties imposed on "interruptible customers" who refuse to shut down.

Those businesses need relief, "but our customers' cooperation is the main reason our system has avoided rolling blackouts to date," SoCal Edison said in a statement.

At the state Capitol, negotiators were signing Saturday to reach agreement on a rescue plan that would stave off bankruptcy for utilities and assure enough electricity to avoid blackouts.

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Fever	Sometimes	NO	Sometimes
Headache	Sometimes	Sometimes	Sometimes
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Search for missing atheist yields bones

CAMP WOOD, Texas (AP) — Federal agents unearthed human bones Saturday during a search of the ranch where missing atheist leader Madalyn Murray O'Hair and her family are believed to have been buried more than three years ago, the FBI said.

"We have what appears to be a long bone, maybe a femur, that is of substantial size and appears to be cut off on one end," said Roderick Beverly, special agent-in-charge of the FBI's San Antonio division. "We also found what appears to be finger bones and parts of a hand."

"The bones appeared to be charred like they were set on fire," Beverly said.

Burnt fabric was also found buried with the bones.

Investigators believe O'Hair, her son and grand daughter were killed, dismembered and dumped on the 5,000-acre south Texas ranch in 1995, although previous searches of the property failed to find any bodies.

Beverly would not comment on whether the chief suspect in their disappearance was implicated in Saturday's search. David Ronald Waters was to have gone on trial this week, but he made an agreement with prosecutors Wednesday.

A law enforcement source who spoke on condition of anonymity confirmed to The Associated Press that Waters was taken to the site Saturday. His two lawyers also were present.

Official says slowdown won't bring recession

DAVOS, Switzerland (AP) — The U.S. economic slowdown will cur the global growth rate but shouldn't drag financial markets into recession, a key financial official said Saturday as police turned water cannons on anti-globalization protesters nearby.

Because of the recent U.S. slowdown, the International Monetary Fund is revising its prediction of last September that the global economy would grow 4.2 percent, IMF Deputy Director Stanley Fischer said.

The new prediction will be considerably lower, "possibly in the range of 3.5 percent," he told the World Economic Forum in this ritzy Alpine ski resort. But, he added, "we are a long way from a global recession."

Also Saturday, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshizo Mori assured world business and government leaders that his country's economic rebound was nearly complete.

Japan has already been solidly laid, "Mori said, "and determined to follow this path and implement the timely policy responses that will lead the Japanese economy to a full recovery."

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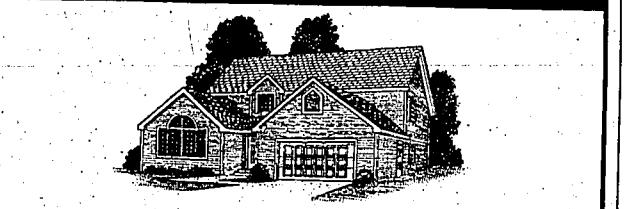
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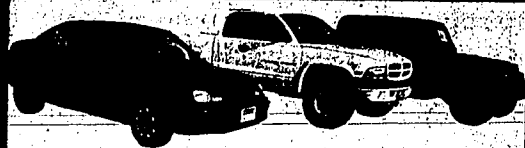
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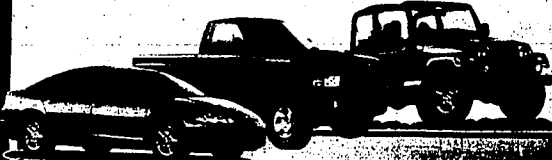
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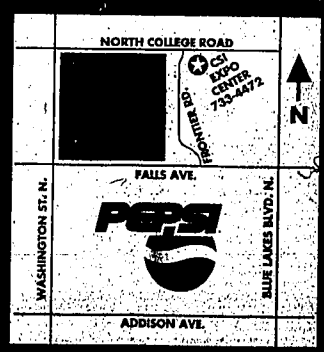
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NATION

Farming's chronic woes confront the new USDA chief

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — At least once a day, a U.S. Department of Agriculture employee uses a magic marker to update the price of hogs, cotton, feeder cattle and other commodities on a shiny white board outside the Office of the Secretary.

It's a kind of quick-reference fever chart of American agriculture, and when newly confirmed Secretary Ann Veneman arrived Monday for her first day on the job, it showed a slowly recovering patient. After a steep drop several years ago, many farm prices have been rising and exports are turning up slightly.

Nonetheless, the patient is suffering from chronic problems Veneman will soon have to address. Since 1996, the federal government has shelled out a record-shattering \$71 billion in direct payments to farmers,

despite a farm bill that year that was supposed to scale back the government's role in agriculture.

Frequent spending bills snuffed with "emergency" payments to farmers — last year's totaled an unprecedented \$8.8 billion — have become standard fare on Capitol Hill, adding to the deluge of money going out under regular support programs. Department economists estimate that every other dollar now going into the pockets of farmers comes from U.S. taxpayers.

"I'm not embarrassed by the size of payments because an awful lot of farmers would not have survived without them," former agriculture secretary Dan Glickman said just before leaving office. But he said the payments "can't be sustained forever," and called for "an intellectual debate" about the purpose of the farm programs before the current farm bill expires in 2002.



Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman

"The farm program hasn't really solved the problem of rural population loss or land conservation protection. If our objective is to keep small- or medium-sized farmers on the land, we're clearly not doing that with the farm programs we've got now," he said.

An even broader critique is contained in a private research paper circulating in Congress and at the department. Produced by Virginia-based Sparks Cos. and cited by Sen. Richard G. Lugar, R-Ind., at Veneman's confirmation hearing, the report contends that farm policy is clouded by

"rhetorical smoke and mirrors" and ignores a central reality: 72 percent of U.S. food production comes from a small core of 157,000 commercial farmers who are so efficient they can make money even when commodity prices are depressed.

While the government programs tend to be gray for these farmers, the study argues, they provide less help than needed for the 185,000 smaller, less efficient operations whose owners get more than half their income from off-farm jobs.

Meanwhile, the paper contends, the generous federal funding has simply encouraged farmers to keep overproducing, adding to a glut of unsold commodities, keeping prices depressed, disrupting global trade — and providing a rationale for a new round of government payments.

"The key issue for the new

administration will be the new farm bill, and trying to figure whether they want a program that makes sense, or to just keep the money flowing," said Kenneth Cook, president of the watchdog Environmental Working Group.

Fortunately for Veneman, it seems unlikely Congress will push to rewrite the 1996 farm bill this year, a year before it expires.

The Clinton administration did little to address farming's broad and long-standing problems. That's largely because Congress, not the White House, sets farm policy these days, and the big bloc of Senate Democrats from the Midwest and Great Plains aren't enthusiastic about a debate that could raise questions about federal funding to farmers.

But in other ways, the administration made big changes at USDA. The Agriculture Department has 23,000 fewer

employees and 1,000 fewer offices than it did when President Clinton took office in 1993, reflecting the administration's campaign to streamline the federal bureaucracy. And due to an aggressive effort to eliminate vestiges of resistance to civil rights reforms, 21 percent of its 107,000 employees are minorities.

In addition to retraining more minorities, disabled and women, the department settled a class-action lawsuit by African American farmers alleging years of discrimination in farm programs. But several racial and gender-based suits filed by employees against USDA remain.

In key areas, the department has reached out to consumers and the environmental community after years of being criticized for a cozy relationship with the agribusiness industries it regulates.

Ashcroft fight sets battle lines for judge nominations

WASHINGTON (AP) — The fight over John Ashcroft's nomination as attorney general is a preview of the ideological and political contests sure to surround any conservative President Bush may select for the Supreme Court, those on both sides of the Ashcroft battle agree.

Although even his harshest critics concede that the deeply conservative former Missouri senator is likely to be confirmed to head the Justice Department, liberal groups and some senators hope to rough him up in the process.



Attorney general nominee John Ashcroft

Democrats on the Senate Judiciary Committee delayed a vote on Ashcroft until this week, and have had him busy answering more than 260 written questions in the meantime.

Opponents hope that an early, tough nomination battle may help dissuade Bush from naming strong conservative ideologists to the Supreme Court.

"The effort on Ashcroft will send a warning to the Bush administration early on that we will not stand by if he nominates judges hostile to civil rights and liberties," said Nan Aron, head of the Alliance for Justice, an umbrella organization for liberal causes that was a prime opponent to the Supreme Court nomination of Robert Bork, whom the Senate rejected.

Ashcroft, who lost re-election in November, is the most conservative of Bush's Cabinet choices, and the nomination fight has partisan juices flowing on both sides.

"They don't hope to defeat him. They hope to send a strong signal to George Bush that he better not name anything conservative to the Supreme Court," Ashcroft defender Sen. Jon Kyl said before bitter Senate hearings.

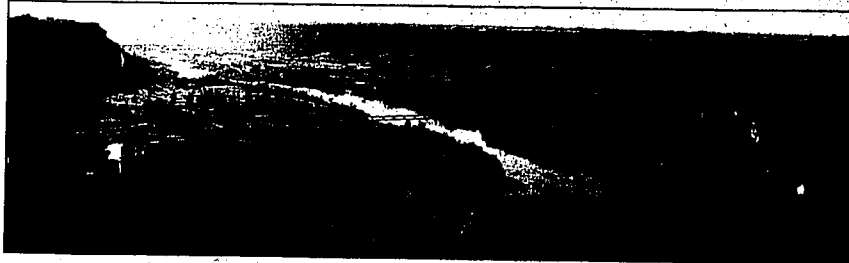
Numerous liberal interest groups — including the NAACP, Planned Parenthood Federation of America and the civil liberties group People for the American Way — are pressuring Democratic senators to oppose Ashcroft's nomination.

Those groups would surely line up the same way against a very conservative Bush cabinet nominee, and make many of the same arguments. The Ashcroft opposition also includes some other groups traditionally friendly to Democrats, such as environmental, labor and gun control supporters, that might not normally align for a court nomination fight.

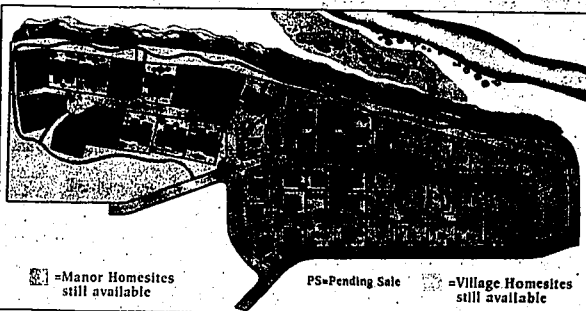
No Republicans in the evenly divided Senate have expressed opposition and while a few Democrats have announced they intend to vote against Ashcroft, several others say they will support him.

On Tuesday, People for the American Way delivered petitions to Capitol Hill with more than 150,000 signatures collected from its anti-Ashcroft Web site. It is running a \$250,000 newspaper advertising campaign this week. Abortion rights groups are running radio ads and Internet campaigns.

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Week One

Democrats aid Bush in first week

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush struck to popular themes of education and bipartisanship, sidestepped an abortion issue and ended with his Oval Office decor and aided by Democrats, closed out his critical first week wearing the blush of a honeymoon.

"Welcome to people's house!" Bush gushed to the House freshmen he invited to lunch in the State Dining Room on Friday. "Here we are in week one. I hope you're as enthused about your job as I am about mine."

The Republican president who campaigned on a notion of working with Democrats gauged his timing start a success based on numbers: 11 meetings with more than 90 members of Congress (including 29 Democrats), a dozen Democratic Party elders, and 17 governors from 12 states.

Bush also chalked up 12 Senate votes confirming his Cabinet picks, exchanged courtesies by telephone with 12 foreign leaders, and eased into foreign policy setting tete-a-tetes with heads of state from Mexico, Canada and Britain.

On a lighthearted note, Bush, who has settled into a routine of getting to the Oval Office by 7 a.m. and working until around 6 p.m., reported that his pets were so adjusting. "The cat that was on the first night is now more comfortable with her territory, so she's sleeping through the night," he chuckled.

In his redecorated Oval Office, he ordered a watercolor of boy scouts replaced with a California scene. Real problem was the cat did not erupt, allowing Bush focus on the education proposals he sent to Congress on Tuesday.

Two of Bush's biggest scores were serendipitous. Democratic Sen. Zell Miller of Georgia agreed to lend his name — and a partisan boost — to the president's \$1.6 trillion plan for tax cuts. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan "thrilled" the White House by giving tax relief his own surprise blessing. "First lady Laura Bush was a mostly silent partner, making no marks when she and her husband visited a local school. The former librarian spoke up in a Roosevelt Room policy meeting with reading experts only after the president left, according to participants. Vice President Cheney was a



President Bush enters the Oval Office for the first time as president, Jan. 20. Also seen are Chief of Staff Andy Card, left, and Walker Bush, 11, the son of Marjorie and Margaret Bush.

More Clinton controversy: Bush and charity — A10

more forceful presence, inaugurating offices on both the Senate and House sides of Capitol Hill, plus a weekly lunch with the president in his private dining room. Aides said Cheney sat in on Bush's every meeting, including the domestic policy and economic briefings he received each afternoon.

"I guess the biggest, most pleasant surprise, if you'd call it, that was how receptive members of Congress are to come here to the White House to talk about how we can work together — figuring out if we can't exceed the expectations that now exist around the country that nothing's going to get done."

Democrats who sat down with Bush were unanimous — if not a bit envious — in grading him since.

"This fella is going about it as if he really believes he can make a difference," said Robert Strauss, a former Democratic Party chairman. "He's had a reasonably sure-footed week. I think it probably surprised some people in town, but he's always been blessed with being underestimated. It's a great thing when expectations are low."

Rep. Ben Cardin, D-Md., observed that Bush seemed to be adjusting to the presidential weight now given to his every utterance and said several times in one Cabinet Room meeting,

"You know, I was just kidding." But Democrats were put on guard by two abortion-related pronouncements that bracketed the week and showed Bush rewarding anti-abortion conservatives at the core of his political operation while trying to appear middle-of-the-road.

He used his first work day to ban U.S. foreign aid to family-planning groups that use private money to support abortion rights.

There, the new White House showed an old-hand's knack at spin control.

Press secretary Ari Fleischer said the abortion order was not news, just the keeping of a campaign promise. Bush described his executive memorandum as keeping taxpayer money from paying for abortions. Family-planning activists, noting that U.S. funds are already so barred by statute, called his a specious argument designed to disguise the move as moderate.

Before leaving for dinner Friday, Bush said federal money should not be used for research on fetal tissue or on stem cells derived from abortions.

President promotes school plan in his first radio address

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush, in the first radio address of his administration, said Saturday he wants to give lagging schools the support they need to improve, but warned he must see results.

"My plan will give every failing school a fair chance to improve," Bush said, promoting proposals sent last week to Congress. "But there will be a deadline, a moment of truth when parents are given better options and their children are given a way out."

Responding for Democrats, House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt of Missouri said he is glad Bush shares the goal of improving schools. But he assailed the idea of allowing parents to use federal money to pay for private schooling.

"Vouchers drain funds from failing schools at the very moment when schools need these resources the most; this could

leave children behind," Gephardt said.

"We hope President Bush will work with both parties on legislation to invest in and build up public schools and give every child the opportunity he or she deserves," Gephardt said.

Democrats said they have the votes to block the president's contested idea — a federally funded voucher for children in the worst performing schools that would pay for private tuition or tutoring.

And Bush signaled possible flexibility on that part of his education plan.

"There are some honest differences of opinion in Congress about what form these options should take," he said. "I have my own plan which would help children in persistently failing schools to go to another public, private or charter school. Others suggest different approaches, and I am willing to listen."

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Senate to debate McCain's bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — A campaign finance legislation championed by Sen. John McCain will be brought to the Senate floor in mid- to late March, Majority Leader Trent Lott says.

The arrangement meets McCain's insistence that the measure come up for a vote early in the year, and Lott said it also

gives President Bush "the opportunity that I thought he deserved... to roll out his agenda." McCain, R-Ariz., and the bill's co-sponsor, Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., will travel Monday to Arkansas for the first in a series of town hall-style sessions designed to pressure wavering lawmakers.

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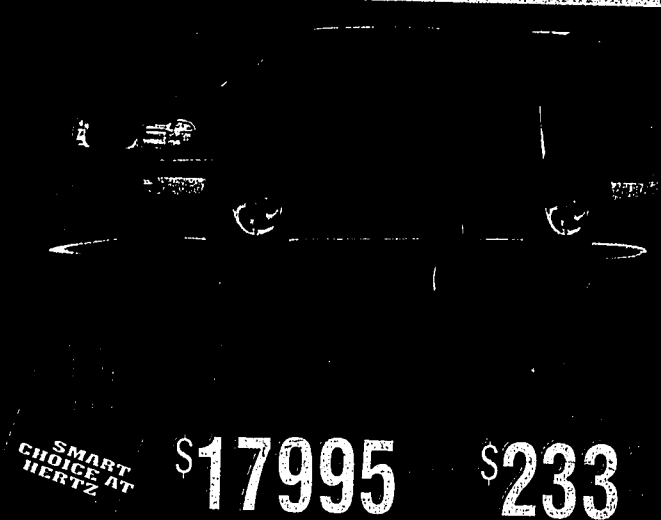
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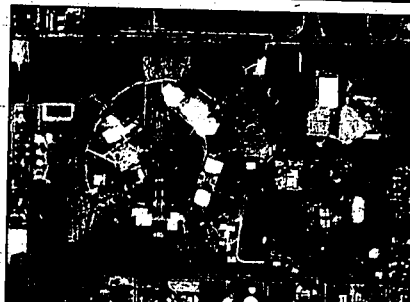
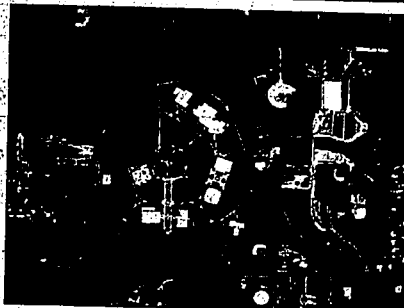
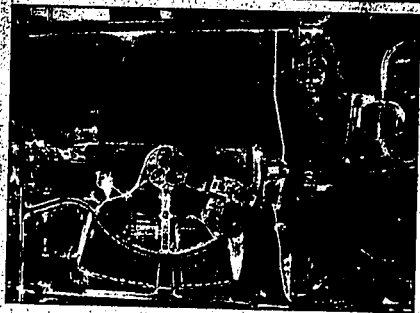
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Aerial photographs show development near and surrounding the College of Southern Idaho, from left, in 1968, 1982, and 1996. In 1982, just three years after the college opened, the first two campus buildings are the Sields Building to the right and the Fine Arts Center to the left. The tower at the center of campus was completed that year. Falls Avenue is south of

campus, surrounded mostly by farmland. The horse track Frontier Field is in the northeast corner. In 1982, three-quarters of the campus circle is filled in and development extends north to North College Road. In 1996, the entire circle is developed and growth has extended outside its perimeter on all sides. City development surrounding campus is in full swing.

CSI

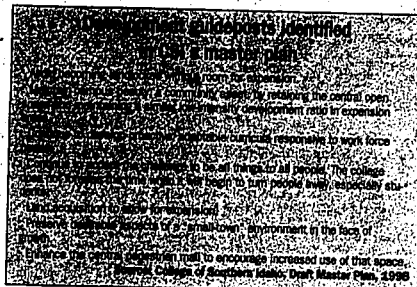
Continued from A1
and Girls Club of Magic Valley built on campus after it was decided that they could serve as real-world learning labs for CSI students. Since then, the board placed a moratorium on campus construction not directly tied to college operations, and that means the seniors will have to make a strong case for precious campus space.

Board members will listen for a potential tie-in with the college, something CSI President Jerry Meyerhoeffer thinks exists, in light of the school's growing programs for senior citizens.

Board member Charles Lehman said he'll need to be convinced.

"Anything else that comes on is going to have to make a pretty good case," Lehman said.

Board member Bill Babcock



agreed, and believes the college's existing campus is on the brink of being in a situation facing Boise State University and Idaho State University - landlocked schools lacking room to grow. Until CSI property across North College Road is developed,

he said he thinks the college should be cautious about how it uses space on the existing campus.

The beauty of the campus landscape is viewed by CSI as a community asset that should be preserved. The guidepost for keeping it that way involves maintaining campus open space through low-density development, according to the college's 1998 master plan.

CSI just finished a classroom and lab addition. With another eight classrooms to be added to the Fine Arts Center, Vice President of Instruction Jerry Beck said he thinks CSI will survive its current growth rate. This semester's final enrollment numbers aren't in, but so far show continued growth.

Also on line are a new student services and activities building,

next to the administration building, and a building possibly on the northwest corner of campus for the local university programs.

The existing campus covers about 240 acres. CSI owns about 140 acres across North College that should handle growth for 25 to 30 years, Meyerhoeffer said.

As CSI begins to develop the Breckenridge property, it will face a number of issues, Lehman said.

"How does one deal with the barriers of North College itself?" said Lehman, who said he holds a minority opinion on the board that the existing campus could stand more development than what has been planned so far.

As the campus expands northward, he said, North College should continue to be an access road.

CSI is one of two community

colleges in Idaho and its master plan states that it has no intention of becoming a four-year school. It opened in September 1965 with 650 students; Enrollment reached more than 5,000 in September 2000, up by more than 10 percent from fall 1999. Idaho's three universities offer local classes on CSI's main campus.

CSI has attempted to be all things to all people and wants to continue in that role, but at the same time its master plan recognizes that recent growth means it might need to be more particular about the services it offers the community, especially at little or no cost.

Times-News education reporter Jennifer Sandmann can be reached at 733-0931, Ext. 241, or by email at jsandmann@magicvalley.com

Scientists plan to clone humans

Los Angeles Times

WASHINGTON - A well-known Italian fertility specialist and his U.S. colleague have announced plans to clone human beings, apparently becoming the first scientists with expertise in human reproduction to publicly set such a goal.

They may well succeed, cloning experts said Saturday - but not without causing great damage.

Cloning would likely produce stillborn and diseased children, they said, and might provoke lawmakers to seek bans on a broad range of medical research, such as work that uses

human embryos to try to cure disease.

The two scientists stressed that their cloning procedure would be offered only to couples who cannot bear children by other means.

"We are serious people and have a track record to show for it," said Panayiotis M. Zavos, professor of reproductive physiology at the University of Kentucky. "Cloning has already been developed in animals. The genie is out of the bottle. It's a matter of time when humans will apply it to themselves, and we think this is best initiated by us... with ethical guidelines and quality standards..." he said.

Eisenhower's highway director dies at 86 in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Ellis LeRoy Armstrong, a civil engineer who presided over the nation's developing highway system during the Eisenhower administration, has died at the age of 86.

Armstrong died Friday morning at his Holiday home.

Born into a family of farmers in Cedar City, Armstrong graduated from Utah State University in 1936 and spent 25 years working his way up the ladder in govern-

ment.

After serving as Utah's highway director from 1957 to 1958, he was tapped by President Eisenhower as the nation's director of public roads, a position he served until 1961.

A decade later, Armstrong was selected to chair the U.S. National Committee of World Energy Conference from 1972 to 1974, and the Committee of International Water Resources Association 1976-79.

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NATION

Clinton's last acts dismay even Democrats

By Sumana Chatterjee
Knight Ridder News Service

WASHINGTON — In the end, Bill Clinton left office much as he occupied it for eight years — with clouds of scandal swirling around him.

In his last days as president, he finally admitted he didn't tell the truth about Monica Lewinsky under oath in the Paula Jones lawsuit, and worked out a deal to avoid indictment and permanent disbarment.

He circumvented usual procedures and his own Justice Department to grant pardon to fugitive financier Marc Rich, who was on the FBI's international most-wanted list. Rich's ex-wife, Denise, is a major Democratic Party fund-raiser. Rich's lawyer was a former White House counsel in the Clinton administration.

As they were departing the White House, the first family accepted \$190,027 in gifts, mostly furnishings for their homes in New York and Washington.

When aides to Clinton's successor, George W. Bush, moved in, they found that White House phone lines had been deliberately snarled. The "W" keys were removed from some computers and copier paper was imprinted with unflattering photos and rude jokes about the new president.

"What the hell were they thinking? It just looks so bad," said Charles Lewis of the Center for Public Integrity, a government watchdog group. "I don't think I've seen a president leave office in such an undistinguished manner."

As if the previous eight years of investigations, alleged cover-ups and impeachment weren't enough, the last-minute legacy is proof that Clinton lacked a respect for the office of the president and the dignity and decorum that should come with it, said Lee Cogen, a history professor at James Madison University



Former President Bill Clinton holds up a paper bag containing his egg sandwich at Lange's Little Store and Delicatessen in Chappaqua, N.Y., last Sunday. Clinton's brother-in-law Hugh Rodham, left, and a Clinton aide, right, accompany him.

in Harrisonburg, Va. The Rich pardon has prompted some of the angriest reactions, including calls for a congressional investigation and suggestions that prosecutors try to indict Rich on new charges. He fled the country 17 years ago, after being charged with evading income taxes and dealing with Iran while that country held U.S. diplomats hostage.

"I disagree with the pardon of Mr. Rich," said Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota. "I think it was inappropriate. But I don't know all the facts, and I can't pass final judgment on it."

Denise Rich, who has raised at

least \$1.1 million for Democrats since 1993, at first denied any involvement in efforts to secure a pardon for her former husband. She later acknowledged lobbying Clinton for it.

As parting gifts for the Clintons, Denise Rich gave them two coffee tables and two chairs worth \$7,375.

Marc Rich's lawyer, Jack Quinn, said the pardon was based on merit, not on Democratic donations or connections.

Presidential pardons often are controversial. Presidents often take parting gifts, although perhaps not as many as the Clintons.

Before George Bush, George W. Bush's father, left office in 1993,

he pardoned former Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger and other indicted figures in the Iran-Contra scandal. He circumvented custom by pardoning them even though they had only been indicted, not convicted of any crimes, said Allan Lichtman, a professor of history at American University in Washington. Bush then took \$52,853 worth of gifts with him to Texas.

Although government standards on ethics do not bar presidents from keeping presents they receive while in office, the Clintons' gifts raised eyebrows because of reports that Democratic donors were asked to

choose items from a gift registry at a boutique in Beverly Hills, Calif. Hillary Clinton's office denied there was a gift registry.

The Senate has stringent rules banning gifts of more than nominal value to senators and their staffs. But by accepting their gifts before Hillary Clinton was sworn in, the Clintons avoided the Senate's rules.

The public disclosure form for the gifts reads like a wish list for furnishing a home — \$33,608 for silverware and china; \$44,358 for sofas, tables, lamps and chairs; \$12,282 for carpets; \$2,993 for televisions and a DVD player.

"Besides being tacky and acting as if the Clintons were newlyweds looking for help to furnish their first home, the bottom line is that a number of these gifts were raised to beat the Senate gift ban rules," said Fred Wertheimer, head of Democracy 21, a campaign finance reform group. "That to me is just wrong."

The Clintons probably stuck to the letter of the law, but "it gives the appearance of impropriety," said presidential historian Robert Dallek of Boston University. The gifts "seem to cross a line, because presidential gifts are supposed to be the property of the United States, not the individual person that receives them," he said.

Historians recall that friends of Ronald and Nancy Reagan did give them furnishings. Twenty of their closest friends gave the outgoing president a \$2.5 million, 7,000-square-foot mansion in Bel Air, Calif. The Office of Government Ethics approved the gift because personal relations, not an attempt to influence public policy, were the motivating factor.

One difference is that the Reagans were leaving public life, while Hillary Clinton is beginning her career as an elected official.

Analysis: Dems cast most invalid Florida votes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Florida voters whose ballots were found invalid because they punched more than one presidential candidate's name were three times more likely to have included Al Gore as one of their choices as George W. Bush, according to a ballot analysis by The Post Washington Post.

The Post reviewed computerized records for 2.7 million votes in eight of Florida's largest counties. While both the former vice president and the new president may have lost votes, intended for them, Democratic voters may have been significantly more likely to have their ballots thrown out, the Post reported in its Saturday editions.

Gore was among those chosen on 46,000 of the invalid ballots, while Bush's name was punched on 17,000. Republicans argued that on the discarded ballots, it is impossible to know who the voter wanted to select.

Bush won Florida by 537 votes out of about 6 million cast, giving him the state's 25 electoral votes and thus the national election.

The Post said there were also indications that Democrats were more adversely affected by Palm Beach County's infamous "butterfly ballot" — which listed presidential candidates on both the left and right sides.

The study found that the 8,000 Palm Beach voters whose ballots were discarded because they voted for Gore and another presidential candidate listed near Gore's name, voted at a rate of 10 to 1 Democratic in the U.S. Senate race. Palm Beach County is heavily Democratic.

Bush builds on Texas record of using churches to help the needy

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — When women in San Antonio switch from welfare to the work force, some turn for advice to a program paid for by the Texas government but run by a church.

A group of Lutherans offers them tips on what to say in a job interview, what to wear and how to balance a household budget. Teen-age girls are steered toward college.

The program exemplifies President Bush's faith in the power of churches, synagogues and mosques to do social good. He hopes to unleash that power across the country, as he tried to do in Texas.

This week, he'll introduce his plan to make it easier for religious organizations to tap millions in federal tax dollars to provide some social services normally reserved for government.

Critics on both sides of the church-state line worry about the potential for abuse — that religious groups will use tax dollars to promote their faith, or government will use its financial stake to inter-



President Bush

fere with matters of the soul. They, too, cite the Texas experience.

At the Lutheran Social Services of the South organization in San Antonio, program director Heather Neuroth says religion is never forced on the women who come for help preparing for the job market.

But if they choose to talk about God, that's fine. "It's something I pay attention to every working hour of my job," Neuroth said. "It's not our intent in any way to convert people to Christianity, recruit people to the Lutheran Church."

Not all religious organizations are so careful, critics contend.

The Texas Civil Rights Project and the American Jewish Congress filed a lawsuit last year seeking the return of state money given to the Jobs Partnership in Brenham.

The church-based job training program used some of the \$8,000 in state money it received in 1999 to buy Bibles and promote Christianity, the lawsuit said.

The group, which no longer gets state money, says it was just helping needy people the best way it could.

Once Bush became governor in 1995, he supported the enactment of several state laws ushering in the era of government cooperation with religious organizations.

Aiding that effort, the 1996 federal law overhauling welfare allowed states to contract with religious charities as long as a secular alternative existed.

Bush directed state agencies to implement "charitable choice" programs aggressively and by some accounts led the nation in doing so at the state level.

Today, Texas has more than 2,300 arrangements with religious charities, run through the Department of Human Services and the state work force commission, which assists the unemployed.

Teen faces charges for spicing officer's taco with pot

THE COLONY, Texas (AP) — A restaurant cook was arrested for allegedly putting marijuana in a breakfast taquito sold to a police officer.

Benjamin Roberts, 18, was charged with possession and delivery of marijuana and released on \$2,000 bail Thursday. He could get up to six months in jail.

An officer ordered the tortilla-wrapped egg items from a Whataburger for dispatchers back at the department. One of the dispatchers noticed less than a quarter-ounce of marijuana had been rolled into her taquito before she took a bite, said spokesman Capt. Mike Carroll.

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Parents' hope fades for buried students

Chinese Yak Brigade will be disbanded

Los Angeles Times

SHANGHAI, China - Despite its growing fame, western China's Wild Yak Brigade was ordered this month to disband and give up its proud name.

A handful of ranking officers of the brigade, which crusades against poaching of endangered Tibetan antelopes, will be transferred to unspecified jobs. The remaining two dozen men will be absorbed by a rival group.

Just weeks before the announcement, the brigade - known in Chinese as the Yemaoniui Dui - had been awarded a \$37,000 grant from a Beijing-based environmental group to continue its work. Private supporters in China and around the world had sent donations after learning about this ragtag army of men who risk their lives to patrol the forbidding terrain of the Kekexili wilderness.

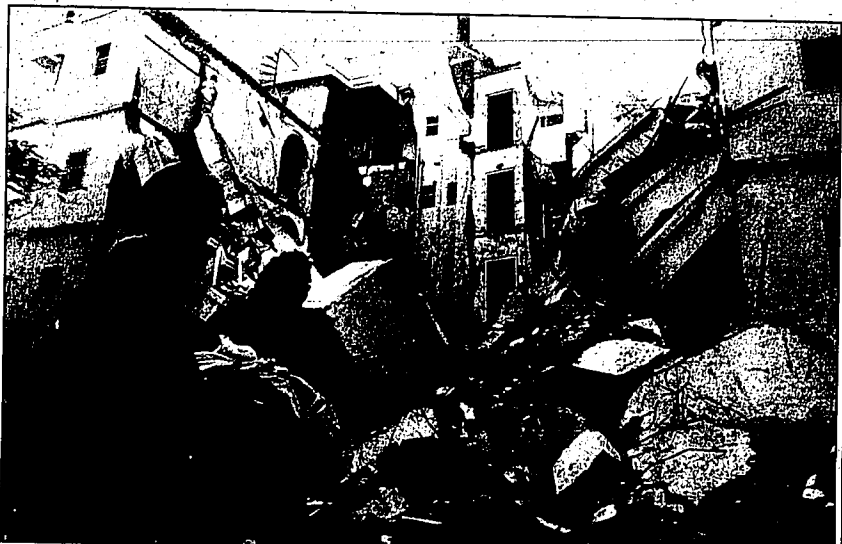
Members of the group had prepared themselves for being shut down. For eight years, impoverished Zhiduo County in Qinghai province had struggled to fund the group's missions. It was a costly affair that left the brigade more than \$30,000 in debt. Private donations and a daredevil spirit enabled the battle to last as long as it has.

Three years ago, the provincial government formed the Kekexili Natural Preserve Protection and Management Bureau on the uninhabited high plain to increase protection for the antelopes. No one could explain why the experienced brigade members were not included in the better-funded troop of rangers back then. Neither is it clear why the good name of the Yemaoniui Dui could not be preserved under the new administration.

"I don't feel good, but I have to follow orders," said Jin Yanzu by telephone from the brigade's abandoned home base in Golmud city. He is one of the officers who will be transferred to a Zhiduo County position. Also departing will be Liang Yinquan, the group's captain, who has been a father figure for the younger men.

As one of the original founders, Jin has seen two previous leaders killed for the cause and numerous other men put their lives on the line.

"I leave with only half a body," said Jin, who, like many of the brigade members, is ravelled by a stomach ailment and other physical problems caused by the primitive working conditions. "My heart will always stay in Kekexili."



Workers clean up debris around a destroyed building in Ahmedabad, India, Saturday. Officials predicted as many as 13,000 may have been killed in the 7.9 magnitude earthquake in western India on Friday.

AHMEDABAD, India (AP) - Although it was a national holiday, 37 teenagers trooped into the Sweeny Narayan school for a physics class. Their teacher had threatened punishment if they skipped the extra drill before exams.

Less than an hour later, the four-story school collapsed on the young students, burying them as a 7.9 magnitude earthquake jolted the western Indian state of Gujarat and flattened much of this city of 4.5 million.

Death toll soars - A1

Six children were rescued from the building within hours, but the bodies of 16 were pulled out later. They had been killed by falling concrete slabs or smothered under heaps of dust and masonry when the school came crashing down.

A day later, the other 15 teenagers were still missing. Their parents kept a grim vigil as workers searched frantically and hope faded.

"Until Friday afternoon we could hear the cries of the children. Now we hear nothing," police inspector Ramesh Barot said. "But we are continuing our efforts."

As the rescuers labored on, mothers of the missing huddled under a makeshift tent while fathers waited alongside the police cordon surrounding the school. The cooked food neighbors brought for the mothers remained untouched. Their wailing and weeping were drowned out by the sound of power drills boring through the concrete.

"I want my son back. Why can't they do something?" wailed Nainabehn Patel, her eyes red and swollen.

Patel's son, Bhowmik, 16, was somewhere under the rubble. She said she had not had a sip of water since she learned he was among those trapped in the school building.

"How can I eat?" she asked. "I will wait till they bring me some news."

Patel's sister, Kokilabehn Mehta, consoled her as she wept. "We are just waiting, though now we know there is no hope," she said.

Schools were closed Friday for Republic Day, a national holiday that commemorates the adoption of India's constitution 51 years ago. But Mehta said the teenagers here had been called in for the extra class to prepare for a physics laboratory test on Saturday.

"And the teacher had said if they don't come for the practice, they'd be punished," she said.

Three bodies were removed from the debris Saturday. As the body of Prateek Bhatt, a 16-year-old schoolboy, was carried out by firefighters, there was a surge of movement among the hopeful mothers.

Washington to send \$1 million in aid

The United States is sending \$1 million in emergency supplies to earthquake-stricken India, officials said Saturday.

Supplies including plastic sheeting, blankets, water containers, purification and distribution kits and generators were to arrive in India on Monday, said officials at the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Locally, The American Red Cross is seeking assistance. To help the victims of this and other disasters, call the American Red Cross International Response Fund at (800) HELP-NOW (English) or at (800) 257-7575 (Spanish), or log onto www.redcross.org.

For local information, or to donate locally, contact the Mini-Cassia Branch of the American Red Cross at 438-7339.

"They've found Prateek, our Savitabehn's son," one of the women shouted. But the announcement was soon followed by the walls of Savitabehn, as she realized her son was dead.

Mahmoud Rafiq, an ambulance driver, said he had been carrying the injured and bodies to the hospital since Friday morning. "Earlier there were a lot more injured, some with fractures or



A volunteer wears a face mask while passing by the rubble of a school which collapsed in Ahmedabad, Saturday. Police said 15 children were still trapped inside the rubble from which they had removed 16 bodies and rescued six surviving children.

head or spine injuries," he said. "Today it's only dead bodies." Reports that opposition Congress party leader Sonia Gandhi was to visit the site Saturday afternoon sent police officials into a huddle as they chalked out security arrangements and the route she would

take through the congested lanes leading to the school. But around the tent where the mothers waited, the news of Gandhi's visit was greeted with silence. "We don't care who comes, as long as the operations continue," said Umesh Panchal, whose 16-year-old son, Nimesh, was among those still in the debris. "At least give me my son's body back," he said.

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WORLD

Quiet regard

Challenger anniversary evokes solemn memory

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Three years ago, Jeanne Gerulskis came to a new job that had her reliving the nation's shuttle Challenger disaster, all day long, every day.

A monitor in the lobby of the Christa McAuliffe Planetarium showed a continuous videotape loop of the explosion high in the sky that killed McAuliffe, a Concord High School teacher, and six other astronauts on Jan. 28, 1986.

Adults stared at the disturbing video, sometimes in tears. Children sob since the disaster that riveted the nation often had a different reaction.

"They would say, 'quick, quick, come here — it's going to blow up again!'" said Gerulskis.

Soon after becoming the planetarium's executive director in 1998, Gerulskis watched the video and began to focus the planetarium on McAuliffe's life and vision, instead of her death. This year, the planetarium, which sees about 60,000 visitors annually, will commemorate her Sept. 2 birthday with balloons and decorations.

"No one celebrates the day Abraham Lincoln was shot. They celebrate his birthday," Gerulskis said.

Much of Concord shares Gerulskis' sentiment. The school where McAuliffe taught was not observing the anniversary this year. Soon after the Challenger explosion, McAuliffe's family asked the city not to place her name on Concord High. However, the school auditorium where she said farewell to her students, and where many of them watched the explosion on television, was renovated and named in her honor.

McAuliffe's remarried husband Steven, a federal judge, rarely speaks publicly about the disaster.

The planetarium, the official state repository for McAuliffe items, has thousands of letters, poems and pieces of art, with more still coming in. None of them are on display. Each Sabbath, visitors see a few photos and a painting of McAuliffe.

The closest thing to a shrine is a wall with two photos of McAuliffe, a copy of a Congressional Record tribute to her, and a box full of biographical handouts.

One of the places the anniversary will be observed is Framingham State College in Massachusetts, McAuliffe's alma mater. The school has a Christa McAuliffe Center, which offers programs for teachers, and runs space flight programs for children in her honor.

Spacecraft docks with Mir for final touches

KOROLYOV, Russia (AP) — Russia's deteriorating Mir space station received what was probably its final visitor on Saturday: A cargo ship laden with fuel to propel the 15-year-old orbiting lab on a fiery descent into the Pacific Ocean.

Two tons of fuel aboard the Progress M1-5 cargo ship that docked with the Mir will be used to fire thrusters and send the 137-ton station hurtling down from orbit.

The descent into the Pacific Ocean — about halfway between New Zealand and Chile, near 47 degrees south latitude and 140 degrees west longitude — is tentatively set for March 6.

Saturday's flawless automatic docking was greeted with applause and sighs of relief at Mission Control in Korolyov on the outskirts of Moscow. Two sudden power losses in recent weeks led to fear that Mir could spin out of control.

"The docking went smoothly without any flaws whatsoever," said Mission Control chief Vladimir Solovoy, who was on Mir's first crew. "Now we have enough fuel on board for a reliable controlled descent into the designated area of the Pacific."

If something went wrong, space officials would have pulled back the cargo ship and sent an emergency crew to dock with the station and bring the cargo ship in on manual control.

Learning from Challenger

Currently, the crew escape system on NASA's four space shuttles has more in common with World War II era planes than today's fighter jets. The most promising alternatives on the drawing board must not add too much weight to the shuttles — or break NASA's budget.

Balloon

In an emergency, crew members using the existing system would hook themselves to a telescoping pole, then slide off the end to clear the wing of the orbiter.

Installed after the Challenger explosion, the system might not help in a similar emergency. The orbiter must first lift its boosters and descending in a controlled glide.

Option 1: Extraction



An overhead hatch is blown open, and compressed gas thrusts a rocket mounted to the rear of the seat out of the orbiter. Once clear, the rocket fires and puts the astronaut free.

Option 2: Ejection



Seats are similar to those in fighter jets. The hatch is blown and compressed gas catapults the seated astronaut out. Then a rocket takes crew to clear the engine's plume.

Option 3: Escape capsule



Boosters sever the forward fuselage from the orbiter. A parachute stabilizes the 45,000-pound capsule but does little to slow it down.

Drawbacks: Added weight: 200 pounds. A new seating configuration would only allow for five astronauts — two less than the ideal crew size.

Drawbacks: Added weight: 3,700 pounds. One less crew member. Ejection during launch at speeds above Mach 1 may generate unbearable heat.

Drawbacks: Added weight: 8,400 pounds. Reorienting the module for separation is problematic; reinforcing its structure for landing impact is probably unfeasible.

Source: NASA

A. DOWNS, S. JENSEN/WALL

Fifteen years after Challenger, NASA considers escape system

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Fifteen years after Challenger disintegrated in the sky, NASA is considering a variety of escape system options — ejection seats, flyaway capsules — that could save the crew in another space shuttle accident.

It is the most extensive and expensive look at shuttle crew escape systems ever conducted by NASA. Engineers expect to wrap up the yearlong, \$5 million study by spring. But ultimately, the space agency may decide not to add any such features.

NASA puts the odds of a catastrophic accident during launch — the most dangerous part of any shuttle mission — at 1-in-438. Shuttle flight No. 102 is coming up in a week and a half.

The leading contender among the safety features under consideration is the ejection seat — the same system used for the Gemini pro-

gram and the first four shuttle flights. The Mercury and Apollo spacecraft had rocket-powered towers to fling the capsules away in an emergency. None of these was ever used, but in the Soviet Union, an escape rocket safely pulled two cosmonauts from a burning booster in 1983.

Ejection seats were no longer considered necessary once NASA declared the space shuttle operational, beginning with flight No. 5 in 1982.

"It was the Titanic syndrome: Not even God can sink this ship," recalls former astronaut Bryan O'Connor, director of engineering at Furon Corp.


NASA's attitude changed with flight No. 25 — the doomed launch of Challenger, which took place 15 years ago this Sunday, on Jan. 28, 1986. All seven crew members were killed, including teacher Christa McAuliffe. The cause: a gas leak in the right booster

rocket. In the explosion, the crew module separated from the fireball and plunged into the sea. But the crew members had no parachutes and no way to jettison the hatch. They were wearing flimsy blue jumpsuits.

O'Connor headed a panel that looked at crew escape systems after the disaster. When shuttle flights resumed in 1988, he and other astronauts ended up with parachutes, partially pressurized, bright orange suits with emergency oxygen and survival gear; a hatch that blows open and a pole for aiding out of the spacecraft.

The Challenger explosion happened 73 seconds after liftoff. The escape systems now under consideration could be used during the first three minutes of flight at an altitude of 150,000 feet or more, as well as during landing and even on the launch pad.

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Sharon leads as Israeli election nears

JERUSALEM (AP) — Hardliner Ariel Sharon maintained his dominance last week over Prime Minister Ehud Barak ahead of the Feb. 6 election, according to polls in Israeli newspapers.

Setting on the significant numbers of voters that the surveys said were undecided, campaigners for Barak predicted the trend would be reversed in his favor on election day.

The outcome could determine the future of the Mideast peace process, aimed at ending four months of bloodshed that has killed 275 people, most of them Palestinians.

Barak has offered far-reaching concessions to the Palestinians for peace. Sharon rejects further con-

cessions and has said that if elected, he would not honor agreements reached by the Barak government.

Speaking Friday on Israeli television, Sharon said he will maintain Israeli control over the strategic Jordan Valley, "unified Jerusalem" and the Golan Heights, captured from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war and later annexed.

"I shall not negotiate under fire," Sharon said. "I know the Arabs and the Arabs know me, and they know that I have red lines. There must be quiet! And quiet means quiet!"

A Gallup poll in the Maariv daily showed Sharon leading with support from 52 percent of respon-

dents and Barak trailing with 34 percent; while 14 percent said they were undecided or planned to cast a blank ballot. The poll questioned 509 Israeli adults and had a 4.5 percent margin of error.

The Yediot Ahronot newspaper showed Sharon leading by 49 to 32 percentage points, with 19 percent undecided, in a Dabaf poll using a sample of 603 Israeli adults and citing a 4.5 percent margin of error.

While Barak's campaign managers remained outwardly optimistic, others who oppose Sharon pressed Barak to withdraw his candidacy and let elder statesman Shimon Peres replace him.

A quarter-page advertisement on the front page of the Haaretz

daily called on Barak to step aside and let Peres face Sharon.

"The polls speak for themselves," three activists from Barak's Labor Party wrote in the ad. "Your decision will determine the fate of the state of Israel."

Barak insisted that he will not step down, and there was no apparent movement among Labor party leaders to persuade him to withdraw. Israeli law allows parties to switch candidates up to four days before the vote.

Peres is not a candidate, but polls indicated he would do better than Barak if he were. The Maariv poll showed virtually identical levels of support for Peres and Sharon, with Sharon leading by 46 percent to 45 percent.



Likud Party leader prime minister candidate Ariel Sharon, surrounded by bodyguards, tries to make his way while visiting an open air market in Netanya, north of Tel Aviv, as part of a campaign stop Thursday. Sharon is leading Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak in opinion polls ahead of the Feb. 6 elections.

Mideast peace talks end without agreement

TABA, Egypt (AP) — The Israeli-Palestinian peace talks in this Red Sea resort concluded Saturday without any agreement, leaving further peace efforts to a possible meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat.

Though an accord was far from reached, a joint statement issued by the sides said the six-day Taba talks were "unprecedented in their positive atmosphere" and left them closer than ever to an agreement.

"Given the circumstances and time constraints, it proved impossible to reach understandings on all issues despite the substantial progress that was achieved in each of the issues discussed," the statement said.

Officials on both sides said Barak and Arafat may meet in Europe next week in a last-minute effort to forge a deal before Israel's fateful Feb. 6 elections. Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said international efforts were under way to arrange the Barak-Arafat meeting, and Israel radio said the two may meet in the Swedish capital of Stockholm.

But even if the meeting were arranged off, it was highly doubtful the two leaders would be able to overcome wide gaps on the toughest issues.

Success in peace negotiations is crucial for Barak, who is running an uphill race against hawkish challenger Ariel Sharon. Sharon, who led Israeli forces during the 1982 Lebanon invasion, opposes many of Barak's painful peace compromises.

A Sharon victory, Arafat told the Italian daily La Repubblica in an interview published Saturday, would cause "an escalation of the conflict. With him in power we cannot have peace."

Europe honors Jewish victims on anniversary of Auschwitz

LONDON (AP) — Europe recalled one of its darkest eras Saturday as ceremonies from London to Lithuania marked the 56th anniversary of the Auschwitz death camp's liberation.

Britain and Italy held their first-ever Holocaust memorial days, while survivors, spiritual leaders and politicians across the continent pledged to remember a grim historical lesson about the consequences of intolerance.

"Not everyone who survived has the strength to share," said Auschwitz survivor Heidi Fried, speaking at a forum in Stockholm, Sweden. "We who can have an extra obligation. ... We owe it to our murdered parents, the 6 million Jews, 500,000 Gypsies and countless homosexuals, Russians and Poles who died."

Britain's national Holocaust Memorial Day involved ceremonies across the country and a London service that honored Nazi victims as well as those of other ethnic groups.

The guest list for the memorial at Westminster Central Hall in London included Prince Charles, Prime Minister Tony Blair, the archbishops of Canterbury and Westminster and Britain's chief rabbi, Jonathan Sacks. The ceremony included tributes to survivors of violence in Cambodia, Bosnia and Rwanda.

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EDITORIAL

Teacher accountability bill is long overdue in Idaho

Idaho is a state with rich conservative soil, so it's mystifying that accountability for public school teachers still hasn't taken root.

Sen. Darrell Deide thinks it's planting time.

The Caldwell Republican plans to introduce a teacher accountability bill during the current legislative session. He wanted to do it last year but held off to allow three education groups to devise a system of their own.

But the Idaho Education Association, the Idaho School Boards Association and the Idaho Association of School Administrators say it can't be done unless other changes are made. They say K-12 achievement standards, along with a program to measure student progress over the years, are needed before Idaho's teachers can reasonably be evaluated on the basis of student performance. They also say more money is needed to fund these changes.

It's not surprising to hear establishment folks say, "You can't get there from here," when discussing teacher accountability. Why shouldn't they say that? They have a comfortable system—right now, with steady, rising paychecks and essentially no oversight, for the quality of their work.

As a retired school superintendent himself, Deide is familiar with the intransigence of Idaho's public education system. He has been patient, but he's tired of waiting for an answer to the nagging question of teacher accountability.

Now Deide is fixing to supply his own. As vice chairman of the Senate Education Committee, he is well-positioned to do so. Deide's colleagues should support his efforts.

Any attempt to hold teachers accountable for the quality of education we pay them to impart is denounced by the education establishment as "anti-education." Rather than discuss an important issue, many educators prefer to obscure the debate with emotional jingoism. It's a smoke screen to hide the fact that a basic quality-control measure is missing.

Deide is not "anti-education," but he is "pro-taxpayer." Let's hope other Idaho legislators share his priorities.

The sad fact is that public education in Idaho consumes more money than ever before, yet student test scores are flat to declining in many school districts. In effect, taxpayers are paying more for less. How long must they wait before their tax dollars start buying some improvement?

It's not surprising to hear Idaho's education establishment say, "You can't get there from here," when discussing teacher accountability. Why shouldn't they say that? They have a comfortable system, right now.



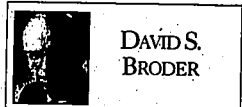
Bush's education program is solid

In the upside-down world of journalistic values, where conflict almost always trumps consensus and argument usually drowns out agreement, the news about President Bush's education proposal focused on the possible fight over school vouchers.

Vouchers—which use public funds to pay tuition at private or parochial schools—are a minor part of the Bush proposal, a provisional final option if all the strategies for improving public schools fail in a few districts. This is a far cry from the sweeping vouchers-for-all proposal that California voters rejected last November and even from the more-limited voucher plan on the Michigan ballot, which also went down to defeat. Bush is no education ideologue bashing his head against that stone wall of public opposition.

The significance of the Bush plan lies in three other areas. First, and probably most important, is the simple fact of a Republican president saying, in his first week in office, that "bipartisan education reform will be the cornerstone of my administration."

For most of the past four decades, the GOP has challenged the legitimacy of the federal role in education, and even six years ago it was still trying to abolish the Department of Education. Last year, prodded by President Clinton, a Republican Congress voted the biggest single-year increase in school spending—\$6.5 billion—in history. And now the new Republican president has declared that improvements in those schools "will not come by disbanding or dismantling the federal role in education. I believe strongly in local control of schools, to trust local folks to chart the path to excellence. But educational excellence for all is a national issue, and at this



DAVID S. BRODER

moment is a presidential priority." That is a historic shift in policy whose importance should not be minimized. It sets the stage for genuine bipartisanship, as evidenced by the striking similarities between the Bush plan and one put forward the same day by a group of centrist Democrats led by Sen. Joe Lieberman of Connecticut. As Gore's vice presidential running mate.

There are two very large issues that must be resolved before this potential agreement can become settled national policy. Both Bush and the Lieberman group propose an increase in federal funding—plus a consolidation of narrowly tailored programs into a few broad block grants. In return, states and local districts would have to demonstrate that the needy pupils who are the principal beneficiaries of the aid are making real educational progress.

That sounds like a no-brainer, but in reality, each of these narrow programs has a constituency among teachers, administrators and parents, eager to assure that the earmarked funds are not diverted to other purposes. Their resistance sank the Lieberman proposal in the last Congress. Overcoming their opposition will test the clout of Bush and his allies in both parties this year.

The second issue is how to assure the accountability that everyone wants. Bush proposes annual tests, with public officials, but would leave their design to the states, finessing the political sensitivity of a national testing system. But if

tests are to be used to reward and punish schools, as he proposes, some method must be found to assure their rigor. And the recent experience of many states suggests that if tests are too rigorous, parents and teachers will protest the results, and pressure will mount to ease them—weakening the standards.

Devising a system that assures accountability and yet leaves sufficient flexibility for educators is a daunting task. Even if these problems are solved, the reality is that the 7 percent of education spending that comes from Washington is hardly enough by itself to bring improved quality to the schools. That is the challenge for local school officials and teachers.

The good news is that the new education secretary, Roderick Paige, has the right background and credentials to do the job. The former Houston school superintendent is, even in first meeting a formidable presence. When I asked his wife about a description someone had given me of Paige—"not much on gladdening but very focused and action-oriented"—she said: "That is exactly right."

In Houston, Paige demonstrated that for every child, not from some quick fix or magic bullet. The lesson of quality and customer service is one American industry and business learned in the 1980s, and Paige is perfectly positioned to help American education apply that same principle now.

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

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LETTERS

Get involved in politics

How healthy is it to have a one-party state? How healthy is it to be controlled? When you think of control, think of China, Iraq, Iran or Russia.

The best is choice. It is no secret, politicians don't want you to have a choice. A low turnout is what they really want. Better to control—with control, you have too many closed-door meetings and agreements.

There is no question voting and getting involved is a key factor.

The best community is a well-informed community.

Again, there are too many decisions made behind closed doors.

Elected officials are afraid to be honest or be accountable for what they do.

Opinions are not 100 percent, but it is food for thought, and knowing is better than finding out.

BOB DAIGLE
Twin Falls

Eden shooting raises questions

I've tried to read all there has been on the Eden shootings, but I have to tell you, this whatever it was has got many more holes in it than Mr. Williams' house does. I've spent my life respecting the law and its enforcement.

I am a retired state law-enforcement trooper from a state back east. I was celebrated and awarded for my dealings with criminal and drug investigations. If parts of these questions have already been answered, I apologize ahead of time.

When a subpoena is issued, suspects' noise under surveillance for quite some time, officers gathering information, suspect known to be hard of hearing, suspect known to have been carrying a weapon and that night nothing has been said about having to wait for any certain person or persons to arrive or leave the house, why wasn't the warrant served four, five or six hours earlier?

2. With two other higher-ranking officers present with many more years of law enforcement behind them, why were they not the first two to enter the house?

3. With this many officers involved in this, why not wait for the suspect to come out of the house and confront him on your turf instead of his very familiar turf?

4. In the Jan. 21 paper, we saw a picture showing where three unfortunate men lay dead. Mr. Williams' body was identified, why not the officers?

5. In the same paper, we were told

where a 9 mm carbine was found, a .45-caliber Glock was found and a .44-caliber Magnum pistol was found. Had the .44-caliber Magnum pistol been fired, and if so, how many times?

6. Bullet proof vests worn that night and by whom?

There are many, many more questions which need asked and answered by far, but maybe, I pray, maybe when the questions are all answered, it will help to give closure to the families and friends, if it can ever be.

My thoughts and prayers go out to all involved in this incident or accident, whichever we should call it, and hope if mistakes were made by whoever may have made them that we learn from them and try not to make the same ones ever again. If we do, the results will be exactly the same.

LARRY J. FRANCO
Jerome

'Hospital' editorial misses the mark

In its Jan. 21 editorial titled, "Saints on the march," about improving local health care," the editorial board of the Twin Falls Times-News suggests that we should sell the local control of health care in the Magic Valley to the highest bidder, then severely restrict our local hospital from competing on anything resembling a level playing field.

An editorial board that would concoct such blatantly biased drivel is unlikely to publish the many dissenting responses it is sure to receive from the informed citizens of the Magic Valley. I would encourage those citizens to cancel their subscriptions to The Times-News and read the Idaho Statesman instead. After all, competition is good and no one needs a local paper.

DR. GLEN ALBERTSON
Twin Falls

Bring back the Music Monster

I agree with Delia Villanueva. Bring back the Music Monster.

I went on vacation and when I came back it was gone. Mornings without Howard and J.R. are just not the same. And being an adult listener, I feel that the station is missed by not only the teens in the area but the adult community as well. I spent my teens years listening to '80s music and I don't want to spend my adult life listening to it too. Please bring back the Monster!

Where is the petition? I will sign it, and I know many adults who will as well.

MICHELLE CHAVEZ
Buhl

Bring back the pandering politician

Everybody knows that politicians will say anything for a vote. Remember Paul Tsongas calling Bill Clinton a "pander bear" in the 1992 primaries? Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist David Broder once cautioned that protecting our freedom requires politicians to stop "pandering to public opinion."

But maybe that's all wrong. Maybe the problem is that politicians don't pander enough. That's the argument made by two political scientists in their provocative book, "Politicians Don't Pander: Political Manipulation and the Loss of Democratic Responsiveness." According to Lawrence Jacobs of the University of Minnesota and Robert Shapiro of Columbia University, since the 1970s politicians have become less responsive to the preferences of the average American. Instead of paying attention to public opinion—instead of "pandering" to the broad will of the people—they have listened instead to noisy, loudly orchestrated niche opinions. In other words, leaders of both parties have become less democratic.

Consider: On Tuesday, President Bush introduced his new education plan, including more funding and more testing, but also including a provision for school vouchers.

Democrats, led by Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, immediately denounced the provision, suggesting that vouchers were a deal-breaker. Public opinion backs up the Democrats: An ABC/Washington Post poll from October found 55 percent of respondents opposed vouchers, and in California and Michigan last November, voters defeated voucher referendums by 2-to-1 ratios.

Yet Bush is pushing the idea anyway. To be sure, the Bushies have tweaked



JAMES P. PINKERTON

their rhetoric: "Rather than talking about vouchers, we're talking about a commitment to a child," the White House chief of staff, Andy Card, said on CNN. Education Secretary Rod Paige, asked about vouchers on ABC, demurred, "We never use that word."

Bush himself studiously avoided using the V-word in his Tuesday kickoff, preferring to talk instead about "meaningful options" for poor children. Of course, nobody was fooled. "The plan unveiled today relies on a failed political gimmick," snapped Bob Chase, president of the National Education Association, which speaks for Democrats on the voucher issue.

The Texas will probably compromise vouchers out of the plan, but why did he propose the idea in the first place? One can conclude that Bush & Co. really believe in vouchers. They are willing to play the name game to preserve the idea. So does that make this president less of a pandarer than the last president? Not necessarily, says Jacobs, who recalls that many of the programs Clinton pushed early in his presidency—including the 1993 tax increase, the "Hillarycare" health plan and the North American Free Trade Agreement—were broadly unpopular, too.

What's happening is that politicians are increasingly subject to pressure from activists, inside-the-Beltway ideologues

and big donors, all of whom push narrow agendas at the expense of wide appeal. As an example, Jacobs cites the impeachment effort against Bill Clinton, which most Republicans in Congress supported, even though two-thirds of voters were opposed. The impeachment effort continued even after Republicans suffered a historic defeat in the 1998 midterm elections—proof that the Clinton-hating Republicans were doing the opposite of pandering.

But what about all those pollsters? What are they getting paid to do, if not to pander the pander? No, Jacobs says, "Polls are used not to make policy, but to craft the presentation." He and co-author Shapiro combed through records of the past five presidents and found, in most cases, that the big policy was established first, and then the pollsters and spin doctors were brought in to figure out how to sell it to Congress and the public. In other words, the niche-opinion leaders drive the agenda, leading politicians and pollsters to push unpopular policies.

Jacobs and Shapiro want to close this gap between people and politicians. They want to force, for more pandering. They would start by informing the "poll-honed" campaigns of manipulation against the public. It should be a corollary to the Bill of Rights, they maintain, that Americans should be free from brainwashing by their own government. Of course, the authors won't get far with their proposal—politicians may be happy to minimize input from the people, but they will be unhappy about any suggestion that curbs their capacity to output propaganda.

James P. Pinkerton is a Newbury columnist.

Media giants have friends at FCC

ROBERT W. MCGHESNEY

All you need to know about Michael Powell, whom President Bush promoted recently to chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, can be summed up by the statements of close FCC watchers.

"He's a listener, an advocate, an effective policymaker," said one. "Michael Powell has demonstrated a keen intellect and a firm grasp on public policy issues," said another. "It's rare that you have somebody in public office who is so favorably regarded by all constituencies and competing industries," added yet a third person.

Wow. This guy Michael Powell must be hot stuff, right? Wrong. The three quotes come from Gary Lytle, Eddie Fritts and Robert Sachs, the heads of the trade associations for the "Bell" telephone companies, commercial broadcasters and the cable television industry, respectively. These are the very industries Powell is commissioned to regulate in the public interest. They love Powell for a reason. He has a record of advancing their interests, not ours.

And, as a result of Powell's tenure, their companies will grow much larger, much more powerful and much more profitable and operate in less competitive markets. It will be bad news for democracy.

Most Americans don't know much about the FCC or what it does, but it is very important to setting the ground rules for the media and communications industries.

Radio, television and cable companies do not operate in traditional markets, where anyone with enough cash can enter. These are businesses built on government-granted monopoly rights to valuable broadcast frequencies, or local telephone or cable-TV monopolies. When the government awards licenses for these services, it isn't setting the terms of competition — it is picking the winners.

That's why these industries have such huge lobbies to make sure the politicians and regulators keep doling out the goodies to them. That's why, in theory, the FCC sets conditions for these companies. If these companies are going to have semi-monopolistic licenses that make it possible for them to make piles of money, they should be required to serve the public interest.

Powell, who has been an FCC

commissioner since 1997, doesn't believe in that deal. He doesn't think these companies should be deregulated and permitted to respond exclusively to market forces — that is, to exploit their status to rake in as much money as possible. Powell also is a fan of scrapping limitations on how much these companies can own and how big they can get. Powell claims that this will bring more competition to their industries, and that will make media more responsive to public concern.

But all the evidence of ownership deregulation in communications over the past five years — repeatedly shows the exact opposite. Radio ownership was relaxed in 1996, and since then over half the stations have been sold and the industry has been consolidated into the hands of a few giants, each owning hundreds of stations.

That's great for those companies, but bad for the rest of us as we are increasingly subjected to standardized commercial radio fare marinated in advertising. Telephone companies have been freed to merge, too, since 1996, and the number of players has fallen in half. And complaints about lousy telephone service have skyrocketed in the past four years.

Let's face it, if deregulation actually produced more bona fide competition, these companies would hate it. But it doesn't, so they love it.

But don't confuse Powell with the facts. "The oppressor here is regulation," Powell recently told a conservative think tank forum. "We must foster competitive markets, unencumbered by intrusions and distortions from inept regulations."

This is the sort of drivel that gets corporate CEOs high-fiving each other in the aisles, as the government then hands the keys to the kingdom over to them.

Don't get a second thought that Powell wants real competition, real media diversity, any more than his corporate paymasters. In the past year, he opposed the FCC's own cautious plan to open up radio to 1,000 low-power radio broadcasters to be operated by nonprofit groups. The proposal was opposed

by the commercial giants who fear new competition for "their" listeners.

He also opposed setting conditions to the AOL-Time Warner deal, which created the largest media company on Earth.

The AOL-Time Warner merger deliberations should have embarrassed Powell. His father, Colin Powell, owns about \$6 million in AOL stock. But by today's standards of corruption, this barely registers a blip on the radar. So Powell did not recuse himself, and he strongly advocated the case for the company in which his inheritance is located.

Powell, like President Bush, has indicated he wishes to eliminate the few remaining ownership restrictions on broadcasters. The rule limiting companies to having TV stations in no more than one-third the nation is soon to be relaxed or eliminated. The prohibition on owning multiple TV stations in the same market, or a newspaper and TV station in the same town, also are possible casualties of this deregulatory jihad.

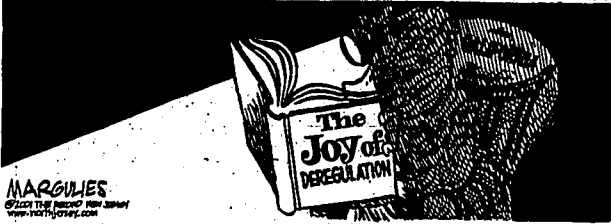
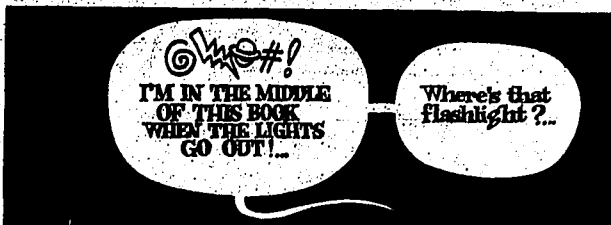
The net result will be a tidal wave of mergers and consolidation in the media industries that will make the last five years look like a stroll in the park.

Look for most of the few remaining newspaper companies and cable companies to become part of the huge media conglomerates like AOL-Time Warner, Disney, Viacom and News Corp., that already own all the major movie studios, all the TV networks, all the music companies, most of the cable-TV channels, and much, much more.

Needless to say, such a concentration of media power into so few hands violates every known theory of a free marketplace of ideas in a liberal democracy. But who has time for that mumbo when there is good money to be made?

So it will be party time on Wall Street for Goldman Sachs and the other investment bankers who put together these deals. George W. Bush's 2004 campaign coffers will be stuffed with tens of millions of dollars from the companies who benefit by these policies. And Michael Powell will have assured himself a long and lucrative career in the private sector upon leaving the FCC.

Robert W. McGhesney wrote this commentary for Newsday.



MARGULIES
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LETTERS

Everyone has something to give

Everyone loves seeing a rainbow after a summer storm. Nobody ever associates emotions like depression, hate or violence with a rainbow. A rainbow represents all that is good — love, mercy and hope, to name a few. A rainbow also represents every color in the visible spectrum — each one a different shade and hue, yet coming together to form a picture of beauty and wonder. It is no wonder then that the gay community has chosen the rainbow as its universal symbol.

Each of us born into the human race has a gift, a voice to offer his or her ideas or opinion. Each of us has something to give, and only by working together can we achieve a common goal, a better purpose. The human race is a rainbow of colors and voices, each contributing a small piece of the puzzle to form a larger picture.

civil rights movement 30 years ago, black people in this country are no longer discriminated against because of the color of their skin. Now the gay community is demanding the same equal rights and non-discrimination status.

I am writing to all the gays and lesbians who live in Twin Falls. I am asking you to join me so that our voice can be heard in this community. So many of us have lived our lives in the closet, afraid to speak out for fear of how our small-town community and small-town mindedness will react.

Two weeks ago, a girl was assaulted on a Friday night by a group of guys who didn't like the fact that she was gay and open about it. That girl and her girlfriend have since moved to Idaho Falls because they cannot take the homophobic atmosphere that permeates the Twin Falls community.

I intend to change that atmosphere. This town has been my home for 22 1/2 years, and I refuse to be ashamed of who I am in my own community. If you would like to respond to this letter, e-mail me at excor@excite.com.

NEAL JONES
Twin Falls

Book prices are over the top

After reading your article in Monday's paper about the prices of textbooks at colleges and universities around the nation and here in Twin Falls, I was prompted to write.

The prices that the bookstore charge are out of this world. Many times, you are unable to sell your book back to the bookstore because the class has changed to a newer version of the same book or maybe the class is using a completely new book. Even with the help of grants and scholarships, is anyone able to afford the books?

One way I have found to combat this problem is to go online. There are many "used" bookstores out there on the Internet. My personal favorite is half.com. I go to the college bookstore to find out what books I am going to need, write down the title and the ISBN, and hit the web. More than once I have seen the book I need for \$30 used and have been able to get the exact same book for around \$20 online.

There are many places to buy your textbooks; you just need to know where to look, and your wallet will feel better for it.

MOLLY MURRAY
Kimberly

The gay community celebrates those differences that make us unique while at the same time bringing us together. The rainbow symbolizes all of this, yet for so many gays and lesbians, that rainbow is associated with hate, prejudice and violence. Every day, somebody is assaulted or worse, killed, because of their sexual identity. Because of the

Write to us

The Times-News welcomes letters from readers on subjects of public interest. Letters may be brought to our Twin Falls or Burley offices, mailed to P.O. Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83303; faxed to (208) 734-5538; or emailed to twnews@mtm.com.

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MAKE 2001 THE BEST FINANCIAL YEAR YET!

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If you want a part time or full time career that offer fun, good wages, and constant variety, try CACTUS PETES/HORSESHU RESORT CASINO.

NOWHERE else would you find the excitement of meeting new people, making new friends, while enjoying the atmosphere of people having fun, all in one place! We are in the business of entertainment, and we want employees who love to entertain! If you do too, we have the following positions open, and will be at the Magic Valley Mall on February 2, 3 and 4th, waiting to meet and talk with YOU!

Below is a list of our job openings. The wage range may be negotiable, (depending on experience level).

- Cook I \$8.40 - \$12.40
- Cook II \$7.40 - \$10.40
- Cook III \$6.40 - \$8.40
- Dishwashers \$6.40 - \$8.40
- Food Servers \$5.15 - \$6.50
- Cocktail Server \$5.15 - \$6.50
- Bussers/Stockers \$5.15 - \$6.50
- Hosts/Cashiers \$6.40 - \$8.40
- Buffet Servers \$5.40 - \$7.40
- Bartender \$5.15 - \$6.50
- Barback \$5.40 - \$7.40
- Bar Steward \$6.40 - \$8.40
- Snack Bar Cashier \$5.40 - \$7.40
- Baker I (Pastry Cook) \$7.90 - \$10.90
- Baker II \$6.40 - \$8.40
- Slot Attendants I \$7.40 - \$10.40
- Slot Attendants II \$6.40 - \$8.40
- Cage Cashiers \$7.40 - \$10.40
- Reservations Agents \$7.40 - \$10.40
- Switchboard Operators \$7.40 - \$10.40
- Desk Clerks \$7.40 - \$10.40
- Night Auditor \$7.40 - \$10.40
- Bell Persons \$5.15 - \$6.50
- Housekeeping Attendants \$6.90 - \$9.90
- Housemen \$6.40 - \$8.40
- Laundry Attendants \$5.90 - \$7.90
- EVS Attendants \$6.40 - \$8.40
- Other positions may be available.
- Be sure to ask!

If this is you please come see us at the location noted above or applications are accepted Monday-Friday from 8AM to 4PM in our Twin Falls office at the Lynwood Mall, 550 Blue Lakes Blvd., number 208-736-1626. Cactus Petes is a drug free working place and Equal Opportunity Employer.

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WORLD

Agents get death sentence in Iran

The Washington Post

ISTANBUL - In an extraordinary case that exposed the battle between conservatives and reformers over the future of Iran, three intelligence agents were sentenced to death and 12 others to up to life in prison for their roles in murdering four dissident writers and intellectuals, the official Iran Republic News Agency (IRNA) announced Saturday.

Three other agents were acquitted, IRNA said.

The verdicts were announced in Tehran by Military Court Judge Mohammad Reza Agghi in a case that laid bare the struggle between western-leaning reformers, who want to liberalize Iranian politics and society to allow greater personal freedoms, and religious conservatives, who believe the country should abide by strict Islamic law and continue to shun the West.

The month-long trial was closed to the public, IRNA reported that 16 of the 18 defendants, all employees of Iran's intelligence agency, confessed to some role in the 1998 killings and two pleaded not guilty. It was unclear why 15 were sentenced and three acquitted.

While the decision could be considered a victory for Iran's reformist camp, lead by President Mohammad Khatami, many people are likely to be disappointed and embittered with the results.

Reformers allege that a conspiracy of leading conservative clerics and politicians - up to and including a former president - were responsible for ordering the assassinations of as many as 80 dissidents in the 1990s. It appears, however, that the tightly managed trial will be used to close the book on the matter, without answering key questions about how many people were killed and who ultimately was behind the killings.

The mastermind of the killings, former deputy intelligence minister Saeed Imami, committed suicide in jail after being arrested, officials claimed. Reformers believe Imami was killed to cover up a conspiracy that included the country's top intelligence officials and leading conservative clerics and went all the way to former president Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani. Rafsanjani and the others have denied the allegation.

The verdicts came two weeks after some of Iran's best known dissidents received lengthy prison terms for participating in a political conference last year in Berlin that drew critical attention to Iran.

Turkish police detain U.S. activists

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) - Turkish police detained two human rights activists Saturday - an American and a Briton - as they tried to make a statement to reporters on conditions in Turkey's new prisons.

Prisoners solidarity group Ozgur Tayad identified the activists as Juliette June Wales of the United States and Stephen Kaczynski of Britain. They are part of a five-member international delegation investigating prison conditions, but it was not clear which organization they represented.

Their Turkish translator, Sibel Salim, was also detained.

A British consular official confirmed that Kaczynski had been detained and was carrying a British passport. Wales has both British and U.S. citizenship but came to Turkey with an American passport, the British official said.

A U.S. consular official, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that a U.S. citizen had been detained, but had not been charged. The official did not identify the citizen by name.

Police refused to comment on the detentions. It is illegal in Turkey to make statements in public places without permission from authorities.

Last month, the government transferred more than 1,000 inmates linked to outlawed political groups from large dormitory-style prison wards to one- or three-person cells.

Super Bowl Sunday only!

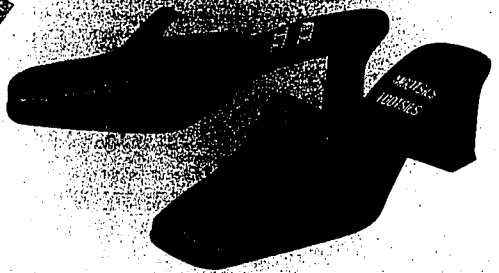
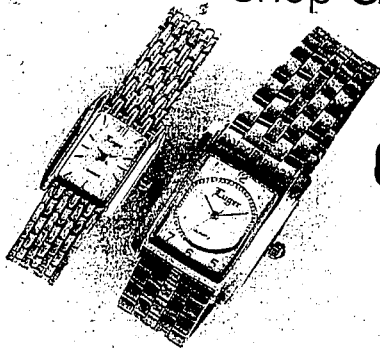
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(If the bar code does not scan, enter PLU 345.)

PLU 345

What's on your list today? You'll find it at

Fred Meyer

Most stores open 7AM to 11PM daily.

Dramatic honors:
Neo-Nazi drama
takes top prize
at Sundance
Page B3

The Times-News

We're nearly always here Thursdays

Nobody but me works on Fridays. I'm pretty sure of that. Including you, by the way, I called you at work to check last Friday, and the receptionist said you'd even given your Voice Mail the day off.

It's a remarkable phenomenon, don't you think? Americans are forever whining that they never have any spare time, yet somehow, some way they always manage to cram a work week into four days.

The trick, of course, is to find a present - in-services are always good, as are workshops, symposia, retreats, travel, camp time, and - my personal favorite - taking a personal day. That's code, in case you didn't recognize it, for "elk season opens Saturday."

Of course, Voice Mail - that's a pretentious answering machine, for those of you who don't know - has made it much easier. You just pop into the shop for a few minutes Friday morning, leave a chirpy voice message that says you're "probably on another line assisting another customer but your call is very important to us" and then head for Jackpot. Nobody's any the wiser, and - more to the point - nobody cares because they're on their way to Jackpot, too.

None of this would work if bosses weren't hip - make that complicit - to this system. Ever tried to call a bank manager, a school administrator, a contractor or a small-business owner after 3 o'clock on a Friday afternoon? To say nothing, of course, of gummint bureaucrats.

Not the clerical workers and the Dilberts, of course, but the decision-makers and pencil-pushers - the people who do the serious mismanagement. For them and their numbers are legion on the federal, state and, increasingly, the local level - Friday is merely a passage.

Segue Day, if you will. Segue is a Sicilian Italian word, a musical term, meaning seamless transition. It's an art form, and done well, a segue is almost unnoticeable.

(Arlene, don't schedule anything for me after 4 o'clock Thursday. I'm in turnaround.)

The secret to not coming to work Friday, obviously, is seeming to come to work Friday.

(Arlene, I haven't scheduled my commitment yet this month; set it up for Friday, will you?)

Research - or fact-finding, if you work for the government - is a golden excuse.

(The bottles are getting the Arlene, pretty bad up Stanley Basin why this morning and the causing a serious problem, Arlene. I'd better go myself and take a look-see. Send Fogberg to that meeting in Richfield Friday in my place?)

Of course, Arlene has to be a co-conspirator. An exhibit discovered by someone else who's actually working - is essential if you're a manager.

(I'm sorry, but Mr. Nockweather had a family emergency and had to go to Sitka to crack this afternoon.)

Of course, Arlene's part of the unholy alliance as well - she works in until 11 on Monday - but the system works as long as everyone is cooperative.

(Johnson, you were at your desk at 8 Friday morning! I thought you were a team player.)

Friday's probably a lost cause because nobody expects any work to be done that day anyway. Case in point, a visit I made to a local fast-food emporium on a Friday afternoon about a year ago.

It was about 4 - not a rush hour in the restaurant business, certainly - and I pulled into the drive-through to purchase a diet cola. Forty-five minutes later - I'm making this up - I finally made it to the window, where the young fellow in attendance handed me a lemonade.

"Could I speak to the manager?" I smiled, greeting my teeth.

"Sorry, sir, but it's Friday," he replied with a smile.

"Meaning - what, exactly?" I continued.

"Meaning that managers don't work on Friday afternoons, sir."

"So, who's in charge?"

"Nobody, sir. The manager comes in Friday mornings and opens and comes back at night and closes."

"Then I suppose it would be pointless to make a complaint?"

"Not at all, sir," he said. "There are managers on duty all day on Monday."

The Times-News features editor Steve Crump is away from his desk right now.

Witness had stayed at shelter

By John T. Huddy
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - The witness to a Jan. 3 shootout between police and an Eden man had filed a protection order against her ex-boyfriend five months before the deadly gunfight.

Mary Ann Taylor, who was living with George Timothy Williams at the time of his Jan. 3 shootout with Jerome County sheriff's deputies, had spent about a month at the Valley Housing Coalition shelter in Twin Falls in April 2000 because of

Deputy's widow offers thanks

A deputy sheriff's widow, who has lost the Times-News to publish the following message to Magic Valley residents: "A special thank you. Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent beautiful flowers. If so, we saw them there. Perhaps you sent or spoke kind words

domestic problems with her then-boyfriend, Douglas Norgard of Twin Falls. Taylor had filed a 90-day pro-

tection order against Norgard in August 2000. She had also filed one against him in October 1999 - which she dismissed the following month, according to Jerome County sheriff's documents.

Taylor, 36, was the eyewitness to the shootout that resulted in the deaths of Jerome County sheriff's Cpl. James Moulson, 30 and Philip Anderson, 23, and Williams, 47.

Sheriff's deputies were serving a narcotics warrant on Williams' Eden home. Investigators later found trace amounts of suspected marijuana in the house, along

with some drug-related paraphernalia.

Jerome County Sheriff Jim Weaver said Williams opened fire at his deputies when they entered his home, maintaining that Williams fired on the officers "knowing full well who we were." Moments before, Williams had vowed not to be taken alive, according to Taylor's statement in a recently released police affidavit.

But Williams' friends and family have suggested that the Jan. 3

Please see WITNESS, Page B3

MUSH, DOG, MUSH



Steve Berka, of Halley, was one skier who wasn't dog tired after skiing the trails Saturday. He let his mutt Bowlie do the work, pulling him down the ski trail.

People and canines hit the trails in Wood River

By Karen Bossick
Times-News correspondent

WOOD RIVER TRAIL - It was the quintessential Wood River Valley experience. Nearly 50 skiers sitting on a bus wearing locally knit jynete ski caps, holding skate skis and poles between their knees and patting dogs at their side.

Their destination: The Wood River ski trail in view of River Run Lodge where they would get off the bus, grab a cup of cocoa and a muffin and then ski about 10 miles back to Halley.

More than 200 cross-country skiers turned out Saturday to take part in the annual Ski the Rails celebration between Ketchum and Halley. They were greeted by cloudless blue skies

and an array of volunteers who doled out bananas, orange slices, granola bars and, yes, doggie biscuits at aid stations along the way. Sun Valley Brewing Co. had a steaming lunch of enchiladas and cold Wood River Trail Ale on tap for those who made it all the way. And Ketchum Spas had set up a hot tub outside the brewery to soothe those aching muscles.

"It's a great family event, a lot of fun in the sun," said Sue Kwapich, of Halley, who was skiing with her pound hound Molly and her friend's beagle Willy.

Ski the Rails commemorates the Wood River Trails system, which was 16 years in the making and has inspired similar trails, including one in Park City, Utah, said Blaine County Recreation Director Mary Austin Crofts.

Interpretive signs set up along the way also paid homage to the rich mining and railroad history along the corridor, which measures a quarter mile at its narrowest point.

Skate skiers scissored dozens of diagonal cuts across the corduroy carpet of snow that had been laid down by a snow groomer earlier that morning as they skied along the former railroad corridor.

The railroad shipped ore and bullion from Ketchum to manufacturing centers during the late 1800s. It hauled more sheep than any place else in the world except for Sydney, Australia, between 1900 and 1917. And it brought tourists to America's first ski village from the late 1930s until 1975 when the last passenger train left Sun Valley never to

return.

Los Angeles visitor Harry Smith, who plugged along the trail Saturday on classic skis, recalled riding the "Snowball Express" from Los Angeles to Sun Valley in the 1960s. "It took about 24 hours," he said. "And there was a dance car so we pretty near danced all the way from Los Angeles to Sun Valley."

A few canine skiers amused their two-legged skiing companions with their finds, which included a frozen field mouse and a deer leg.

"This is so much fun," said Kiki Henry, a visitor from North Carolina who just bought a place in Sun Valley. "I'm not fit enough to do the Boulder Mountain T-U (an 18-mile race coming up next Saturday), but anyone can do this."

Students split over high school's plan to add freshmen

By Aaron Brock
Times-News writer

RUPERT - Reaction is mixed among students to the plan that will move ninth-graders to Minico High School.

The move would be good for the newly added ninth-graders, said several Minico High School sophomores who will be seniors when the freshman class is added.

"I feel it's fine," said sophomore Brandon Klosterman, 15. "It's a good learning experience for the freshmen."

Klosterman, who attended West Minico Junior High as a ninth-grader, said he would rather have attended Minico High last year.

Minidoka School District officials have decided to turn Minico into a four-year high school, and the change will likely come during the 2002-2003 school year at the earliest.

Amber Widmair, a sophomore who attended East Minico last year, echoed that it would be a



good learning experience for freshmen to attend the high school.

But this learning experience may come at a cost, said sophomore Brent Hunt. Freshmen in the high school would be stressed

from their role as small fish in a big pond, he said.

"You have to worry about seniors and staff," he said. Sophomores Morgan Parker and Lacy Holmes agreed that freshmen could have a difficult

time coping with the flux of older and larger students. The sophomores already feel small, Parker said, and the freshman class would feel this even more.

"It doesn't seem like they'd fit in," he said.

Minico High School sophomores Lacy Holmes, left, and Morgan Parker see some potential problems with the addition of a freshman class to Minico High. District officials have decided to turn Minico into a four-year high school, and the change will likely come during the 2002-2003 school year, when Holmes and Parker will be seniors.

Parker enjoyed his ninth-grade year at junior high, because "we were the biggest," he said.

Seven-graders at West Minico Junior High will be the first-class to enter Minico as freshmen - were equally split on the issue.

"It would be fun being in high school," seventh-grader Anna Rivas said.

Several seventh-graders pointed out the benefits of expanded sports opportunities and elective classes in a larger school, but there also are concerns.

Increased peer pressure to use drugs and alcohol will be present at the high school, said seventh-grader Austin Bailes.

"As you get older, there's a lot more pressure," Bailes said, and, surrounded by older students, the pressure to drink or use drugs will be more heavily felt than at the junior high schools.

Times-News writer Aaron Brock can be reached at the Mini-Cassia Bureau, 677 E. 4th, ext. 110, or by e-mail at abrock@magicvalley.com.

Kraft Foods announces expansion

By Lorraine Caverer
Times-News correspondent

RUPERT - An old local landmark is changing hands.

Kraft Foods has purchased Thompson Cash Yard, the combination lumberyard, surplus business and antique store, which has been closed for about 25 years.

Kraft officials said an agreement has been reached and construction has started on a new milk receiving building.

The two-bay, drive-through building will accommodate more than 20 trucks per day when it is completed in late spring, said Mark Rosenquist, project engineer for Kraft.

A finished product cooler also will be built on the property, with completion slated for early summer.

"As we continue to play a key role in production of Philadelphia Cream Cheese, our plant needs to increase its capacity to cool and store cream cheese before it is shipped to our customers," plant manager Tim Gregersen said.

U.S. Auctions will hold a series of auctions to sell off what is left of Thompson Cash Yard's inventory, owner Glen Thompson said. The first is planned for mid-February and two more in March. Auctions will include building material, hardware, collectibles and antiques, he said.

A fence separates Kraft's construction area from where Thompson and his family will be taking down buildings and selling off inventory.

Thompson said he has been talking to Kraft for more than 10 years about selling the property, but over the past 90 days, negotiations became serious.

"It will be lots of work," said Susan Thompson, Glen Thompson's wife.

As the family prepares to vacate the property, many memories remain from the past 60 years, said Glen Thompson's brother, Jack Thompson, who came from Montana to help.

"I was raised in that house," Jack Thompson said. The old house will be torn down along with the lumber and hardware

Please see KRAFT, Page B3

MAGIC VALLEY/WEST

Electronics giant to cut workforce

BOISE (AP) - Hewlett-Packard Co. officials say they are "re-inventing" their electronics corporation, including the loss of 2 percent of the global workforce or up to 80 people in southwestern Idaho.

"The goal is to preserve the best and reinvent the rest," he said. A force of 1,000 employees are expected to be notified by mid-February, and the reinvention program should be completed by April 30, the end of the second fiscal quarter.

"We are doing a restructuring program that is going to lessen the amount of positions that are available." - Dave Berman, Hewlett-Packard Co. spokesman

Hewlett-Packard currently has 88,500 employees worldwide, including 4,000 in Boise. John Church, president of the Idaho Economics consulting firm, sees the layoffs as indicators a readjustment to a new economic climate is starting to happen in town.

Foundation adds new monument to lawsuit

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) - Little more than a week after then-President Clinton established the Sonoran Desert National Monument, the Antiquities Act of 1906 under which Clinton established several monuments, including this one and two others in Arizona that are challenged.

The foundation's lawsuit filed in federal court in Washington, D.C., seeks to undo the designation of six monuments in the West, including the Sonoran Desert National Monument.

OBITUARIES

For obituary rates and information, call 733-0931, Ext. 278, between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Deadline is 4:30 p.m. for next-day publication. Death notices are a free service and can be placed until 8 p.m. every day.

TWIN FALLS



most inventive and capable students. Bill Helt the University of California when he, to his surprise, won a drawing for World War II veterans. This gave Bill the right to homestead a farm on the Hunt Project in Jerome County. Bill's father had always wanted to own a farm, so he filed out the paperwork for the drawing.

Bill, however, was always more of a student and inventor than a farmer. In the 1950's, he designed and began to build his dream of a "circulating arm" water irrigation system.



HILLSBORO, ORE.

Salita Wolfe, Brinda Wolfe, Jewelle Wolfe, and Daniel Wolfe, all of Burley, her parents, Melvin and Beth Jones, (Ramon) Jones, and Susan (Rogor) Nutsch, all of Jerome, and Vickie Lynne (Wesley) Dryden of Preston; and eight grandchildren.



WENDELL

Myrtle N. Ivie Myrtle Noreen Ivie, 84, passed away on Friday, Jan. 26, 2001, at Magic Valley Manor in Wendell.

She was born on July 23, 1916, in Grace, to Lucille May and Robert G. Cherry. She married Jarred LeRoy Ivie on May 23, 1933. She enjoyed sewing and working with flowers that were in her garden.

WENDELL

Martha C. Williams Martha Carol Williams, 84, of Wendell, died early Friday, January 26, 2001, at the Twin Falls Clinic and Hospital following a brief illness.

Martha was born November 14, 1916, in Kallispell, Montana, to Sylvester and Marie Jardine Williams. She moved with her family as a small child to St. Seattle, Washington, area where she grew up and attended schools, graduating from Ballard High School.

BURLEY

Douglas A. Bishop Douglas A. Bishop, 58, long-time Hillsboro resident, died of lung cancer at his home January 19, 2001.

He was born April 15, 1942, in Twin Falls, the son of Frederick A. and Lucille Verona (Gore) Bishop. Raised and schooled in Twin Falls, he graduated from high school there in 1960. Doug then attended college at the University of Idaho at Moscow, graduating in 1965, with his degree in Range Management.

After his discharge in 1968, the family returned to Idaho and they lived in Halley for four years, where he worked for the Soil Conservation Service as a range conservationist.

Photography was a long-time hobby, which during his retirement years became a small business. He was the secretary to the Portland Association of Photography and Metropolitan and was the newsletter editor. An avid golfer, he was a member of the USDA Golf Club and was the editor for their newsletter.

Jessie L. Blaine-Salerno

Jessie L. Blaine-Salerno passed away Jan. 22, 2001, at the Twin Falls Clinic and Hospital after a brief illness.

She was born January 12, 1909, in Olathe, Kan., the daughter of Frank and Clara Klein. She grew up and attended schools in Twin Falls. After she completed her education, she married and moved to California.

She is survived by her husband; Steve, their grandchildren, Reno (LARRY) Maxson, Phil, Gloria (Bill) West of Reno, Nev., and Gordon (Edna) Greenwood of California; seven great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

BLACKFOOT

William R. Niedrich Jr.

William R. "Bill" Niedrich Jr., 76, inventor, farmer, and a friend to many, died Jan. 25, 2001, at the State Hospital South in Blackfoot, where he had received much loving care. Bill was known by many persons at the hospital because of his recurring bouts of bipolar illness. However, he died within a few days after he had been given the diagnosis of possible Lou Gehrig's disease.

Bill was born in Pacific Palisades, California, January 13, 1925. He was the son of William R. Niedrich Sr. and Irma Schneider Niedrich (who married Rupert Onida of Jerome after Bill Sr. died). As a young adult, Bill was chosen as one of two California students earning the Diamond Star Award and a trip to Washington, D.C., to meet President Harry S. Truman. While at the University of California at Davis, he designed and built an analog computer for the "Radioactive Tracer Team." Dr. Max Kleber, chairman of the Agriculture Department, called Bill one of his

TERRY ANN WOLFE

Terry Ann Wolfe, 61-year-old Burley resident, died Tuesday, January 25, 2001, at the Cassia Regional Medical Center.

She was born on July 28, 1949, in Reno, Nev., and a great-granddaughter, Tierra Marshall of Twin Falls.

She is survived by her husband; Steven, their grandchildren, Reno (LARRY) Maxson, Phil, Gloria (Bill) West of Reno, Nev., and Gordon (Edna) Greenwood of California; seven great-grandchildren; seven great-great-grandchildren; and numerous cousins, nieces, and nephews.

Jessie requested no services. Her arrangements are under the care of Park's Magic Valley Funeral Home in Twin Falls.

FOUNDATION ADDS NEW MONUMENT TO LAWSUIT

The foundation's lawsuit filed in federal court in Washington, D.C., seeks to undo the designation of six monuments in the West, including the Sonoran Desert National Monument.

The Antiquities Act authorizes presidents to create monuments to protect objects of scientific and historic interest, factors Clinton cited. He announced the Sonoran Desert designation on Jan. 17.

The lawsuit contends that under the federal constitution, only Congress has the power to make laws regulating public land use, including designation of national monuments. Clinton bypassed Congress.

Jim Angell, a lawyer for Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, said he doubted the lawsuit would succeed.

"I think they're swimming against almost 100 years worth of contrary precedent on this one," Angell said.

Nationwide, Clinton created 18 new monuments and expanded two others, using the Antiquities Act to do so. Most are in the West.

Both sides have adherents in court. The Sierra Club and The Wilderness Society have intervened in support of the designations. The Blue Ribbon Coalition, a group supporting multiple use of public land, is backing the Denver organization.

Others point to wide-ranging support, including Indian communities, wildlife biologists, environmentalists and archaeologists.

However, "it's not at all clear how serious the administration is going to defend the designations," Angell said. "It makes us very wary."

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DEATH NOTICES

Anna L. Gardner GLENNS FERRY - Anna L. Gardner, 69, of Glenns Ferry, died Saturday, Jan. 27, 2001, at a Boise hospital.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Summers Funeral Homes, McMurtry Chapel in Mountain Home.

Rhona Aragon JEROME - Rhona "Ronnie" Aragon, of Jerome, died Friday, Jan. 26, 2001.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary in Jerome.

Betty Harkins JEROME - Betty Harkins, of Jerome, died Friday, Jan. 26, 2001, at her home.

Arrangements are pending, and will be announced by Farnsworth Mortuary in Jerome.

Mortuary in Jerome.

Carl A. Farnsworth MURTAUGH - Carl A. Farnsworth, 89, of Murtaugh, died Saturday, Jan. 27, 2001, at the Cassia Regional Medical Center in Burley.

Arrangements are pending and will be announced by Payne Mortuary in Burley.

Byron C. Young JEROME - Byron C. Young, 92, of Jerome, died Thursday, Jan. 25, 2001, at his home.

The funeral will be held at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Jerome 2nd Ward LDS Church on North Lincoln.

Friends may call from 6-8 p.m. Monday at the Hove-Robertson Funeral Chapel in Jerome.

HOSPITAL

MAGIC VALLEY REGIONAL MEDICAL CENTER Some names are omitted at patients' request.

Admitted Joan Gail Harmon of Jerome.

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Union Pacific Railroad spokesman John Bromley smiles while talking to reporters Saturday outside the Federal Courthouse in Omaha, Neb.

Judge issues restraining order against walkout

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — A federal judge Saturday reaffirmed a temporary restraining order that keeps Union Pacific engineers on the job after a strike was called against the nation's largest rail carrier.

U.S. District Judge Lyle Strom set a Feb. 7 hearing on the railroad's request for a preliminary injunction.

"Everybody's on the job as normal," said John Bromley, a railroad spokesman.

Strom issued his original order earlier Saturday, a little more than two hours after the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers began the walkout.

The union represents more than 8,000 locomotive engineers at Union Pacific.

The union said the dispute involves qualifications for personal leave that were implemented at the start of the year.

"Union Pacific has chosen to unilaterally impose new working conditions on locomotive engineers, in defiance of federal law," Edward Dubroski, president of the Cleveland-based union said in a statement.

Dubroski said Union Pacific broke the terms of the Railway Labor Act by not negotiating the change in working conditions.

Senator regrets his cameo role in violent drug movie

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, regrets his cameo role in the movie "Traffic" that features nudity, sex, drug use and profane language.

It wasn't always that way. Before the film was released, Hatch said he was glad he took a role. He defended the movie's use of violence by saying it accurately portrayed the drug culture as degrading.

But then Hatch saw the movie, which stars Michael Douglas. "I was shocked and dismayed at the gratuitous amount of violence and profanity in 'Traffic,'" Hatch said in a prepared statement.

The strait-laced senator, better known for writing religious hymns and berating Hollywood

violence that appears on the big screen, briefly appears as himself in "Traffic."

"The thing I really resented was that every other word is the F-word. Hollywood needs to grow up. There's no excuse for that," he said.

He plays a bit part in a scene where Douglas, acting as the nation's new czar, talks to senators at a Georgetown party. Hatch tells Douglas what he thinks a drug czar ought to do.

Hatch said he was filmed for five minutes, but he appears in the movie for only five seconds.

Hatch thought the movie would be rated PG-13 and says he agreed to cooperate because "Traffic" would champion an anti-drug message.

Witness

Continued from B1

shooting could have been a case of mistaken identity, Williams might have mistaken police for Norgard — whom Williams reportedly had fought with before his death.

Williams had told friends and family that Norgard had threatened his life after an altercation the afternoon of Dec. 17, 2000. Williams also said that Norgard had continually harassed him and Taylor, before and after the Dec. 17 fight.

Norgard had admitted to fighting with Williams on Dec. 17 — about two weeks before Williams' death. But he has denied knowing either Williams or Taylor. Norgard said he is not violent.

But Williams' family and friends contend Williams was scared of Norgard and had begun carrying a pistol because of his fears.

Norgard, 39, said he and Taylor have had a rocky relationship, but that the protection orders were merely ploys by Taylor in a custody dispute over their 3-year-old daughter.

"They just came out of the blue," Norgard said in an interview Friday. "We never got into no physical battles. I thought I knew the chick, but I really don't."

As for the Dec. 17 fight with Williams, Norgard offers a different account.

"I wasn't present at all. I just didn't want him to take my daughter because they were drunk off their asses and I was trying to get visitation for days," Norgard said.

Norgard, who has criminal records in Twin Falls, Jerome and Bannock counties, currently has a Jerome County warrant out for his arrest, for failure to appear in court on a misdemeanor charge of possession of drug paraphernalia and for failure to pay a \$165 fine in connection with the charge.

Norgard said he has used the generic methamphetamine but longer does. Taylor has been described by close friends as a covering methamphetamine addict.

Roger Wyatt, director of the Valley Housing Coalition, a Twin

To read more

Internet site, www.magicvalley.com, for a complete chronicle of all Times-News articles on the Eden shootings. Just click on the link for a full report on the case to date.

Falls homeless shelter, said Taylor and her daughter about a month at the shelter last year.

"She was just absolutely normal at the time, nothing spectacular, nothing negative," he said.

Wyatt said Taylor was "cooperating" with him. There was nothing to indicate she was being working during her stay at Valley House, he said. Taylor, unemployed when she moved into Valley House, had even found a job while there.

Wyatt took her about a week.

But Wyatt said the problems began again when Taylor moved back in with Norgard after her Valley House stay.

Wyatt said he got a late-night call from police a few months after Taylor had left the shelter. Taylor had again gotten into a domestic fight with Norgard in

Neo-Nazi drama takes top prize

PARK CITY, Utah (AP) — "The Believer," a grimly intense tale of a Jewish neo-Nazi skinhead, won the grand jury prize, the top honor for dramas at the Sundance Film Festival.

Sundance jurors gave the documentary grand jury prize to "Southern Comfort," an intimate portrait of a dying female-to-male transsexual and his romance with a male-to-female transsexual.

Awards were presented Saturday night, with top winners screening one last time today as the 11-day independent-cinema showcase closed.

"Hedwig and the Angry Inch," a raucous musical adapted from the off-Broadway play about a rock singer struggling with her botched sex-change operation, won the dramatic audience award, chosen in balloting by Sundance movie-goers. "Hedwig" was won by the dramatic directing award for Cameron Mitchell, who stars in the title role.

The documentary audience award was split by two films: "Dogtown and Z-Boys," the story of a band of misfit skateboarders in Santa Monica, Calif., who pio-

neered extreme sports in the 1970s; and "Scout's Honor," director Tom Shepard's study of anti-gay policies in the Boy Scouts.

"Dogtown and Z-Boys" also won the documentary directing award for Stacy Ferrara, a member of the original "Z-Boys." "Scout's Honor" also received Sundance's freedom of expression award.

Drama jurors at Sundance gave a special acting prize to Sissy Spacek and Tom Wilkinson for their gripping performances in "In the Bedroom." Spacek and Wilkinson play parents struck by family tragedy, whose grief gives way to a desire for vengeance.

"The Believer," written and directed by Henry Bean, stars Ryan Gosling as a youth who militantly argues against conservative Jewish teachings as a boy and grows up hiding his heritage as he falls in with later-day, anti-Semitic fascists. Even as he commits hate crimes, he becomes an anti-Jewish rabble-rouser, who finds his faith in the Holocaust and reverence for the traditions of Judaism.

"Southern Comfort," directed by Kate Davis, traces the last year in the life of Robert Eads, a transsexual who died of ovarian cancer toward the end of the film shoot in 1999. The movie, much of which was shot by Davis working on her own with a handheld digital camera, chronicles Eads' budding romance with a transsexual named Lola Cola.

Among other Sundance awards:

- The jury prize for short films was given to "Gina, An Actress, Age 29," a 20-minute movie directed by Paul Harrill.
- The screening prize went to Christopher Nolan for "Memento," a convoluted tale of a man unable to form new memories who is bent on revenge for the death of his wife, Guy Pearce, Carrie-Anne Moss and Joe Pantoliano star in the film, which also was directed by Nolan.
- A special jury prize was awarded to "Children Underground," a documentary about children living in a Romanian subway station.
- "The Road Home," a

Chinese film from director Zhang Yimou, won the world-cinema audience award. The movie centers on a man's musings over his parents' courtship as he returns home for his father's funeral.

- The Latin America cinema prize was shared by "Without a Trace," a Mexican road movie about a single mother and a smuggler of ancient art, and "Possible Loves," a Brazilian entry that tracks three alternate destinies for a man and woman.
- Sundance's Latin American panel also gave a special jury mention to "Coffin Joe: The Strange World of Jose Mojica Marins," a documentary about the obscure Brazilian horror director.
- The documentary cinematography award was given to Albert Mays for "Lace's Kin: The Legacy of Cotton," a passionate examination of Deep South poverty. Giles Nuttgens won the dramatic cinematography award for "The Deep End," starring Tilda Swinton as a mother who goes to any lengths to try to protect her son after he falls in with seedy characters.

Budget writers might expand med school access

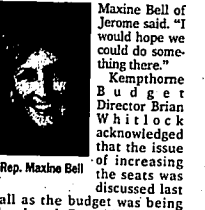
BOISE (AP) — When Gov. Dirk Kempthorne laid out an aggressive spending and tax relief package this month, he promised incentives and grants to extend the economic boom beyond Boise and Coeur d'Alene to the rest of Idaho.

But some key lawmakers believe the governor failed to adequately address a critical part of the rural infrastructure that could affect more decisions about business development than any combination of 3 percent investment tax credits — health care.

Kempthorne has gone after additional vaccine to fight childhood diseases. He has called for enough cash to finance 70 new seats in the health care sciences at Idaho State University. And he proposed full financing for an \$11.5 million health sciences building at North Idaho College.

But in the state that ranks last in the nation in the ratio of primary health care providers to the population, the governor again promised to recommend increasing the number of medical school seats the state subsidizes at the University of Washington and the University of Utah.

"That concerned me," House Appropriations Chairman



Rep. Maxine Bell

Maxine Bell of Jerome said, "I would hope we could do something there."

But the budget crises of the 1980s prompted reductions so that today, with a population of 1.3 million, the state is subsidizing only 22 new students each year.

Only Alaska among the other western state — excluding California — supports fewer medical school seats than Idaho.

In addition to having an extremely low physician ratio — just 63 for every 100,000 people in 1998 — Idaho also has one of the oldest cadres of physicians in the nation.

"The combined effects of these trends make it very difficult for rural communities to maintain sustainable health care systems," according to the Profile of Rural Idaho published by the state Commerce Department.

Attempts to restore the lost seats have been generally unsuccessful. Only two have been added since the late 1980s.

But health care professionals have joined forces with the Board of Education this year to present a unified front for the addition of

sixteen 25 students entering the four-year medical school curriculum every year.

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But health care professionals have joined forces with the Board of Education this year to present a unified front for the addition of

eight more medical school admissions at an eventual cost of just under \$1 million a year and three more dental school seats at a cost of \$350,000 a year.

Many thought that with the huge budget surplus and continuing strong growth in tax revenues, the expense would seem acceptable.

There is little question the seats would be filled. The number of applicants for the 22 seats available now doubled during the 1990s to 119 last year.

Education and health science professionals have begun recruiting students early in their high schools careers for the health sciences, and the state has a number of strategies to lure new doctors into practicing in Idaho, especially in rural communities.

The University of Washington program has offered third and fourth year training in rural settings in Idaho and other participating states and a similar program is being developed with the University of Utah.

"If you train here, you're more likely to find out how nice it is here and more likely to come back," said Dr. James Blackman, who is involved with the medical programs.

Jerome and had filed a protection order against him.

"They asked if she could stay here again, and I said sure," Wyatt said. "I never heard from her again."

The Times-News has been unable to contact Taylor despite repeated attempts since the Jan. 3 shooting.

Taylor's role in the shooting is unclear. Sources close to her have said she might have been working as a confidential informant for police, who suspected Williams of drug trafficking.

She previously had worked as a confidential drug informant, according to court records.

Norgard said he has not spoken with Taylor or his daughter since Jan. 3 and does not know their whereabouts.

"All I can say is that I'm worried about my daughter and I want to know when I can see her," Norgard said Friday. "Mary Ann has my number, she can call."

JACKSONVILLE, Ore. (AP) — Oregon practically invented what it means to be green, leading the nation in restoring salmon habitat, retiring in urban sprawl and protecting farms and forests from becoming housing tracts.

But in November, voters shocked property rights advocates

Ballot measure threatens land use laws

and environmentalists alike by approving a constitutional amendment known as Measure 7 that could bring all those regulations — and even local zoning — tumbling down.

And the hot presidential race and 26 measures on the ballot, Measure 7 got little attention

and an automated palletizer in the cream cheese department, he said.

"This is all good news for our employees and the community," he said. "It demonstrates our plant is a vital part of Kraft's manufacturing network, at the same time providing Rupert with a strong employment base, an outlet for local goods and services and a stable market for milk producers throughout the area."

Neufchatel cream cheese and

low-fat natural cheese are also made at the Rupert plant, which employs about 145 people. The expansion will not see an increase in workers.

The plant spends more than \$60 million annually in the area on payroll, taxes, milk procurement and other purchases.

Times-News correspondent Lorraine Cavenar can be reached through the Mini-Cassia Bureau at 677-4042.

Kraft

Continued from B1

sheds.

Glen Thompson still owns the former A&W property next to the Cash Yard, where a Mexican restaurant is now located.

The Thompson Cash Yard property is not Kraft's only investments in the Rupert plant over the past year, Gregersen said.

Improvements also include roof renovations, a new water system, refrigeration system upgrades, enhancements to processing areas

and an automated palletizer in the cream cheese department, he said.

"This is all good news for our employees and the community," he said. "It demonstrates our plant is a vital part of Kraft's manufacturing network, at the same time providing Rupert with a strong employment base, an outlet for local goods and services and a stable market for milk producers throughout the area."

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IDAHO/WEST

CATCH!



Mo Beretter of Kuna waits to catch a basketball at Northwest Lineman College near Kuna Thursday. The exercise is designed to teach linemen to be comfortable on the pole and learn to use their line belt instead of the hands.

Activists push measure to stop funding of 'health abortions'

BOISE (AP) - Anti-abortion activists observing the anniversary of the landmark Roe v. Wade court decision Saturday announced a measure will be introduced in the Idaho Legislature to halt taxpayer funding for what they call "health" abortions.

They also praised the new administration of President George W. Bush, who has moved to bar federal funds for international family planning groups involved with abortion and ordered a review on the government's approval of the RU-486 abortion pill.

"An abortion for health reasons should not be confused with an abortion to save the life of the mother," Kerry Uhlenkott, legislative coordinator of Right to Life of Idaho Inc., told hundreds of supporters who marched to the Boise Statehouse on Thursday. "We've learned the health exception is a wide-open loophole and equals abortion on demand."



Uhlenkott said her group supports the I'd a h'o

Chooses Life organization's goal to eliminate Medicaid funding of abortions performed when the health of the mother, but not her life, is at risk.

She said a U.S. Supreme Court ruling, which was a companion piece to the 1973 Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortions, included under the health umbrella the age of the mother, her psychological or economic state and health of the baby.

"Our research shows Idaho is one of only 16 states that provide Medicaid funding for so-called health abortions and is one of five forced to by state law," Uhlenkott said, adding about 240 of the procedures have taken place in the state since 1995 at a cost of more than \$100,000.

"She said the vast majority of Idahoans, even those who are pro-choice, don't want their tax

money to be used for abortion. Uhlenkott cited one case where a woman in Minnesota was able to get a funded abortion because of morning sickness and another in Indiana who received one because she disliked her appearance in a swimsuit."

The Idaho Chooses Life group announced Sen. Bart Davis, R-Idaho Falls, and Rep. Tom Loertscher, R-Iona, would introduce the Idaho legislation.

Lawmakers last session passed a measure requiring minors to obtain parental or judicial consent before receiving an abortion. Enforcement of that law has been blocked by a federal magistrate.

The Rev. Peter West of Priests for Life, a group of Roman Catholic priests against abortions, said he has seen the change from abortions, physically and mentally.

"Abortion isn't a service it doesn't help women," he said. "The baby disintegrates, the woman dies a little bit each day."

Newspaper owner sues for records access

TACOMA (AP) - The owner of The Spokesman Review newspaper is suing for access to documents filed by attorneys for confessed serial killer Robert L. Yates Jr. to support their contention that Yates should not face the death penalty in Pierce County.

Cowles Publishing Co. wants to see records submitted by Yates' attorneys to Pierce County Prosecutor Gerry Horne before Horne decided Jan. 12 to seek the death penalty if Yates is convicted in two Pierce County deaths.

Horne's office has refused to let reporters from the Spokane newspaper or other media see

the documents.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys Roger Hunko and Mary Kay High say such information is never released to the public and is exempt from the state's Open Records Act for several reasons, including fair-trial requirements.

In addition, the materials contain "highly personal information" that Yates and his family have a right to keep private, High has said in court documents.

Yates is charged in Pierce County with aggravated first-degree murder in the deaths of Melinda L. Mercer and Connie LaFontaine Ellis. His trial is tentatively scheduled for June, but

will likely be postponed.

Yates pleaded guilty last year to killing 13 people in Spokane, Skagit and Walla Walla counties, and to one count of attempted murder. He was sentenced to consecutive life terms totaling more than 440 years.

Spokane County Prosecutor Steve Tucker has said the evidence that would have qualified Yates for capital punishment in those cases was weak, a decision criticized by other prosecutors across the state.

Superior Court Judge John McCarthy will hear arguments Monday in the document case, which is scheduled to go to trial in July before Superior Court

Judge Rosanne Buckner.

"It seems to me that whenever a significant decision is made by a public official, in order for the public to understand the process of what's going on, the public should have full access to all the materials," said Cowles attorney Duane Swinton.

Prosecutors fear defendants might feel stifled in pleading their cases if such documents are made public, said attorney Doug Vanscoy, representing the prosecutor's office.

"We want to encourage defendants to be completely candid in providing information to this office in death-penalty decisions," he said.

Salt Lake takes back its title of American Jell-O capital

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) - Salt Lake City has earned back the title of No. 1 for Jell-O consumption per capita, taking back the slippery "championship" from Des Moines, Iowa.

And the state Senate is considering a resolution to declare the jiggly dessert the official snack of Utah.

The measure, sponsored by

Sen. Leonard Blackham, R-Moroni, would declare Feb. 4-10 "Jell-O week," to be celebrated annually.

"I chose Jell-O because of what it stands for: wholesomeness and family values," Blackham said. "This is fun in the right sense of recognizing something that's a vehicle for some important values."

The resolution also cites the popularity of the 2002 Winter Olympic green gelatin pin, and the state's long and storied history of eating lots and lots of Jell-O.

On Jan. 31, Jell-O spokesman Bill Cosby will make an appearance at a joint session of the House and Senate. At that session, the state will make Cosby

an honorary citizen. And Jell-O will have a display - and hand out wiggly samples - in the Capitol Rotunda.

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IDAHO/WEST

Ada courthouse murals spark controversy

By Melanie Carroll
The Associated Press

BOISE — Most of the murals that blanket the walls of the Ada County Courthouse depict Americans clad in Depression-era garb working hard to pull their country from the depths of economic despair.

Harvesters toil in the field, men pour over maps as they organize an expedition, and an airplane — the height of technology in the 1930s — lands as onlookers watch in amazement. The walls show an optimistic nation on the move.

But two adjacent murals — each hidden by a flag — chronicle an American Indian being lynched by two white settlers.

The American flag conceals a white man holding a stick and a second carrying a rifle flanking an Indian in moccasins and a loincloth.

In the next mural, the blue state flag conceals the image of the Indian being lynched. His back is turned to the viewer. His hands are tied behind him. Kneeling, he faces a noose held by the gun-toting pioneer.

The murals have engendered concern from some over their racist content while others argue that they accurately reflect American history, ugly as it might be.

The work was funded by the federal government's Works Project Administration, created by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to stimulate the econ-

omy out of The Great Depression through government-funded projects.

"The times are a lot different now," Boise Art Museum Curator Sandy Harthorn said. "It's just part of history."

Former 4th District Administrative Judge Gerald F. Schroeder, who oversaw the courthouse for 13 years until appointed to the Idaho Supreme Court in 1995, made the decision to cover the two murals.

"I didn't think people should see a lynching as part of the court system," Schroeder said. "I thought the flags would cover them nicely, and they would not be the first things people saw."

Had he been a minority, Schroeder said he would have felt uncomfortable seeing those images, and that feeling prompted his decision.

"No one said they were offended," Schroeder said. "The element of being uncomfortable began with me."

After taking the action, however, the judge recalled an American Indian custodian being appreciative because he had never felt comfortable working around them.

Still, a member of the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes wants the art exposed.

"They should be revealed so people know what really happened," said Lori Edmo, editor of the Sho-Ban News. "The truth is not getting out. It's not very positive for the non-Indian world." Her grandparents told Edmo

that in the 1860s tribal members were corralled by the U.S. Cavalry and "locked up in Boise, some of them killed, others being marched across southern Idaho to the Fort Hall Indian Reservation near Blackfoot."

"The Boise River was red with blood," Edmo said.

Fletcher Martin, an artist who grew up in nearby Emmet in the early 1900s, proposed and sketched the Ada County Courthouse murals. He also created Works Project Administration murals for the post offices in Kellogg and in San Pedro, Calif., and James, Texas. He went on to a successful career as an artist that included working for Life Magazine.

The Kellogg mural, "Mine Rescue," sparked so much controversy because it showed two muscular miners carrying an injured worker on a stretcher that it was replaced by another Martin mural.

"The intimate connection between home, work, and communal identity accounts for the bitter dispute that erupted in Kellogg, Idaho in 1939 when an artist submitted a mural design

showing a fatal accident in a local lead mine," author Karel Ann Marling wrote in "Wall to Wall, America."

To view the painting hangs in the National Museum of American Art, part of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

And if the U.S. General Services Administration has its way, Martin's Boise paintings could also end up in the nation's capital. The agency — which has no jurisdiction over state or county buildings — is hoping the pieces will be donated.

"We hope to continue to work with the museum community to develop cooperative agreements for the future care of and responsibility for these important works of art," Commissioner Robert A. Peck wrote last year.

But the fate of the artwork in the Ada County Courthouse ultimately lies in the hands of the Legislature.

The county sold the 62-year-old building to the state early last year for \$2.5 million and is renting it back until the new county courthouse is completed early next year.



Early western settlers prepare to hang an American Indian in this painted mural that hangs on one of the walls in the Ada County Courthouse in Boise, Idaho, Thursday. About a dozen or so murals depicting western life in the 19th century adorn the walls of the courthouse and were created by the United States Work Projects Administration/Southern California Art Project in 1940. This panel has been hidden from public view by an Idaho State flag put over to cover it up.

Tribes oppose scientists' requests for archeological data.

LAPWAI (AP) — The Nez Perce Tribe and other tribes have filed a joint response opposing the latest request by scientists to obtain data from the Kennewick Man case.

The tribes urge Judge John Felder in the U.S. District Court of Oregon to issue a protective order to ensure that use of images and information provided by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers be limited to litigation only.

"Some scientists have already exploited images of the Ancient One for their own purposes," said Samuel N. Penney, chairman of the Nez Perce Tribe.

The motion filed by the scientists asks for "raw computer data."

"The raw data can be used to create and generate an unlimited number of new images, which can be altered and distorted,"

said Nez Perce tribal attorney David Cummings.

In 1998, some scientists published a model of a skull they contended resembled Captain Picard from "Star Trek."

The controversial Kennewick Man was discovered in the shallows of the Columbia River in 1996 in Kennewick, Wash.

The skull has features that are dissimilar to those of modern Indians.

Anthropologists who studied the 9,000-year-old bones for the Interior Department have said Kennewick Man appeared to have the strongest connection to populations from Polynesia and southern Asia.

Last year, the Corps of Engineers decided to return the remains of the Kennewick Man to the tribes, which include the Nez Perce, Umatilla, Colville and Yakama.

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IDAHO/WEST

Utah hires country's first 'porn czarina'

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A city prosecutor who cut her teeth on obscenity cases has been appointed as Utah's "porn czarina," the first such position in the nation.

"Utah is a family-oriented state and pornography doesn't have a place in a family-oriented state," said West Valley City prosecutor Paula Houston, whose appointment was announced Friday by Utah Attorney General Mark Shurtleff.

She said she saw the damage pornography can do when prosecuting her first smut case: busting a video shop that rented hardcore tapes.

"I guess I developed a passion for it at that time," she said.

Now, more than a decade later, her new job will let her put that passion to work.

But how the office will work remains unclear, and at least one critic calls it a waste of time and money.

The position of Obscenity and Pornography Complaints Ombudsman — Houston's official title — was created by the Legislature last year to field complaints from people who said they had been exposed to pornography.

The original intent was to go after Internet porn, and Shurtleff and Houston say that remains one of their goals, although Houston conceded that there is no legal precedent allowing states to regulate Internet pornography.

The office will also help local communities draft ordinances so they can block out as much indecent material as the law will allow, Houston said. That will involve unangling vague and often uncharted legal issues.

"We do not want to trample First Amendment rights, but we have to balance that with protecting our children," she said.

Shurtleff, who made Internet pornography one of his top campaign issues, was more forceful.

"I, for one, will not allow pornographers to hide behind the Constitution," he said.

Andrew McCullough, a Utah attorney who represents several adult-oriented businesses, said the \$75,000 going to the porn czarina's office is "a tremendous waste of taxpayers' money," and the state could end up shelling



Utah's newly appointed Obscenity and Pornography Complaints Ombudsman Paula Houston listens to questions during a news conference Friday at the State Capitol in Salt Lake City.

out even more to defend the office's actions.

"The only one real winner here is me," he said. "I'm going to make a lot of money. The state's going to spend a lot and I'm going to have a lot of fun. And I think when the dust settles, nothing is going to have changed."

Shurtleff said the state may be liable for some legal costs, but insisted that Utah is more likely to win its cases.

Houston earned her law degree at Brigham Young University and has worked for the West Valley City attorney's office since 1988. She served a Mormon mission in New Zealand.

Shurtleff's office is backing another bill to hire a computer expert to help crack down on Internet pornography and to develop a "virtual 911" button that parents can use to notify the attorney general's office if their kids are targeted by online smut.

Utah, where some residents use video services with nudity and profanity out of even the mildest R-rated movies, already has tough anti-porn laws.

In one high-profile 1996 case, a Utah County video store owner was charged with multiple counts of distributing pornography.

He was acquitted nearly three years later, after being driven into bankruptcy.

Attorney says farmers are under attack

NEZPERCE (AP) — Farmers at a Nezperce Grass Growers Association meeting agreed to be part of a pilot program next summer that will test how well growers are complying with voluntary guidelines for grass and field burning.

And Gary Baise, a Washington, D.C., lawyer who represents Idaho farmers in a federal lawsuit over field burning warned that well-funded environmental groups "are out to destroy you and take you out of business."

About 100 farmers — mostly from Idaho and Lewis counties — gathered Friday to hear a variety of speakers talk about field burning and related issues.

The Idaho Legislature, according to Steve Johnson, director of the Idaho Grain Producers Association, will be considering making permanent the still-voluntary rules governing field and grass burning.

"We see the issue of residue management as one of the biggest issues facing us right now," Johnson said. Burning "is a tool that we absolutely have to maintain."

Idaho has come under pressure to limit or halt grass burning. A

pending lawsuit seeks burning limitations based on the Clean Air Act and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Save Our Burners, a Spokane, Wash.-based clean air advocacy

group, contends smoke from field burning discriminates against several children with lung diseases because the heavy smoke prevents them from using public facilities such as schools and play-

grounds. Idaho's U.S. District Judge Edward Lodge has said he will not decide the case until the U.S. Supreme Court resolves a related case from Alabama.

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Coeur d'Alene faces stormwater problems

COEUR D'ALENE (AP) — A clogged, antiquated stormwater system and upcoming federal environmental demands are pushing the city toward asking taxpayers to bail it out with millions of dollars.

Coeur d'Alene has a collection of collapsed, root-clogged and outdated pipes, some dating back to when it became a city in 1887. Big downpours overload the system, causing flooding in streets and basements in more than 100 locations.

Also, the city faces a deadline to meet new U.S. Environmental Protection Agency rules which are designed to reduce the pollution entering Lake Coeur d'Alene and the Spokane River.

But the city only budgets about \$8,000 to deal with all those activities.

"What we have is a never-ending series of Band-Aids to fix the problem," Utility Services Director Rodger Lewerenz said. "The council needs to decide the best way to fund stormwater."

City planners for years have required developers to use grassy swales and dry wells to hold the water and keep it out of the older pipes.

In maintaining the systems, most of the \$8,000 budget is eaten up, Lewerenz said.

The city also has until 2003 to submit a permit to the EPA to meet

a list of new stormwater rules. The cities used to collect the water, treat it and dump it in the river. Now, the mandate is "to keep water clean once it hits the ground," he said.

But if the city refuses to come up with a plan, "then the EPA would force us to do certain things."

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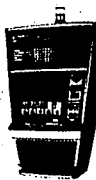
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Attorney claims university is biased

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — An attorney suing the University of Utah for alleged bias against Mormons has asked lawmakers to consider his charges before funding the public university.

"Approximately 74 percent of the people in Utah who pay taxes are Mormons," James W. McConkie wrote in a letter dated Wednesday and sent to 42 legislators. "On this basis alone, it is fair to query why Mormon parents should be asked to financially support and send their children to a school where their children may encounter religious discrimination."

McConkie represents Christina Aasen Flynn, a former University of Utah student and a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints who filed a federal lawsuit last year against five university faculty members. She alleged her constitutional rights were violated because the professors would not let her drop two profanities from an in-class drama performance. She said she told officials before she was accepted into the program that she would use obscenities or God's name in parts she played because of her religious beliefs.

McConkie said in his letter to members of the House and Senate appropriations and education committees, which was reported by the Deseret News on Friday, that he had received nearly 100 calls alleging anti-Mormon bias since filing the lawsuit.

He was especially critical of university president Bernie Machen, saying he "refuses to recognize that there may be a problem."

University spokesman Fred Espin called the letter "outrageous." "This is two paid attorneys stirring up trouble for the University of Utah in an attempt to settle out of court on a case that is weak," he said. "They have attempted to use the media and the legislative process to achieve what they fear they cannot achieve in court." University officials said they enforce all federal and local standards for nondiscrimination as a matter of policy and practice.



Swan Falls Dam, in Swan Falls, was built in 1901 to supply electricity to the mines in Silver City, but it was soon expanded to supply a growing demand by farmers and homeowners for power to run tools and labor-saving appliances.

Museum shows how power changed lives of early settlers

SWAN FALLS (AP) — Walking into the unheated museum in Swan Falls Dam's old powerhouse is like walking into a meat locker. The cavernous concrete structure holds a chill that goes straight to the bone. "And it gets hot in the summer," said Ryan Merrick, an apprentice hydro specialist who lives by the dam on the Snake River south of Kuna. The slight physical discomfort is great lesson in that motivated sturdy pioneers 100 years ago to tame this stretch of the mighty Snake.

of Idaho Power Company" in 1994. It didn't take long for consumers to become hooked. "In Twin Falls, it was a status symbol not to have a chimney on your house, because it meant you had electric heat," Stacy said. A trip to the dam is also a great way to spend a day in the beautiful Snake River canyon deep in the heart of the birds of prey National Conservation Area, home to North America's largest concentration of raptors.

years Swan Falls was a large and vigorous community, Stacy said. "People were at some distance and travel time from a large place," she said. The isolation created self-sufficiency: workers and their families had pigs, cows, ice house, gardens, fruit orchards and even a school for the kids. "It was quite an interesting, lively place," Stacy said. Large trees in the grassy park near the dam mark the spots where houses once stood. Now a wintertime trip to the dam is a study in serenity. The dam provides easy access by foot to the other side of the river. Hiking trails, picnic areas and scenic vistas provide hours of enjoyment in this portion of the canyon. In the summer canoes, rafts and fishing boats ply the river.

Hearing. Cooling. Electric lights. Power tools. They all are taken for granted as Idahoans celebrate the beginning of 2001. Not so more than a century year ago.

An old advertisement hanging in the museum sums up the wonder and excitement Idahoans must have felt at the prospect of having lights, fans, refrigerators, pumps, clocks and saws run with the flick of a switch.

The ad depicts electricity in the form of a man, Handy Andy, and a woman, Handy Annie, touting the miraculous benefits of this new product, electricity. Andy said, "Give me my tools and I'll feed your chores, in barn, shop, hay and out of doors." "I'll speed your work, early or late — I'll never shrink." Nowadays, some may scorn lives made too easy by lack of physical work that filled the lives of early Andy and Annies. And there are legitimate questions about the environmental trade-offs related to dam building. Even so, a trip to Swan Falls Dam — the first to produce hydroelectricity on the Snake River in 1901 — is revealing for what it says about its gift to pioneers who first scratched crops out of the deserts and gold out of the mountains of southern Idaho.

"I'm concerned a lot of electrical appliances didn't arrive because of demand, but because some ingenious person created an idea for using electricity."

— Susan Stacy, Boise historian, author of "Legacy of Light: A History of Idaho Power Company"

On a recent trip a pair of huge birds, probably golden eagles, soared on air currents too far away to be identified for certain without binoculars. A bald eagle flew above the river downstream, hunting for fish, while three herons did the same from the bank. Cormorants hung around the reservoir, and a huge flock of Canada geese rested on lawns near the houses where Merrick and other Idaho Power workers live. For three years, Merrick has enjoyed living amid the beauty and recreational opportunities at Swan Falls Dam. "I grew up over in Owyhee County so I'm kind of used to the boonies," he said. Bird-watching is a bonus in this stretch of the canyon. "It's really beautiful," he said. "You can look up and see them and you can hear them all the time." Thanks to technological improvements, just a handful of employees are needed at the dam today, but for the first 30 or 40

In 1994, the original powerhouse was decommissioned, replaced by a new facility next door that produces more power with fewer turbines. Now the old powerhouse stands silently as a museum and does its part to hold back water for the reservoir. The dam sits where a natural fall in the river first attracted early development.

It was the discovery of gold in the Owyhee Mountains in the mid-1800s that fueled interest in building the dam. After miners ran out of trees to cut down for fuel and buildings in Silver City, they turned to the new invention of electricity to keep the processing mills humming.

Swan Falls is just 28 miles from Silver City, a historic site that is now nearly abandoned. A young Boise engineer, Andrew J. Wiley, designed the dam and powerhouse and work began in 1900. Ironically, the dam that eased the chores of everyday men and women so dramatically had to be built by hand.

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Sandi, Michael, and Jacob Packham
Mike and Kathy Packham
Shelli and Ty Cunningham
Shawn and Aimee Packham
Chad and Shawntelle Packham
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IDAHO/WEST

Screenwriter goes through survival test

REXBURG (AP) - Go to a theatre and see 'Cast Away' starring Tom Hanks. You will see the work of David Westcott, whose job is to keep you alive no matter what.

Westcott is a Rexburg resident and owner of Backtracks, a primitive technology business that publishes a primitive skills magazine and operates two schools in that vein.

He worked with a team of consultants to help "Cast Away" screenwriter William Broyles Jr., and director Robert Zemeckis make the film a movie to live.

"They wanted someone to take their screenwriter out and run him through a bunch of survival skills to give him ideas for the script," Westcott said. "When they called me up, I said, 'Yeah, that's what I do.'"

So Westcott, along with Steve Watts, director of Native American studies at the Schelle Museum in Gastonia, N.C., and David Holladay, a freelance primitive technologist operating in Tucson, Ariz., took Broyles to Mexico for film tests of work in 1995, including five days of survival skills training.

"We met Bill at the plane, plopped him on the beach and asked, 'What's the first thing you'd work out?'" said Westcott, who, along with Watts and Holladay are members of the Society of Primitive Technology.

"We took him through everything - fire, building shelters, finding something to drink." They also let Broyles struggle, and other stranded individuals would.

"We'd give him a task and allow him to mess around with it for a while," Westcott said. "Fire took him a half-day of struggling - without success."

The team piled up palm fronds and cactus skeletons on Broyles to build a shelter. "We found out after he built it that the stuff we gave him was full of scorpions, so we had to help him make sure they wouldn't get him," Westcott said.

While working with Broyles was gratifying, Westcott was pleased to see how well the movie turned out. "Everything we did with him, almost in the complete sequence we gave him, they did on that side," Westcott said. "It was fun to see it all go in the movie," he said.

Some of the skills the team helped Broyles create and some of the props they helped create were vetoed by the film's producers as "too good" for an average Joe. Westcott said he was pleased most of the dialogue on the island.

One accidental prop survived: Wilson, a volleyball Hanks' character finds washed up on the beach after the crash, becomes a companion and counterpart for most of the dialogue on the island.

While in Mexico, Watts - whom Westcott describes as "always a half-bubble off plumb," found a volleyball washed up on the beach along with some seaweed, rope and antlers.

"So he called it Wilson, drew a face on it and for a week kept putting it in Bill's bed to dress him," Westcott said. "Now good old 'Wilson the airhead' is a major part of the movie."

After the training in Mexico was complete, Broyles sent the team copies of the script for them to read and critique from a primitive skills aspect. The team

"They wanted someone to take their screenwriter out and run him through a bunch of survival skills to give him ideas for the script. When they called me up, I said, 'Yeah, that's what I do.'" -David Westcott, Rexburg resident and owner of a primitive technology business

idea of how they'd look on the screen. "We kept telling them if they did it right and did it well, it would be believable. They did a really good job" sticking to reality. "Unfortunately, we didn't get to work with the actors," Westcott said. That, however, added to the film's reality, he said. "They put Tom Hanks on the beach in Fiji and made him struggle with the skills just as much as we made Bill struggle in Mexico," he said.

worked with the film's prop crew to make the weapons, tools and clothing Hanks' character uses and wears. They also traveled to Los Angeles to show the film's producers some of what they'd taught Broyles to give them an

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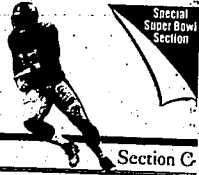
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A special thank you to all who brought food, sent flowers, cards, and offered their prayers and support to our family during our loss. Your kindness is gratefully acknowledged and deeply appreciated. The Family of Beulah Miller

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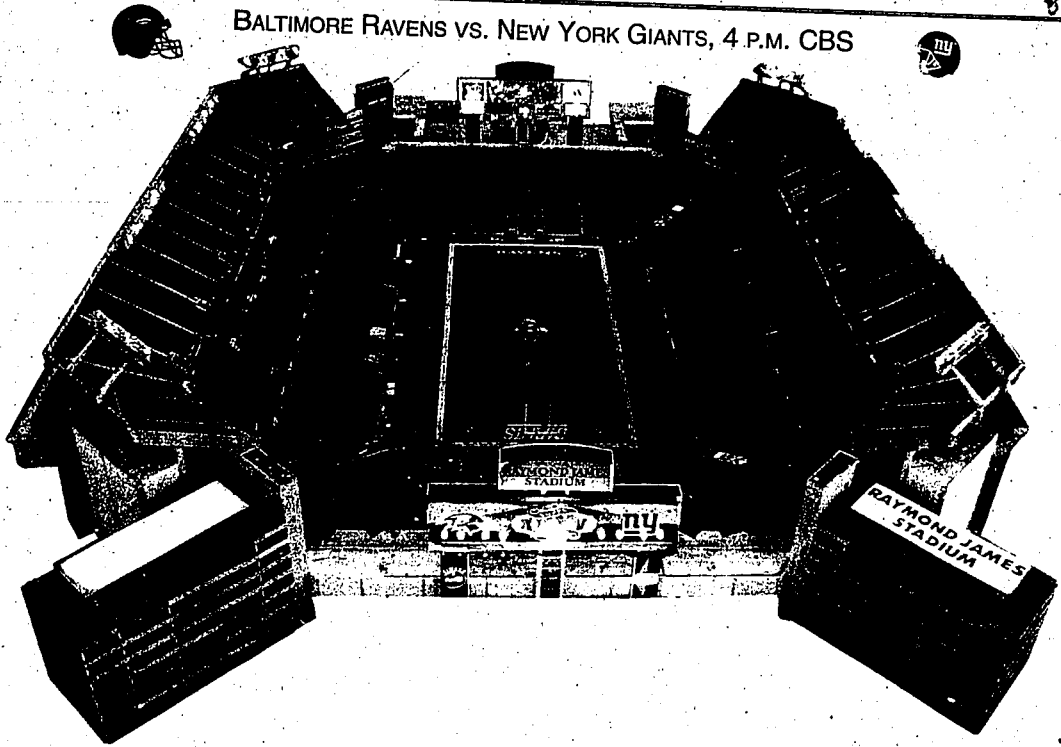
Special Super Bowl Section

The Times-News

Sunday, January 28, 2001

Section C

BALTIMORE RAVENS VS. NEW YORK GIANTS, 4 P.M. CBS



GEM STATE STANDOFF

Former Idaho teammates take opposing sides today

The Associated Press

MOSCOW - They played together for four seasons at the University of Idaho, lined up next to each other for a couple of seasons on the defensive line and then played across from each other when one was moved to offense.

One season, they were even next-door neighbors who played cards together and went out on the town.

Today, Ryan Phillips and Spencer Folau will live the dream of playing in the Super Bowl.

The problem for the two friends is that only one will enjoy the experience with a win.

Phillips, 26, is the starting strong-side linebacker for the New York Giants, while Folau, 27, is a reserve offensive tackle for the Baltimore Ravens. The two teams will meet in Tampa Bay for football's ultimate bragging rights.

"It's a dream-come-true," Folau said. "I've always dreamed about playing in the NFL so playing in the Super Bowl is the ultimate."

Even if it means playing against your buddy. This, however, will not be the first time.

Phillips, who was drafted by the Giants in the third round in 1997, and Folau, who signed with the Ravens as a free agent in 1996, have

Please see MOSCOW, Page C7

The long road to XXXV

Castoff quarterbacks find themselves in the spotlight

The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. - Trent Dilfer isn't John Elway and Kerry Collins isn't Joe Montana. Not even close. Their skills aren't close and neither has the superstar sheen.

They do have resilience.

"What the two of us have in common, I think, is that we've allowed adversity to sharpen us as football players," said Dilfer, who will quarterback the Baltimore Ravens against Collins and the New York Giants in the NFL title game today.

"Most of all, we've let adversity make us better persons."

In the case of Collins and Dilfer, adversity is relative.

Dilfer's was on the field, where he washed out after six years as quarterback of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, who took him as the sixth overall pick of the 1994 draft. He was so highly regarded that when Indianapolis bypassed him, at No. 5, it led to an on-air debate between ESPN draft analyst Mel Kiper Jr. and Bill Tobin, who was the Colts' personnel director then.

Dilfer's play with the Bucs made Tobin look good for passing on him. He was mediocre at best, was replaced as the starter last season by Eric Zeier and then Shaun King, and was finally released.

Collins' troubles were far more serious.

The first-ever draft pick of the Carolina Panthers, fifth overall in 1995 after an outstanding career at Penn State, he was a success almost immediately. Collins led the Panthers to the NFC title game in his -- and their -- second season.

But behind the success were huge problems. Collins was an alcoholic who could never stop

Please see QUARTERBACKS, Page C8

Super Bowl field generals



Regular season

226	Completions	311
529	Attempts	529
59.3	Comp. pct.	58.8
12	Touchdowns	22
23	Sacked	28
76.6	QB rating	83.1

Source: National Football League AP

Are the Giants in the Super Bowl?

By Dave Goldberg
The Associated Press

TAMPA, Fla. - If the Lombardi trophy went to more brazen braggers...

Baltimore Ravens will romp over the New York Giants in today's Super Bowl.

Just about every Raven has guaranteed it.

The Giants are so quiet, sometimes they're not even here.

They're 58 guys trying to complete what they started four months ago, balking at a guarantee like the one coach Jim Fassel made during the season about making the playoffs.

So while Baltimore coach Brian Billick, Shannon Sharpe and Ray Lewis tried to deflect questions about Lewis' arrest on murder charges a year ago, the Ravens guaranteed victory. And 350-pound defensive tackle Tony Stewart attracted huge crowds with Lewis' arrest.

Somehow, the Ravens' auditions for "The Sopranos" were successful.

The Giants? They quietly went about their business.

They got rid of their baggage early, when quarterback Kerry Collins bared his soul after being labeled a drunk, a racist quitter while he was in Carolina and New Orleans.

They sat back and chomped the Ravens' sideshow.

They were the best trash talkers and wide receiver Ahmad Rashad said, "There are a lot of out there that like to guns a lot. I don't think I'm able to make any of them out of the game any more."

Indeed, this week dominated by a player who also dominates the game who was charged with the deaths of two men in a Super Bowl party last year.

He eventually played obstruction of justice.

Lewis says now that his son problems were behind him had a Super season, but...

...being the closest to each other in the Super Bowl.

...state of the Ravens' offense on the field.

...But there are far more lines to this game.

...The owners, Art Modell of the Ravens, who moved the franchise to Baltimore in 1996, and Wellington Mara of the Giants. They are the closest of friends and have a combined 41 years in the NFL, starting in 1957.

...But the fact is the New York defense has been almost as good as Baltimore's, particularly since allowing 34 and 30 points in losses to St. Louis and Detroit. That led to Fassel saying, "This team will make the playoffs. I repeat, this team will make the playoffs."

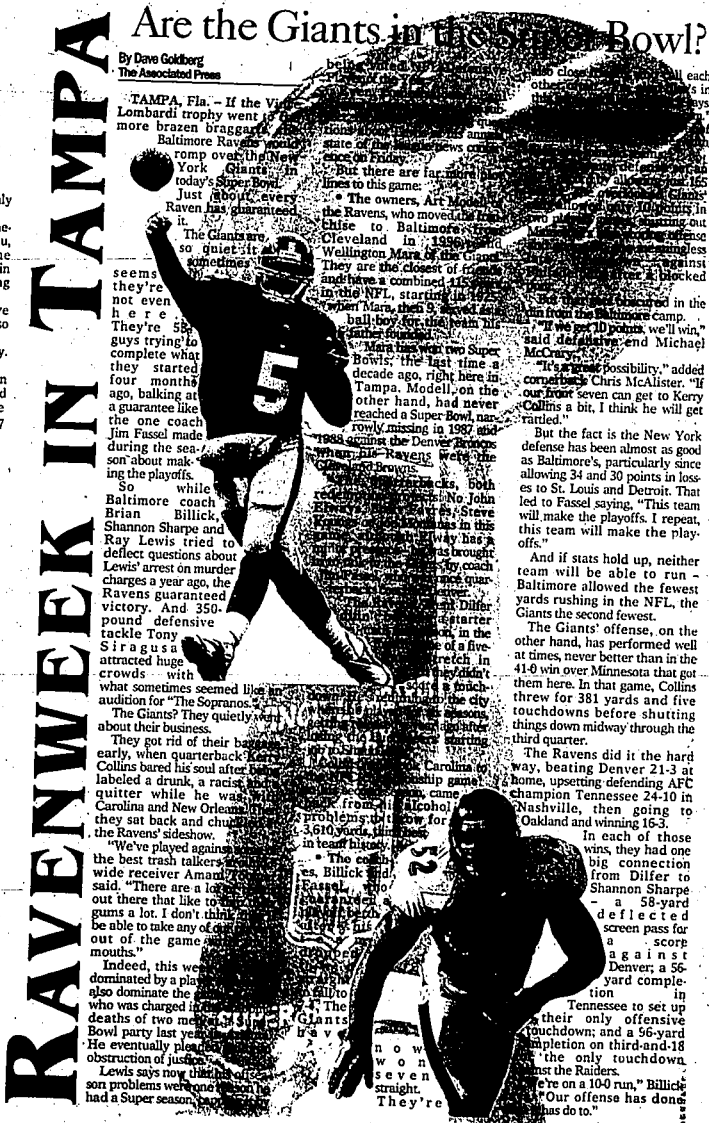
...And if stats hold up, neither team will be able to run - Baltimore allowed the fewest yards rushing in the NFL, the Giants the second fewest.

...The Giants' offense, on the other hand, has performed well at times, never better than in the 41-0 win over Minnesota that got them here. In that game, Collins threw for 381 yards and five touchdowns before shutting things down midway through the third quarter.

...The Ravens did it the hard way, beating Denver 21-3 at home, upstaging defending AFC champion Tennessee 24-10 in Nashville, then going to Oakland and winning 16-3.

...In each of those wins, they had one big connection from Dilfer to Shannon Sharpe - a 58-yard deflected screen pass for a score against Denver; a 56-yard completion in Tennessee to set up their only offensive touchdown; and a 96-yard completion on third-and-18, the only touchdown since the Raiders.

...The Ravens did it on a 104 run," Billick said. "Our offense has done what it has to do."



SPORTS

Recker leads Iowa past Hoosiers Nicklaus paces seniors

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) - Luke Recker made it a rude reunion for his former Indiana teammates...

Recker, who played at Indiana for three seasons before transferring to Iowa in 1999, and then moving to Iowa a year ago...

Washington State 61. PULLMAN, Wash. - Twins Jason and Jarron Collins each scored 18 points as Stanford scored a school record with 19 consecutive victories to open the season.

Duke 98, Maryland 96, OT. COLLEGE PARK, Md. - Shane Battier scored Duke's last six points of overtime and blocked Maryland's final shot...

Ohio St. 64, Michigan St. 55. COLUMBUS, Ohio - Brian Brown scored a career-high 25 points and Ohio State used a 16-2 run to take command.

Notre Dame 78, Georgetown 71. WASHINGTON - Ryan Humphrey had 17 points and 10 rebounds, and the Fighting Irish held the Hoyas without a field goal for 5.5 minutes during the stretch as Notre Dame won its fourth straight.

Ohio St. 64, Michigan St. 55. COLUMBUS, Ohio - Brian Brown scored a career-high 25 points and Ohio State used a 16-2 run to take command.

College basketball

Kansas 92, Kansas St. 66. LAWRENCE, Kan. - In a visit to his old school, Dean Smith got a standing ovation from the crowd and a pointed reminder of why he tried to lure Roy Williams back to North Carolina.

Georgia 77, No. 6 Tennessee 76; 20T. ATHENS, Ga. - Chris Daniels scored on a layup with 7.3 seconds left in the second overtime to give Georgia one of the biggest victories in its basketball history.

Cinci 78, Wake Forest 72. CINCINNATI - Kenny Satterfield watched his latest second chance in regulation, then hit a jumper and four free throws in overtime.

Notre Dame 78, Georgetown 71. WASHINGTON - Ryan Humphrey had 17 points and 10 rebounds, and the Fighting Irish held the Hoyas without a field goal for 5.5 minutes during the stretch as Notre Dame won its fourth straight.

points to lead the Hoyas, who shot just 37 percent in the second half.

Syracuse 68, Rutgers 54. SYRACUSE, N.Y. - Damone Brooks had 28 points and seven points, both career highs, and DeShaun Williams had eight points and a career-best 11 assists as Syracuse snapped a two-game losing streak.

Arizona 80, Texas 52. TUCSON, Ariz. - Gilbert Arenas and Michael Wright scored 16 points apiece as Arizona won its sixth game in a row and dealt Texas its worst loss of the season.

Virginia 104, Clemson 76. CLEMSON, S.C. - Chris Williams had 22 points and Virginia held Atlantic Coast Conference scoring leader Will Solomon to his lowest total of the season.

Mississippi St. 79, No. 11 Mississippi 69. STARKVILLE, Miss. - Tang Hamilton scored 16 points as Mississippi State beat its rival for the fourth straight time.

Boston College 90, Villanova 80. VILLANOVA, Pa. - Troy Bell scored 28 points and Kenny Hawley added a career-high 25 to lead Boston College (14-2, 5-1 Big East) hadn't won at Villanova since 1993 and is 2-13 overall at The Pavilion.

Wisconsin 63, Penn St. 58. MADISON, Wis. - Roy Boone scored 16 points and Charlie Willis

added 12 to Wisconsin improved to 9-0 at home this season.

West Virginia 81, No. 16 Seton Hall 75. MORGANTOWN, W.Va. - Calvin Bowman scored 26 points and Lionel Armstead had a season-high 24 as West Virginia beat a ranked opponent for the first time in 12 games.

Alabama 81, Auburn 80. TUSCALOOSA, Ala. - Erwin Dudley hit two free throws with 7.3 seconds left for Alabama.

Mississippi St. 79, No. 11 Mississippi 69. STARKVILLE, Miss. - Tang Hamilton scored 16 points as Mississippi State beat its rival for the fourth straight time.

Boston College 90, Villanova 80. VILLANOVA, Pa. - Troy Bell scored 28 points and Kenny Hawley added a career-high 25 to lead Boston College (14-2, 5-1 Big East) hadn't won at Villanova since 1993 and is 2-13 overall at The Pavilion.

Wisconsin 63, Penn St. 58. MADISON, Wis. - Roy Boone scored 16 points and Charlie Willis

WALEA, Hawaii (AP) - Jack Nicklaus just wanted to make a good putt.

The 25-footer rolled into the cup at the hole and it was worth three times \$50,000 and he gave him the lead Saturday during nine holes of the two-day Senior Skins Game.

Arnold Palmer and Hale Irwin each won one skin worth \$20,000, with hard-luck Gary Player getting shut out.

That leaves \$500,000 per for grabs today at Walea Golf Club's Golf Course.

"I hit it, oh, about 25 feet," Nicklaus said. "Gary hit a nice shot about 5 feet behind the hole. I didn't think he would miss so I wanted to make a good putt."

It was payback time for Nicklaus, too.

Nicklaus was referring to Player winning last year's tournament by taking the last four skins in a playoff. This year's tournament featured the last two champions in Player and Irwin. Player turned in a dramatic victory a year ago when he birdied the first playoff hole to pick up \$230,000. Until that point, he had no skins.

Irwin won in 1999, his third straight in the event. After finishing third and second in the two previous Skins Games, he banked \$230,000 two years ago.

Caldecaccia keeps ahead in cold and rain. SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. - Mark Caldecaccia's day ended before it was halfway done. Cold and rain didn't dent his big lead in the Phoenix Open, but lightning and hail finally stopped him short.

A dreary day in the desert was anything but that for Caldecaccia, who played 2 under eight holes Saturday to keep the five-shot lead he built a day earlier by shooting a 60 on the TPC of Scottsdale course.

Golf

Keeping warm with mittens he borrowed from a maintenance worker, Caldecaccia got to 19 under for the tournament, five ahead of Scott Verplank and a half dozen in front of Recco Mediate who played par or better each halted because of lightning and hail.

Tiger Woods was 14 shots back after playing 17 holes in 1 under.

Tournament officials said the round would end at 8 a.m. MST today, with the fourth round starting an hour later. Without more rain, they said, the tournament could be concluded today.

That won't be too soon for Woods, whose streak of 52 consecutive rounds of par or better came to an end Friday when he struggled to a 2-over 73.

Woods, who started the week with a 65, has not won in five tournaments. The last time he finished more than 14 shots back in a tournament was the 1998, Tour Championship.

Redman, Park share lead, Webb one back. MIAMI - Michele Redman and Grace Park will have no trouble keeping track of Australian star Karrie Webb in the final round of the The Open.

"I'm not where I want to be with my game, but I still think I'm playing well enough to win."

Webb, seeking her third straight victory in the event, moved into contention with four birdies on the last eight holes Saturday, all on putts inside 10 feet. She finished with a 69.

Redman shot a 5-under par 72 and Park had a 70 on Sunday's blue course for 5-under 209 totals. Webb was a stroke back along with Laura Diaz (69) and Vicki Goetze-Ackerman (70).

BASKETBALL

Saturday's College Basketball EAR WEST

Table listing college basketball games and scores for EAR WEST region, including teams like Arizona, California, and Duke.

EAR EAST

Table listing college basketball games and scores for EAR EAST region, including teams like Duke, North Carolina, and Virginia.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Table listing college basketball games and scores for NATIONAL CONFERENCE, including teams like Kansas, Texas, and Virginia.

High School Scores

Table listing high school basketball scores for various schools, including teams like Idaho, Oregon, and Washington.

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ON THE AIR TELEVISION

Table listing television and radio broadcasts for various sports events, including NBA, MLB, and college sports.

SCORES AND STATISTICS

Table listing scores and statistics for various sports events, including basketball, football, and tennis.

Men's World Cup

Table listing men's world cup scores and statistics for various sports events, including tennis and badminton.

SPORTS

NBA GLANCE

National Basketball Association

Jazz can't stop a raging Duncan

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Tim Duncan is on a roll, and this time the Utah Jazz fell in his way.

Duncan had 33 points and 10 rebounds while Derek Anderson scored 22 points and Terry Porter added a season-high 17 as the San Antonio Spurs beat the Utah Jazz 99-86 Saturday.

It was a matchup of the teams sitting atop the Midwest Division, but the Spurs showed they're simply the better team, winning their fourth straight over the Jazz dating to last season.

Karl Malone led the Jazz with 19 points.

T'woives 93, Trail Blazers 80 MINNEAPOLIS — Terrell Brandon had 22 points and 11 assists as Minnesota won its sixth straight game.

Brandon, who is shooting better than 60 percent during the winning streak, made eight straight shots at one point and 10 of 14 for the game. He registered his sixth double-double of the season.

LaPhonso Ellis scored 16 points of 8-of-11 shooting for the Timberwolves and added nine rebounds.

Heat 81, Magic 59 ORLANDO, Fla. — Brian Grant had 18 points and 10 rebounds as Miami outscored Orlando 29-9 in the fourth quarter.

Orlando's John Amaechi started the fourth quarter with a basket that tied the game at 52. But the Magic would make only two more field goals the rest of the game.

Raptors 90, Bulls 80 CHICAGO — With Vince Carter out with a sore knee, his Toronto teammates picked up the slack against Chicago.

Antonio Davis and Alvin Williams led six Raptors in double figures with 15 points each, and Davis also had 10 rebounds.

DIY-NO-MITE!

Retro fashions are back in NBA arenas

CHICAGO (AP) — Break out the lava beads and lava lamps, '70s chic is back!

No, no, no, not the ball-torn, polyester shirts and platform shoes the youngsters love so much these days. We're talking about the hip hoopsters.

NBA and college players are taking it to the next level in headbands and knocking down jumpers with socks pulled up to their knees. They're growing out their hair, wearing big, bushy Afros and long, shaggy hippie 'dos.

What's next, the return of the short shorts? Far out, man.

"Fashion and expression goes in cycles," said Dallas Mavericks guard Steve Nash, whose once close-cropped hair now flows wild and free, flopping up and down as he runs the court.

One of our biggest influences is the past, so I'm not surprised. The 1970s were a wild time when it came to fashion. Just look at the old pictures. There was Artis Gilmore wearing his Afro so high it practically touched the rim as he played that blue ball in the ABA, and later in the NBA. Bill Walton had long, woolly hair better suited for the Haight-Ashbury than the hardwood. Sick Watts wore a green headband around his bald head.

And that was just on the court. How 'bout those funky outfits players wore when they left the locker room? The lime-green suits with extra-fat lapels, the fur coats and the purple, wide-brimmed felt hats, a la Walt Frazier.

But times and styles change, and a cleaner, crisper look came into vogue as the '80s gave way to the '90s. The sweatbands and headbands disappeared. Hair got shorter. When Michael Jordan shaved his head and Michigan's Fab Five broke out the baggy shorts and black socks, new trends began.

Then, in the last year or two, something strange began happening. Kobe Bryant, he of the bald head when he broke into the league, let his hair grow and started wearing an Afro.

Charles Oakley had 14 rebounds and 10 points, and Mark Jackson had 12 assists to go with his 12 points.

Wizards 89, Suns 82 WASHINGTON (AP) — Chris Whitney scored six of his 13 points in the final 27 seconds as Washington won its fourth straight game for the first time since April 1998.

Juwan Howard led Washington with 21 points and seven rebounds. Richard Hamilton added 12 points and Jahdi White 11 as the Wizards played with their full roster healthily for the first time since early December.

Rockets 110, Hornets 97 CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Curtino Mobley scored 23 points and Houston held off Charlotte's late rally.

The Rockets, who had five players score in double figures, shot a season-high 58 percent for their 110 points were the most the Hornets have allowed this season.

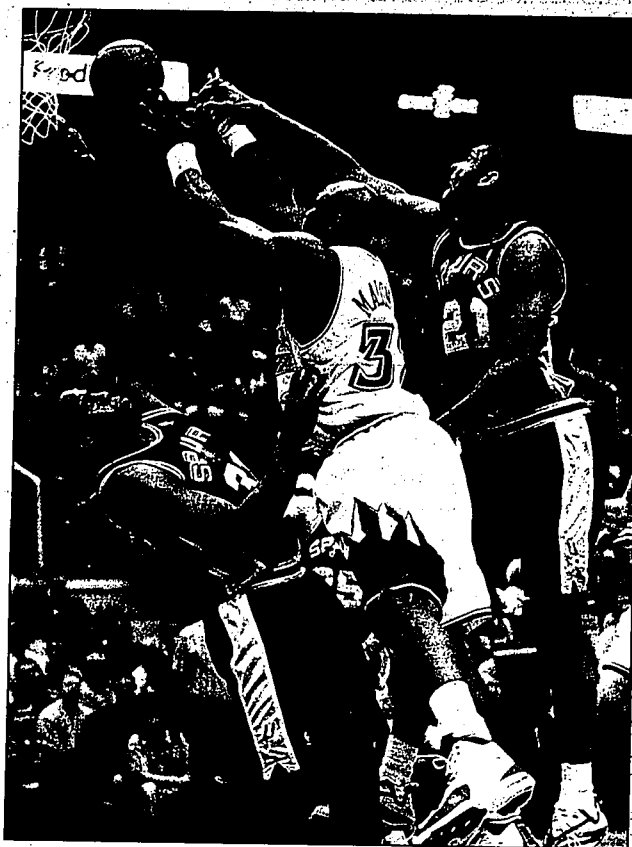
Steve Francis, who had 20 points and 10 assists, gave the Rockets their largest lead of the night with 9-2 tie play when his free throw made it 93-71.

Nuggets 102, Mavericks 100 DENVER — Antonio McDyess, who punched a ball deep into the stands in frustration five minutes earlier, scored on a rebound as time expired to give Denver the win.

McDyess finished with 11 points and 19 rebounds, and Kevin Willis had 18 for the Nuggets, who won their ninth straight game and ended a six-game losing streak against the Mavericks.

Hawks 101, Cavaliers 90 CLEVELAND — Jason Terry scored 20 points to lead five Atlanta players in double figures as the Hawks broke a five-game losing streak.

Rookie DerMarr Johnson



Utah forward Karl Malone, middle, has his shot blocked from behind by San Antonio forward Tim Duncan, right, as Spurs forward Malik Rose guards from under the basket during the first quarter Saturday in Salt Lake City.

scored a season-high 19 points for Atlanta.

Jackson and Andre Miller each scored 18 points to lead Cleveland. The Cavaliers got as close as 94-88 with 1:56 to play but lost for the 13th time in their

last 18 games.

Pistons 108, Bucks 103 MILWAUKEE — Jerry Stackhouse scored 32 points and was involved in a shooting match with Lindsey Hunter as Detroit

wrapped Milwaukee's eight-game winning streak. The Pistons also ended the Bucks winning streak at home at 11 and prevented Milwaukee coach George Karl from winning his 500th game.

Injured Hill, Mourning make All-Star East team

NEW YORK (AP) — Miami's Alonzo Mourning has been sidelined all season and Orlando's Grant Hill has played in only four games, yet their reputation helped them make the Eastern Conference team for the 50th NBA All-Star game.

Mourning, out with a kidney ailment, received 917,866 votes at center, and Hill, on the disabled list with a broken left ankle, collected 904,885 votes as forward in the fan balloting announced Saturday.

It was the sixth time both Mourning and Hill were selected to the team. Toronto's Vince Carter, the NBA's leading scorer with a 28.4 average going into Saturday's games, led the voting for the second straight year. Carter received 1,717,687 votes out of the more than 8 million ballots cast.

Mourning, Hill and Carter were joined on the East's starting lineup by guards Allen Iverson of Philadelphia (1,508,142) and Tracy McGrady of Orlando (827,122).

Los Angeles Lakers was the leading vote-getter for the Western Conference team with 1,541,298 votes. Starting with O'Neal will be forward Chris Webber of Sacramento (1,306,248) and Tim Duncan of San Antonio (1,096,522), and guards Kobe Bryant of the Lakers (1,433,747) and Jason Kidd of Phoenix (1,062,837).

O'Neal, with 22 points, nine rebounds and three blocked shots, and Duncan, with 24 points, 14 rebounds and four assists, were the co-MVPs of last year's game, won by the West 137-126 at Oakland. The East leads the series 31-18.

The 29 NBA coaches will vote, for the remaining members of the All-Star teams in their respective conferences, and their selections — seven for each team — will be announced Tuesday.

Larry Brown of Philadelphia will coach the East and either Rick Adelman of Sacramento or Mike Dunleavy of Portland will coach the West. The West coach will be the one whose team has the best record after Sunday's games.

The All-Star game will be played Feb. 11 at MCI Center in Washington.



Dallas' Dirk Nowitzki moves in front of Minnesota's Reggie Miller for a rebound during the second quarter Wednesday in Minneapolis.

Southern Methodist standout Jerry Sasser did Bryant one better, juggling his hair out AND plying his socks up when he was a sophomore.

Outta sight. "Michael Jordan created the era of bald heads and low socks, and no disrespect to him because he's one of my favorite players of all time, but I like to be my own man," said Sasser, now a senior. "So I did the opposite and grew out my hair and wore my socks high."

Slowly, the retro look spread. People might not have known Jamal Crawford's name when he was at Michigan last year, but

they knew his headband. The 20-year-old Crawford grew up in Seattle and started wearing his headband to emulate Watts — despite the fact he wasn't even born when Watts was in his heyday with the Sonics.

"It just looked pretty cool and nobody was really doing it," said Crawford, now a Chicago Bulls rookie.

This year, it seems everybody's going retro. Chris Webber, Gary Payton and Shaquille O'Neal, who've been bald for years, are sporting hair.

"It was just trying something a little different," Webber said. "Styles change."

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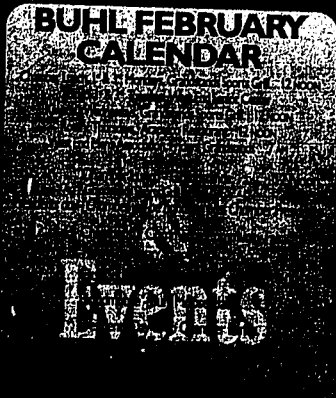
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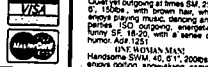
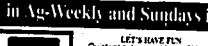
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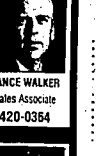
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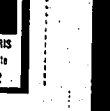
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815 LAWN & GARDEN LAWNMOWER, 1 year old, \$50. Call 206-324-9479.

816 EXERCISE EQUIPMENT NORDIC TRAC - Pro, \$300. Call 543-8188 after 5 p.m.

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817 MISC FOR SALE BI-FOLD DOORS 2' pr. will cover 912' x 35' area...

818 MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS ORGAN, Allen digital, 15 yrs. old, \$2000 negotiable...

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821 STEREO/RADIO/CDS STEREO that works with your windows shade, 2-12" Rockford Fosgate Power series...

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826 FARM/RANCH SUPPLIES/EQUIP ATV BEEF, must Buster 6 row, CASE 1660 combine parts, unloader parts...

827 CLOTHING WEDDING dress, lace, pearl, full, size 12, \$200/offer. Call 423-4627.

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BIZFACTS

Gadgets

- Percent change in sales of small appliances, hobby, and electronic equipment
- Kitchen appliances: -12.7%
- Vacuum cleaners, air purifiers: -12.8%
- Personal care: 8.2%

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Retail Trade

BRIEFLY IN MONEY

HUD launches website to improve compliance

TWIN FALLS — U.S. Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo said HUD is launching a new website and distributing notices to better explain the rights of people with disabilities who are seeking housing and the responsibilities of those who house them.

The website — <http://www.hud.gov/7he/theacs.html> — provides practical information about Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Section 504 prohibits discrimination based on disability in any federally funded program, including housing and community development.

"While many HUD grantees are meeting their obligation, there are some who are not completely compliant with the laws and the implementing regulations," Cuomo said in a statement. "Our goal is 100 percent compliance, which will mean greater access to housing for people who are living with the challenges of a disability."

The new site includes information for HUD grantees — such as developers that build affordable housing for the elderly and nonprofit organizations that create homeless shelters — on how to comply with Section 504. For people with disabilities and their families, the site provides information about their rights under Section 504 and allows those who may have suffered discrimination to file a complaint with HUD online, HUD's statement said.

Software eases filing of state income taxes

TWIN FALLS — Individual Idaho residents can now file their 2000 state income tax returns electronically using the Quicken TurboTax State software edition for Idaho, Intuit Inc. said.

Information flows directly from the federal version of TurboTax to TurboTax State, speeding up state tax preparation. TurboTax State allows taxpayers to prepare state returns faster and more accurately than with paper and pencil, and one state product is included free with the Quicken TurboTax Deluxe and Quicken TurboTax Home & Business products, the software company said.

For those who prefer Internet convenience, Quicken TurboTax for the Web, at www.turbotax.com, allows consumers to prepare and file both federal and state tax returns via the Web — with no downloading or trips to the store required, the company said.

Authors would like to junk performance reviews

Two experts on employment and labor issues have given performance appraisals a resounding "F," saying they damage morale and productivity.

In "Abolishing Performance Appraisals: Why They Backfire and What to Do Instead," Tom Coens and Marty Jenkins contend there are better alternatives.

Appraisals fail to help employees grow and develop because they're done so infrequently and therefore prevent feedback from being delivered in a timely manner, the authors said. "An employee would much rather be taken to coffee as it's happening rather than four months later," he said. "There's no value in saving it up."

Another pitfall is that bosses tend to delay giving them for as long as they can. They also can be tainted by biases and perceptions and fail to account for factors beyond the control of an employee.

To make the process less odious, Coens suggested that employees seek feedback and ask their superiors questions about their performance. He also urged workers to find "coaches" in their field who might be better equipped than their bosses to judge how they're doing.

— compiled from staff and wire reports

Reforms come to IRS

Agency now answers half of taxpayers' calls

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The federal agency Americans love to hate, the Internal Revenue Service, continues to struggle with legal reforms aimed at giving taxpayers more rights and a huge reorganization intended to improve efficiency and service.

The chief taxman, IRS Commissioner Charles Rossotti, says things are on track but remain far from perfect. "We are making progress,"

Rossotti said.

Take phone service. A few years ago, only about 20 percent of taxpayer calls were answered and people frequently didn't get accurate answers to tax questions. The 29 call-center centers were all managed separately and phones weren't manned 24 hours a day even during filing season.

Under Rossotti, phone service has been centralized under a single Atlanta-based regime and operates 24 hours, seven days a week. Money has been invested in technology and training, and calls are routed to people with expertise in given tax topics instead of having all employees answer all questions.

Still, last year the answer rate was a bit better than 50 percent,

Taxes 2001

More tax help — E4

showing the IRS has a long way to go.

"We expect to be better this year — noticeably better," Rossotti said. "Over the next two or three years, we hope to get it up to a commercial level, which

would be 85 to 90 percent. We are getting there."

This year's tax filing season will also be the first under the new IRS, now divided into four separate units focusing on specific types of taxpayers: wage and investment for most individuals, large businesses, small businesses and the self-employed, and tax-exempt and government entities. Before, the agency had more layers of bureaucracy, with 33 districts and 10 service centers.

"This will not solve problems overnight, but it will lead to the IRS becoming a better, more responsive organization focused on the needs of taxpayers," Rossotti said.

Please see IRS, Page E4

TAX ANSWERS



Devian Howe ponders a question from College of Southern Idaho accounting professor Tom Hamilton during a tax class. CSI accounting students are encouraged to participate in the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, a free tax-preparation service provided to low-income or elderly local residents by students and others. Hamilton helped establish VITA while working for the IRS prior to teaching. Anyone who cannot afford to pay a professional tax expert is welcome to bring his or her records to CSI's Evergreen building, room C93, from 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays, from Feb. 8 through April 12. A consultant will be able to help figure his or her taxes in most cases and file the return electronically from the college. For information, call 733-9554, Ext. 2450.

Law cuts capital gains tax rates

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Lower capital gains tax rates take effect in 2001 for long-term investments, but not everyone gets the benefits right away, and some higher-income taxpayers could be forced to pay taxes up front to take advantage in the future.

"People in higher tax brackets absolutely need to think about these changes since planning will require forecasting five years down the road," said Bob Trinz, an editor at RIA, a leading publisher of tax information and software.

For assets held more than one year, taxpayers who pay income taxes in the 15 percent bracket currently pay 10 percent capital gains taxes. For those in all higher income tax brackets, the capital gains rate for these long-term investments is 20 percent. Different tax rates apply to certain specific investments, such as collectibles.

In the 1997 Taxpayer Relief Act, Congress lowered the rates beginning in January 2001 to 8

Taxes 2001

18 percent, but only for assets held for five years or more. The old rates will still apply to assets held for at least one year but less than five years.

If that seems confusing, it gets worse. The new 8 percent capital gains rate takes effect immediately for people in the 15 percent income tax bracket, meaning they already sell for at least five years and pay the lower rate.

For higher-income taxpayers, however, the 18 percent capital gains rate only applies to investments they make beginning in January 2001. So the asset would have to be sold in 2006 at the earliest to qualify.

Congress didn't stop there. Beginning in January 2001, higher-income taxpayers can make a special irrevocable decision for assets they already own, called a "deemed-sale-and-purchase" election. This

will allow people to treat the asset as if it were bought and sold on a single day, assuring that it will qualify for the new 18 percent capital gains rate in five years and avoiding any sales and purchase commissions.

"There's a big catch, though. Capital gains taxes could have to be paid next year on the difference between the asset's original purchase price and the investment's lost value."

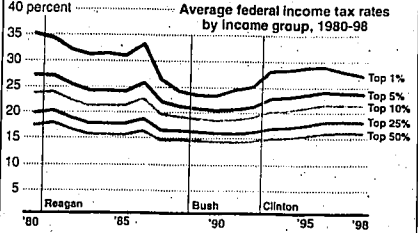
"The election is one way to take advantage of assets you currently hold, but you'll have to pay a tax to get there," said Don Weigand, vice president for wealth strategy at J.P. Morgan.

Financial advisers say people in income tax brackets above 15 percent should carefully weigh the potential tax savings against their investments' potential before committing to holding an asset for five years.

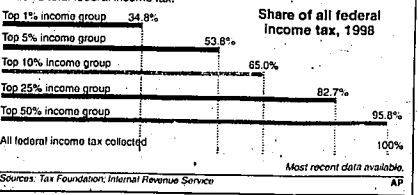
"It's a tricky decision," Trinz said. "You'd have to be expecting to sell at a much higher gain to see a benefit."

Bearing the tax burden

Americans' federal income tax rates have gone down over the past 20 years.



The wealthiest 5 percent of America accounts for more than half of the nation's total federal income tax.



Sources: Tax Foundation; Internal Revenue Service

Alternative minimum tax sneaks up on middle-class taxpayers

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The number of taxpayers likely to be entangled in the complex alternative minimum tax is projected to reach 1.5 million this year, twice as many as three years ago. Increasingly, unsuspecting middle-class people are being affected.

"The AMT is creeping up on those who weren't intended to be victims," said Steve Spiegelman, senior personal finance planning manager at the KPMG accounting firm. "It was meant as a way to

Taxes 2001

longer limited to the wealthy, mainly because it has only been adjusted for inflation since Congress created it in 1969. As incomes rise, more and more people can become exposed to the tax, particularly if they have large itemized deductions or numerous exemptions for dependents.

make sure extremely high-income folks end up paying at least a minimum amount of income tax."

People living in a state with high personal income taxes are particularly vulnerable, Spiegelman said. Big families with lots of children could also pay the rate. The minimum tax, with a top rate of 28 percent, actually operates in parallel to the regular income tax system. The big difference is that most usual deductions aren't allowed, meaning that the 28 percent rate applies to income that wasn't exposed to tax in the regular system.

But it isn't enough," Spiegelman said.

According to the congressional Joint Committee on Taxation, 1.5 million tax returns will be affected by the minimum tax in 2001. That's only 1.1 percent of the estimated total of returns, but nearly double the 828,000 returns reporting minimum tax in 1998.

The Internal Revenue Service has a worksheet in its instructions for Form 1040 for taxpayers to determine if they owe alternative minimum tax. Form 6251 is used to figure the minimum tax.

HOW TO CONTACT THE IRS

How to get IRS information and help via the Internet, the telephone and the fax:

■ **Internet.** The Internal Revenue Service Web site at <http://www.irs.gov> has tax forms, publications, instructions, answers to frequently asked questions, tax regulations and news releases. There's even a list of IRS job openings.

■ **Telephone.** For tax questions and other general information, call the main number at 1 (800) 829-1040. To order forms, instructions and publications, call 1 (800) 829-3676. For pre-recorded answers to 150 common tax topics and to check the status of a refund, call TeleTax at 1 (800) 829-4477.

■ **Taxpayer advocate.** For help with tax problems that couldn't be resolved through previous contact with the IRS, call the Taxpayer Advocate's office at 1 (877) 777-4778 to find a local representative.

■ **Appeals.** For help in preparing an appeal to an IRS collection or examination matter, call 1 (877) 457-5055.

■ **Credit cards.** There is now a choice of two companies to handle payment of taxes by American Express.

MasterCard or Discover credit cards. Both charge a convenience fee. Official Payments Corp. is at 1 (800) 2PAY-TAX (272-9829). PhoneCharge Inc. is at 1 (888) ALLTAXX (244-8299). Visa is not participating in the program.

■ **Fax.** Over 100 of the most common tax forms are available via fax 24 hours a day, seven days a week by calling (703) 368-9694 from the telephone on a fax machine.

■ **CD-ROM.** Contains popular forms, instructions and other IRS information for \$21. There is no handling fee if the order is placed via the Internet at <http://www.irs.gov/cdorders>. For a \$5 handling fee, the CD-ROM can be purchased by calling 1 (877) CDFORMS (233-6767).

Goin' to the chapel



Inside this Brides 2001 special section



The ring thing

It doesn't have to be just a diamond anymore.
Page F2



Flower power

There's no end to the variety of wedding flowers, and they don't have to cost an arm and a leg.
Page F3



A change of plans

How to you go about calling off a wedding?
Page F4

BRIDES 2001

It doesn't have to be (just) a diamond

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - It began, as much of popular culture seems to over the past 20 years, with Princess Di.

"The selection of a sapphire-and-diamond engagement ring by Prince Charles for Lady Diana, followed not long thereafter with his brother Prince Andrew's selection of a ruby-and-diamond engagement ring for Sara Ferguson, sparked a revival of interest in colored gemstones for the bride-to-be," write Antoinette Matlins and Antonio Bonnano in "Engagement & Wedding Rings: The Definitive Buying Guide for People in Love" (Gemstone Press).

Although Americans still buy many times more diamonds than rubies, emeralds, garnets and sapphires, a growing number of brides fancy a little color on their ring fingers.

"Since ancient times, people have prized colored gems, believing they endowed their owners with power, status, luck and good health," write Marcel Blum and Laura Fisher Kaiser in "Weddings for Dummies" (IDG Books, \$19.99). "If you like a stone for its color, you can find many kinds of meanings attributed to it over the ages to further justify your purchase."

Trouble is...
For the layperson, picking out a good gemstone is trickier than assaying a diamond - a task made even harder by all the laboratory-created stones on the mar-

The ring of truth

Some descriptive names for gemstones, and what the rocks really are.

Misnomer	The Identity	Misnomer	The Identity
African emerald	Green fluorite	Ammandine ruby	Garnet
Brazilian emerald	Tourmaline	Arcona ruby	Quartz
Chatham emerald	Synthetic	Australian ruby	Garnet
Emerald emerald	Green tourmaline	Bates ruby	Spirit
Evening emerald	Padparid	Bohemian ruby	Tourmaline
Gibson emerald	Synthetic	Brazilian ruby	Garnet
Lechliether emerald	Partially synthetic	California ruby	Garnet
Lithia emerald	Green spodumene	Capri ruby	Garnet
Mascot emerald	Doublet	Ruby sapphire	Spirit
Soude emerald	Doublet	Siberian ruby	Tourmaline
Zerfass emerald	Synthetic	Brazilian sapphire	Blue tourmaline
Adeladele ruby	Garnet	Uta sapphire	Idaho
		Water sapphire	Idaho

- Source: "Engagement & Wedding Rings" by Antoinette Matlins and Antonio Bonnano (Gemstone Press)



Three-stone rings, like this emerald-cut diamond set, have become new favorites for engagements and anniversaries.

ket. Clarity and flawlessness are important, but the name of the game is color.

"The closer a stone comes to a pure spectral hue, the higher the quality," say Blum and Kaiser. "To accurately assess a stone's true color, look at it in several types of light."

Rubies, for example, range

from deep purple to pink. "Certification of gemstones is not as institutionalized as with diamonds, but a jeweler should be able to verify the stone's color, grade and whether the stone is natural or synthetic," Blum and Kaiser say.

Still, the state of the technology is such that not even some pros can tell the difference between natural and synthetic rubies and emeralds, according to Matlins and Bonnano - even though the difference in true value between the two can be thousands of dollars.

"As a general rule, remember that almost any expensive gem could be a synthetic, that synthetics are themselves expensive, and that most have become more difficult to distinguish from their natural counterparts, so there is confusion and subsequent errors in how they are represented by a jewel-

er," Matlins and Bonnano write. Bottom line, have the gemstone checked by a pro you know before you write the check to the jeweler you don't know.

The amount of that check will depend on some of the same factors that determine the value of diamonds and that, according to Modern Brides magazine, couples spend \$2,909, on average, for an engagement ring.

The gold comes much cheaper: \$768 for the bride's wedding ring and \$391 for the groom's.

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at crump@magical-valley.com

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One ring, or two? The choice is yours

The Times-News

By venerable tradition, American women are supposed to get two rings when they get hitched - the sparkler when they say "Yes" and the gold band when they say "I do."

But that's not written in very expensive stone anymore.

"Rather than purchase an engagement ring with a one-carat diamond followed by a simple wedding band, one might purchase for the same price a diamond wedding band that contains four carats total weight of diamonds encircling the finger," write Antoinette Matlins and Antonio Bonnano in "Engagement & Wedding Rings: The Definitive Guide for People in Love" (Gemstone Press).

The advantage of that, of course, is a single ring with more impact. Or, you could achieve the same with a wide-band gold ring and a single large diamond.

"The choice as to whether to have one or two rings is largely personal," Matlins and Bonnano says. "But keep in mind that the length of the engagement may affect your decision. If the engagement is going to be long, rather than waiting for the wed-

ding day, the bride-to-be may prefer to have the engagement ring

to announce the change in her status and the upcoming event."

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On the cover: Sarah Peterson models a wedding dress from Hart's Tux and Gowns in Twin Falls. Peterson, who is only 16, says she isn't contemplating getting married for at least a few years.

Cover photo by BRUCE SHIELDS/The Times-News

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How to find beautiful wedding flowers

— you can afford

Step-by-step shopping strategies

1 First, you must have the time, place and apparel selected before you can get an accurate bid from a florist. The bridal gown is crucial — everything flows from this design element. The colors of the bridesmaids' gowns are also important.

2 Choose two or three florists. Make an appointment with each and leave about an hour's time to discuss the details.

3 Be sure to bring swatches of bridesmaids' apparel and a picture of the wedding gown you have selected. A magazine ad or a rough sketch will suffice. Give this to the florist so she or he will remember what the dress looks like when he or she actually makes the bouquet. Also, it will be helpful to bring any pictures of flowers and designs you like.

4 Look through actual photographs of each florist's previous work. Don't settle for FTD design books or floral magazines. Identify flowers and designs that fit your wedding's style — unadorned wedding gowns can be set off by a lush bride's bouquet. Similarly, a simple bouquet may better complement an ornate wedding dress. See if the florist attempts to understand your tastes and desires instead of merely telling you what you must have.

5 Get a written proposal, specifying exact flowers to be used. Each item (bride's bouquet, corsages, etc.) should be priced individually. Get this before you place the deposit.

6 Pick your top florist choice and ask to visit one of their weddings during setup. On your visit, check to see whether they are on time and organized. Also, look to see how fresh the flowers are. Do you find the designs pleasing (bearing in mind that the other bride's taste may be different from your own)?

7 Get a written contract that spells out the date, setup time, place and specific flowers and designs to be created. Details (if you want open roses, for example) need to be clearly spelled out. As you get closer to your wedding, there may be some modifications (more corsages, etc.) Make sure you have the florist write down any changes — send written notes to verify the alterations.

8 If you're having a large or complex wedding, a pre-wedding checkup may be necessary. Here you'll meet with the florist about one or two weeks before the date to iron out any last-minute details and changes.

— Source: "Bridal Bargains," by Denise and Alan Fields (Publisher's Group Inc., \$13.95)

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS - If you think sticker-shock is an inevitable part of shopping for wedding flowers, Katey Gies has some news for you.

"I did one wedding for \$50," said Gies, who owns Every Blooming Thing, a Twin Falls floral shop.

Of course, that was just a bouquet.

"You can have as many or as few flowers in your wedding as you want," Gies said.

True enough, but understand that they can run into serious money.

"Five hundred dollars to \$1,000 is about the average for a typical wedding in this area," said Nona Mock, who owns Fox Floral. "You can spend much more, of course."

It depends on two things, really: Quantity and whether you can do without roses, gardenias and calla lilies.

"If you can't have too many flowers at a wedding, in my opinion," said Lara Miller, who runs The White House, a Twin Falls

wedding and party center. "But it often comes down to how many you can afford."

"There's no one answer," Gies said. "A few bouquets and arrangements, if they're done well, can look very nice."

Of course, it depends on what's in the arrangement.

"Brides and their mothers I see often have definite ideas about the kinds of flowers they want to use in the bride's bouquet and the rest of the wedding," Mock said. "But they sometimes change their minds when they look at the cost."

And happily, there are many cheaper alternatives that are equally beautiful in wedding arrangements, Mock said.

"Stock tulips — they can make beautiful arrangements."

Important as it is, the budget need not mean just one very skimpy pedestal design,

said Shirley Monckton, author of "The Complete Book of Wedding Flowers" (Cassell Books, \$16.95). "There are many inexpensive and attractive ideas that can be used."

Part of the secret is concentrating your resources on the focal points of the wedding ceremony, Monckton said.

"Budget-conscious arrangers can always use the same number of flowers and supplement the

Please see FLOWERS, Page F4



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BRIDES 2001

'Miss Otis regrets ...'

When weddings don't happen

By Steve Crump
Times-News writer

TWIN FALLS — Among the hundreds of weddings that Lara Miller has hosted, not a single bride — or groom, for that matter — has been left at the altar.

But it's come close at times. "We've had them called off the night before," said Miller, who manages The White House, a Twin Falls wedding and party center. "Then when the guests showed up the next day, we had to tell them, 'Sorry.'"

It doesn't happen often — Miller guesses 8-10 weddings a year at The White House, on average, are canceled within six weeks of the ceremony — but it does happen.

Cold feet. Second thoughts.

Fights. "It can be expensive if you wait until the last minute," said Linda Nebeker, who owns Hart's Tux and Gowns. "But it's better to decide that before the wedding — even at the last minute — than later."

Wedding cancellations that happen less than a month before the big day usually cost you money.

"Most invitations go out three to four weeks before the ceremony," Miller said. "By then, people have some money invested."

Deposits, by and large, are non-refundable, and if you already have your wedding dress, it's not going back to the store.

"We don't give back refunds on dresses because of last-minute cancellations," Nebeker said.

"Usually by the time they come and see me, couples have already made a substantial investment," said Nona Mock, who owns Fox Floral in downtown Twin Falls. "When they do that, they're serious about the commitment."

And there's a moral commitment to guests when the cancellation comes at the last minute. "If the cancellation occurs so



AP Photo

close to the wedding that gifts have already been sent, they must be returned immediately," said Nat Segaloff, author of "The Everything Etiquette Book" (Adams Media, \$12). "Guests who purchased non-refundable airline tickets or bridesmaids who spent money on gowns should be reimbursed by the couple for whatever expenses they cannot otherwise recover."

Of course, weddings are sometimes called off because of illness or a death in the family — but those are usually postponements.

"When a canceled wedding is rescheduled, all the original guests are notified of the new date with an addendum referring to the former date so there is no confusion," Segaloff said.

But although costs must be reimbursed and apologies made for a wedding that doesn't take place, it's not necessary — or necessarily appropriate — to tell guests what happened.

When things don't go as planned

If the wedding is canceled after invitations are mailed, you (or your maid of honor, close friends, or relatives) must call each guest personally if time does not permit you to send written word. If you do send a formal announcement, you are under no obligation to explain your decision.

A cancellation announcement may read:

Mr. and Mrs. Garthwaite Stubbs Keruffe announce that the marriage of their daughter Ida Hortense to Mr. Wylie Beaugard Blandsky will not take place.

If a wedding is postponed due to death or other unforeseen circumstances after the invitations have been mailed, you may call with the information or print a formal announcement of the change.

Mr. and Mrs. Garthwaite Stubbs Keruffe regret that (owing to a death in the family) the marriage of their daughter Ida Hortense to Mr. Wylie Beaugard Blandsky has been postponed (to Saturday, the eleventh of September).

If the invitations have been printed but not mailed, you may enclose a card (rush printed), saying:

Kindly note that the date of the wedding has been changed to Saturday, the eleventh of September.

—Source: "Weddings for Dummies," by Marcy Blum and Laura Fisher Kaiser (IDG Books, \$19.99)

"No further explanation need be provided," Segaloff said.

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at crump@magicalvalley.com

The Times-News

TWIN FALLS — But on the other hand...

"True, you have decided, but how can you be sure?" said psychologist Rita-Bigel Casher, author of "Bride's Guide to Emotional Survival" (Prima Publishing, \$14). "And you thought only men had second thoughts."

Indeed they do. And the continuum of emotions for both males and females runs from jitters to full-blown flight.

"A lot of little things that have happened since you got engaged are starting to appear ominous," said Michael R. Perry, author of "The Groom's Survival Guide" (Pocket Books, \$12). "The conspiracy theories leap out at you. Are you settling down, or getting into a trap? Are you making a big mistake?"

Still, maybe it's not the relationship that's the source of stress. Maybe it's the wedding. "I'm convinced that how couples handle wedding planning reflects how they will get on live happily ever after," said Carroll Stoner, author of "Weddings for Grown-ups" (Chronicle Books, \$17.95).

"The process of getting married is a hassle, just like the process of getting a driver's license is a hassle," Perry said. "All those hassles are forgotten in your first drive down an open road."

Perry believes grooms-to-be get cold feet because they're afraid of getting old, afraid of becoming respectable ("Will I turn into Fred MacMurray?") and afraid of losing their freedom.

"That terrifying image of the pitch-black abyss waiting to swallow you has popped into your head simply because you thought about the future," he said. "Don't. If you want to contemplate a really depressing future, think about 10 years from now, putting along in the single life in the same way you are now, but

with more body fat and less hair."

With women, it's more complicated, Bigel-Casher says.

Brides-to-be often fear losing their economic freedom, she said. They don't think they'll be a good spouse or parent, are afraid life will become predictable and dull, are concerned about disappointing their spouse-to-be, worry that their partner will change, feel overwhelmed by responsibility — and are concerned that they'll never be able to have sex with another partner again.

Many also dislike being thrust

into the center of attention during wedding planning, Bigel-Casher said, and often feel that the whole process has gotten out of control.

In short, they've discovered that neither impending married life nor their partners come without problems.

"Relationships rarely end when honest differences are expressed," Bigel-Casher said. "On the contrary, we are our own worst enemy when we fail to clearly communicate honest feelings, emotions and thoughts. "Left to our own devices, we survive surprisingly well."

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Flowers

Continued from F3

shortfall with good foliage, berries and blossoms," Monckton said. "In fact, I prefer arrangements with these materials to those exclusively of massed flowers. Pedestals, tall candlesticks, pillars and urns are all good for such positions."

Strategic use of floral arrangements can also save money, Mock said: The floral stars of the wedding can also adorn the reception, and few guests will be any the wiser.

The key, Mock and Gies agree, is starting the search earlier.

"Bring in a picture from a magazine, pick something out of a book at Barnes & Noble, or come in and look through the books we have," Gies said. "We can go from there."

"A lot of brides have a very good idea what they want when we first meet with them," Mock said. "That's a

good place to start, even if you change your mind about what you want."

But be prepared to be flexible, she added.

"Nowadays we can get any flower that's available commercially in the world into Twin Falls for use in a wedding," she said. "If you're willing to pay the price."

The price, of course, follows supply and demand. But the difference between the cost of flowers in January and in June isn't enough to make you change your plans, Mock said.

"You'd be surprised what can be done with a little creativity," said Gies, who prepared an ever-green bouquet for a bride for a Christmas wedding. "The only limit is your imagination."

Times-News writer Steve Crump can be reached at 735-3223, or write to him at crump@magicalvalley.com

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BRIDES 2001

Countdown to 'I do:' What needs doing, and when

Here's a wedding checklist calendar from "The Wedding Helper," a booklet prepared by Sid and Paige Vanderpool, owners of Music Magic Entertainment. Those who want to learn more about wedding planning may contact the Vanderpools at 733-5406.



This gown by Anselmo features a simple bodice with brocade applique detail. The applique is repeated in the veil.

- Nine to 12 months before**
- Determine the type of wedding you want - size, degree of formality, and setting.
 - Select a wedding date and time.
 - Notify your clergy member and reserve date and time for wedding and rehearsal.
 - Set a tentative budget.
 - Decide how expenses will be shared.
 - Shop together for wedding rings.
 - Determine the size of the guest list.
 - Plan reception and book reception location. (This should be booked as soon as the wedding date is set to assure availability.)
 - Select and book caterer.
 - Select and book photographer.
 - Select and book videographer.
 - Select and book disc jockey.
 - Select and book transportation for wedding day.
 - Compile names and addresses of your guests.
 - Decide on your color scheme.
 - Select wedding attendants, yours and his.
 - Determine sizes for all attendants.
 - Choose your dress and headpiece.
 - Schedule fittings and delivery date.
 - Choose bridesmaid's dresses and accessories.
 - Start planning for your honeymoon.
 - Discuss where you will live after the wedding.
 - Choose music for the ceremony.

- Six to 9 months before**
- Announce your engagement in the newspaper.
 - Register your preferences at the bridal registries of your choice.
 - Maintain records of all gifts received and send thank-you notes immediately upon receipt of your gifts.
 - Select florist and/or balloonist and discuss color schemes.
 - Begin shopping for men's wedding attire.

- Four to 6 months before**
- Start health and fitness program.
 - Order invitations and other related stationery needs.
 - Complete your guest list.
 - Help both mothers coordinate and select their dresses.
 - Ensure that all bridal attire has been ordered.
 - Begin shopping for trousseau.
 - Check blood test and marriage license requirements.
 - Experiment with hairstyle and cut.
 - Select baker and order wedding cake, groom's cake and mints.

- Two to 3 months before**
- Choose the men's wedding attire and reserve the right sizes.
 - Start addressing invitations and announcement.
 - Purchase accessories, such as toasting goblets, ring pillow, garter, candles etc.
 - Confirm all details with your hired professionals.
 - Confirm ceremony details with

- your officiant.**
- Arrange rehearsal details.
 - Plan rehearsal dinner.
 - Plan attendants' parties.
 - Choose responsible person to attend your guest book.
 - Make appointment with your hairdresser.
 - Arrange accommodations for out-of-town attendants and guests.
 - Finalize honeymoon plans.

- One month before**
- Finish addressing invitations and mail them four weeks before the wedding.
 - Get blood test and marriage license.
 - Have your final dress fitting.
 - Have formal bridal portrait done.
 - Have final fitting for wedding attendants.
 - Purchase gifts for wedding participants.
 - Purchase gift for fiancée.
 - Complete shopping for your trousseau.
 - Have attendants' parties.
 - Purchase going-away outfit.
 - Ensure that your accessories (toasting goblets, garter, candles, ring pillow etc.) are in order.
 - Finalize rehearsal dinner details.
 - Make a calendar of events for your wedding day.
 - Draw a map to direct guests to the ceremony and reception sites if necessary.

- Two weeks before**
- Finish addressing announcements to be mailed on your wedding day.
 - Contact guests who have not responded.
 - Pick up the wedding rings and make sure they fit properly and that engraved inscriptions are correct.
 - Meet with your photographer and give him a list of special pictures you want taken.
 - Meet with videographer and give him a list of special events or people you want in the videotape.
 - Meet with disc jockey and give him a list of special music to be played that night.
 - Continue writing thank-you notes for gifts received.

- One week before**
- Provide the caterer with the total guest count and confirm all details.
 - Provide your wedding party and out-of-town guests with timeables and maps, if necessary, for the rehearsal dinner, ceremony and reception.

- Review details of last-minute arrangements and timeables with all service companies.
- Plan seating arrangements, if used.
- Confirm all honeymoon reservations and accommodations; pick up tickets and traveler's checks.
- Discuss the details of the reception with your host and hostess.
- Assign tasks to be done on the wedding day to your wedding party.
- Practice applying makeup and styling your hair and determine the amount of time needed to do this on your wedding day.
- Make sure you have your marriage license.
- Pick up wedding attire and make sure everything fits properly.
- Keep writing thank-you notes for gifts received.
- Pack your suitcase for your honeymoon.
- Rehearse wedding ceremony with all participants in attendance.
- Attend rehearsal dinner.
- Give the best man the officiator's fee and instruct him to deliver it on the day of the wedding.
- Get a good night's sleep the night before your wedding day.

- On the wedding day**
- Remain calm and try to relax.
 - Don't forget to bring your wedding rings and marriage license.
 - Check with florist to ensure

- flowers will arrive on time.
 - Apply makeup and style your hair slowly.
 - Start dressing 1 1/2 hours before the ceremony.
 - Mail the wedding announcements.
 - Have music start 30 minutes before the ceremony begins.
 - Have guests seated as they arrive.
 - Groom's parents should be seated five minutes before the ceremony begins.
 - The bride's mother should be seated immediately before the processional and before the aisle runner is rolled out.
- After the wedding**
- Write and mail all thank-you notes as soon as possible.
 - Take care of business and legal affairs. (Change name if necessary on records and legal documents.)

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- El Sombrero**
153 W. Main
Jerome 324-7238
- FLORAL**
Candlestick Park
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Twin Falls 734-3444
- FORMAL WEAR/SHOES/VEILS**
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- Hudson's Shoes**
148 Main Ave. S.
Twin Falls 733-4750
1239 Filer Ave.
Twin Falls 733-6280
- Sweetheart Manor**
Overland & 42nd St.
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- Tuxedos Now/Gowns Forever**
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- Wedding & Rental Shop**
210 S. Main
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- GIFTS**
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Relatives want gifts back after bride's death

DEAR ABBY: Three months ago, my cousin "Jacob" married a wonderful woman I'll call Kate. Only days after their wedding, she was diagnosed with advanced, inoperable cancer. Though we thought she might be with us for one last Christmas, she passed away just after Thanksgiving.

The day after the funeral, Jacob began receiving phone calls from Kate's family, demanding the return of the wedding gifts they had given this couple only seven weeks before. One of them even had the audacity to tell Jacob that she didn't want to "waste her money" on him since Kate was dead!

I would understand if Jacob had divorced his wife, or if the marriage had been annulled, but this poor man lost his bride to cancer - he certainly didn't push her away. Abby, Jacob is heartbroken. He couldn't not deal with returning wedding gifts so her relatives can get their money back.

Kate's family is large, and Jacob has gotten at least two phone calls every day for a week - sometimes more. Personally, I think what they're proposing is indecent. What is the appropriate response to Kate's family?

DEAR AGHAST IN ARIZONA: I think I've heard everything, along comes a letter like yours. Jacob kept his marriage vows - to love,



DEAR ABBY
Abigail VanBuren

honor and cherish Kate until death parted them. He is entitled to keep the wedding gifts and to far more consideration than he's receiving from his late wife's family. As for the "appropriate response" to Kate's family, I wouldn't blame Jacob if he changed his phone number to one that's unlisted.

DEAR ABBY: Thank you for printing the letter from "Desperate for a Compliment." That letter spoke to my husband's heart. That night he started calling me "pretty." I later saw the letter in your column.

We have a successful marriage, but we get comfortable and lazy. I don't need a lot of compliments, but would rather receive them from my husband. So, thank you again for waking him up. You're the best teacher.

-SMILING WIFE IN CINCINNATI

DEAR SMILING WIFE: I'm pleased the letter had such a positive effect. Now it's your turn. Tonight, leave a little note on his pillow telling him how much he means to you.

ANNIVERSARIES

THE CARROLLS

JEROME - Mr. and Mrs. Norman C. Carroll of Jerome will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on Feb. 4. Their children will gather that weekend to commemorate the event with a family dinner and a special anniversary luncheon.

Carroll and Patricia Rankin were married Feb. 4, 1951, at the First Presbyterian Church in Grand Junction, Colo.

The couple resided seven years in Pueblo, Colo., before moving to Twin Falls in 1958. He worked for Sears Roebuck in Colorado and Idaho, and the couple operated a family Coast-To-Coast store in Twin Falls and Jerome. In June 1968, a new business venture, B S & R Equipment, was started. He operated this business until his retirement in 1990. This Twin Falls establishment continues under the direction of their youngest son, Tim.

During these years, she worked part-time at Farm Bureau, both the Twin Falls and Jerome offices, and was an Avon representative. She assisted her husband in the first years of operation of B S & R Equipment. Her foremost priority has been to provide a loving home environment for her family.

In 1968, the Carrolls moved to Jerome, where they have resided for the past 32 years.

They are members of the Twin Falls Reformed Church and each lead non-denominational Bible study classes in their home during the winter months. The cou-



Patricia and Norman Carroll

ple enjoys golfing, fishing, volunteer work and traveling. He is an accomplished woodworker, craftsman, gifting his family with many pieces of furniture and accessories.

The Carroll family will gather in August at McCall to celebrate this occasion. In attendance will be the couple's children, Corri (Dale) Serr of Graham, Wash., and Dan (Wendy) Carroll and Tim (Jill) Carroll, all of Twin Falls; their nine grandchildren; and two great-granddaughters.

THE STIMPSONS

SHOSHONE - Mr. and Mrs. John Oscar Stimpson of Shoshone/Dietrich will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary with their children and their spouses at a weekend gathering in February.

Stimpson and Gertrude (Trudy) Hubert were married Jan. 24, 1951, in the Salt Lake City LDS Temple.

They have lived in Columbia, S.C., Elizabeth Town, Ky., Morgan Town, Ind., Tomah, Wis., Dietrich and Shoshone.

He served in the U.S. Army during the Korean War. He farmed for 48 years. She worked at Dr. R.G. Neher's medical office and as a homemaker.

They have been actively involved in church and community service.

The couple has nine children, Lynn (Marcia) Stimpson of Dietrich, Brian (Claudia) Stimpson of Loveland, Colo., Cindy (Gordon) Lawlor of



Gertrude and John Oscar Stimpson

Pocatello, Viki Murray of Dallas, Texas, Lauri (Krehl) Cook of South Jordan, Utah, Jody (Grant) Hulise of Poway, Calif., Bill (Catherine) Stimpson of Lexington, Ky., Emily (Stephen) Hansen of Omaha, Neb., and Heidi (Scott) Stringham of Layton, Utah.

They have 46 grandchildren and 12 great-grandchildren.

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WEDDINGS

FRUECHTE-MASCARI

TWIN FALLS - Tanya I. Fruechte and Franklin R. Mascari were married Jan. 6 at the Bethel Temple in Twin Falls.

Officiating was the Rev. Allen R. Picklesimer.

The bride is the daughter of Richard and Norma Fruechte of Twin Falls.

Parents of the bridegroom are Phyllis A. Williams of Twin Falls.

A reception was held following the ceremony.

The bride is employed at Twin Falls Clinic & Hospital.

The bridegroom is employed at



Franklin and Tanya Mascari

Lamb Weston Inc.

The newlyweds reside in Twin Falls.

SPREIER-KIMPEL

BUHL - Annette Spreier and Ted Kimpel were married Jan. 1 at St. John's Lutheran Church in Buhl.

The bride is the daughter of Lois Spreier of Twin Falls and the late Clifford Spreier.

The couple resides in Lakewood, Colo.

A reception will be held Feb. 25 in Lakewood.



Angie and Nicholas Kelsey

LANCASTER-KELSEY

IDAHO FALLS - Angie Lancaster and Nicholas Kelsey were married Dec. 29, 2000, in the Idaho Falls LDS Temple.

The bride is the daughter of Jack and Debbie Lancaster of Wendell.

Parents of the bridegroom are Allen and Krista Kelsey of Wendell.

A reception was held in their honor on Dec. 30, 2000, at the Wendell LDS Stake Center.

The bride is a 1997 graduate of Wendell High School and is a senior at Idaho State University, majoring in dental hygiene.

The bridegroom is a 1997 graduate of Wendell High School and is a sophomore at ISU, majoring in biology. He is employed at Papa Kelsey's.

The newlyweds reside in Pocatello.

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COMMUNITY

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STUDENT FOOD DRIVE



Photo courtesy of FOCIA

Students in the nutrition and foods class and FOCIA organization from Twin Falls High School sponsored the annual canned food drive before Christmas. The school donated 5,820 items of food to the Salvation Army. Judy Schroeder is the teacher and adviser for the groups.

SCHOOL LUNCH

BUHL SCHOOL Breakfast menu Milk served every day. Choice of fruit or juice every day. Monday: Cereal, cinnamon toast Tuesday: Donuts Wednesday: Biscuits and gravy Thursday: Waffles, maple syrup Friday: Cereal, toast Lunch menu Milk and juice served every day. Monday: Chicken patty, tomato soup, crackers, fruit Tuesday: Nachos, beef, cheese, celery sticks, fruit Wednesday: Hot dog, ketchup, mustard, French fries, french fruit Thursday: Chicken sandwich with mayonnaise, macaroni and cheese, apples, oranges, brownie Friday: Chef salad, crackers, carrot sticks, rolls, Teddy Crabs	IMMANUEL LUTHERAN SCHOOL Breakfast menu Milk served every day. Monday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Tuesday: French toast, fruit Wednesday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Thursday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Friday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Lunch menu Milk served every day. Monday: Chicken patty, tomato soup, crackers, fruit Tuesday: Nachos, beef, cheese, celery sticks, fruit Wednesday: Hot dog, ketchup, mustard, French fries, french fruit Thursday: Chicken sandwich with mayonnaise, macaroni and cheese, apples, oranges, brownie Friday: Chef salad, crackers, carrot sticks, rolls, Teddy Crabs	CASTLEFORD SCHOOL Breakfast menu Milk and juice served every day. Monday: Donuts Tuesday: Cinnamon rolls Wednesday: Pancakes Thursday: Pancakes Friday: Cinnamon rolls Lunch menu Milk served every day. Monday: Corn dog Tuesday: Hot turkey sandwich Wednesday: Spaghetti Thursday: Baked potato bar Friday: Hot lunch served	KIMBERLY SCHOOL Breakfast menu Milk served every day. Monday: Milk, bread sticks, pineapple Tuesday: Beef, milk, bread sticks, pineapple Wednesday: Turkey, milk, bread sticks, pineapple Thursday: Potato bar, rolls, carrot sticks, apple crisp Friday: Chili, crackers, cinnamon rolls, peas	MAGIC VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL Breakfast menu Milk served every day. Monday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Tuesday: French toast, fruit Wednesday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Thursday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Friday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Lunch menu Milk served every day. Monday: Chicken patty, tomato soup, crackers, fruit Tuesday: Nachos, beef, cheese, celery sticks, fruit Wednesday: Hot dog, ketchup, mustard, French fries, french fruit Thursday: Chicken sandwich with mayonnaise, macaroni and cheese, apples, oranges, brownie Friday: Chef salad, crackers, carrot sticks, rolls, Teddy Crabs	ST. CATHARINE'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL Breakfast menu Milk served every day. Monday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Tuesday: French toast, fruit Wednesday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Thursday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Friday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Lunch menu Milk served every day. Monday: Chicken patty, tomato soup, crackers, fruit Tuesday: Nachos, beef, cheese, celery sticks, fruit Wednesday: Hot dog, ketchup, mustard, French fries, french fruit Thursday: Chicken sandwich with mayonnaise, macaroni and cheese, apples, oranges, brownie Friday: Chef salad, crackers, carrot sticks, rolls, Teddy Crabs	TWIN FALLS ELEMENTARY Breakfast menu Milk served every day. Monday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Tuesday: French toast, fruit Wednesday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Thursday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Friday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Lunch menu Milk served every day. Monday: Chicken patty, tomato soup, crackers, fruit Tuesday: Nachos, beef, cheese, celery sticks, fruit Wednesday: Hot dog, ketchup, mustard, French fries, french fruit Thursday: Chicken sandwich with mayonnaise, macaroni and cheese, apples, oranges, brownie Friday: Chef salad, crackers, carrot sticks, rolls, Teddy Crabs
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LIBRARY TIME

Twin Falls Public Library 434 Second E. 733-2964 Library hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Mondays, Fridays and Saturdays and from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Story times Lap-Sitters for toddlers age 18 to 36-months-old and Lap-Sit story time for toddlers will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 6-27. Registration is required. Book clubs Teen Advisory Board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 27. To join, call the library. Discussion groups Let's Talk About It will be held at 7 p.m. Wednesdays, Feb. 7, Feb. 21, March 7, March 21 and April 4. Books discussed are available at the library. Those interested may sign up at the reference desk. Special displays "20th Century American Authors" is on display on the bulletin board. Books on and by the authors are available for checkout. "Other Americas, Other Cultures" is displayed on the circular glass case.	Buhl City Library 215 Broadway Ave. N. 543-6500 Library hours: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Mondays and Wednesdays, 1-5 p.m. and 7-9 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and 1-5 p.m. Saturdays. Story times Preschool story hour from 10-11 a.m. Wednesdays. Special speaker Mary Imman will give a speech on "Oregon bond: 1843" from 7:15-9 p.m. Feb. 15	Hansen Public Library 120 Maple W. 423-4122 Library hours: 1-6 p.m. on Mondays and Fridays and from 1-7 p.m. Wednesdays. Kimberly City Library 120 Madison W. 423-4556 Library hours: 1-6 p.m. Mondays, 3-8 p.m. Tuesdays, 1-6 p.m. Thursdays and 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturdays. Story times After school reading program Mondays from 3:30-4:15 p.m. Discussion groups Let's Talk About It will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 8, Feb. 22, March 8 and March 22. All books are available for check-out. Meeting Board meetings are held at 7 p.m. the first Thursday of every month in the library building. The public is invited to attend.	Filer School Breakfast menu Milk served every day. Monday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Tuesday: French toast, fruit Wednesday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Thursday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Friday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Lunch menu Milk served every day. Monday: Chicken patty, tomato soup, crackers, fruit Tuesday: Nachos, beef, cheese, celery sticks, fruit Wednesday: Hot dog, ketchup, mustard, French fries, french fruit Thursday: Chicken sandwich with mayonnaise, macaroni and cheese, apples, oranges, brownie Friday: Chef salad, crackers, carrot sticks, rolls, Teddy Crabs	Hansen School District Breakfast menu Milk served every day. Monday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Tuesday: French toast, fruit Wednesday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Thursday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Friday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Lunch menu Milk served every day. Monday: Chicken patty, tomato soup, crackers, fruit Tuesday: Nachos, beef, cheese, celery sticks, fruit Wednesday: Hot dog, ketchup, mustard, French fries, french fruit Thursday: Chicken sandwich with mayonnaise, macaroni and cheese, apples, oranges, brownie Friday: Chef salad, crackers, carrot sticks, rolls, Teddy Crabs	Murtaugh School Breakfast menu Milk served every day. Monday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Tuesday: French toast, fruit Wednesday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Thursday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Friday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Lunch menu Milk served every day. Monday: Chicken patty, tomato soup, crackers, fruit Tuesday: Nachos, beef, cheese, celery sticks, fruit Wednesday: Hot dog, ketchup, mustard, French fries, french fruit Thursday: Chicken sandwich with mayonnaise, macaroni and cheese, apples, oranges, brownie Friday: Chef salad, crackers, carrot sticks, rolls, Teddy Crabs	Valley Schools Breakfast menu Milk served every day. Monday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Tuesday: French toast, fruit Wednesday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Thursday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Friday: Pancakes, cinnamon rolls, fruit Lunch menu Milk served every day. Monday: Chicken patty, tomato soup, crackers, fruit Tuesday: Nachos, beef, cheese, celery sticks, fruit Wednesday: Hot dog, ketchup, mustard, French fries, french fruit Thursday: Chicken sandwich with mayonnaise, macaroni and cheese, apples, oranges, brownie Friday: Chef salad, crackers, carrot sticks, rolls, Teddy Crabs
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We want your news

Please send your news and photos to:

Community Editor
Pat Marcantonio
The Times-News
P.O. Box 648
Twin Falls, Idaho
83303
733-0931, Ext. 288
Fax: 677-4543 or 734-5338
Email: patm@mgvalley.com

Pat Marcantonio

NEW AUXILIARY OFFICERS



Officers for the year 2001 were installed at the general meeting of the Magic Valley Regional Medical Center Auxiliary Jan. 8. Barbara Reichert, outgoing president, installed the new officers with Loraine Devey, director. Officers, from left, are: Imogene Heath, treasurer; Mooren Crooks, corresponding secretary; Audrey Randall, membership secretary; Joan Tanner, recording secretary; Joed Steinberg, second vice president; Rosie Stover, first vice president and Dollie Louder, president.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

CSI offers personal growth group next month

TWIN FALLS - The Center for New Directions at the College of Southern Idaho will offer a personal growth group from 12-1:30 p.m. Thursdays, Feb. 1 through March 22.

Counselors from the CSI Center for New Directions will help guide the group and provide resources to help them work toward their goal. Attendance is critical.

The cost is \$10 and financial assistance and scholarships are available through the Center for New Directions.

Participants must register before Tuesday.

For more information, call 733-9554, Ext. 2680 or 1-800-680-0274, Ext. 2680.

Parks and rec department sponsors craft class

TWIN FALLS - The Twin Falls Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor a Valentine's Day craft class from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb. 10.

Participants will make cards, decorations and gifts for Valentine's Day.

Participants should bring a lunch.

The cost is \$12 for those inside city limits and \$15 for those outside city limits.

For more information, call 736-2265.

Twin Falls library starts story times

TWIN FALLS - Lap-Sitters for toddlers 18 to 36-months-old and Lap-Sit story time for toddlers will be held at 10:30 a.m. Tuesdays, Feb. 6-27 at the Twin Falls Public Library.

Falls Public Library

Registration is required. For more information, call the library at 722-2964.

Room still left in CSI evening computer classes

TWIN FALLS - The first section of evening computer classes for the spring semester has begun at the College of Southern Idaho. There is still room and time left to get into most of the classes or to sign up for upcoming offerings.

The following classes are still open: Introduction to Computers, Introduction to Internet, Introduction to Networking, Introduction to Excel, Introduction to Windows, Photoshop and Microsoft Office.

There are also more advanced evening computer classes offered through CSI's Information Technology department, such as Microsoft Server Administration, Network Administration, HTML, and Cisco Networking.

For more information, call Ann Pool at 733-9554, Ext. 2441.

UI Institute alumni plan reunion this summer

NAMPA - A reunion will be held for University of Idaho Alumni who were involved in the Institute of Religion of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints during the decade of the 1970s. The reunion will be held July 14 in Nampa.

For more information, e-mail IDInstituteReunion@juno.com.

University representatives visit CSI for transfer day

TWIN FALLS - Transfer Day 2001 will be held from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Eagles Nest on the first floor of the Taylor Administration Building at the College of Southern Idaho.

The event is for anyone who would like to know more about attending one of Idaho's four-year universities.

Representatives from Albertson College of Idaho, Boise State University, Lewis-Clark State College, Idaho State University and University of Idaho will attend the event. The university representatives will provide information about admissions to their schools, do transcript evaluations, discuss the transfer of credits, and provide other information to students.

For more information, call Jamie Shetter at 733-9554, Ext. 2441.

Engrave your Valentine sentiment in stone & benefit the Twin Falls Senior Citizen Building Fund!

For only \$19.95 Sunset's graphic & memorial department will custom engrave in a heart design up to four words on a piece of sandstone that you can give as a gift to a special loved one for Valentine's Day. ALL proceeds go to benefit the Twin Falls Senior Center Building Fund.

The deadline to order your "Love Rock" is February 7, 2001. All orders may be picked up at Sunset Memorial Park, 2296 Kimberly Rd., Twin Falls from 9:00 am until 5:00 pm on February 13th and 14th.

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SENIORS

Time spent helping a child isn't wasted

She was little and pretty and had a difficult time learning in my class at Wendell High. She tried to make up for her lack of knowledge by constantly seeking my approval. She was at my desk before class and after class and in between classes. She constantly told me all about her problems, her friends, her boyfriends and her home life.

I must admit she got on my nerves - I could not possibly give her the time she demanded and have any time left over for other students, let alone myself. I tried to be nice, but my patience was wearing thin, and I tended to ignore most of what she had to say. I became testy with her and had about decided to sit her down and talk to her about it when I saw her in the hall, desperately seeking friends, flitting from one to another, talking, talking, hoping that one - just one - would give her a nod and a little time, but it didn't happen.

As I watched, one after another turned her away, ignored her, walked on without her. She, not realizing that she had turned the students off with her constant banter, continued



AFTER CLASS
Gay Petersen

on, hoping someone would be her friend. Watching her I felt terribly guilty. Who was I not to spare this needy child a bit of time? Time was all she asked for in reality - surely I could spare a little extra for her.

I stopped being impatient. I truly listened to all she had to say, although I limited her somewhat so that I would still have time for others. I never dismissed her again, and she truly a loving child, responded gratefully.

Like to think that I made a small difference in her life, just by listening. Certainly her grades improved in my class, and she was much more calm and happy there.

Belinda (not her real name) had taught

her teacher a lesson. Of all the people who come in contact with a child surely a teacher should be the most kind, the most patient. From that time on I tried to follow that mode of thinking with all of my students, be they model students, hyper, shy, angry, or just a bit of a nuisance. One adult, interacting properly with a child, can make a huge difference in that child's life.

We should all remember that as we hurry through our busy lives, Belinda went on to be a happy adult. Her natural, but somewhat overwhelming, friendliness tempered as she grew older, and more of her peers accepted her. The job she chose was conducive to her talkative nature, and so she was successful in it.

Taking the time to help a child is never a waste. And it can change that child's life for the better forever.

Gay Petersen is a retired teacher who lives in Wendell. Write to her at: petersen@magicklink.com

No time limit on disability payments

Knight Ridder News Service

Q. I have been receiving Social Security disability benefits for the past six years and my condition has not improved. Is there a time limit on Social Security disability benefits?

A. No. You will continue to receive disability benefits as long as your condition keeps you from working. But, your case will be reviewed periodically to see if there has been any improvement in your condition and whether you are still eligible for benefits. If you are still eligible when you reach age 65, your disability benefit will be automatically converted to retirement benefits.

Q. I received my printed Social


Social Security Q & A

Security Statement in the mail and noticed that my earnings shown for 1999 are incorrect. I have my W-2 Statement which shows the correct amount. How do I get this changed?

A. Call Social Security's toll-free number, 1-800-772-1213, and the representative will correct your records. Please have your W-2 with you when you call.

This column was prepared by the Social Security Administration. For fast answers to specific Social Security questions, contact Social Security toll-free at 800-772-1213.

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Frequently Asked Questions about Glaucoma

Q: Who is at highest risk of developing glaucoma?
People who are more likely to develop glaucoma include those who are one or more of the following:

- African-American (four to five times more likely than Caucasian American);
- related to someone with glaucoma;
- over 50 years of age if Caucasian, over 35 if African-American;
- very nearsighted;
- diabetic.

Q: How is glaucoma detected?
Unfortunately, there is no simple test for glaucoma that is 100% effective. Measurement of the pressure within the eye alone is not adequate to detect glaucoma. Only a complete eye examination through dilated pupils along with other specialized testing is adequate to diagnose the disease.

Q: What are the signs and symptoms?
In the vast majority of cases, especially in early stages, there are few signs or symptoms. In the later stages of the disease, symptoms can occur that include:

- loss of side vision;
- an inability to adjust the eye to darkened rooms;
- difficulty focusing on close work;
- rainbow colored rings or halos around lights; and
- frequent need to change eyeglass prescriptions.

Q: Can glaucoma be cured?
No. Any sight that has been destroyed cannot be restored, but medical and surgical treatment can help stop the disease from progressing.

Q: Can glaucoma be prevented?
Not yet, but blindness from glaucoma can be prevented through early detection and appropriate treatment.

Q: What is the best defense against glaucoma?
Comprehensive eye exams on a regular basis.

Q: Who is at risk for diabetic retinopathy?
Diabetic retinopathy is one of the complications associated with the circulatory problems of people with diabetes.

The longer a person has diabetes, the greater the risk of retinopathy. More than 40 percent of those who have diabetes for 15 or more years have some blood vessel damage. And some of these people develop the most serious result of the disease: severe vision loss or blindness. However, the disease does not affect only people who have had diabetes for many years. It can appear within the first year or two after the onset of the disease. For some people, retinopathy is one of the first signs that they have diabetes.

Q: What is the best defense against diabetic retinopathy?
Early treatment of retinopathy often improves the potential for saving sight. Every person with diabetes should receive regular care from a doctor and closely follow the prescribed treatment plan.

It is also very important to regularly visit an eye care professional even before any visual symptoms appear. An eye examination through dilated pupils by an eye care specialist should be repeated at least once a year for both adults and children who have diabetes.

To learn more about glaucoma or diabetic retinopathy, please contact Prevent Blindness America or the Prevent Blindness affiliate near you.

Visit our Web Forum to share your concerns and ideas with other visitors or our website and to read about their experience with diabetic retinopathy.

Information provided by: Prevent Blindness America
www.preventblindness.org

HEALTHY CHEF

Chicken Rice Casserole

- INGREDIENTS:**
- 1/2 C. cooked rice
 - 1/4 or 1/2 C. diced chicken (1 or 2 ozs.)
 - 1/2 C. clear broth
 - salt and pepper to taste
 - chopped parsley, onions, celery, mushrooms, green pepper, pimiento or tomatoes may be added for variety, if desired, in amounts less than 1/4 cup.

DIRECTIONS:
Combine the above ingredients and place in small casserole. Bake in moderate oven (350° F.) until brown.

NOTE: In place of cooked rice, one-half cup of cooked noodles or spaghetti may be used. For the chicken, any type of lean meat or fish may be substituted.

If you have a recipe you would like to share, please send it to Inside Sales, PO Box 548, Twin Falls, ID 83301

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Groundhog Day? It's a holiday

"My Grandmother Grace was born on Groundhog Day, so she considered herself something of an expert on the subject. She was always telling us whether or not we would have six more weeks of bad weather." I think the got it right about as often as the groundhog did.

Actually, according to the Stormfax Weather Almanac Web site, the origin of Groundhog Day is rooted (or burrowed, maybe) in something called Candlemas Day, which was brought to us from German settlers during the 1700s. Christians in Europe celebrated Candlemas Day as the midpoint between Winter Solstice and Spring Equinox, and they put lighted candles that had been blessed by clergy in their windows. They said if the sun came out on Feb. 2, halfway between winter and spring, it meant six more weeks of wintry conditions.

I wonder if it was bad luck if your candle went out before it was supposed to. I wouldn't be surprised. Those kinds of superstitions are often associated with holidays.

Just this Christmas, my aunt in Illinois continued her 40-year tradition of buying a brand new bayberry candle and burning it down all day on Christmas Eve -- for good luck. I remember when I was a little kid, she used to tell all of us that she thought the same. But we never did. Then, when my aunt's candle happened to any of us, she told us it was because we didn't do the bayberry candle thing.

This year, my mother called



LIFE AND TIMES
Denise Turner

from Illinois to tell me that she was helping Aunt Alice get her candle ready when she happened to notice some instructions on the wrapping.

"Alice," she says to burn the candle for good luck on Christmas Day, not Christmas Eve," she told her sister.

"Oh no!" Alice shrieked. "I've done it wrong all these years. No wonder I've had bad luck."

Good legends die hard. But I still like to check the weather on Groundhog Day.

And speaking of groundhogs, Stormfax says the little critters slipped into the Feb. 2 celebration during the mid-1800s, when the Pennsylvania Dutch began talking about a groundhog peering out of his winter quarters, seeing his shadow and popping back in for another six-week nap.

Before that, the Germans had been watching a badger. (Badger Day?) But in Pennsylvania, the groundhog idea caught hold better.

Pennsylvania's official celebration of Groundhog Day began in 1886 in the town of Punxsutawney, and the groundhog was given the name Punxsutawney Phil. This year's Phil weighs 15 pounds, eats dog food and ice cream, lives in a climate-controlled home at the Punxsutawney Library and is

being cared for by a local funeral director. When it's time for Phil to do his job, he will be taken up Gobbler's Knob (hill), placed in a heated burrow under a sunkers tree stump and pulled out at 7:25 a.m.

He's not exactly great at his job. His predictions have been right only 38 percent of the time through the years.

Oh well, any excuse for a holiday is OK with me.

On various calendars, I've seen everything from Bunker Hill Day to a National Day of Student Unrest. (We celebrated that one every day in the '70s.) When I lived in Ohio, I hung out with a family that was always looking for a reason to bake cookies and celebrate. One night, the mom decided to have a sleeper for her 3-year-old daughter's friends, in honor of "Sausan Day." The kids weren't really old enough to keep themselves busy all night, so they mostly just ate everything in sight.

They started with candy at the ball park and progressed to chips back home. When my friend caught one child standing at the refrigerator drinking dilute pickle juice straight from the bottle, she decided it was time for the kids to get into their sleeping bags. That last night, about 15 minutes, until three of the girls started complaining of stomachaches.

All of the parents had been called to the rescue by midnight. I think I'll just go out and look at the sky on Groundhog Day.

Denise Turner is assistant features editor at The Times-News.

GOING DUTCH

By Edgar Fontaine, Dighton, Massachusetts

ACROSS

- 1 Dutch South African.
- 5 Netherworld.
- 10 Glasses.
- 15 Soup de ...
- 16 "Clear de ..."
- 17 "Giant's market."
- 21 White heron.
- 22 Bear in the sky.
- 24 "Marriage eight 24 the year."
- 27 Dutchman of baseball.
- 28 "OK with me."
- 29 Dutch name.
- 31 Bible's lesson.
- 33 Indiana Family court.
- 34 In the past.
- 36 "Wind."
- 37 Corn varieties.
- 39 Tropical tree.
- 42 "Parting on plaster."
- 45 "Naps."
- 46 "Took hood," e.g.
- 51 Tunes in.
- 52 Tarzan's mate.
- 55 "Fool or firm."
- 56 Nice summer?
- 67 Means of entry.
- 68 Dutch word.
- 69 Add breath to pronunciation.
- 61 Pub pint.
- 62 In front.
- 63 Dutch brew.
- 64 Daytona 500.
- 65 Dutch Whirlip.
- 67 Appertition.
- 68 Dutch actress in "An American in Paris."
- 72 Warning signal.
- 73 Fable.
- 77 Me, myself and I problem.
- 78 Phonograph.
- 79 "Dutch."
- 80 "Took first ..."
- 81 "and ..."
- 83 Bit of news.
- 84 Foot ailments.
- 85 Fool or elder.
- 87 Trough along sides.
- 88 "Bobbed."
- 90 Occupant: abbr.
- 91 "Period."
- 92 "and ..."
- 95 Processess.
- 99 "compressive skill."
- 100 One to Thoreau.
- 101 Postage.
- 102 Hans Brinker.
- 103 "Dutchman ..."
- 104 Numbers at the pump.
- 110 Open hostilities.
- 111 "Cheese" barfly.
- 112 Holland.
- 114 African nation.
- 115 Baseball family name.
- 116 "Down the gunnet."

THE Sunday Crossword

Edited by Wayne Robert Williams

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40 41 42 43 44 45 46 47 48 49 50 51 52 53 54 55 56 57 58 59 60 61 62 63 64 65 66 67 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 79 80 81 82 83 84 85 86 87 88 89 90 91 92 93 94 95 96 97 98 99 100 101 102 103 104 105 106 107 108 109 110 111 112 113 114 115 116 117 118 119 120 121 122

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- 43 Oriental staple.
- 44 Last of couple?
- 45 Kiel or Caledonian, e.g.
- 46 Boogridge.
- 48 Honker.
- 49 Back end of a kitchen?
- 50 Adolescent.
- 52 Schumacher or McCreo.
- 54 Roasting stick.
- 55 Chinese; prof.
- 58 Dutch seat of government.
- 60 Dutch painter of "The Anatomy Lesson of Dr. Tulip."
- 62 Curing.
- 65 Way of ... over (colloquial).
- 66 Columnist.
- 67 Trainsman.
- 68 Slaoring mechanism.
- 69 Salemator's assistant.
- 71 Zippo.
- 72 Whistles.
- 74 Burt's ex.
- 75 PIDC.
- 76 A Truman.
- 78 Shankar's instrument.
- 79 Trading center.
- 80 Proctupoc.
- 84 Delabook.
- 88 Dutch writer of "in Prisoner of Folly."
- 88 VanDyck.
- 88 Cathedral sacrament.
- 104 Spectrum maker.
- 106 Ration of ...
- 91 Wapiti.
- 92 Profeestas.
- 94 Lighted candle.
- 95 Shore or Washington.
- 96 Elave's place.
- 97 Skiam antelope.
- 98 Purloin.
- 102 Bestow upon.
- 103 Valet's name.
- 104 Spectrum maker.
- 106 Ration of ...
- 106 Single weapon.
- 109 Catch sight of.
- 113 Snaky tum.
- 114 Leader of the Three Stooges.

Making child do homework alone can end meltdowns

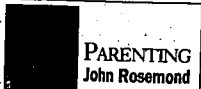
Our 7-year-old son often, almost nightly in fact, becomes very frustrated doing his homework. If he encounters a problem that gives him difficulty, he yells, pounds his fist on the kitchen table, and even screams. One of us will sit down with him and try to calm him down and help him work through the problem, and this usually works, but he might have as many as four, or five, of these meltdowns a night.

His reaction is so smart and capable of doing the work furthermore, she has never seen anything of this sort in class, where he finishes most of his assignments on time without regular assistance from her. She sends homework for practice, meaning he's already had experience in class with assignments of the same sort.

Also, he is generally not easily frustrated; rather, in other situations he's a fairly happy-go-lucky kid. What might be causing his frustration, and what can we do about it?

A. In this case, the context might be the cause. Before I elaborate on that purposefully topical remark, it would help to begin with the problem. What is it? Not his ability, or tolerance for this teacher. Nor his tolerance for frustration, since he does equal-quality demanding (one would presume) work in class without meltdowns and generally finishes on time.

His emotional eruptions at the kitchen table are not pervasive. In fact, they only occur at the kitchen table, when he's doing homework. Hey! There we have it! The



PARENTING
John Rosemond

kitchen table causes his meltdowns.

You might think I'm kidding, but I'm not. The fact that he is allowed to do homework at the kitchen table places him in a situation where he can instantly receive your well-intentioned, albeit enabling, attention whenever he has a knee-jerk of frustration concerning homework. He encounters a bit of difficulty with an assignment, plays the victim, and you immediately rescue.

Get him out of there! He needs (and you need for him) to be doing his homework in a relatively private, personal area, specially designated for homework -- a desk in his room, for example.

Yes, I know most of his classmates' parents are hovering over them while they do their homework, which simply means most of his classmates have parents who are making the same mistake you are.

Ask yourself: Does he do his work independently in class? The answer is obviously yes; therefore, he can do his homework independently. The kitchen has become a stage from which he can get attention by playing the victim.

Again, the context is the cause of the problem. It follows that if

you change the context, you will eliminate the cause. I'm not, by the way, suggesting that your son's homework meltdowns are a means of manipulating or controlling you. That's reprehensible. He's not, I'm sure, sitting at the kitchen table planning his next meltdown. It's simply a matter of Rosemond's Third Law of Parenting Physics: The more available the parent is to a young child, the more likely it is the child will act helpless when frustrated.

Conversely, the more distance there is between parent and child, the more likely it is the child will act competent when frustrated.

If your son doesn't already have one, put a desk in his room and stock it with everything he needs with which to do his homework. Tell him that he can do his homework only at his desk and not to yell for you if he has a problem, because you won't come. If he needs help, he has to bring the problem to you.

I'd go so far as to make a rule that he can only receive your help three times through any given evening.

That will cause him to begin being very selective when it comes to seeking your assistance. For more on all of this, I recommend you read my book, "Ending the Homework Hassle."

John Rosemond is a family psychologist. Questions of general interest may be sent to him at *Affirmative Parenting*, 9247 N. Meridian, Indianapolis, Ind. 46260 and on his Web site: <http://www.rosemond.com/>

Fat-laden leftovers pose a threat to your pet's health

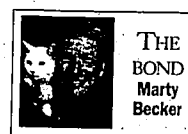
After church each Sunday our extended family goes out for dinner. We take turns choosing restaurants in our hometown of Bonners Ferry and favorite foods run the gamut from Chinese to chicken, burgers to buffets.

With two light-eating seniors, a pregnant 15-year-old, and a finicky teen-age daughter, we were assured of having plenty of food left over to take home for another meal.

Recently, after several of us did major damage to an incredible all-you-can-eat brunch, we asked the waitress for some Styrofoam boxes to take home our leftovers for tomorrow's supper. No, we make no bones about taking the leftovers home. While I watched my wife Teresa fill the boxes, it hit me. Thirty-plus years ago when I was my children's age, we always asked the "waitress" for a doggie bag. Looking at the plain rectangular box, it got me wondering, what ever happened to doggie bags?

Remember them? Most were paper with a foil lining, adorned with a caricature of dogs and the words "doggie bag" printed in bold letters. My wife Teresa and I, who ate both within spitting distance of 50 years old, remember them, but my children Lex, 10, and Mikku'll-15, have never seen a doggie bag. Only Styrofoam boxes.

Doggie bags seem to have gone for another 50 years old in memories such as rotary dial phones, typewriters, eight-track tape players. They disappeared slowly, not with a bark but a whimper.



THE BOND
Marty Becker

bone from Sunday dinner; the more fat the better. We also gave them such delicacies as greasy chicken skin, chicken bones, and the mother of all goodies, a greasy, salty ham bone. What we didn't realize at the time was that in a game of nutritional Russian roulette, we were holding a loaded gun on our pet's heads. It was only years later that even veterinarians realized that the contents of a doggie bag often represented a genuine danger to pets rather than a tasty treat. Far from being a special gift to our beloved pets, fat-laden leftovers and sharp bones pose an actual threat to pet's health and well-being causing illnesses such as pancreatitis, accidents such as a perforated intestine, even death.

Robin Downing, a veterinarian in Windsor, Colo., and columnist for the Denver Post, knows that many people love to feed their pets table scraps, often right off the table. Dr. Downing alerts her well-meaning clients to the good foods and bad foods and arms them with the information they need to make the right choices. "Doggie bags may have been okay when we were kids, but now they're taboo!" she warns. Her recommendations include two or three items that make good snacks: such as baby carrots (pre-peeled, crunchy), make a lot of noise, provide substance and are low

in calories and fat, yet have fiber to help make regular stools), broccoli or cauliflower (flowerets, and celery sticks. Take your choice.

Just like we humans are more careful about what we eat today, the best veterinary advice cautions pet owners to not kill their pets with kindness. If you do give meat or poultry to your dog or cat, trim it carefully to remove the fat. And don't give them chicken or turkey skin. The fat can cause diarrhea in addition to adding unnecessary calories. If you are the proud owner of a Labrador retriever, Cairn terrier, cocker spaniel, dachshund, Shetland sheepdog, basset hound or beagle, (or mix thereof!), be especially vigilant as these breeds are most prone to obesity.

Because most of us love pets like family, and want to keep them healthy, as human companions we must be extra careful to make sure they are fed a premium, veterinary recommended diet from puppyhood to parenthood, through the years when their muzzles are covered with grey hair. With the transformation of "doggie bag" into tomorrow's family dinner, the good news is our pets are healthier for it.

Former Twin Falls veterinarian Marty Becker is a veterinary contributor to ABC-TV's "Good Morning America" and is a contributing editor for *Dog Fancy*. He is the co-author of the best-selling "Chicken Soup for the Pet Lover's Soul" and "Chicken Soup for the Cat & Dog Lover's Soul." Write to him in care of Knight Ridder/Tribune News Service, 790 National Press-Building, Washington, D.C. 20045.

Celestial pearls and a rodent's holiday

This week you have an opportunity to see Mercury, Venus, Saturn, and Jupiter in the early evening sky. You may notice that an imaginary line seems to connect them, like a string of celestial pearls. Through the week the Moon will seem to trace this line, visiting the latter three planets in turn. What's going on here?

Such alignments are occasionally ballyhooed in the media, but it's really just a graphic demonstration of a simple fact: The planets orbit about the sun all the pretty much in the same plane -- a consequence of the solar system's origins in a rotating cloud that ultimately collapsed into a lumpy pancake of dust and gas. From our vantage point on the plane that became Earth, we see the planets in a line as we peer out along this common plane, known as the ecliptic.

As planets move along the ecliptic at their individual speeds, they eventually pass one another, an event known as a conjunction. Some fuses was made last May, when Jupiter and Saturn were in conjunction, and a number of the

SKYWATCH
Chris Anderson

Sky calendar
Today through Feb. 27
Planets
One hour before sunrise: Mars S; low
One hour after sunset: Mercury: WSW, very low
Venus: WSW
Saturn: SSE, very high
Jupiter: SSE, very high
Moon
First Quarter: Thursday, 7:02am
Seven degrees from Venus tonight, five degrees from Saturn on Thursday, four degrees from Jupiter on Friday.

Next week brings a challenge to view a rarely seen phenomena, made all the more difficult by our modern predilection for outdoor lightning. More about both next Sunday.

Chris Anderson is the planetary production specialist at the Faulkner Planetarium at the Herrett Center for Arts and Sciences at the College of Southern Idaho in Twin Falls. Write to him at canderson@es.edu.

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